

Sjogren's Syndrome

Disease Report

REPORT CATEGORY —



INFLAMMATION &
AUTOIMMUNITY

Sample Client

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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.

Personal information

NAME

Sample Client

SEX AT BIRTH

Male

HEIGHT

5ft 5" 165cm

WEIGHT

137lb 62kg



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

Sjögren's Syndrome is an autoimmune disorder in which the body's immune system mistakenly attacks its own moisture-producing glands, primarily the salivary and lacrimal glands. However, Sjögren's can also affect other parts of the body, including:

- Joints
- Skin
- Lungs
- Kidneys
- Blood Vessels
- Digestive Organs
- Nerves

There are two main types of Sjögren's Syndrome:

- Primary Sjögren's Syndrome: without the presence of another autoimmune disorder.
- Secondary Sjögren's Syndrome: Coexists with another autoimmune disease

Symptoms can range from mild to severe and may include:

- **Persistent dry eyes and/or mouth.**
- Swelling of the salivary glands in the neck or face.
- Joint pain, swelling, and stiffness.
- Skin rashes or dry skin.
- Persistent dry cough.
- Fatigue.
- Difficulty swallowing or speaking.

Management of Sjögren's often involves treating the symptoms, as there isn't currently a cure for the disorder. This might include moisture replacement therapies and medications.

Risk Factors and Genetics

The exact cause of Sjögren's Syndrome isn't entirely understood. It's believed to involve a combination of genetic and environmental factors.

About **50 %** of the differences in Sjögren's syndrome may be due to **genetics** [R, R].

Certain gene markers have been associated with the disease. It is also more common in families with rheumatic disease history. However, just having the genetic predisposition doesn't mean you'll get the disorder. The following factors might also play a role in its development:

- Gender: Women have a higher risk.
- Age: Most people are diagnosed after age 40.
- Infections: Certain viral or bacterial infections might act as a trigger in genetically predisposed individuals.
- Having rheumatic disease: more common for people who have rheumatoid arthritis or lupus



LESS LIKELY

Less likely to have Sjögren's syndrome based on 1,669 genetic variants we looked at

Your top variants that most likely impact your genetic predisposition:

GENE	SNP	GENOTYPE
/	rs116232857	AG
RASGRP3	rs13425999	CC
IRF5	rs3757387	CC
DDX6	rs7119038	AA
HLA-DQA2	rs9271588	CT
IL12A	rs485497	AA
STAT4	rs10168266	CT
STAT4	rs10553577	TDEL(ATAATA)
OLIG3	rs6933404	TC
CPEB4	rs359457	TC
PTTG1	rs2431098	GA
SH2B3	rs4766578	TA
PRDM1	rs526531	AG
IRF5	rs10954213	GA
/	rs115575857	AA
MICB	rs3135394	AA
GTF2IRD1	rs117026326	CC
SATB1	rs11915281	CC
TNFAIP3	rs5029939	CC
HLA-DPA1	rs4282438	TT
TNPO3	rs17339836	CC
TNIP1	rs6579837	GG
BLK	rs2736345	AA
HNRNPA3	rs1554770	TC
IDUA	rs3733346	TT

The number of "risk" variants in this table doesn't necessarily reflect your overall result.

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	White Peony (Chinese Peony)	500 mg	2	Topical Hyaluronic Acid	
3	Dietary Omega-3 Fatty Acids		4	Yoga	30 minutes
5	Maintain Optimal Vitamin D Levels	1000 iu	6	Good Oral Hygiene	2 minutes
7	Support Groups		8	Moisturize the Skin	
9	Stress Management Therapy	1 hour	10	Aerobic Exercise (Cardio)	1 hour
11	Probiotics	30 billion CFU			

1



White Peony (Chinese Peony)

IMPACT

1 / 5

EVIDENCE

1 / 5

How to implement

Take 500 mg of white peony (Chinese peony) supplement daily. It can be consumed with or without food, according to your preference.

TYPICAL STARTING DOSE

500 mg

Description

White peony is a plant extract derived from the root of the *Paeonia lactiflora* plant, commonly known as Chinese and sometimes red peony. It has been used traditionally in Chinese herbal medicine for its potential anti-inflammatory and pain-relieving properties. The main compounds in white peony extract include paeoniflorin and other glycosides.

White peony is commonly used for [\[R\]](#), [\[R\]](#), [\[R\]](#), [\[R\]](#):

- Autoimmune skin/joint conditions
- Menstrual cramps
- Heart disease
- Improved immune response

How it helps

In a placebo-controlled trial of 320 patients with primary Sjögren's syndrome, supplementation with total peony glucosides (600 mg, 3x/day) for 24 weeks significantly improved the EULAR Sjögren's Syndrome Patient Reported Index (ESSPRI), as well as other symptoms like dry eyes and fatigue [\[R\]](#).

2



Topical Hyaluronic Acid

IMPACT

0 / 5

EVIDENCE

0 / 5

How to implement

Apply a few drops of hyaluronic acid serum directly to your clean, damp skin twice a day, in the morning and before bedtime. Gently massage it into your face and neck until fully absorbed. Follow up with your regular moisturizer to seal in the hydration.

Description

Hyaluronic acid is a naturally occurring substance in the skin that is used topically to enhance skin hydration, reduce fine lines, and improve overall skin texture. It can be derived from various sources, including microbial fermentation.

Hyaluronic acid is a compound naturally found in the body. It helps the skin, eyes, connective tissues, and joints retain water [\[R\]](#), [\[R\]](#).

By doing so, hyaluronic acid can help keep the [\[R\]](#):

- Joints moving smoothly
- Skin and eyes moist
- Skin flexible

Hyaluronic acid is popular as a topical serum. It is also available as an injection, supplement, and eye drop.

How it helps

Topical Hyaluronic Acid helps to retain skin moisture and improve skin hydration, making it useful for alleviating the dry skin symptoms associated with Sjogren's syndrome.

3



Dietary Omega-3 Fatty Acids

IMPACT

0 / 5

EVIDENCE

0 / 5

How to implement

Incorporate foods high in omega-3 fatty acids into your diet daily. This includes eating fish such as salmon, mackerel, and sardines at least twice a week. Alternatively, include a tablespoon of flaxseed oil or chia seeds in your daily diet.

Description

[Omega-3 fatty acids](#) are some of the healthiest fats we can eat. They help lower inflammation and protect the heart, brain, and eyes. Our bodies produce less omega-3s than we need for optimal health, so it's important to get enough through food or supplements [\[R\]](#), [\[R\]](#), [\[R\]](#).

There are three major types of omega-3s: ALA, EPA, and DHA. **EPA and DHA are vital for mental and heart health** [\[R\]](#), [\[R\]](#), [\[R\]](#).

Fatty fish are rich in EPA and DHA. They include [\[R\]](#):

- Salmon
- Tuna
- Herring
- Sardines

For optimal health, try to get at least **two servings of fatty fish per week**. Fish oil supplements are available for those who don't eat fish regularly [\[R\]](#).

How it helps

Omega-3 fatty acids have anti-inflammatory properties. They can help reduce the severity of symptoms such as dryness and joint pain associated with Sjogren's syndrome.

4



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

Yoga incorporates gentle stretches and mindfulness exercises that can help reduce joint pain and stiffness, boost flexibility, and enhance mental well-being in individuals with Sjogren's syndrome.

5



Maintain Optimal Vitamin D Levels

IMPACT

0 / 5

EVIDENCE

0 / 5

How to implement

Check your vitamin D levels, they should ideally be in the 30-66 ng/mL range. If your levels are lower than that, take a vitamin D supplement, 1000-4000 IU daily, to reach an optimal range.

TYPICAL STARTING DOSE

1000 iu

Description

Vitamin D, often referred to as the "sunshine vitamin," can be synthesized by the skin when exposed to sunlight, as well as being found in fish, eggs, and fortified milk. It helps regulate calcium absorption, promoting strong bones and a healthy immune system. Vitamin D deficiency can lead to conditions like rickets in children and osteoporosis in adults.

Your body needs [vitamin D](#) for strong bones. Vitamin D also plays a role in [\[R\]](#):

- Mood
- Immunity
- Heart health
- Blood sugar control

[Sunlight](#) is our main source of vitamin D. Experts recommend getting at least **5-15 minutes of midday sun, 2-3 times per week**. People with darker skin and those living at high latitudes may need longer periods of sun exposure [\[R, R\]](#).

Foods like fish, eggs, and fortified milk provide small amounts of vitamin D. **People lacking vitamin D should consider taking a supplement** [\[R\]](#).

How it helps

Vitamin D helps modulate the immune system, which can be beneficial for autoimmune conditions like Sjogren's syndrome. It can reduce inflammation and improve general well-being.

6



Good Oral Hygiene

IMPACT0 / 5

EVIDENCE0 / 5

How to implement

Brush your teeth at least twice a day for two minutes each time using fluoride toothpaste. Floss daily to remove plaque from places your toothbrush can't reach and consider using mouthwash. Visit your dentist at least twice a year for professional cleanings and checkups.

TYPICAL STARTING DOSE

2 minutes

Description

Good oral hygiene, which includes regular brushing, flossing, and dental check-ups, is crucial for preventing tooth decay, gum disease, and maintaining overall oral health. A healthy mouth contributes to overall well-being and can prevent dental issues that may impact systemic health.

Oral hygiene refers to practices that keep the mouth healthy. Good habits include [R](#), [R](#):

- Gently brushing the teeth and tongue for two minutes, at least twice a day
- Flossing daily
- Using a toothpaste with fluoride and a soft toothbrush
- Replacing a worn toothbrush at least every 3 months

To help maintain good oral hygiene, it is also important to regularly see dental professionals. They can help prevent and address issues with your teeth and gums.

How it helps

Good oral hygiene is crucial for individuals with Sjogren's syndrome because the condition often leads to dry mouth, which increases the risk of dental issues like cavities and gum disease. Regular brushing and flossing help maintain oral health.

7



Support Groups

IMPACT

0 / 5

EVIDENCE

0 / 5

How to implement

Attend a support group meeting related to your condition at least once a week. These meetings can be found through local hospitals, online platforms, or health organizations specific to your condition. Participation can be in-person or virtual, depending on what is offered and your preference.

Description

Support groups are gatherings of individuals facing similar challenges, where they can share experiences, emotions, and coping strategies. They offer emotional support, camaraderie, and valuable insights for those dealing with various health conditions or life circumstances.

Support groups involve people with similar struggles helping each other. Support groups usually take place in a casual setting. During sessions, people share their [\[R\]](#):

- Knowledge
- Experiences
- Coping strategies
- Understanding of the recovery process

Support groups may help support recovery from addictions [\[R\]](#).

How it helps

Joining support groups can provide emotional support and practical advice from others who understand Sjogren's syndrome. This social interaction can improve mood and help manage the chronic symptoms of the condition.

8



Moisturize the Skin

IMPACT

0 / 5

EVIDENCE

0 / 5

How to implement

Apply a moisturizer to your skin within a few minutes after bathing or showering once daily. For dry skin conditions, moisturizing twice daily, once in the morning and once at night before bed, may be beneficial. Choose a moisturizer suited for your skin type; for sensitive skin, opt for fragrance-free options.

Description

Moisturizing the skin involves applying skincare products to maintain skin hydration, prevent dryness, and support a healthy skin barrier, which can help alleviate skin conditions like dryness, itching, and flakiness.

A water imbalance in the skin can make it dry and more susceptible to irritation [\[R\]](#).

Moisturizers help the skin retain water. In doing so, they may strengthen the skin barrier [\[R\]](#).

There are many types of moisturizing products, including [\[R\]](#):

- Gels
- Lotions
- Creams
- Ointments

These products differ in their water and oil content. Ointments contain the most oil. Lotions and gels contain more water. Creams have a bit of both [\[R\]](#).

It might take some trial and error to find products that work best for your skin type [\[R\]](#).

People with skin conditions like eczema may benefit more from using moisturizers with a lot of oil. These include ointments and creams [\[R\]](#), [\[R\]](#).

How it helps

Sjogren's syndrome often causes dryness of the skin. Using moisturizers regularly can help alleviate this discomfort and maintain skin integrity by creating a barrier that helps retain moisture.

9

Stress Management Therapy

IMPACT

0 / 5

EVIDENCE

0 / 5

How to implement

Engage in stress management therapy sessions, such as cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT), for at least 1 hour per week over a course of 8 to 12 weeks. Techniques can include mindfulness, deep breathing exercises, and identifying stressors to develop coping strategies.

TYPICAL STARTING DOSE
1 hour

Description

Stress management therapy refers to various techniques and approaches aimed at reducing and coping with stress. It can improve mental and physical well-being by helping individuals better manage the effects of stress on their health.

How it helps

Stress management therapy can help reduce stress, which often exacerbates the symptoms of Sjogren's syndrome such as fatigue and pain. Mindfulness and relaxation techniques have been shown to improve overall well-being in patients.

10

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 overall well-being and reduce fatigue, which is often a significant problem for people with Sjogren's syndrome. Regular physical activity also helps boost mood and general health.

11



Probiotics

IMPACT

0 / 5

EVIDENCE

0 / 5

How to implement

Take a probiotic supplement containing 10 billion or more live cultures once daily, preferably with a meal or as directed by the packaging or a healthcare provider.

TYPICAL STARTING DOSE
30 billion CFU

Description

Probiotics are live beneficial bacteria and yeasts that can support gut health and digestive function when consumed as supplements or found in fermented foods like yogurt and sauerkraut. They may be beneficial to gut health, immune function, blood sugar, and mood.

[Probiotic bacteria](#) are “good” bacteria found mainly in the large intestine. They support your body and mind by [\[R\]](#), [\[R\]](#), [\[R\]](#), [\[R\]](#), [\[R\]](#), [\[R\]](#), [\[R\]](#), [\[R\]](#):

- Maintaining gut health
- Supporting a healthy immune system
- Improving your mood
- Helping to maintain healthy blood sugar

Prebiotics are certain types of fiber and other complex carbs that serve as food for gut bacteria. **They support gut health by helping boost the activity and growth of “good” bacteria** [\[R\]](#), [\[R\]](#).

Prebiotics are also added to foods and supplements. Common prebiotic ingredients are [\[R\]](#), [\[R\]](#):

- Oligo-fructose
- Oligo-galactose
- [Inulin](#)

Mixtures of probiotics and prebiotics are known as **synbiotics** [\[R\]](#).

How it helps

Probiotics may help modulate the immune system, potentially alleviating some symptoms of Sjogren's syndrome by reducing inflammation and improving mucosal health.

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 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.