



Further Inform Neurogenetic Disorders

Key Facts about Williams Syndrome

Williams syndrome is caused by the deletion of genetic material at [chromosome 7](#).

Features such as wide mouth, a small upturned nose and a small chin are just some of the [physical characteristics](#) found in individuals with Williams syndrome.

Some [health issues](#) occur in individuals with Williams syndrome. These include gastrointestinal difficulties, increased risk of cardiovascular diseases and mild to moderate hearing loss.

Individuals with Williams syndrome usually have a mild intellectual disability.

Auditory short-term memory and facial recognition skills are some of the [cognitive strengths](#) found in those with Williams syndrome whilst the ability to use visual-motor skills and maintain focus are seen to be weaker.

83% of individuals with Williams syndrome experience [emotional](#) or behavioural problems.

ADHD is estimated to affect 64% of those with Williams syndrome.

6-15% of individuals with Williams syndrome show signs of aggressive behaviour, which is far less common than in those with other genetic disorders.

[Age-related changes](#) linked to behavioural and physical characteristics change as an individual with Williams syndrome progresses from childhood to adulthood. Age-related changes associated with cognitive characteristics generally remain stable.

[Stereotypical behaviours](#) such as body rocking are often reported in individuals with Williams syndrome.