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HUNTINGTON • STUDY • GROUP

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Huntington Study Group to Conduct Largest Therapeutic Research Study in Huntington's Disease

The Huntington Study Group (HSG) will be conducting a clinical research study of the research medication – **coenzyme Q10 (CoQ)** – in persons 16 years of age or older who have early stage Huntington's disease (HD). CoQ is a nutritional supplement that is available for purchase over the counter. The 2CARE study will be the largest therapeutic clinical trial to date in Huntington's disease, a disease for which there is currently no treatment available. The objective of the 2CARE study is to evaluate the effectiveness and long-term safety of high dose CoQ in slowing functional decline in Huntington's disease, and also to examine the long-term safety of CoQ.

Subjects will be seen every six months over a five-year period. Research participants will be randomly assigned (like the flip of a coin) to receive treatment with either active CoQ or a matching placebo. Researchers at approximately 46 clinical sites in the United States and Canada will enroll a total of 608 research subjects with early signs of HD who are independently ambulatory (walking) and fully self-sufficient in activities of daily living, such as eating, dressing, and bathing. Each center will enroll approximately 12 participants.

Huntington's disease (HD) is an inherited disease of the brain that usually begins between the ages of 30 to 50, and includes motor, cognitive and behavioral signs and symptoms. While there are medications to help relieve some of the disease symptoms, there is no known treatment to slow the progression of HD, which affects about 30,000 people in North America.

The HSG is a worldwide, not-for-profit group of physicians and other clinical researchers who are experienced in the care of Huntington's disease patients and are dedicated to clinical research of Huntington's disease. The study is sponsored by the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) and will be conducted under the direction of Principal Investigators Merit Cudkowicz MD MSc (Massachusetts General Hospital) and Michael McDermott PhD (University of Rochester), and Co-Principal Investigator Karl Kieburtz MD MPH (University of Rochester).

Dr. Cudkowicz states "There have been a lot of critical advances in understanding the cause of HD, and the rationale to test CoQ in people with HD is strong. We hope that this study will help develop a new therapy for HD and will also lead to new insights into the mechanisms of disease."

There is no cost to participate in the study. Participants will be followed for 5 years as "out-patients" at regular intervals (every six months after the initial Months 1 and 3 visits following enrollment into the study). Persons with early stage Huntington's disease who are interested in participating in this study should visit the Huntington Study Group website at: www.Huntington-Study-Group.org, or call the toll free number at 1 (800) 487-7671.

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