

Name _____

The Family Blueprint: Genetics and Substance Abuse Predisposition

Short Answer Key

1. A family history of substance abuse can increase an individual's risk by passing down certain genetic factors that make them more vulnerable to addiction and exposing them to an environment where substance abuse is prevalent.
2. Genetic variants can influence addiction susceptibility by affecting how the brain processes reward and pleasure, making some individuals more susceptible to the allure of substances.
3. It's important to consider both genetic factors and environmental influences because addiction risk results from a complex interplay between these factors, and genetics alone do not guarantee addiction.
4. When we say that genetics is just one piece of the puzzle regarding substance abuse risk, we mean that while genetics can increase susceptibility, it does not guarantee addiction, and other factors, such as personal choices and environment, also play a significant role.
5. Understanding one's genetic predisposition to substance abuse can be empowering because it highlights the importance of making informed choices and seeking support when necessary to mitigate the risks associated with a genetic predisposition.

