



## News from the Hereditary Disease Foundation

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### Funding Brilliant Scientists, Game-Changing Research

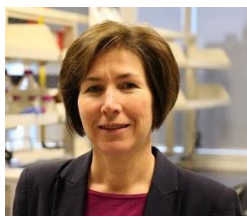
Each year our [Scientific Advisory Board](#), under the leadership of Drs. Anne B. Young of Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School, and Leslie M. Thompson of University of California, Irvine, reviews grant and fellowship applications from around the world and selects the most innovative and promising Huntington's disease research projects to fund. We're thrilled to announce new awards totaling over \$1.5 million for 2020.

*Here's an overview of the grantees and their projects. You will be hearing more about their research in the months ahead!*



**Osama Al-Dalahmah, Columbia University Medical Center**  
***First Recipient of the Nancy S. Wexler Young Investigator Prize***

Studying Huntington's disease astrocytes in different parts of the brain: A regional study of the landscape of gene expression at the single cell level



**Cheryl Arrowsmith, University of Toronto**

Unravelling the connections between the Huntington's disease protein and our genetic material



**Abdellatif Benraiss, University of Rochester**

White matter role in the pathology of Huntington's disease



**Veronica Ines Brito, University of Barcelona – Instituto de Neurociencias, Spain**

Exploring the role of RNA editing on the generation of pathogenic huntingtin fragments



**Richard A. Hickman (joint with Jean Paul G. Vonsattel), Columbia University Irving Medical Center**

Human tissue banking for the Huntington's disease research community



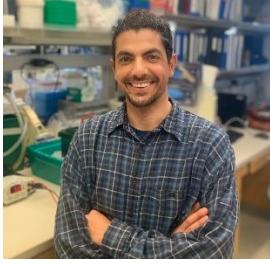
**Ali Khoshnan, California Institute of Technology**

Developing gut-based therapies for Huntington's disease



**Ryan Lim, University of California, Irvine**

Interactions between metabolism, gene expression, and gender in Huntington's disease



**Roy Maimon, Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research,  
University of California, San Diego**

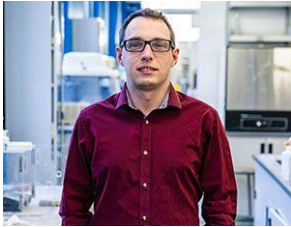
Mentor Name: Don W. Cleveland

Therapy development for Huntington's disease using in vivo conversion of astrocytes into striatal neurons



**A. Jenny Morton, University of Cambridge**

Can core body temperature be used as a readout for changes in metabolism in Huntington's disease?



**Daniel O'Reilly, University of Massachusetts Medical  
School**

Mentor: Anastasia Khvorova

Understanding the role of aggregates in Huntington's disease



**Jennie C. Lacour Roy, Massachusetts General Hospital,  
Harvard Medical School**

Mentor: Ricardo Mouro Pinto

Testing of novel drugs targeting CAG repeat expansions as candidate therapeutics for Huntington's disease



**David M. Sabatini, Whitehead Institute for Biomedical  
Research, Massachusetts Institute of Technology**

Using metabolism to measure defects in cellular self-cleaning in Huntington's disease



**Joan Steffan, University of California, Irvine**

Identification of Huntingtin-dependent cellular trash collection pathways



**Xiao Sun, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center**

Mentor Name: Guo-Min Li

Mutant huntingtin promotes CAG repeat expansion



**Nicholas Todd, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School**

Improving delivery of Huntington's disease therapies to the brain



**Jean Paul G. Vonsattel (joint with Richard A. Hickman), Columbia University Irving Medical Center**

Human tissue banking for the Huntington's disease research community



**Ai Yamamoto, Columbia University**

Determining how the protein Alfy may improve Huntington's disease-like symptoms



**Michael Zody, New York Genome Center**  
New York Genome Center Huntington's Disease Brain  
Genotyping Project

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### **We Can't Do It Without You**

Thank you to our dedicated donors and new friends who have already made generous contributions to the [Nancy S. Wexler Discovery Fund](#). If you haven't already, we hope you will consider making a gift. Philanthropy is the fuel that drives research discoveries and leads to treatments and cures. Your gift will help us continue to fund the most collaborative and exceptional Huntington's disease research. What better way to honor Nancy Wexler, President of the Hereditary Disease Foundation, as she celebrates her 75<sup>th</sup> year!

**Innovating Research...Discovering Cures**  
**[Donate Today](#)**

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