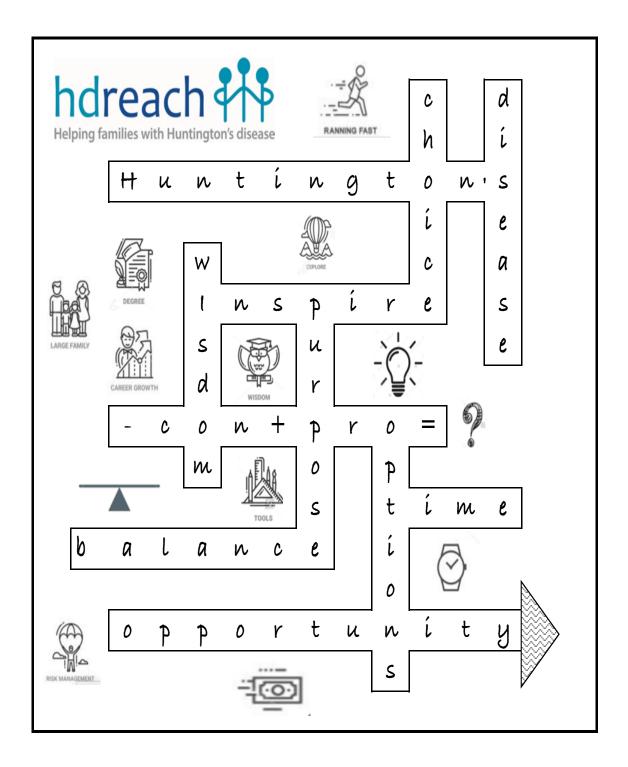


Prepare for Life

Mary Edmondson, MD Medical Director HD Reach Annual Education Day April 7, 2018



Pro/Con Analysis

Why now?



Questions to consider

What is my gut feeling about what I want to do?

What will I do differently?

What should I no longer put off?

Is there anything I am avoiding because of HD? How have I handled tough problems in the past?

How could my future be better with more knowledge?

Do I take risks in others areas of my life because I'm worried that I'm gene positive? What is the price to know my gene status? What will the price be for those people who love me?

Who do I want to share the experience with? What are the optimal circumstances for me to go through learning my gene status?

How safe is genetic testing? What happens to people who go through it?

How can I protect my genetic information? What will not testing right now allow me to still do? What am I not willing to give up? What are the advantages to being at risk? How does uncertainty affect me? How does uncertainty affect those who love me? How will I track my health status? How will I engage my health care providers in supporting the path I have chosen? Who will tell me I have concerning symptoms? What is my "HD stress test?" How can I live a responsible life with HD? What is my worst fear? What is my plan for living with HD? Why now? Why not now?

You're trying to get an answer to the question **why now**, and then who what where when and how. All of them!



Reasons that Genetic testing for HD would be useful or unhelpful to me under the following conditions

	Do genetic testing now	Don't do genetic testing now
Gene	PRO:	PRO:
Positive	CON:	CON:
Gene	PRO:	PRO:
Negative	CON:	CON:

Questions?