

Leber Congenital Amaurosis

Description:

- effects 1 in 80,000 births
- about 3,000 live in USA
- gene effected is RPE65
- untreatable
- there are assisting technologies available
- there are resource centers for support and if needed assistant can be assigned to patient

When:

- caused at birth
- is recessive

History:

- discovered by Theodore Leber --> German ophthalmologist
- he found out in 1869 it was inherited defect

Causes:

- missing rods and cones --> work in the retina
- nerve defect

Symptoms:

- vision impairment / blindness
- hearing impaired/ deaf
- mental retardation (rare cases ((20%)))
- decreased physical coordination
- epilepsy (seizing)

Population affecting:

- 5% at effected birth (inborn)
- responsible for 10% of blindness in Sweden and Netherlands

- no discrimination but certain ethnic groups affected more than

others

Prognosis:

- varies depending of symptoms
- does not effect life expectancy
- Doesn't affect brain, heart, kidney

Children?:

- can have children

 |__> child won't be effected if there are not two of the same type of LCA present whether it be hetero. or homozygous recessive

Interesting Facts:

- even some effected live "normal lives" with boundaries but preserver
- every patient has a specified diagnosis and is 1 of about 6 **different** stages or types.