

You Can Make a Difference!

Research has shown that genes can make some people more likely than others to develop **Obsessive Compulsive Disorder and Related Disorders (Hoarding Disorder, Body Dysmorphic Disorder, Hair Pulling Disorder/Trichotillomania, and Skin Picking Disorder/Excoriation Disorder)**. Researchers at the **University of Southern California** are trying to find these genes. Once these genes are identified, new and improved treatments may be possible.



OCD is characterized by obsessions which are unwanted thoughts, images and impulses that “pop” into a person’s mind, generate anxiety and lead to compulsions that are actions aimed to reduce the distress generated by the obsessions.

Hoarding Disorder is characterized by excessively saving items that others may view as worthless and have persistent difficulty getting rid of or parting with possessions, leading to clutter that disrupts an ability to use living or work spaces.

Body Dysmorphic Disorder (BDD) is characterized by thoughts about real or perceived flaws for hours each day that may cause severe emotional distress and interfere with daily functioning.

Trichotillomania is a disorder that involves recurrent, irresistible urges to pull out hair from the scalp, eyebrows or other areas of the body, despite trying to stop.

Excoriation Disorder (skin picking disorder, SPD) is characterized by repetitive touching, rubbing, scratching, picking, or digging into the skin, often in an attempt to remove small irregularities or perceived imperfections.

You may be eligible to take part in this study if you:

- are 7 years of age or older; and,
- have symptoms or a diagnosis of **Obsessive Compulsive Disorder and/or Related Disorders (Hoarding Disorder, Body Dysmorphic Disorder, Trichotillomania, Excoriation Disorder)**.

Participation involves an interview and donation of a small blood sample. You will be paid for your participation.

For more information, please visit our website at keck.usc.edu/gpc-ocd or contact us at cgp@usc.edu or

323.863.3995. All inquiries are confidential.

Offices in Riverside, Costa Mesa, Westwood and USC Medical Center

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