Includes: Cat cry syndrome, 5p- syndrome, Lejeune syndrome

FACTS

Cri du chat syndrome is a chromosomal condition which involves a loss (deletion) of a variable amount of the short arm (called the “p” arm) of chromosome number 5 and so is often called 5p- (5p “minus”) syndrome.

Characteristic features of this condition include a high pitched cat-like cry in infancy, growth failure, microcephaly (small head size), specific facial features and intellectual disability. The symptoms can vary from mild to severe according to the amount of genetic material that is lost.

Support Groups can provide individuals and families with information about genetic conditions, community resources and an understanding and empathic ear.

If you are not able to contact the services listed below, please call the Association of Genetic Support of Australasia (AGSA) on (02) 9211 1462 or visit www.agsa-geneticsupport.org.au for support and assistance.

Further information and details of your local genetic counselling service can be found at www.genetics.edu.au, or please call The Centre for Genetics Education on (02) 9462 9599.