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Title: Cognition in Huntington's disease : the influence of motor behaviour and time

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Propositions belonging to the thesis
“Huntington’s disease - the influence of motor behaviour and time”

1. Executive functioning is the cognitive domain that is most sensitive to early cognitive changes in Huntington’s disease (this thesis)
 2. The Symbol Digit Modalities Test is able to measure change in premanifest gene carriers of Huntington’s disease over a period of one year, and therefore is a candidate outcome measure in future intervention studies (this thesis)
 3. Cognitive research in Huntington’s disease cannot be interpreted without taking into account the influence of motor behaviour (this thesis)
 4. The presence of chorea seems to work as a protective factor against cognitive and global deterioration in Huntington’s disease (this thesis)
 5. The clinical diagnosis of Huntington’s disease is often based on the appearance of definite motor signs, however, there may not be a single “threshold” that we can use to define disease onset. (Loy and McCusker, PLoS Currents Huntington’s Disease, 2013)
 6. Discussions about the term ‘executive functioning’ put a strain on one’s own executive functioning abilities
 7. In the absence of behavioural differences between control subjects and premanifest Huntington’s disease gene carriers, the observed increased cortical activation may be indicative of compensatory brain mechanisms. (Feigin et al., Annals of Neurology, 59, 2006)
 8. Patients with tremor-dominant Parkinson’s disease show better functional abilities as compared to the hypokinetic subtype. (Jancovic et al., Neurology, 40, 1990)
 9. Future disease modifying treatments in Huntington’s disease will probably comprise a combination of compounds targeting several key pathogenetic pathways. (Novak and Tabrizi, International Review of Neurobiology, 98, 2011)
 10. Not everything that counts can be counted, and not everything that can be counted counts. (Albert Einstein)
 11. In ancient times cats were worshipped as gods and they have not forgotten this. (Terry Pratchett)
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