



Genetics and Rheumatic Heart Disease in Fiji

*Na tiki ni yagoda somidi na genes kei na mate na Rheumatic Heart Disease e Viti
Fiji me Genetics aur Rheumatic Heart Disease*

While you wait to see the doctor we'd like to tell you a little about a **research project** we're doing to try and better understand an important disease in Fiji called rheumatic heart disease. If you have rheumatic heart disease you might be able to take part...

Lots of people in Fiji have rheumatic heart disease...it's a **big problem** in primary school kids...



...and right now the problem is there's **no way to stop more people getting it** - for example there're **no pills and no vaccine**.

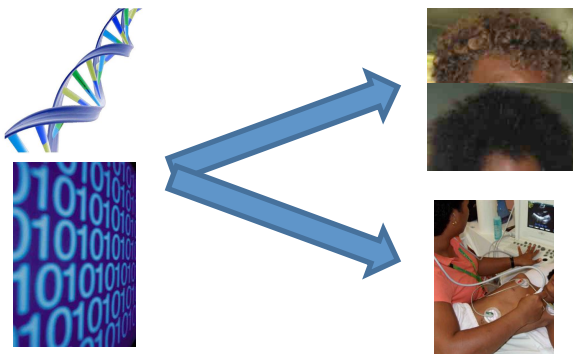
So we're doing a **research project** to try and help this. We'd like to ask to look at your medical notes and extra blood sample taken.



Remember! It's your decision if you want to take part - you don't have to.

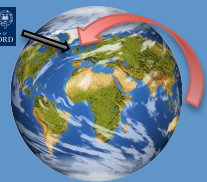
Lot of people in Fiji get **RHD** but also lots don't. We don't understand why some get it and others don't! But we think if we knew it might help. One way to look at this is called **genetics research** looking at the coded blueprint of your body called DNA you get from your parents.

Your DNA is like a code. It decides what colour your hair is and can alter what diseases you get



You should know:

1. The researchers who analyse your sample won't know your name
2. Some of your sample will be sent to Oxford University in the UK.
3. No one makes any money out of doing the research



If you want to take part please talk to the doctor or one of the research team...

Contact: 9034002/3319345



Please bring along a healthy friend to take part too - if they're an adult they can get blood sugar check or if a child a heart check. We'll also pay your bus fares when you bring them along.

the Fiji National Health Research Committee approved the study - they're in charge of health research in Fiji

