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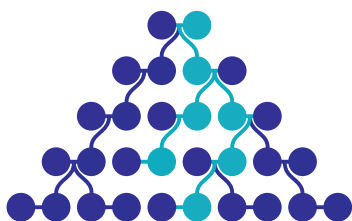
# HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE

## What is Huntington's disease?

Huntington's disease is caused by the deterioration of various brain regions, including the cerebral cortex and basal ganglia, and causes uncontrollable body movements, and stiffening of limbs. It can also cause emotional and cognitive impairments, including dementia, loss of memory, judgement and awareness.

Although there is an increasing number of people diagnosed with Huntington's disease without any family history, it is a genetic condition that a child inherits from their parent. Only one parent needs to carry the gene mutation that causes the condition, and the children of affected parents have a 50/50 chance of inheriting the disease gene.

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If the gene mutation is inherited, they will develop Huntington's disease.

Huntington's disease usually manifests when people are in their 40s or 50s. The earlier the symptoms appear, the faster the disease seems to progress. Huntington's disease is progressive, meaning it worsens over time. The expected lifespan for people with the condition once symptoms appear is 10–25 years. There is currently no disease-modifying treatment or cure for Huntington's disease.

In Australia, more than 1800 people  
live with Huntington's Disease,  
and over 9000 are at risk.



