

**August 2014**

**Publication**

Michael K. Skinner (2014) Environmentally Induced Epigenetic Transgenerational Inheritance: Ancestral Ghosts in your Genome. Scientific American Vol. 311, Issue 2.

**Summary**

What your great-grandmother was exposed to during pregnancy may influence your disease development, in the absence of any exposure, and you are going to pass this on to your grandchildren. Environmental epigenetics promotes the presence of these ancestral ghosts in your genome. This non-genetic form of inheritance significantly impacts our understanding of biology from the origins of disease to evolutionary biology.

**Highlights**

- Description epigenetic transgenerational inheritance for the public.