Supplementary information

The genetic architecture of structural leftright asymmetry of the human brain

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Sha et al., The genetic architecture of structural left-right asymmetry of the human brain

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Supplementary Tables (separate Excel file)

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Population-level average brain asymmetries

Supplementary Figure 1. Population-level brain regional asymmetries in 32,256 participants.

Orange-yellow indicates significant leftward (left>right) asymmetry, blue indicates significant rightward (left<right) asymmetry. Only regions with significant population-level asymmetries are coloured in the figure.



Supplementary Figure 2. Relationship between phenotypic and genetic correlations across pairs of regional surface area AIs (only for pairs of AIs with significant genetic correlations, see Methods).

The plot illustrates that significant genetic correlations were mostly consistent in direction (positive or negative) with the corresponding phenotypic correlations.





Supplementary Figure 3. Regional association plots for significant loci from the multivariate GWAS for brain asymmetries.





Supplementary Figure 4. Genomic loci, eQTL associations and chromatin interactions identified via multivariate GWAS for brain asymmetries.

Circle plots illustrate the significant loci implicated by mvGWAS for brain asymmetries (blue regions), and the genes associated with the loci by eQTL mapping (green), chromatin interactions (orange), or by both strategies (red). The outer layer shows a Manhattan plot containing the log10-transformed p value of each SNP in the mvGWAS of brain asymmetries, with genome-wide significant variants colored by their LD patterns with the lead variant. Empty regions in the Manhattan plot indicate regions where no SNPs with p<0.05 were located.



Supplementary Figure 5. Annotated genes at significant mvGWAS loci using three gene mapping strategies in FUMA.

Venn diagram showing the overlap of genes implicated by positional mapping, eQTL mapping and chromatin interaction mapping. One hundred and fifty-nine genes overlapped with at least two strategies.



Supplementary Figure 6. Manhattan plot for genome-wide gene-based association analysis of brain asymmetries, using mvGWAS results as input.

The red dashed line indicates the Bonferroni-corrected significance threshold for gene-based analysis (p < 0.05/20, 146).



Supplementary Figure 7. Heatmap plots for the tests of pleiotropy with other traits.

Genome-wide evidence of pleiotropy between brain asymmetries and other traits, using per-SNP multivariate association P values from the mvGWAS of the current study, in relation to genome-wide association results from previous studies of other traits. Abbreviations: mvGWAS: multivariate genome-wide association scan.



Supplementary Figure 8. Genetic overlaps between brain asymmetry and other traits. Q-Q plots for mvGWAS per-SNP p-values for brain asymmetries, conditioned on other trait GWAS p-values (at thresholds p≤0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5, 0.75, 1.0) to visualize shared pleiotropic variants. Abbreviations: ADHD: attention deficit hyperactivity disorder; ASD: autism spectrum disorder; ASY: brain asymmetries; EDU: educational attainment; HAND: handedness; ICV: intracranial volume; ITLG: intelligence; SCZ: schizophrenia.



Supplementary Figure 9. Multivariate GWAS analysis of brain asymmetries after excluding 886 participants with neurological diagnoses (leaving 31,370 participants), performed as a sensitivity analysis.

Manhattan plot for multivariate GWAS across asymmetries of surface area, cortical thickness and subcortical volumes. The red dashed line indicates the significance threshold $p<5\times10^{-8}$ (Methods). The Q-Q plot is also shown.