

Velo-cardio-facial Syndrome (VCFS)

VCFS is the most common cleft palate-associated syndrome. Characteristically, VCFS children have long faces, prominent jaws, flattened cheeks, underdeveloped lower jaws, bluish colors beneath the eyes, thin upper lip and down-slanting mouth and cleft palate.

Affecting approximately 1:2-5,000 children, there is only a small chance (2-5%) that the condition will affect future offspring.

Multiple heart abnormalities, learning disabilities, hearing loss, speech problems, and leg pain and behavior extremes may also be present. Cleft and lower jaw repairs and reconstructive ear surgeries are often required.