

### Handout 3: Behaviors Associated with Selected Genetic Disorders

Syndrome	Behavioral manifestations that are often present
Down	Better performance on visuospatial tasks than on verbal/auditory task Adaptive behavior strength relative to intelligence Pleasant sociable personality Depression common in adulthood
Williams	Strength in language, auditory memory, and facial recognition Limitations in visuospatial functioning, perceptual= motor planning, and fine motor skills Strength in theory of mind (interpersonal intelligence) Friendliness with impaired social intelligence Anxiety disorders common at all ages
Fragile X	Verbal skills better than visuospatial skills Relative strengths in daily living and self-care skills Frequent association with inattention, hyperactivity, and autistic-like behaviors
Prader-Willi	Impaired satiety, food-seeking behavior, and obesity Strength in visual processing and solving jigsaw puzzles Obsessive-compulsive disorders and impulse control disorders common at all ages Occasional psychosis in adults
Velocardiofacial	Verbal skills better than nonverbal skills Inattention and hyperactivity common in children Schizophrenia and mood disorders more common in older adolescents and adults
Rubinstein-Taybi	Inattention and impulsivity common in children Friendliness and interest in music Occasional association with mood disorders, tics, and obsessive-compulsive disorders
Smith-Magenis	Delayed speech acquisition Relative weakness in sequential processing Sleep disorders common Frequent stereotyped and self-injurious behaviors Impulse control disorders common in children
Angelman	Bouts of inappropriate laughter are characteristic in younger persons Generally happy disposition at all ages Hyperactivity and sleep disorders in younger persons

*Note.* From Schalock et al. (2010). *Intellectual Disability: Definition, Classification, and Systems of Supports*. Washington, DC: AAIDD.