

In April 2019, Researchers developed a study to assess the public interest in genetic risk scoring. The study investigated a population of diverse U.S. citizens. The three main questions were asked to determine the public's attitudes toward genetic scoring. The first one was, should people be judged on their genetic predisposition? The second question was, should different institutions be allowed to use this genetic information? The final question was, what is your personal willingness to disclose this genetic information to these institutions? Although the population was constructed of a diverse population, the answers had some similarities among age ranges, genders, and ethnicities.

The responses from these individuals overwhelmingly agree that people should not be judged based on their genetic predisposition. It was concluded that various backgrounds did not have an effect on the support of any judgment. However, there was a correlation between people strongly supporting and their views on institutions having access to genetic information.

Although the first question had copious amounts of support, the second and third responses represented a broad spectrum of answers. For the second question, those who supported institutions specified they wanted genetic risk scores to be shared with parties concerned with fertility/reproduction concerns. On the other hand, they agree that outside institutions should not have access to this medical information. For the opposers, they agreed that no one should have access to this information.

Lastly, participants varied on whether their own personal information would be shared. The researchers did not that all the participants signed up to be a part of the study, which shows a willingness to share personal information. Many who opposed access to information also opposed their information being shared. On the other hand, supporters say they would share their own information. It was noted, though, that no genetic scoring was actually tested for, and people could have changed their minds when faced with a real decision.

While this study was conducted in the form of a survey, Researchers did note that there were not any answers that correlated with a certain group of adults. That was truly a variety in all responses.

Simone, Z. et al. PUBLIC attitudes toward genetic risk scoring in medicine and beyond. *Social Science & Medicine* **274**, <https://www.sciencedirect.com/> (April 2021)