

Special Issue

Genetics in Stickler Syndrome

Message from the Guest Editor

The Stickler syndromes form part of the spectrum of type II, IX, and XI collagenopathies. They are the most common cause of retinal detachment in children and the most common cause of familial retinal detachment. In contrast to many other blinding retinal disorders, blindness from retinal detachment is both relatively common and preventable with accurate prediction of those at risk. Recent advances in the molecular genetic analysis of Stickler syndrome have allowed clinicians to stratify with far greater accuracy the risk of blindness in affected individuals and offer prophylactic surgery to reduce the risk of avoidable blindness, particularly in children. The genes for type II, IX, and XI collagen are also expressed in elastic and hyaline cartilage, and patients with Stickler syndrome may also suffer from deafness, cleft palate, and premature arthropathy. This review focusses on recent molecular genetic advances in all the multisystem aspects of Stickler syndrome, together with an overview of how these relate to myopia and retinal detachment in the population at large.

Guest Editor

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Genes is central to our understanding of biology, and modern advances such as genomics and genome editing have maintained genetics as a vibrant, diverse and fast-moving field. There is a need for good quality, open access journals in this area, and the *Genes* team aims to provide expert manuscript handling, serious peer review, and rapid publication across the whole discipline of genetics. Starting in 2010, the journal is now well established and recognised. Why not consider *Genes* for your next genetics paper?

Editor-in-Chief

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