Cystic Fibrosis â€œFamily Treeâ€: Identifies New Therapeutic Target

Authors: Andrew Ramos Emily Wright Kevin Crane Sara West Nancy Castaneda

Published Date: 08-18-2018

Grossmont College

School of Physics

More information about the discovery has just been received by the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation (CFF) â€“ and it might be an important new therapeutic target for this deadly disease.

(Cystic fibrosis is a hereditary disease that afflicts about 75,000 Americans, mainly in the East and South).

The researchers looked at areas of the gene that gave rise to the genes from which proteins are required to control the flow of bacteria in and out of lungs.

These proteins are transported by enzymes that are able to open pores called adhesions in the lining of the airways. If there are too many adhesions, the bacteria can block the flow of air.

The specific site in the gene, called BCR6A, is then passed down the generations and involved in later development of the CFM2 gene, (it makes enzymes that turn the CFM2 into a disease-causing CFM3 gene) in addition to providing the space for the CREH protein.

This is the case with many other drugs that target the specific genes involved in treating disease.

The researchers published their findings in the journal Nature. According to its website, the study â€œbrings new hope that we may have an opportunity to cure the devastating disease.â€

A Small Bird Standing On A Tree Branch