Metro

Drinking habit **gene** discovered  
  
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A **GENE** that influences drinking habits has been discovered.

Researchers found people with a rarer version of the **gene**, known as AUTS2, consume five per cent less **alcohol** than those with the more common variety.

AUTS2 is most active in parts of the brain associated with 'reward' mechanisms that respond to pleasure.

Until now only one **gene**, controlling **alcohol** breakdown, was known to have an impact on drinking, but scientists believe other **genes** must play a role in determining desire for **alcohol**.

The **Imperial** College, London, scientists analysed DNA from 37,000 volunteers and found the version of the **gene** associated with lower levels of drinking was more active

The Mirror

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BOOZING 'IN YOUR **GENES'**;   
**ALCOHOL**  
  
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HOW much you like a jar could be down to DNA.

Two versions of the same "booze" **gene** was responsible for some people drinking 5% less, a study of 47,000 people showed.

Scientists from London's **Imperial** and King's colleges said the **gene** AUTS2 could explain bingeing and addiction.

They said: "It's a first step towards prevention."