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**100% Effective Natural Hormone Treatment**  
**Menopause, Andropause And Other Hormone Imbalances**  
**Impair Healthy Healing In People Over The Age Of 30!**

**Ben is Coping with Huntington's Disease**

**By Lynda Appell**

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Ben is Coping with Huntington's Disease.

Ben, how HD affects him and how he is dealing with it.

A Dear Male Friend has Huntington's Disease.

A dear male friend who I met while both of us attended a rehab program has Huntington's Disease. It is also known as Huntington's Chorea. Chorea means involuntary movements usually involving the voluntary muscles. In other words, mostly twitches, spasms and similar moves.

Getting back to my friend. I remember him before the disease began to clearly manifest itself. He was a bright, creative young man. He is in his mid forties now. Now I wonder if his depression was caused by the very real fear of inheriting the dreadful disease or if the mood disorder was already part of the disorder. One of the signs of Huntington's is depression. I would think knowing you could inherit a condition that destroys not only the body, but the mind as well and there is no cure could cause someone to be terribly depressed. Irregardless, clinical depression is one of the symptoms.

His progressively worsening involuntary movements is making it increasingly difficult to take care of himself, to live independently.

As I wrote before HD also effects one mentally, not only with a mood disorder. It is also considered a dementia.

That is causes memory and thinking, judgement impairments. In the latter stages people with Huntington's have to be in full care nursing homes, protected from themselves. They could very well inadvertently do something dangerous because of poor judgement. For example accidentally start a fire.

For his mood disorder he is in a partial program. His father and his very supportive male friend is giving him moral support. Unfortunately his younger brother has the same disease. His father's late wife passed away from Huntington's. I feel great sorrow for the entire family.

There are only palliative treatments for the symptoms. Psychotropics for the mental disturbances. I know there are some anti-alzheimer drugs such as Aricept, Tacrin, Hydergine. I don't know if they work for Huntington's Disease.

## Ben is Coping with Huntington's Disease

There is a study going on in Wash. D.C studying an anti-parkinson's medication. Cannabis, ie, marijuana has been seriously considered to help with the involuntary movements.

I think its terribly unfair and cruel to not have legalized medical marijuana for patients who it would do most good. Many people with terminal illness who are suffering with excruciating pain sure could use the pain relief. The least they could have done for them to have something help relieve their misery.

Also for people with HD cannabis may help with their muscle spasms and other involuntary movements. Lastly personw with HIV/AIDS, and non-terminal stage cancer grass may increase their appetite. thereby increasing their chance for survival.

If anyone knows of any experimental studies, please let me know.

My male friend and I will be greatly grateful.

Thank you

For more information, support please contact your local Huntington Disease Society of America. Web

site on the Internet.

Note: This article replaces my earlier HD article. "A Dear Male Friend Has Huntingtons. Typed it Huntongton. typo obviously.

I also have an article on how a common antibiotic—a tetracycline may be helpful in treating this dreaded disease. Its at <http://www.writtenbyme.com/content/70095>

Disabled disability activist for over twelve years with local Greater Phila, PA disability organizations.

### **Alzheimer's Toxin May Be Key To Slowing Disease**

**By Baron Grove**

Australian scientists say they have identified a toxin which plays a key role in the onset of Alzheimer's, raising hope that a drug targeting the toxin could be developed to slow the degenerative brain disease.

The toxin, called quinolinic acid, kills nerve cells in the brain, leading to dysfunction and death, the scientists said.

"Quinolinic acid may not be the cause of Alzheimer's disease, but it plays a key role in its progression," Alzheimer's researcher Dr Karen Cullen from the University of Sydney said in a statement. "It's the smoking gun, if you like."

"While we won't be able to prevent people from getting Alzheimer's disease, we may eventually, with the use of drugs, be able to slow down the progression."

Alzheimer's is a brain-destroying disease that affects millions of people around the world. As the population gets steadily older, experts estimate numbers will balloon to as many as 16 million in the United States alone by 2015.

More than 200,000 people have Alzheimer's disease in Australia and the number is expected to rise to

730,000 by 2050.

Outward symptoms start with memory loss, which progresses to complete helplessness as brain cells are destroyed. In the brain, neurons die as messy plaques and tangles of protein form.

The Alzheimer's research team from Sydney's St Vincent's Hospital, the University of Sydney and Japan's Hokkaido University found quinolinic acid neurotoxicity in the brains of dementia patients.

Quinolinic acid is part of a biochemical pathway called the kynurenine pathway which is also found in other brain disorders, including Huntington's disease and schizophrenia.

The scientists said there were several drugs in an advanced stage of development for other conditions which targeted this pathway and that these drugs, which still need to be tested, could be used to complement other treatments for Alzheimer's.

Baron Grove



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