

Michigan Chapter Social Worker

Hello everyone,

First of all, I would like to say that I hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday season and was able to spend quality time with loved ones. These are the times when memories are made and it can also be a time for reminiscence. That said, there has been some exciting news in the world of Huntington's disease. The announcement of Xenazine (tetrabenazine) tablets has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the treatment of chorea linked with Huntington's disease. This has been an on going phenomenon for those people affected by HD and finally there is an option for the treatment of the disease.



To find more about Xenazine (tetrabenazine) and if it is the correct treatment choice I would recommend the following:

1. Go see your physician and ask has many questions as possible.
2. Call Ovation's Xenazine information line – 1-888-882-6013

Go to Xenazineusa.com

Here is some more good news!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

The antibiotic Minocycline seems to slow down the progression of Huntington's disease in mice. This antibiotic is commonly used to treat Acne and Rheumatoid Arthritis. When the researchers administered Minocycline to mice with the disease, progression slowed down and the mice lived 14% longer. This can be equivalent to one to five years in human life. Here are a few web sites for more information.

http://www.hdac.org/features/article.php?p_articleNumber=339

<http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/321/7253/70>

As with just about all medicines there are potential side affects, and a person going on any new medicine should be monitored after starting a new one for any side effects that may be from the new medicine or combination of medicines. These should be discussed with the persons doctor as soon as possible to assure the safety person taking the medicines.

Please feel free to call me if you have any questions @ 1-800-909-0073

Danny Berry – Social Worker/Family Service Coordinator