

## Isolated Duane retraction syndrome

### Description

Isolated Duane retraction syndrome is a disorder of eye movement. This condition prevents outward movement of the eye (toward the ear), and in some cases it may also limit inward eye movement (toward the nose). In people with this condition, the eyeball pulls back (retracts) into its socket and the eyelid opening narrows as the eye moves inward. Due to these movement limitations, the eyes often do not look in the same direction (strabismus). Instead, affected individuals may need to turn their head to track objects with both eyes.

Normally, only one eye is affected (most commonly the left eye) in people with isolated Duane retraction syndrome. About 10 percent of people with this condition also develop amblyopia ("lazy eye"), a condition that causes vision loss in the affected eye.

About 70 percent of all cases of Duane retraction syndrome are isolated, which means they occur without other signs and symptoms. The remaining cases of Duane retraction syndrome occur as part of syndromes that affect other areas of the body. For example, Duane-radial ray syndrome is characterized by this eye disorder and abnormalities of bones in the arms and hands.

Researchers have identified three forms of isolated Duane retraction syndrome, designated types I, II, and III. The types are differentiated by which eye movements are most severely restricted (inward, outward, or both). All three types are characterized by a retraction of the eyeball as the eye moves inward.

### Frequency

Isolated Duane retraction syndrome is estimated to affect 1 in 1,000 to 10,000 people worldwide. This condition accounts for 1 percent to 5 percent of all cases of strabismus.

### Causes

In most people with isolated Duane retraction syndrome, the cause of the condition is unknown. However, researchers have identified variants (also called mutations) in the *CHN1* gene that cause the disorder in some affected individuals.

The *CHN1* gene provides instructions for making a protein called N-chimaerin. This protein is involved in the early development of the nervous system. Specifically, the

protein appears to be critical for the formation of nerves that send movement signals to several of the muscles surrounding the eyes (extraocular muscles). Variants in the *CHN1* gene disrupt the normal development of these nerves so they cannot effectively control the extraocular muscles. Impaired function of these muscles leads to restricted eye movement and related problems with vision.

Variants in other genes can cause isolated Duane retraction syndrome in a small number of people.

[Learn more about the gene associated with Isolated Duane retraction syndrome](#)

- CHN1

### **Additional Information from NCBI Gene:**

- MAFB

### **Inheritance**

Isolated Duane retraction syndrome usually occurs in people with no history of the disorder in their family. These cases are described as simplex, and their genetic cause is unknown.

Less commonly, isolated Duane retraction syndrome can run in families. Familial cases most often have an autosomal dominant pattern of inheritance, which means one copy of the altered gene in each cell is sufficient to cause the disorder. When isolated Duane retraction syndrome is caused by *CHN1* gene variants, it has an autosomal dominant inheritance pattern.

### **Other Names for This Condition**

- Co-contractive retraction syndrome
- Duane anomaly, isolated
- Duane retraction syndrome
- Duane syndrome
- Duane's syndrome
- Ocular retraction syndrome
- Stilling-Turk-Duane syndrome

### **Additional Information & Resources**

#### Genetic Testing Information

- Genetic Testing Registry: Duane retraction syndrome (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/>)

[gtr/conditions/C0013261/](#))

### Genetic and Rare Diseases Information Center

- Duane retraction syndrome (<https://rarediseases.info.nih.gov/diseases/6288/index>)

### Patient Support and Advocacy Resources

- National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD) (<https://rarediseases.org/>)

### Clinical Trials

- ClinicalTrials.gov (<https://clinicaltrials.gov/search?cond=%22Isolated Duane retraction syndrome%22>)

### Catalog of Genes and Diseases from OMIM

- DUANE RETRACTION SYNDROME 1; DURS1 (<https://omim.org/entry/126800>)
- DUANE RETRACTION SYNDROME 2; DURS2 (<https://omim.org/entry/604356>)
- DUANE RETRACTION SYNDROME 3 WITH OR WITHOUT DEAFNESS; DURS3 (<https://omim.org/entry/617041>)

### Scientific Articles on PubMed

- PubMed ([https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/?term=%28%28Duane\\*+retraction+syndrome%5BTIAB%5D%29+OR+%28Duane\\*+syndrome%5BTIAB%5D%29+OR+%28DURS2+%5BTIAB%5D+AND+Duane+%5BTIAB%5D%29%29+AND+english%5Bla%5D+AND+human%5Bmh%5D+AND+%22last+1800+days%22%5Bdp%5D](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/?term=%28%28Duane*+retraction+syndrome%5BTIAB%5D%29+OR+%28Duane*+syndrome%5BTIAB%5D%29+OR+%28DURS2+%5BTIAB%5D+AND+Duane+%5BTIAB%5D%29%29+AND+english%5Bla%5D+AND+human%5Bmh%5D+AND+%22last+1800+days%22%5Bdp%5D))

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