

*You are not alone. Join us on this journey of hope for people with Kabuki syndrome.*

The world might seem to spin a little differently after hearing the words "Kabuki syndrome". A range of emotions might flood you, and that's completely understandable. But remember, in this storm, you are not alone. We're here with you.

We are the Kabuki Syndrome Foundation (KSF), a beacon of hope within the Kabuki syndrome community. We're dedicated to transforming today's unknowns into tomorrow's hope by accelerating research for treatments for Kabuki syndrome. We're extending our hand and ready to guide you through this journey.

Right now, you might need more information about Kabuki syndrome and what you and your family need to prepare for from a medical perspective. Our *Quick Start to Kabuki Syndrome Guide* can be downloaded from our website and gives you all of this information. Our website is the place to go for up-to-date scientific information and Kabuki syndrome resources.

When you're ready, here are the steps you can take to help find treatments for the symptoms of Kabuki syndrome:

- **Stay Updated.** Sign up for our newsletter and be the first to know about research and clinical trial opportunities, community events and conferences, and new discoveries that can help us find treatments.
- **Connect.** You are part of a vibrant, caring community. Connect with local advocacy groups, expert clinicians, researchers, and other families on similar journeys through our global network.
- **Participate.** Be an active part of the solution. When you feel ready, you can join us in clinical research by going to our website.

Through fundraising and collaboration with partners across the globe, we drive patient-centered research with world-leading institutions. With their specialized expertise, along with KSF's committed funding of almost half a million dollars, we are within reach of treatments that can unlock the brightest, healthiest futures for our loved ones.

Everyone's journey with Kabuki syndrome is unique. We'll walk alongside you and match your pace. We're here to provide support and to celebrate with you as well. Milestones can be measured as inchstones, and every victory counts here. The joy we experience as Kabuki syndrome families is something we also share.

With KSF, you're joining a community united in purpose and driven by determination. In the face of Kabuki syndrome, we're not just spectators, we're change-makers. And we're glad to have you with us on this journey.

Here's to hope. Here's to a better tomorrow,

Your friends at KSF

[www.KabukiSyndromeFoundation.org](http://www.KabukiSyndromeFoundation.org)

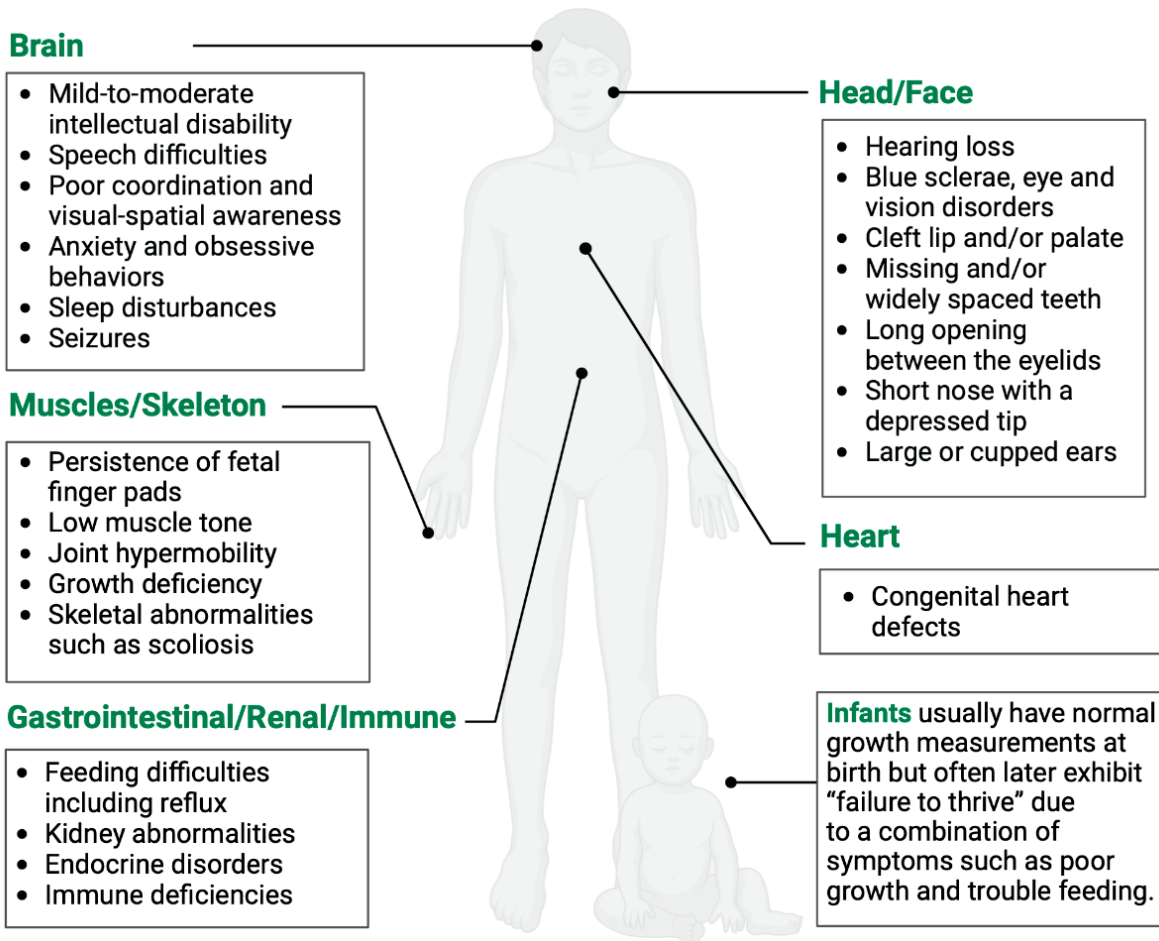
@KabukiSyndrome



# Common Symptoms of Kabuki Syndrome

Kabuki syndrome is a rare genetic disorder that affects an estimated 1 in 32,000 births across genders, races, and ethnicities. Kabuki syndrome is caused by mutations in two known genes (KMT2D and KDM6A), and possibly others yet to be identified. The gene mutation usually occurs randomly, but Kabuki syndrome can be passed on by a parent to their child.<sup>3, 4, 5</sup>

Each person with Kabuki syndrome is unique. Symptoms and their severity can vary widely between individuals. Some symptoms can be present at birth, while others can appear later in life. The most common symptoms include:<sup>5, 6, 7</sup>



Kabuki syndrome was first described in 1981 by Japanese researchers, Dr. Norio Niikawa and Dr. Yoshikazu Kuroki. Dr. Niikawa noted similarities between the facial features of those with Kabuki syndrome and the make-up used in traditional Japanese Kabuki Theater and called the condition Kabuki make-up syndrome (KMS). Kabuki syndrome has been referred to as KMS, Niikawa-Kuroki syndrome, and Kabuki syndrome.<sup>1, 2</sup>

More resources including recommended evaluations, cited publications, and current research opportunities are available at [www.KabukiSyndromeFoundation.org](http://www.KabukiSyndromeFoundation.org)



# Kabuki Syndrome: A Summary of Select Tables from GeneReviews



The tables below are selections from GeneReviews: Kabuki syndrome. They are intended to be provided to healthcare professionals for review and implementation, where appropriate. Additional diagnostic and management considerations are available at the link below.



The Kabuki Syndrome Foundation (KSF) increases our community's access to resources; we do not provide medical advice. Access the full GeneReviews article by scanning the QR code or visiting: [www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK62111/](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK62111/)

**Table 5. Recommended Surveillance for Individuals with Kabuki Syndrome**

| System/Concern          | Evaluation   | Frequency                                    |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| Growth                  | Measurement of at least height & weight <sup>1</sup> | At each appointment                          |
| Ophthalmologic          | Ophthalmology or optometry to assess vision          | At least annually                            |
| Hearing                 | Hearing assessment                                   |  |
| Musculoskeletal         | Clinical eval for scoliosis                          | At each appointment until skeletal maturity  |
| Endocrinologic          | Thyroid function tests                               | Every 2-3 yrs                                |
| Immunologic             | Assessment of complete blood count                   |  |
| Miscellaneous/<br>Other | Monitor developmental progress & educational needs   | At each visit during childhood & adolescence |

1. Adolescents and adults may develop obesity.

**Table 3. Evaluations Following Initial Diagnosis**

To establish the extent of disease and the needs of an individual diagnosed with KS, the following evaluations are recommended if they have not already been completed:

| System/Concern               | Evaluation  | Comment   |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| Growth                       | Measurement of height, weight, & head circumference                 | FTT is a common sequela of feeding difficulties.  |
| Ophthalmologic               | Ophthalmology eval  | For assessment of strabismus, refractive error, ptosis, & corneal abnormalities   |
| Hearing                      | Baseline audiology eval   | To assess for conductive &/or sensorineural hearing loss  |
| Mouth                        | Directed evaluation of the palate for palatal anomalies             | Consider referral to a craniofacial specialist if palatal anomalies are suspected   |
|                              | Consider dental eval for those age >3 yrs                           |   |
| Cardiac                      | Echocardiogram w/visualization of the aortic arch                   | To assess for congenital heart defects incl coarctation of the aorta  |
|                              | Consider EKG.   | If arrhythmia is suspected  |
| Respiratory                  | Consider chest radiographs to assess for diaphragmatic eventration. | In those w/respiratory issues, chronic cough, or recurrent pneumonia  |
| Gastrointestinal/<br>Feeding | Assess nutritional status, feeding, GERD                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider assessment by feeding team &amp;/or VFSS for those w/ suspected dysphagia</li> <li>Infants may have FTT; adolescents &amp; adults may have obesity</li> </ul> |
| Genitourinary                | Baseline renal ultrasound   | To evaluate for renal anomalies & hydronephrosis  |
|                              | Physical exam for hypospadias &/or cryptorchidism in males          |   |

Continued on next page.

# Kabuki Syndrome:

## A Summary of Select Tables from GeneReviews

**Continued: Table 3. Evaluations Following Initial Diagnosis**

| System/Concern             | Evaluation   | Comment  |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| Musculoskeletal            | Consider radiographs of the spine in those w/scoliosis   | To assess for vertebral anomalies  |
| Endocrinologic             | Assess for hyperinsulinism <sup>1</sup>  | In neonates & infants w/persistent hypoglycemia  |
|                            | Assess for hypothyroidism & growth hormone deficiency <sup>2</sup>   | In those w/abnormal growth velocity  |
| Immunologic                | T cell count, T cell subsets, & serum immunoglobulin levels at time of diagnosis or at age 1 yr (whichever is later) | Refer to immunologist if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Levels are abnormal; or</li> <li>• Patient has history of recurrent infections</li> </ul>   |
| Neurologic                 | EEG  | In those w/suspected seizures  |
|                            | Head MRI   | To evaluate for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structural brain malformations in those w/ seizures</li> <li>• Chiari I malformations in those w/ suggestive symptoms<sup>3</sup></li> </ul> |
| Psychiatric/<br>Behavioral | Neuropsychiatric eval  | Screen persons age >12 mos for behavior concerns incl sleep disturbances, ADHD, anxiety, &/or traits suggestive of ASD   |
| Miscellaneous/<br>Other    | Developmental assessment   | Evaluate motor, speech/language, general cognitive, & vocational skills  |
|                            | Consultation w/clinical geneticist &/or genetic counselor  |  |

ADHD = attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder; ASD = autism spectrum disorder; FTT = failure to thrive; GERD = gastroesophageal reflux disease; VFSS = videofluoroscopic swallowing study

1. This may include collection of a "critical sample," such as obtaining plasma levels of insulin, free fatty acids, beta-hydroxybutyrate, and glycemic response to glucagon during a period of low plasma glucose [Yap et al 2019].
2. Thyroid function tests may include free T4 and TSH levels. Assessment for growth hormone deficiency can be challenging and is best directed by an endocrinologist. Tests may include measurement of insulin-like growth factor 1 (IGF-1) and IGF binding protein 3, in addition to consideration of a growth hormone stimulation test using either arginine or clonidine [Schott et al 2016b].
3. Symptoms may include headaches, ocular disturbances, otoneurologic disturbances, lower cranial nerve signs, cerebellar ataxia, spasticity, or seizures.

*Thank you to the authors of GeneReviews: Kabuki Syndrome: Adam MP, Hudgins L, Hannibal M. Kabuki Syndrome. 2011 Sep 1 [Updated 2022 Sep 15]. In: Adam MP, Mirzazadeh GM, Pagon RA, et al., editors. GeneReviews® [Internet]. Seattle (WA): University of Washington, Seattle; 1993-2023. Available from: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK62111/>*

Questions for your physician? You can write them here:

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**More resources for people with Kabuki syndrome and caregivers are available at [www.KabukiSyndromeFoundation.org](http://www.KabukiSyndromeFoundation.org).**