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Atopy

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Atopy*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C41366.

A genetic predisposition to form IgE antibodies in response to exposure to allergens and therefore, for the development of immediate (type I) hypersensitivity and atopic conditions, such as allergic rhinitis; bronchial asthma, atopic dermatitis, and food allergy. Mutations of specific alleles on the long arm of chromosome 5 have been associated with higher levels of IL-4 and IgE and are known as IL-4 promoter polymorphisms.