LETTERS TO
THE EDITOR

Dominantly inherited cleft lip and palate

We read with interest two reports of dominantly inherited cleft lip and palate (CLP). We have recently ascertained 82 families through probands with CLP evaluated in SE Minnesota during the period 1935 to 1986. These probands and other family members were identified using the Mayo Clinic Medical Linkage Registry. Eleven families (13%) were found to have multigenerational CLP segregating in what is suggestive of an autosomal dominant pattern. There may be two forms of CLP, a dominantly inherited form and one occurring sporadically. Recent reports of CLP linkage to factor 13A and transforming human growth factor alpha (TGFA) have suggested a single gene locus for CLP in some cases. This will also be tested in multigenerational families and may provide a method of performing molecular diagnosis and more accurate genetic counselling for families.

Family pedigrees.

Dominantly inherited cleft lip and palate.

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Updated information and services can be found at:
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