

What is CRISPR?

CRISPR is an acronym for clustered regularly interspaced short palindromic repeats and is a genome editing tool which enables geneticists to remove, replace or add parts to a DNA sequence

It is currently considered to be the most versatile and precise method of manipulating genes, It works by introducing a mutation into the selected DNA with an enzyme which then cuts the two strands that form the DNA's helix at a specific point, enabling parts of the DNA to be edited

Methodology:

Positions are based on findings from 17 semi-structured interviews with individuals who have been diagnosed with a genetic disease

Interviews were conducted via Skype / Facebook [Video] Messenger / FaceTime and without digital assistance to accommodate participants' abilities

Minus the typed interviews, all were audio recorded and transcribed to enable thematic analysis using NVivo software

Potential for Human Welfare...



Next steps:

- Consult society at large
- Amend legislation
- Create HFEA guidelines
- Geneticists to seek licences
- Research to prove feasibility
- Establish individuals/couples willing to take the risk

Key References:

- Cederström C and Spicer A, (2015). *The Wellness Syndrome*.
- Franklin S and Roberts C, (2006). *Born and Made: An Ethnography of Preimplantation Genetic Diagnosis*.
- Kerr A, (2004). *Genetics and Society: A Sociology of Disease*.
- Plows A, (2011). *Debating Human Genetics: Contemporary Issues in Public Policy and Ethics*.

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CRISPR and its' Revolutionary Potential for Human Welfare



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