



HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE
YOUTH ORGANIZATION

WHAT IS HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE?

A QUICK & EASY LEARNING TOOL



**THIS BOOKLET WAS
MADE TO EDUCATE,
INFORM AND INCREASE
UNDERSTANDING OF
HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE.**



Created by the Huntington's
Disease Youth Organisation
(HDYO), a non-profit that
supports and educates young
people impacted by Hunting-
ton's disease around the world.



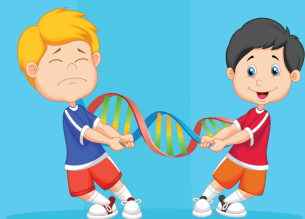
WHAT IS HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE?

A QUICK & EASY LEARNING TOOL

HD is a degenerative
brain condition



It is caused by an expanded gene,
we all have the gene that causes
HD, but those who have HD do so
because they have an expanded
version of that gene



HD is hereditary: a
child of someone with
HD has a 50% chance
of inheriting HD



HD is named after Dr George
Huntington , the man who first
wrote a paper about the condition

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MAIN SYMPTOMS

There are three main symptoms for HD: Movements, Cognitive and Behavioural symptoms

MOVEMENT SYMPTOMS

Movement symptoms can lead to problems with balance, walking and functioning.



COGNITIVE SYMPTOMS

Cognitive (thinking) symptoms can impact on a person's ability to plan, multi-task and affect their memory.



BEHAVIOURAL SYMPTOMS

Behavioural symptoms can result in people feeling angry or sad.





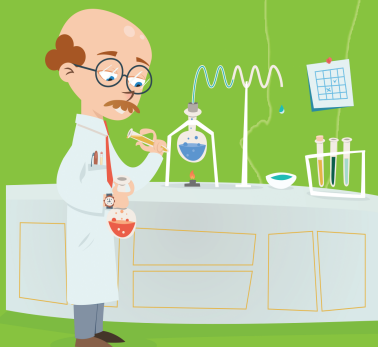
People with HD are affected differently – some may have lots of movements and no behavioural symptoms, another person may be the opposite



HD can happen at any age, but usually it occurs between the ages of 30-50



Around 1 in every 8,000 people have HD



Whilst there is currently no treatment that can prevent or stop symptoms there are lots of things that can be done to help. Meanwhile, researchers are working hard on promising new treatments.



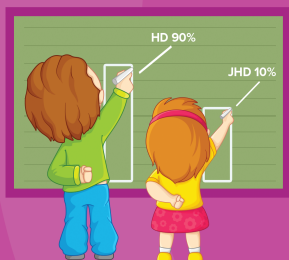
What is JUVENILE HD?

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HD can happen at any age, those who have symptoms under 20 years of age are classed as having Juvenile HD (JHD)

People with JHD usually have an even longer expanded gene than people with adult onset HD, which is generally what causes symptoms to begin earlier in life



JHD makes up around 10% of all HD cases worldwide

JHD can take a long time to diagnose because it is so rare and other possibilities have to be ruled out before making the diagnosis



Symptoms for JHD are similar to those of adult onset HD, but with some differences such as learning problems, stiffness and seizures.

Visit HDy0.org

for more information and
support for Huntington's disease



