While the genetic make-up provides a good explanation for the observation that ADHD runs in families, there are probably other contributing factors, some of which may even be family specific.

The more gene variants a person has, the higher their risk to develop ADHD. Every person has a few of the gene variants, but each of those variants is neither necessary nor sufficient to cause ADHD.

The more ADHD-related genetic variants the father and mother have in their DNA, the more likely they are to pass some of them on to their children.

The number of such variants will be particularly high in parents who have ADHD themselves.

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