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Editorial

We are pleased to introduce this next volume of the Journal of Huntington's Disease. This month marks the 20th anniversary of the publication that identified the genetic cause of Huntington's disease. This seminal discovery was realized through the cooperative efforts of a large consortium of scientists and clinicians. The identification of an expanded triplet repeat mutation in the HD gene was a significant scientific finding and represents a major milestone in human molecular genetics. This discovery paved the way for current research efforts in the field, and has enabled modeling of the disease in multiple experimental systems. The tools and technologies that were developed during the search for the HD gene were of great value to the Human Genome Project and other research areas. We have seen great progress over the ensuing years and these advances in understanding HD pathogenesis arise from the critical initial discovery of "the gene".

JHD will publish quarterly in this volume and we are very pleased with the quality of submissions to date. We will continue to publish full research articles, reviews, short communications, invited editorials, letters-to-the-editor and historical perspectives. All articles will be published both online and in print. The journal offers rapid publication with an affordable open access option.

This issue features a very strong line-up of research articles and reviews that span the spectrum of research in the HD field and highlight the translational nature of current efforts. We are closer than ever to the development of effective treatments and these are exciting times for Huntington's disease research. We are confident that you will enjoy the excellent articles in the current issue of the Journal of Huntington's Disease.

20 years can seem an eternity. To all of us, but more so for families and individuals affected by Huntington's disease, the steady but measured progress has been far too slow, especially after the initial elation engendered by the discovery of "the gene". Despite this sobering realization, we truly believe that the efforts of the HD scientific community over the last two decades justifies the expectation that effective treatments for HD are imminent.

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