

Dystonia

Disease Report

REPORT CATEGORY —



Sample Client

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Personal information

NAME

Sample Client

SEX AT BIRTH

Male

HEIGHT

5ft 5" 165cm

WEIGHT

137lb 62kg

DISCLAIMER

This report does not diagnose this or any other health conditions. Please talk to a healthcare professional if this condition runs in your family, you think you might have this condition, or you have any concerns about your results.



How this works

Our Wellness Reports analyze how your DNA influences your health.

We then use this analysis to give you personalized risk estimates and recommendations.



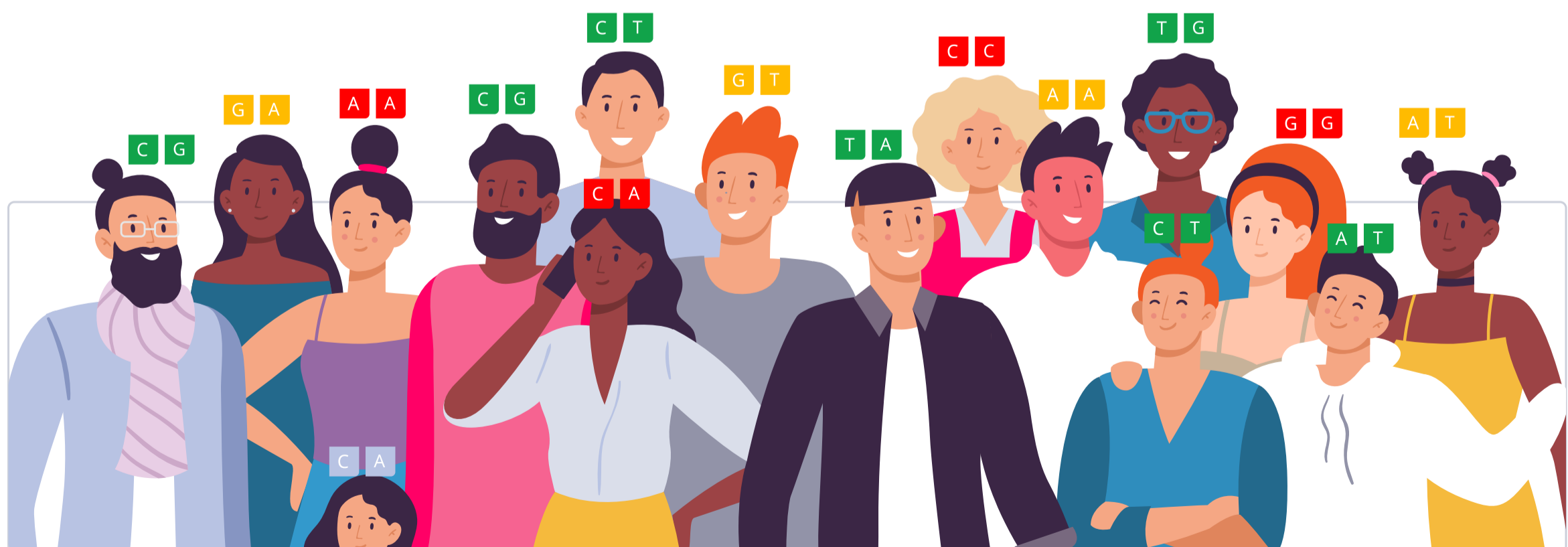
Similarly, our Trait Reports look at how your DNA influences your traits.



Your DNA is like an instruction manual — it contains a lot of information.

You can think of it as a blueprint for your body.

Genetic variants are parts of DNA that differ from person to person. Some can make you more vulnerable to certain health issues, while others may influence traits such as eye color.



We use artificial intelligence and machine learning to analyze all this information. We then summarize your results as a risk score or display it on a gauge.

In total, we analyze up to 83 million genetic variants.

When we give a risk score, the risk icon tells you if you are at a higher or lower risk compared to other people:



Genotype color info:

- AA You don't have any risk alleles
- AA You have 1 risk allele
- AA You have 2 risk alleles

Your risk is also displayed as a percentile. This will tell you how your risks compare to our sample population. The lower your percentile number, the lower your risk. The "50th percentile" would be an average risk.

Similarly, the gauge tells you your relative risk score compared to our sample population, or it indicates a specific trait or haplotype you are more likely to have based on your genetic variants.

When applicable, we also list top evidence-based recommendations that may help lower your risk. The focus is on recommendations that may be of benefit to you, based on your genetics.

Our recommendations come in four categories: lifestyle, diet, supplements and drugs. The following icons tell you which category a recommendation falls into:



Our team of scientists also ranks each recommendation. We rank based on impact and the strength of evidence in the medical literature.

Impact shows how strongly a recommendation will affect your health in a certain area. Evidence is how much scientific support there is for the recommendation. Rankings are from 1 to 5 (low to high):



Impact

Impact scores range from 1-5. These scores reflect how much of an effect each recommendation can have. An impact score of 5 predicts the biggest effect.

When a recommendation affects something we can measure, we use those measurements to assign the impact score. For example, a recommendation that decreases cholesterol by 20% will have a higher impact score than one that decreases it by 5%.

Some recommendations affect things that we cannot directly measure, like stress or mood. For these, the impact score is based on how well they work relative to other recommendations and standard treatments. The best ones get the highest scores.

If there is a lot of research that shows a recommendation works especially well for your genotype, the impact score gets increased.

Recommendation Evidence

●●●●● 5 / 5

Recommendations that are considered effective and generally recommended by experts and medical bodies.

●●●●○ 4 / 5

Recommendations that are considered likely effective and that have multiple independent meta-analyses and a great many studies supporting them.

●●●○○ 3 / 5

Recommendations that are considered possibly effective and have many studies supporting them

●●○○○ 2 / 5

Recommendations that have insufficient evidence, with two or several clinical trials supporting them, or many studies but with ambiguous results.

●○○○○ 1 / 5

Recommendations that have insufficient evidence, with a single clinical trial, or with many studies most of which didn't find support for the recommendation.

○○○○○ 0 / 5

No evidence in humans.

Genotype-specific Evidence

●●●●● High-quality

Direct evidence that a recommendation helps more in people with your gene variant (many clinical trials, a few large clinical trials, or a meta-analysis).

●●●●○ Medium-quality

Direct evidence that a recommendation helps more in people with your gene variant (a few clinical trials or one large clinical trial).

●●●○○ Low-quality

Direct evidence that a recommendation helps more in people with your gene variant (a single clinical trial or more trials with inconsistent results).

●●○○○ Indirect

A recommendation may help more in people with your gene variant because it targets a specific gene or protein affected by your variant (e.g., MTHFR, dopamine).

●○○○○ In theory

A recommendation may help more in people with your gene variant because it targets a specific mechanism affected by your variant (e.g., inflammation, oxidative stress).

Some things to keep in mind:

- Genetics doesn't play a considerable role in a condition or a trait.
- There is not enough research available to estimate a genetic predisposition.
- There are technical limitations to estimating or presenting a genetic predisposition.
- The topic is sensitive, and a genetic predisposition should only be estimated and presented by a healthcare professional.

Introduction

Dystonia is a neurological movement disorder characterized by involuntary muscle contractions, which cause repetitive or twisting movements and abnormal postures. The symptoms can range in severity from slight discomfort and inconvenience to debilitating pain and impairment of daily activities.

Depending on the type of dystonia, different parts of the body can be affected, including the neck (cervical dystonia), limbs, eyes (blepharospasm), or the entire body.

Treatment

The onset of dystonia can occur at any age and can be isolated as the primary condition, or it may be part of another disease or condition, known as secondary dystonia. Treatment options are tailored to the individual's needs and can include medications to help alleviate the symptoms, botulinum toxin injections to temporarily paralyze muscles, and in some cases, surgery or deep brain stimulation (DBS) when less invasive treatments are ineffective.

Living with dystonia often also requires supportive therapies like physical therapy to maintain range of motion and function.



TYPICAL LIKELIHOOD

**Typical likelihood of dystonia based on 18,369
genetic variants we looked at**

Your Recommendations

Your recommendations are prioritized according to the likelihood of it having an impact for you based on your genetics, along with the amount of scientific evidence supporting the recommendation.

You'll likely find common healthy recommendations at the top of the list because they are often the most impactful and most researched.

	DOSAGE		DOSAGE		
1	Tai Chi	1 hour	2	Acupuncture	1 hour
3	Stretching	15 minutes	4	Aerobic Exercise (Cardio)	1 hour
5	Mindfulness Meditation	30 minutes	6	Magnesium	350 mg
7	Yoga	30 minutes	8	Dance	30 minutes
9	Vitamin B12	100 mcg			

1



Tai Chi

IMPACT

0 / 5

EVIDENCE

0 / 5

How to implement

Practice Tai Chi for 30 to 60 minutes at least twice a week. Choose a quiet, spacious area and follow along with a qualified instructor, either in person at a class or through an online video tutorial, to ensure proper technique and maximum benefit.

TYPICAL STARTING DOSE

1 hour

Description

Tai Chi is a traditional Chinese mind-body practice involving slow, flowing movements and deep breathing. It is known for its potential to reduce stress, improve balance, and enhance overall physical and mental well-being.

Tai chi involves gentle movements and breathing to strengthen and relax the mind and body. Practicing tai chi may help [\[R, R, R\]](#):

- Manage pain
- Improve fitness
- Increase well-being
- Improve sleep and mood

How it helps

Tai Chi involves slow, controlled movements that can enhance balance and muscle coordination, providing symptom relief for those with dystonia.

2



Acupuncture

IMPACT

0 / 5

EVIDENCE

0 / 5

How to implement

Visit a licensed acupuncturist for a session, typically lasting between 30 to 60 minutes, once or twice a week. Depending on your specific condition, a course of treatment might range from a few weeks to several months.

TYPICAL STARTING DOSE

1 hour

Description

Acupuncture is a part of traditional Chinese medicine. It involves inserting thin needles at specific points on the body. People use it to relieve pain and allergies, as well as reduce nausea and improve sleep.

[Acupuncture](#) is a part of traditional Chinese medicine. It involves **inserting thin needles at specific points on the body**. People use it to [\[R, R, R, R, R\]](#):

- Relieve pain
- Improve sleep quality
- Relieve allergies
- Reduce nausea

How it helps

Acupuncture can help reduce the symptoms of dystonia by promoting relaxation and alleviating muscle tension. By targeting specific points on the body, acupuncture may adjust the flow of energy and improve muscle function and coordination. This helps in managing the involuntary muscle contractions associated with dystonia.

3



Stretching

IMPACT

0 / 5

EVIDENCE

0 / 5

How to implement

Incorporate stretching exercises into your daily routine, dedicating at least 10-15 minutes each day. Focus on major muscle groups such as the neck, shoulders, chest, back, hips, and legs. For best results, stretch both before and after other physical activities, holding each stretch for 15-30 seconds without bouncing.

TYPICAL STARTING DOSE

15 minutes

Description

Stretching involves gently elongating the muscles to improve flexibility, reduce muscle tension, and enhance joint mobility. Regular stretching can help prevent injuries, promote better posture, and increase overall physical comfort.

Stretching is a form of physical exercise that involves moving a muscle or group of muscles to their maximum range of motion. The most common types are **dynamic** (involving movement) and **static** stretching.


Stretching can help **improve flexibility, range of motion, and posture**. It may also relieve stress, reduce muscle soreness and tension, increase blood flow, and reduce the risk of injuries.

To get the most out of stretching, try to do it regularly, breathe deeply, and ease into the stretches.

How it helps

Regular stretching can improve flexibility and reduce muscle stiffness, which is beneficial for managing dystonia symptoms.

4



Aerobic Exercise (Cardio)

IMPACT

0 / 5

EVIDENCE

0 / 5

How to implement

Engage in at least 150 minutes of moderate-intensity aerobic exercise or 75 minutes of vigorous-intensity activity each week. Distribute this time over at least 3 days per week, avoiding consecutive days of vigorous exercise to allow for recovery.

TYPICAL STARTING DOSE

1 hour

Description

Engaging in regular aerobic exercise, such as running, swimming, or cycling, offers numerous health benefits, including improved cardiovascular fitness, weight management, and mood enhancement. It supports overall physical and mental well-being while reducing the risk of chronic diseases.

Cardio, short for cardiovascular exercise, is any type of physical activity that temporarily increases your heart rate. Examples include **running, cycling, swimming, and brisk walking**.

Regular cardio exercise has many benefits for your overall health. It can help lower your risk of heart disease and diabetes, support weight loss, and improve your mood and energy levels. To get the most out of cardio, try to do it for at **least 30 minutes, 3-5 times a week**.

Interval training is a type of cardio that combines periods of high-intensity training with brief rest periods.

How it helps

Aerobic exercise can help improve motor function and reduce symptoms by enhancing brain plasticity and increasing the release of endorphins, which have a calming effect.

5



Mindfulness Meditation

IMPACT

0 / 5

EVIDENCE

0 / 5

How to implement

Practice mindfulness meditation for 10-20 minutes daily. Find a quiet, comfortable place to sit or lie down, then focus on your breath, observing thoughts and sensations without judgment. Consistency is key, so try to incorporate it into your daily routine, perhaps in the morning or before bed.

TYPICAL STARTING DOSE

30 minutes

Description

Mindfulness meditation involves focused attention on the breath or a specific point of focus to cultivate mindfulness and reduce stress. Regular meditation practice is associated with improved mental clarity, emotional regulation, and overall well-being.


How it helps

Mindfulness meditation can help manage the emotional and psychological stress that often accompanies dystonia, reducing the severity of symptoms by lowering stress-related neurochemical levels.

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6  **Magnesium**

IMPACT 0 / 5

EVIDENCE 0 / 5

How to implement

Take up to 350 mg of magnesium daily as a supplement, preferably with a meal to enhance absorption.

TYPICAL STARTING DOSE

350 mg

Description

Magnesium is an essential mineral involved in various bodily functions, including muscle contractions, nerve signaling, and bone health. Maintaining adequate magnesium levels through diet or supplements can support overall well-being and reduce the risk of magnesium deficiency-related health issues.

Magnesium is an essential mineral. Your body needs it for [\[R\]](#), [\[R\]](#), [\[R\]](#):


- Muscle, nerve, and bone function
- Blood sugar and blood pressure control
- DNA and protein production
- Strong immunity

Women need **310-320 mg** of magnesium per day, while men need **400-420 mg** [\[R\]](#).

Foods rich in magnesium include **nuts, seeds, and leafy greens**. Magnesium is also available as a supplement [\[R\]](#).

How it helps

Magnesium plays a role in muscle and nerve function. Some studies suggest that magnesium supplementation might help reduce muscle spasms and cramps, common symptoms in dystonia, by improving neuromuscular transmission and decreasing excitability.

7  **Yoga**

IMPACT
0 / 5

EVIDENCE
0 / 5

How to implement

Practice yoga for at least 20 to 30 minutes a day, most days of the week. Choose a style that matches your fitness level and goals, and consider attending a class or using online resources to guide your practice.

TYPICAL STARTING DOSE

30 minutes

Description


Yoga is a mind-body practice that combines physical postures, breathing exercises, and meditation. It enhances flexibility, strength, and mental well-being and is used for stress reduction, relaxation, and overall health improvement.

[Yoga](#) combines breathing, stretching, and relaxation techniques. Practicing yoga may help [\[R, R, R\]](#):

- Reduce [stress](#)
- Improve fitness
- Lower blood pressure and heart rate
- Manage pain

How it helps

Ashtanga Yoga and other forms of yoga can help improve flexibility, muscle control, and relaxation, which can be beneficial in managing the muscle contractions and discomfort of dystonia.

8  **Dance**

IMPACT
0 / 5

EVIDENCE
0 / 5

How to implement

Engage in dance activities for at least 30 minutes, three times per week. You can choose any form of dance you enjoy, such as ballroom, hip hop, or salsa, and you can dance at home, in a studio, or in a group class setting.

TYPICAL STARTING DOSE
30 minutes

Description


Dancing involves moving your body to music. Many people take dance classes to learn various styles of dance and improve their skills. Examples include:

- Ballet
- Zumba
- Belly dancing
- Hip hop
- Salsa

Dancing is a fun, creative, and relaxing activity. It can also provide a range of health benefits, improving your heart health, brain health, fitness, and more.

How it helps

Dance, especially structured therapeutic dance, can improve motor control and coordination, helping to alleviate some of the symptoms of dystonia by promoting brain and muscle coordination.

9  **Vitamin B12**

IMPACT 0 / 5

EVIDENCE 0 / 5

How to implement

Take a 50 mcg vitamin B12 supplement daily, preferably with a meal to enhance absorption.

TYPICAL STARTING DOSE

100 mcg

Description

Vitamin B12 is a water-soluble vitamin primarily found in animal-based foods like meat, fish, and dairy products. It plays a crucial role in maintaining healthy nerve cells, DNA synthesis, and red blood cell formation. Vitamin B12 deficiency can lead to anemia, neurological issues, and fatigue.

[Vitamin B12](#) is important for [\[R, R\]](#):

- Building DNA
- Nervous system function
- Energy production

You can get vitamin B12 from [\[R\]](#):

- Animal products (meat, fish, eggs, and dairy)
- Fortified foods
- Supplements

Adults should be getting **2.4 micrograms** of vitamin B12 every day [\[R\]](#).

How it helps

Vitamin B12 is critical for maintaining the health of nerve cells and supporting nerve repair. There is some evidence suggesting that supplementing with Vitamin B12 can benefit individuals with neurological conditions by supporting nerve regeneration and function, potentially alleviating symptoms of dystonia.

Next Steps

Remember, your genes only tell one important part of your health story!

Now that you've seen your DNA-based results for this health topic, let's take a look at other contributing factors.

Your lab results

Your lab results are impacted by the combined effect of your genes, environment and lifestyle.

Lab tests will give you the best picture of your current health status, while your genes provide insight into your health predispositions and which recommendations are best for you.