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# Desirable Fiction or Unwanted Reality?



WHAT IS THE BIOLOGICAL, ECONOMIC, AND LEGAL STATE OF CRISPR-CAS9 IN GENE EDITING IN HUMANS AT THE MOMENT, AND HOW DO DIFFERENT DEMOGRAPHICS WANT THE TECHNOLOGY TO BE IMPLEMENTED?



**DISCOVERED:IMMUNE SYSTEM** 

- **OF PROKARYOTES**
- GENETIC ENGINEERING: CAS9 IS PAIRED WITH A SINGLE GUIDE RNA TO PRECISELY TARGET AND **CUT GENE SEQUENCES** • CRISPR BABIES



- INNOVATION
- **BIO-TECH INVESTMENTS**
- REDUCTION OF LONG-TERM HEALTHCARE COST
- UNEQUAL DISTRIBUTION
- HIGH DEVELOPMENT COST



- ON INTERNATIONAL CONSENSUS
- RESTRICTIVE APPROACH
- BIOTECH DIRECTIVE
- OVIDEO CONVENTION
- CALL FOR REGULATION



## WOULD YOU USE CRISPR-Cas9?

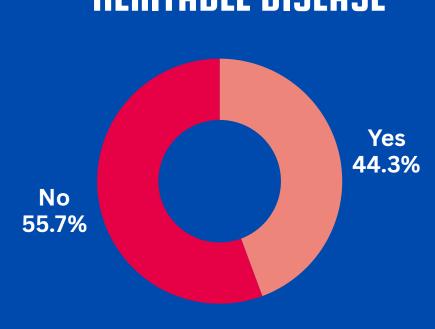
- I. For a nonheritable treatment on yourself (lung cancer)
- 2. For a heritable treatment on your child (Huntington's)
- 3. For an enhancing intervention on your child (improved vision)
- 4. For an aesthetic intervention on your child (eye colour)

Main Hypothesis: Parents will respond differently than non-parents in conditions where their child would be directly or indirectly affected.

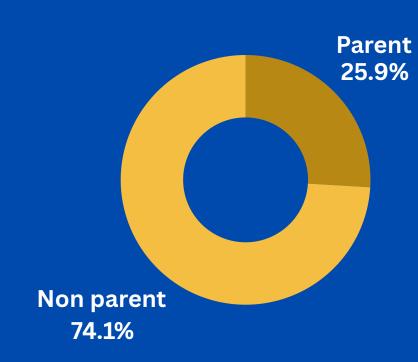


### 212 RESPONSES:

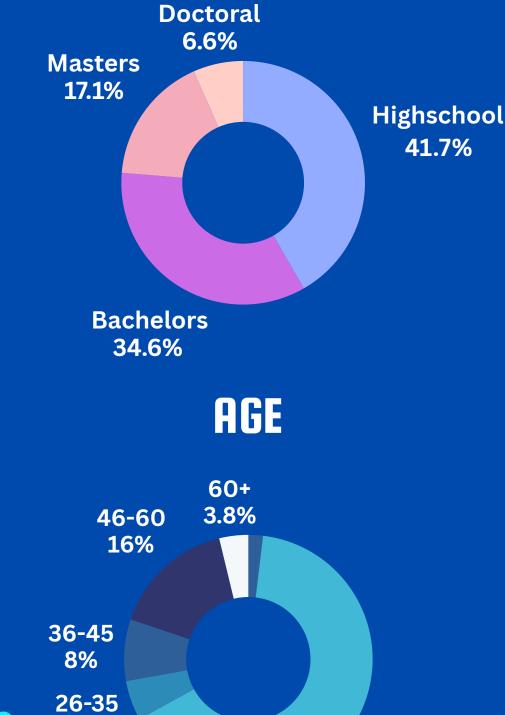
#### PERSONAL LINK WITH A HERITABLE DISEASE



#### **PARENT**

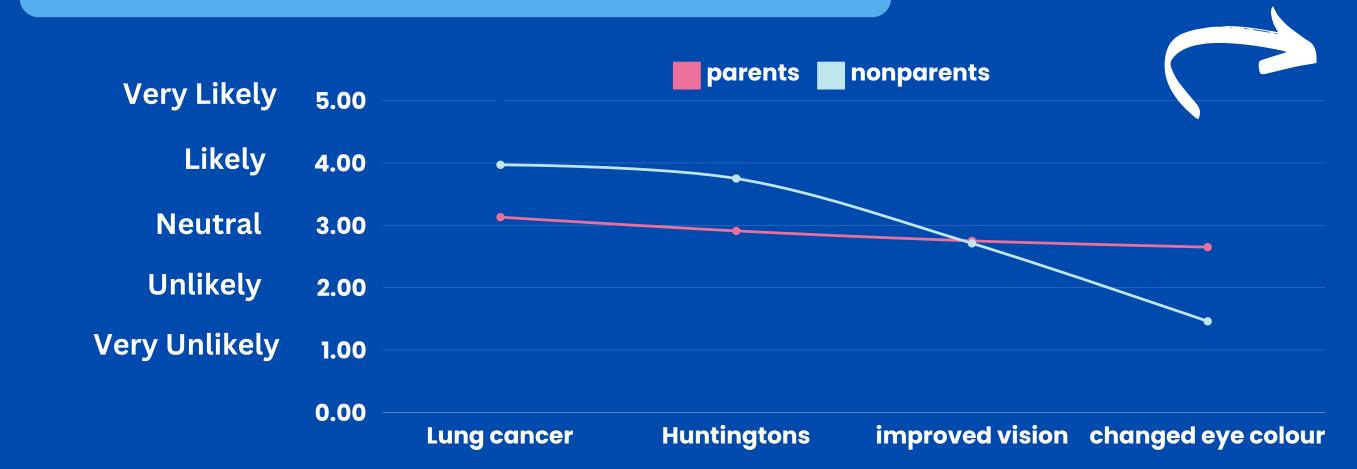


#### **EDUCATION**

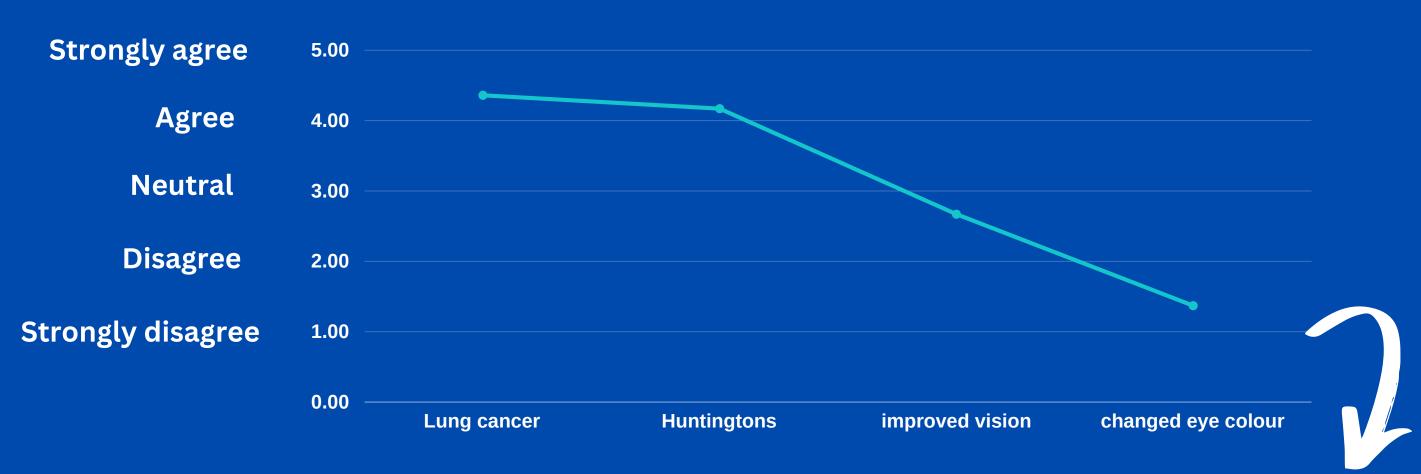


5.2%

#### A. Likelihood to use CRISPR-Cas9 treatment

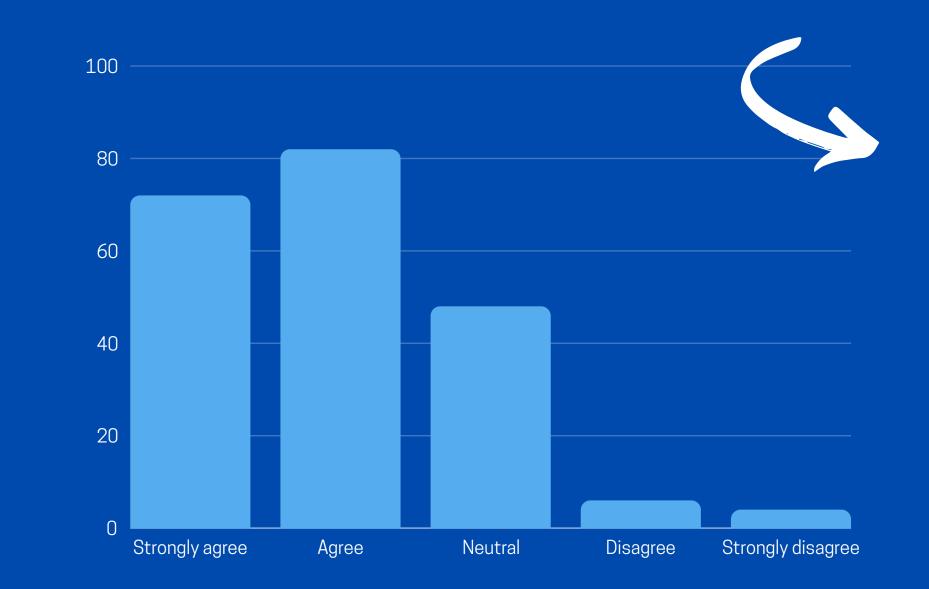


#### B. "CRISPR-Cas9 treatment should be covered by insurance"



 Participants prioritized insurance funding for medically necessary treatments over enhancing or cosmetic procedures

#### C. "CRISPR-Cas9 treatment for lung cancer should be legal"



• The majority of participants support the legality of **CRISPR-Cas9** treatments for life-threatening conditions, reflecting broader international permissiveness Human Genome towards Editing (HGE) for medical purposes

- Significant differences for the likelihood to use CRISPR-Cas9 for non-heritable and heritable diseases. For both, parents are more cautious to use the intervention
- The aesthetic condition yielded the opposite pattern with parents being more likely to change the eye colour of their
- Overall, tendencies indicate more openness towards medical interventions than enhancing and aesthetic procedures

#### D. Treatment factors ranked as important

#### **Effectiveness Potential Doctors** side effects recommen dation (2) (3)

#### Conclusion

- CRISPR-Cas9 is precise and clinical applications are on the rise
- High economic potential for investment
- Parents across scenarios indicate less extreme response patterns
- Lack of international agreement
- Public favours using CRISPR for diseases aesthetics/ over enhancements
- 72% want CRISPR to be legal for deadly non heritable diseases

Jérémy Bran, Grace Cassidy, Nils Cuypers, Séraphine Demeure, Eva Kremser, and Samuel Studer

18-25

65.1%