

Rare genetic diseases, usually caused by mutations in a single gene, provide a unique opportunity to better understand more common disease processes. These "natural" experiments are similar to carefully controlled lab experiments in which the function of single genes are analyzed and often give major insights into general health issues. "This discovery of the causative gene is a significant finding that will catalyze research efforts into the role of the IRX gene family and greatly increase our understanding of bone homeostasis, or gamete formation, and so forth."

157 . It is said that Hamamy syndrome is throughout the world.

- a. uncommon b. incurable c. contagious d. prevalent

158 . The discovery in question is said to open up new therapeutic solutions to

- a. some rare and complicated types of cancer
b. a small number of patients worldwide
c. some diseases affecting millions of people
d. many afflicted with sexually transmitted diseases

159 . IRX5 seems to be critical for development in the womb as well as for the

- a. framework of understanding
b. evolution of different ethnicities
c. function of many organs in our adult body
d. evolutionary questions embedded in genomes

160 . In paragraph 3, the researchers expect their findings contribute to a better understanding of

- a. infertility
b. brain stroke
c. mechanisms underlying diseases
d. any rare syndromes inflicting children of both sexes

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