Fast Facts

Fragile X Syndrome

-Genetic condition
-Affected individual makes too little or none of the FMR protein
-Protein helps nerve cells communicate and is used by the brain to develop normally
-Gene responsible for this protein is the FMR1 gene and is on the X chromosome
-Boys are more likely to have Fragile X than girls since they have only one X chromosome because girls can have one X chromosome with the defect and the other be fine
-Boys are also more likely to have more severe symptoms
-Individuals with the condition also have more copies than usual of a specific DNA segment (CGG). For most people, this segment repeats 5 – 40 times. In individuals with Fragile X, it repeats over 200 times
-Research has shown that the more times the DNA segment repeats, the worse the symptoms
-Some people inherit the disorder but don't have symptoms; they're known as carriers

Symptoms	***Treatment***	***Prevention***
Physical: -A large head -A long, narrow face -Large ears -A large forehead and chin -Loose joints -Flat feet -Enlarged testicles (after puberty) *Psychological*: -Trouble learning skills (sitting, crawling, or walking) -Problems with language and speech -Hand-flapping -Not making eye contact -Temper tantrums -Poor impulse control -Anxiety -Extreme sensitivity to light or sound -Hyperactivity -Trouble paying attention -Aggressive and self-destructive behavior (boys)	*Medicines*: -Prevent seizures -Manage ADD symptoms -Treat other behavior problems *Therapy*: -Behavior -Occupational -Speech/Language	-Get diagnosis early to prevent long-term negative impacts