Life expectancy of males with MECP2 mutations

The life expectancy and the medical complications in males with MECP2 mutations depends a lot on the underlying mutation and/or other associated genetic problems. Thus, males with Rett syndrome and Klinefelter syndrome together, will have a life expectancy more in line with that seen in Rett syndrome. These males may live a long life with medical complications. Males that are mosaic for a typical MECP2 mutation will have a life expectancy similar to females with classic Rett syndrome; thus, these males also may live a long life with associated Rett related medical complications. Males with only one X chromosome with a typical MECP2 mutation typically have shortened life expectancy. With aggressive medical intervention and dedicated families, these males may survive into late childhood; however, they may require significant medical support. Males with atypical mutations of the MECP2 gene, may have a normal life expectancy with problems in learning and/or behavior.