

Introduction

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Genetic disorders are considerable health and economic burdens not only on affected people and their families, but also on the community. As most environmental diseases are successfully controlled, those that are wholly or partly genetically determined are becoming more important (*Connor and Ferguson-smith, 1993*).

Despite a general fall in perinatal mortality rates, the incidence of lethal malformation in newborn infants remain constant, between 2-5% of all liveborn infant have genetic predisposition, including e.g. coronary heart disease (*Filkins, et al., 1999*)

Though diseases of wholly genetic origin are often individually rare, yet they are important. Most of genetic disorders are incurable and often severe, a few are amenable to treatment but most are not, so that emphasis is often placed on prevention of their recurrences within an affected family or complications in a person who is already affected (*Huggin and Merangh, 1999*).

A family with genetic disorders history should be referred for genetic counseling to discuss the diagnosis, the recurrence risk, and the options for prenatal diagnosis in future pregnancies (*Connor and Ferguson-smith, 1993*).