

Arguello, AP, A Addington, S Borja, S Brady, T Dutka, M Gitik, S Koester, D Meinecke, K Merikangas, FJ McMahon, D Panchision, G Senthil, and T Lehner. 2019. From genetics to biology: advancing mental health research in the Genomics ERA. *Molecular Psychiatry* 24, 1576–1582. The original text can be found at <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41380-019-0445-x> under a CC BY 4.0 license.

Translators

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Intended Audience: High School Students.

Language: Plain language (simplified English)

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Translation

The Genomics Workgroup of the National Advisory Mental Health Council, also known as NAMHC, is in support of the National Institute of Mental Health’s psychiatric genetics research program and believes that follow-up studies to the ones already done are very important. The Genomics Workgroup thinks it’s important for studies that link specific genetic variants to certain diseases to be well supported by statistics, and well designed. We discuss the main points that the National Institute of Mental Health staff look at when they analyze research based on common and rare variants, as well as anything that may be genetically linked to psychiatric disorders. The National Institute of Mental Health staff consider all of these points, each specific to their submission. For example, they would look at reviewer comments, studies that already exist on the topic, and projects that are similar and currently being conducted elsewhere. Following what the National Advisory of Mental Health Council suggested, the numbers, the entire scientific process and the evidence of a genetic link are very important in our decision to provide funding. We specifically evaluate projects based on at least a partial link between the human DNA sequence and a disease that is relevant to those that are important to the National Institute of Mental Health.