

University of Basrah
Al-Zahraa Medical College



Ministry of Higher education
and Scientific Research

Block: child health

Lecture: genetic counseling

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Nelson Textbook of Pediatrics, 20th edition.

Nelson Essentials of Pediatrics, 7th Edition 2015

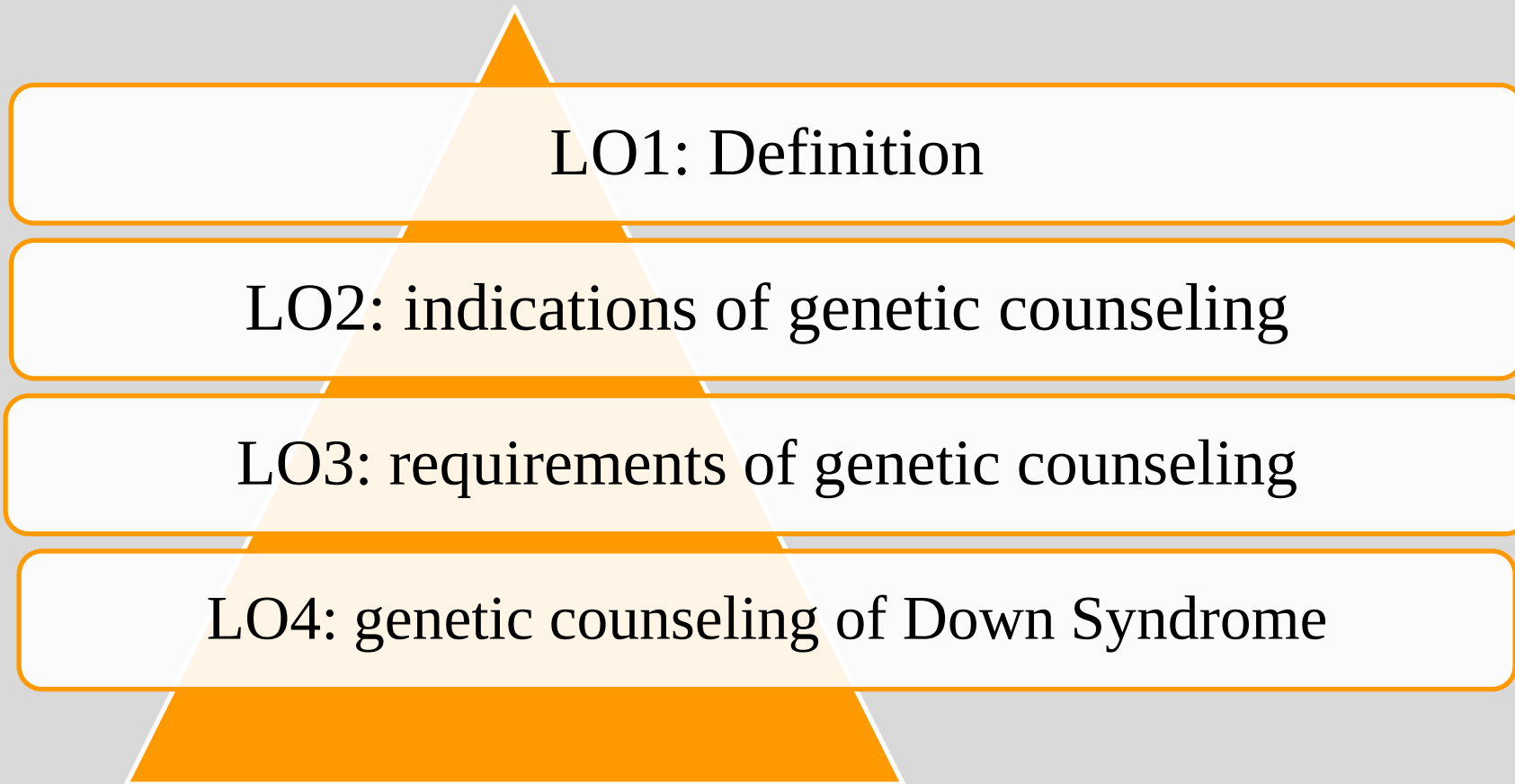
Pediatric Decision-Making Strategies

Illustrated Textbook of Pediatrics

Short Atlas in Pediatrics



Learning outcomes



Genetic Counseling

LO1

Genetic counseling is a communication process in which the genetic contribution to health is explained , along with specific risk of transmission of trait, and options to manage the condition and its inheritance.



Indications for genetic counseling

LO2

1- advanced parental age

- **Maternal age >35 yr**
- **Paternal age > 50 yr**

2- previous child with or family history of:

- **Congenital abnormality**
- **Dysmorphology**
- **Mental retardation**

- **Metabolic disorder**
- **Chromosomal abnormality**
- **Single gene disorder**

3- consanguinity

4- teratogen exposure

5-heterozygote screening

6-repeated pregnancy loss

7- abnormal neonatal genetic testing

providing accurate information to families

requires:

LO3

1- taking a careful family history and constructing a pedigree that lists the relatives with their sex, age and state of health

2- documenting prenatal, natal and postnatal histories

3- careful physical examination

4-reviewing the latest available laboratory and genetic information concerning the disorder

5- establishing the diagnosis by diagnostic tests



Genetic counseling of Down Syndrome

LO4

Congratulate the parents for having a new baby and assure them that the doctor / genetic counselor are there to support them

Why has this happened?

A Genetic Disorder

Incidence: 1/ 600-800 births

- **Trisomy 21 95%**
- **Translocation 4%**
- **Mosaic 1%**

Will it happen again ?

Recurrence Risk

Trisomy 21 (nondisjunction) and maternal age

- | Age (year) | Risk |
|---|-------------------|
| • < 25 | 1/ 600-800 |
| • > 35 | 1/ 350 |
| • > 40 | 1/ 100 |
| • If a couple has a child with DS the risk is higher for the next pregnancy (1/ 100) | |

Translocation

Frequency : 1/ 500

Recurrence Risk

- **T(21;21) 100%**
- **T (14;21) , t (13;21) , t (15;21)**

12% if the mother is the carrier

3% if the father is the carrier

What can be done about it ?

Prenatal diagnosis:

1- maternal screening

- first trimester - US for nuchal translucency, blood for PAPP(pregnancy associated plasma protein) -A (decreased) and B hcg (increased)
- second trimester - AFP (increased), hcg, estriol (decreased)

2- diagnostic testing - chorionic villous sampling at 9-11weeks, Amniocentesis at 14-18 weeks



IQ ?

**The average IQ is 50 – 60 but
it varies**

complications

High risk for development of:

- **Hypothyroidism**
- **D M**
- **Celiac disease**
- **Leukemia**
- **Congenital heart disease**
- **Hearing loss**
- **epilepsy**

Health care and maintenance

- Echocardiogram at time of diagnosis
- Hearing and vision assessment
- Thyroid function test
- Cervical spine X ray
- Health supervision for children with DS



Thank
You

