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Genetic inheritance from parents. What researchers have found

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Will a gene bring healthful blessings or the curse of disease? It may depend on whether it is inherited from mom or dad, researchers reported on Wednesday.

A team at Iceland's Decode Genetics Inc found mutations in five disease-related genes that only take effect if inherited from a certain parent.

One, a new gene associated with diabetes, protects from the disease if inherited from the mother but raises the risk if inherited from the father. Three other diabetes genes also varied in their effects, but less so, depending on which parent it came from, the researchers reported in the journal Nature.

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