

# **Triple-X Syndrom**

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Approximately 1 out of 1,000 women have a chromosome abnormality known as Triple-X Syndrome. The condition is not recognizable at birth, and its effects can be minor. Proper identification of the disorder, however, can help professionals address problems that may result from the syndrome.

Triple-X Syndrome is caused by extra X-chromosomes. Most common is the presence of three chromosomes, but women with Triple-X may have as many as five X-chromosomes. No cause for the abnormality has been identified, but, as with most chromosome disorders, Triple-X is more common in children of older mothers.

Women with Triple-X are fertile, but may experience menopause at a younger age. Physically, they are slightly taller than average and usually have long legs and slender torsos. Triple-X may be accompanied by mental retardation and the average Triple-X IQ is 10 points lower than the population average.

## **Development trends**

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Triple-X children are more quiet and passive as infants. They are often slow to develop assertiveness. Parents and teachers should be aware of these tendencies so they will be able to address them and help their child overcome them.

Triple-X women are more prone to delayed motor and linguistic skills, and are often emotionally and socially less mature than other children their age. These problems can normally be overcome without difficulty if they are identified and addressed.

Triple-X children are taller than their peers, but emotionally less developed. As a result, puberty is often more difficult for Triple-X adolescents than normal youths.

## **What the teacher should know**

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Triple-X children average on the lower end of average intelligence. There is a tendency toward learning disorders, especially in lower grades. Triple-X children may need assistance in motor or language development. In lower grades they may need help in social interaction. These difficulties should not be considered debilitating, but in some cases may require attention. Triple-X women are prone to back trouble, which can be addressed with increased exercise.

## **Sources of informatio**

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The Turner Center

<http://www.aaa.dk/turner/engelsk/Trien.htm>

Sex Chromosome Abnormalities Dictionary

[http://daphne.palomar.edu/abnormal/abnormal\\_5.htm](http://daphne.palomar.edu/abnormal/abnormal_5.htm)