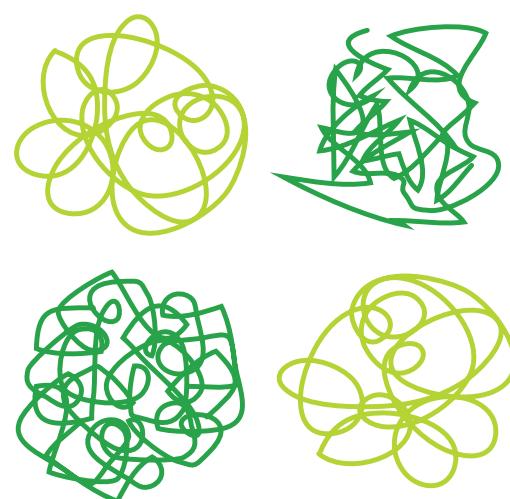


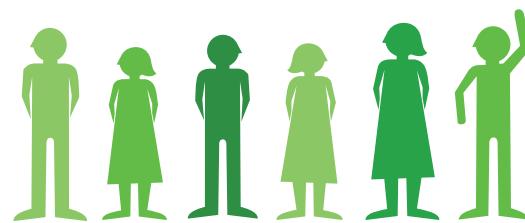
What do these words mean?

Why do mutations matter?

At least 800 different gene mutations have been identified that can cause Fabry disease



The type of mutation can affect **when** symptoms appear, **what kind** of symptoms appear, and **how bad** the symptoms are or may become



It's important for individuals or families with Fabry to know ***which mutation*** they have

A VISUAL *GUIDE*

► TO UNDERSTANDING

FABRY

DISEASE

DISEASE



WHAT PEOPLE LIVING WITH FABRY DISEASE— AND THEIR FAMILIES— NEED TO KNOW

Breaking down Fabry: facts about the disease



Fabry is a rare, progressive, genetic disease affecting 1 in 40,000 to 60,000 males, although it may be more common than this



It's a type of disease called a *lysosomal storage disorder*, or LSD



People with LSDs have problems making specific lysosomal enzymes



In Fabry disease, the affected enzyme is α -galactosidase A, or just α -Gal A



Usually, α -Gal A breaks down substances in the cell called globotriaosylceramide (GL-3) and plasma globotriaosylsphingosine (lyso-Gb₃)



In people with Fabry disease, α -Gal A does not break down GL-3; instead, GL-3 builds up, particularly in cells lining blood vessels



This build-up damages tissues and organs, leading to the symptoms of Fabry disease

How does Fabry disease affect the body?

From one person to another, everyone experiences Fabry disease differently.

PSYCHOSOCIAL

- Feelings of guilt, apprehension, depression, isolation, and even fear (may also be experienced by family members)
- Feelings of relief to finally have a diagnosis of Fabry, after years of not knowing

EYES

- A whorled pattern in the cornea
- Fabry cataracts

KIDNEYS

- Protein in the urine
- Decreased kidney function
- Kidney failure

SKIN

- Sweating less than or more than normal
- Small dark red spots called angiokeratomas, particularly between belly button and knees

NERVOUS SYSTEM

- Pain
- Hearing loss, ringing in the ears
- Intolerance to heat, cold, or exercise
- Transient ischemic attack (TIA) and stroke
- Burning in the hands and feet, also called acroparesthesia
- Vertigo/feeling dizzy

HEART

- Irregular heartbeat (fast or slow)
- Heart attack or heart failure
- Enlarged heart

GASTROINTESTINAL

- Nausea, vomiting, cramping, and diarrhea
- Pain/bloating after eating, feeling full after a small amount of food
- Constipation
- Difficulty managing weight

Bottom line: Talk to others with Fabry disease and share your experiences. It may help!

What causes Fabry disease?



Everyone has information coded into their cells called DNA—which is inherited from one's parents



Sometimes, mutations occur in the DNA code that makes up a particular gene



Think of it like spelling. One wrong letter can completely change the meaning of a word!



People with some mutations make very little or no α -Gal A



People with certain types of mutations may make α -Gal A, but it doesn't function correctly



EVERY PATIENT IS UNIQUE

Other resources that may be helpful include:

- **The Fabry International Network**
fabrynetwork.org
- **Fabry Support & Information Group**
fabry.org
- **The National Fabry Disease Foundation**
fabrydisease.org
- **The Society for Mucopolysaccharide Diseases (UK)**
mpssociety.org.uk

- **Canadian Fabry Association**
fabrycanada.com
- **Fabry Australia**
fabry.com.au
- **National Institutes of Health NINDS Fabry Disease Information Page**
ninds.nih.gov/disorders/fabrys
- **The National Organization for Rare Disorders**
rarediseases.org
- **EURORDIS – Rare Diseases Europe**
eurordis.org