

Genetic Criteria for the Classification of Malformations*

A twin study

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The authors have investigated the genetic conditioning of malformative phenomena in the series of twin pairs identified by the Italian Institute for Vital Statistics in the five-year period 1961-1965 (approximately, 55 000 twin pairs).

For the present study, an original theoretical model has been chosen, that makes the classical twin test of comparison between twin series different as to zygosity be applied to twin series different as to sex composition.

The resulting analysis enables the authors to formulate a hierarchical classification of many of the malformations listed by the Italian Institute for Vital Statistics, according to their degree of genetic conditioning.

* The full paper is in preparation.

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