

Huntington's Disease and its Biochemical Pathway

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DESCRIPTION

A historical perspective on Huntington's Disease (HD) is beneficial for two reasons. First, the successive step of the disorder in the specific work underlying this and the people involved, are not only important for science and medicine but are also unusually well-documented, providing an unbroken chain of information and evidence spanning for these years. Second, and equally important, HD serves as a model for genetic and neurodegenerative disorders in general, both in terms of how they have been approached and increasingly understood through research, and in terms of their broader effects on affected families and society as a whole. There are numerous important broader lessons that we can learn from HD's history, while for the more specific group of late-onset degenerative brain disorders, there are dose parallels, where our experience with HD has directly led to a greater understanding of these devastating conditions which examines the history of our understanding of HD and how it has evolved it then moves on to the more general aspects of hereditary neurodegenerative disorders as a whole. in neurology and medicine When reading early clinically based descriptions, it is often striking how relevant and thorough they remain today, reflecting the fact that detailed and accurate clinical studies were, for the most part, all that could be undertaken at the time. Early studies, similarly frequently show both descriptive and illustrative material of significant detail and high standards. In contrast, clinical descriptions in current publications, particularly those on molecular and neurobiological aspects, are frequently inadequate

when compared to the more experimental aspects as a starting point for tracing the origins and evolution of our early knowledge of HD and first delineated the disorder and has served ever since as the starting point for all subsequent work from Osier to those of today, have praised its clarity, brevity, and comprehensiveness. As will be seen, it was not the first description of the disorder, but it was the first full delineation of the condition as a distinct disease entity distinct from other forms of chorea.

Research development

Until about 20 years ago, the history of HD research was one of gradual progress rather than abrupt leaps. The major discoveries in the various fields of works and have been shared by many different disciplines in addition to HD, with genetics being a major contributor from the start to the present. Modern information technology has greatly simplified the analysis and retrieval of published literature when analysing the patterns and development of HD research, but a valuable resource for earlier publications is the HD Centennial Bibliography with a supplement extending the work. The critical approach, extensive cross-indexing, and informative commentary accompanying the bibliography not only make this the definitive collection of Woody Guthrie's illness provides significant insight into the interplay of personality, creativity, and disease in Guthrie's life, Marjorie Guthrie was also instrumental in the formation of comparable organizations resulting in the formation of the International Huntington's Association in all over countries.

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