Huntington’s Disease
Lisa Gibson and Bing Xu

What is Huntington’s disease?

Symptoms
Progressive loss of abilities (10-25yrs)

Physical:
- problems with walking, talking, swallowing
- Chorea: uncontrolled twisting movements
- Bradykinesia: slowness

Mental:
- personality changes, mood
- forgetfulness and impaired judgement

HD
WT
Causes

1. Protein aggregation
2. Abnormal protein-protein interaction
3. Mitochondrial dysfunction

Treatment

- No cure
- Support groups and therapy:
  - speech, physical, occupational
- Medications to reduce Chorea:
  - tetrabenazine (2008)
  - dopamine blockers
- Gene therapy