

Amateur Radio Cheapness Disease

Research Study

A research team led by Quincy Raymond Michales, and Quincy Thomas Holmes, of Boat Anchor Medical University, in Arkham, Mass., have discovered two new genes potentially involved in Amateur Radio Cheapness disease, also known as "Cheap Ham Disease, among the Amateur Radio community, and as Amateur Radio Cheapness Disease, or "ARCD", within medical circles.

The team identified a gene pair, by exploring which genes were expressed, to on, or off states, within the hippocampus of people who suffered from the disease.

Amateur Radio Cheapness Disease, (ARCD), is a neurodegenerative disease that involves extreme pain and the formation of protein plaques around neurons in the brain, when any amount of money is spent, no matter how small, by a person holding an Amateur Radio License. The table below outlines the effects of spending on a typical Radio Amateur:

Amount Spent	Pain Level
\$0 - \$3.00	Little to none
\$3.01 - \$5.00	Some pain noted, with slight thoughts of building a replacement item for less money
\$5.01 - \$10.00	Marked increase in pain, actual designs thought about for replacement item(s)
\$10.01 - \$20.00	Sustained pain over longer time frames, designs being drawn up
\$20.01 +	Extreme pain, and actual urges to construct replacement device(s)

A secondary effect was also noted, once the Amateur decides to build a replacement item, to save money. The infection process begins to feed upon itself as the Amateur shops for parts for the replacement item. He or she then experiences the effects of Amateur Radio Cheapness Disease overlaid on top of the original Amateur Radio Cheapness Disease infection. In some cases, this

becomes completely debilitating to the Amateur involved. This process is extremely painful. Observers have noted this fact by observing statements such as:

Observed Statements
"Oh my God, it's like the walking dead in this hamfest, no one is spending any money".
"You have got to be kidding me, I paid good money for that thing, and I'm not giving it away".

The hippocampus, part of the brain involved in memory, is one of the first regions to sustain damage, followed by the higher reasoning, and the bladder control centers of the brain.

Many genes were already known to contribute to the disease, such as gene JT-65, and gene FT-8, but two were unknown, FST4, and FST4W. The FST4, and FST4W gene action is as of yet unknown, the researchers simply noted these genes expressed at the time of hippocampus destruction.

In a related study, it was noted that the size of the hippocampus was actually reduced by up to 25% in Amateur Operators experiencing this disease. Further this second study indicates that ARCD, (Amateur Radio Cheapness Disease), is far more prevalent in the Amateur Radio population than initially thought, and that signs of RF transmission of the disease are becoming apparent. In one example, an infected amateur in Oregon, communicated with a known, non-infected amateur in Nevada, and with no other exposure indicators, the amateur in Nevada became infected.

Overall, the new findings improve our understanding of the genetic and cellular mechanisms that cause ARCD. Also noted by the researchers were some tell tail signs of this disease. Effected Amateurs may make statements such as in this chart:

Observed Statements
I bet I can build that for half the price.
That's outrageous, when I was a Novice it only cost X dollars.
There's only like twenty bucks in parts here, I could build it for half that.
I only buy used if it is 25% of new price

The authors add, there are a number of other symptoms involved in this sadly debilitating disease, however they are far too many to cover in a single paper. Thus, more funding is requested for the effort.