

# Supplementary Appendix

This appendix has been provided by the authors to give readers additional information about their work.

Supplement to: Dewan R, Chia R, Ding J, et al. Pathogenic Huntingtin repeat expansions in patients with Frontotemporal Dementia and/or Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis.

(PDF last updated April 7, 2020)

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# Investigators

Ramita Dewan, Ruth Chia, Jinhui Ding, Richard Hickman, Thor D. Stein, Yevgeniya Abramzon, Sarah Ahmed, Marya S. Sabir, Makayla K. Portley, Arianna Tucci, Pamela Keagle, Shankaracharya, The American Genome Center (TAGC), The FALS Sequencing Consortium, The Genomics England Research Consortium, The International ALS/FTD Genomics Consortium (iAFGC), The International LBD Genomics Consortium (iLBDGC), The PROSPECT Consortium, Edwin Jabbari. MB, B.S., Coralie Viollet, Jonathan D. Glass, Andrew B. Singleton, Mina Ryten, Ali Torkamani, Toshiko Tanaka, Luigi Ferrucci, Susan M. Resnick, Stuart Pickering-Brown, Christopher B. Brady, Neil Kowal, John A. Hardy, Viviana Van Deerlin, Jean Paul Vonsattel, Matthew B. Harms, Huw R. Morris, Raffaele Ferrari, John E. Landers, Adriano Chiò, J. Raphael Gibbs, Clifton L. Dalgard, Sonja W. Scholz, Bryan J. Traynor

## **The members of The American Genome Center (TAGC) are:**

Clifton L. Dalgard<sup>1,2</sup>, Adelani Adeleye<sup>1</sup>, Anthony R. Soltis<sup>1</sup>, Camille Alba<sup>1</sup>, Coralie Viollet<sup>1</sup>, Dagmar Bacikova<sup>1</sup>, Daniel N. Hupalo<sup>1</sup>, Gauthaman Sukumar<sup>1</sup>, Harvey B. Pollard<sup>1,2</sup>, Matthew D. Wilkerson<sup>1,2</sup>, Elisa McGrath Martinez<sup>1</sup>

1. The American Genome Center, Collaborative Health Initiative Research Program, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, Bethesda, MD 20814, USA
2. Department of Anatomy, Physiology & Genetics, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, Bethesda, MD 20814, USA

## **The members of the FALS Sequencing Consortium are:**

Bradley N. Smith<sup>1</sup>, Nicola Ticozzi<sup>2,3</sup>, Claudia Fallini<sup>4</sup>, Athina Soragia Gkazi<sup>1</sup>, Simon D. Topp<sup>1,5</sup>, Jason Kost<sup>4</sup>, Emma L. Scotter<sup>6</sup>, Kevin P. Kenna<sup>4</sup>, Pamela Keagle<sup>4</sup>, Jack W. Miller<sup>7</sup>, Cinzia Tiloca<sup>8</sup>, Caroline Vance<sup>9</sup>, Eric W. Danielson<sup>4</sup>, Claire Troakes<sup>9</sup>, Claudia Colombrita<sup>8</sup>, Safa Al-Sarraj<sup>1</sup>, Elizabeth A. Lewis<sup>4</sup>, Andrew King<sup>1</sup>, Daniela Calini<sup>2</sup>, Viviana Pensato<sup>10</sup>, Barbara Castellotti<sup>10</sup>, Jacqueline de Belleruche<sup>11</sup>, Frank Baas<sup>12</sup>, Anneloor L.M.A. ten Asbroek<sup>13</sup>, Peter C. Sapp<sup>4</sup>, Diane McKenna-Yasek<sup>4</sup>, Russell L. McLaughlin<sup>14</sup>, Meraida Polak<sup>15</sup>, Seneshaw Asress<sup>15</sup>, Jesús Esteban-Pérez<sup>16</sup>, José Luis Muñoz-Blanco<sup>17</sup>, Zorica Stevic<sup>18</sup>, Sandra D'Alfonso<sup>19</sup>, Letizia Mazzini<sup>20</sup>, Giacomo P. Comi<sup>21</sup>, Roberto Del Bo<sup>21</sup>, Mauro Ceroni<sup>22</sup>, Stella Gagliardi<sup>22</sup>, Giorgia Querin<sup>23</sup>, Cinzia Bertolin<sup>23</sup>, Wouter van Rheenen<sup>24</sup>, Frank P. Diekstra<sup>24</sup>, Rosa Rademakers<sup>25</sup>, Marka van Blitterswijk<sup>25</sup>, Kevin B. Boylan<sup>26</sup>, Giuseppe Lauria<sup>27</sup>, Stefano Duga<sup>28</sup>, Stefania Corti<sup>21</sup>, Cristina Cereda<sup>22</sup>, Lucia Corrado<sup>19</sup>, Gianni Sorarù<sup>23</sup>, Kelly L. Williams<sup>29</sup>, Garth A. Nicholson<sup>29</sup>, Ian P. Blair<sup>29</sup>, Claire Leblond-Manry<sup>30</sup>, Guy A. Rouleau<sup>31</sup>, Orla Hardiman<sup>32</sup>, Karen E. Morrison<sup>33</sup>, Jan H. Veldink<sup>24</sup>, Leonard H. van den Berg<sup>24</sup>, Ammar Al-Chalabi<sup>9</sup>, Hardev Pall<sup>34</sup>, Pamela J. Shaw<sup>35</sup>, Martin R. Turner<sup>7</sup>, Kevin Talbot<sup>7</sup>, Franco Taroni<sup>10</sup>, Alberto García-Redondo<sup>16</sup>,

Zheyang Wu<sup>36</sup>, Jonathan D. Glass<sup>15</sup>, Cinzia Gellera<sup>10</sup>, Antonia Ratti<sup>2</sup>, Robert H. Brown, Jr.<sup>4</sup>, Vincenzo Silani<sup>2,3</sup>, Christopher E. Shaw<sup>9,5</sup>, John E. Landers<sup>4</sup>

1. Centre for Neurodegeneration Research, King's College London, Department of Clinical Neuroscience, Institute of Psychiatry, London, UK
2. Department of Neurology and Laboratory of Neuroscience, IRCCS Istituto Auxologico Italiano, Milan 20149, Italy
3. Department of Pathophysiology and Transplantation, "Dino Ferrari" Center, Università degli Studi di Milano, Milan 20122, Italy
4. Department of Neurology, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, Massachusetts 01605, USA
5. UK Dementia Research Institute at King's College London, London, UK
6. Centre for Brain Research, University of Auckland, New Zealand
7. Nuffield Department of Clinical Neurosciences, University of Oxford, UK
8. Department of Neurology, IRCCS Istituto Auxologico Italiano, Milan, Italy
9. Maurice Wohl Clinical Neuroscience Institute, Department of Basic and Clinical Neuroscience, King's College London, London SE5 9RS, UK
10. Unit of Genetics of Neurodegenerative and Metabolic Diseases, Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Neurologico 'Carlo Besta', Milan 20133, Italy
11. Neurogenetics Group, Division of Brain Sciences, Hammersmith Hospital Campus, Burlington Danes Building, Du Cane Road, London, UK
12. Clinical Genetics, Leiden University Medical Center, Leiden, the Netherlands
13. Department of Neurogenetics and Neurology, Academic Medical Centre, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
14. Population Genetics Laboratory, Smurfit Institute of Genetics, Trinity College Dublin, Dublin, Republic of Ireland
15. Department of Neurology, Emory University, Atlanta, GA 30322, USA
16. Unidad de ELA, Instituto de Investigación Hospital 12 de Octubre de Madrid, SERMAS, and Centro de Investigación Biomédica en Red de Enfermedades Raras (CIBERER U-723), Madrid, Spain
17. Unidad de ELA, Instituto de Investigación Hospital Gregorio Marañón de Madrid, SERMAS, Spain
18. Neurology Clinic, Clinical Center of Serbia School of Medicine, University of Belgrade, Serbia
19. Department of Health Sciences, University of Eastern Piedmont, Novara, Italy
20. ALS Center, the Azienda Ospedaliero Universitaria Maggiore della Carità, Novara, Italy
21. Neurology Unit, IRCCS Foundation Ca' Granda Ospedale Maggiore Policlinico, Milan, Italy
22. Experimental Neurobiology Laboratory, 'C. Mondino' National Institute of Neurology Foundation, IRCCS, Pavia, Italy
23. Department of Neurosciences, University of Padova, Padova, Italy

24. Department of Neurology, Brain Center Rudolf Magnus, University Medical Center Utrecht, Utrecht, the Netherlands
25. Department of Neuroscience, Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, Florida, USA
26. Department of Neurology, Mayo Clinic Florida, Jacksonville, Florida 32224, USA
27. 3rd Neurology Unit, Motor Neuron Diseases Center, Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Neurologico 'Carlo Besta', Milan, Italy
28. Humanitas Research Hospital, Rozzano, Italy
29. Centre for Motor Neuron Disease Research, Department of Biomedical Sciences, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Macquarie University, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
30. Human Genetics and Cognitive Functions Unit, Institut Pasteur, Paris, France
31. Montreal Neurological Institute, Department of Neurology and Neurosurgery, McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada
32. Academic Unit of Neurology, Trinity Biomedical Sciences Institute, Trinity College Dublin, Dublin, Republic of Ireland
33. Faculty of Medicine, University of Southampton, University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust, Southampton, UK
34. School of Clinical and Experimental Medicine, University of Birmingham, Birmingham, UK
35. Sheffield Institute for Translational Neuroscience, Department of Neuroscience, University of Sheffield, Sheffield S10 2HQ, UK
36. Department of Bioinformatics and Computational Biology, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, MA 01609, USA

**The members of The Genomics England Research Consortium are:**

J. C. Ambrose<sup>1</sup>, P. Arumugam<sup>1</sup>, E. L. Baple<sup>1</sup>, M. Bleda<sup>1</sup>, F. Boardman-Pretty<sup>1,2</sup>, J. M. Boissiere<sup>1</sup>, C. R. Boustred<sup>1</sup>, H. Brittain<sup>1</sup>, M. J. Caulfield<sup>1,2</sup>, G. C. Chan<sup>1</sup>, C. E. H. Craig<sup>1</sup>, L. C. Daugherty<sup>1</sup>, A. de Burca<sup>1</sup>, A. Devereau<sup>1</sup>, G. Elgar<sup>1,2</sup>, R. E. Foulger<sup>1</sup>, T. Fowler<sup>1</sup>, P. Furió-Tarí<sup>1</sup>, J. M. Hackett<sup>1</sup>, D. Halai<sup>1</sup>, A. Hamblin<sup>1</sup>, S. Henderson<sup>1,2</sup>, J. E. Holman<sup>1</sup>, T. J. P. Hubbard<sup>1</sup>, K. Ibáñez<sup>1,2</sup>, R. Jackson<sup>1</sup>, L. J. Jones<sup>1,2</sup>, D. Kasperaviciute<sup>1,2</sup>, M. Kayikci<sup>1</sup>, L. Lahnstein<sup>1</sup>, K. Lawson<sup>1</sup>, S. E. A. Leigh<sup>1</sup>, I. U. S. Leong<sup>1</sup>, F. J. Lopez<sup>1</sup>, F. Maleady-Crowe<sup>1</sup>, J. Mason<sup>1</sup>, E. M. McDonagh<sup>1,2</sup>, L. Moutsianas<sup>1,2</sup>, M. Mueller<sup>1,2</sup>, N. Murugaesu<sup>1</sup>, A. C. Need<sup>1,2</sup>, C. A. Odhams<sup>1</sup>, C. Patch<sup>1,2</sup>, D. Perez-Gil<sup>1</sup>, D. Polychronopoulos<sup>1</sup>, J. Pullinger<sup>1</sup>, T. Rahim<sup>1</sup>, A. Rendon<sup>1</sup>, P. Riesgo-Ferreiro<sup>1</sup>, T. Rogers<sup>1</sup>, M. Ryten<sup>1</sup>, K. Savage<sup>1</sup>, K. Sawant<sup>1</sup>, R. H. Scott<sup>1</sup>, A. Siddiq<sup>1</sup>, A. Sieghart<sup>1</sup>, D. Smedley<sup>1,2</sup>, K. R. Smith<sup>1,2</sup>, A. Sosinsky<sup>1,2</sup>, W. Spooner<sup>1</sup>, H. E. Stevens<sup>1</sup>, A. Stuckey<sup>1</sup>, R. Sultana<sup>1</sup>, E. R. A. Thomas<sup>1,2</sup>, S. R. Thompson<sup>1</sup>, C. Tregidgo<sup>1</sup>, A. Tucci<sup>1,2</sup>, E. Walsh<sup>1</sup>, S. A. Watters<sup>1</sup>, M. J. Welland<sup>1</sup>, E. Williams<sup>1</sup>, K. Witkowska<sup>1,2</sup>, S. M. Wood<sup>1,2</sup>, M. Zarowiecki<sup>1</sup>

1. Genomics England, London, UK
2. William Harvey Research Institute, Queen Mary University of London, London, EC1M 6BQ, UK

**The members of The International ALS/FTD Genomics Consortium (iALSFTDgc) are:**

Yevgeniya Abramzon, B.S.<sup>1,2</sup>, Sampath Arepalli, M.S.<sup>3</sup>, Robert H. Baloh, M.D.<sup>4</sup>, Robert Bowser, Ph.D.<sup>5</sup>, Christopher B. Brady, Ph.D.<sup>6,7</sup>, Alexis Brice, M.D.<sup>8,9</sup>, James Broach, Ph.D.<sup>10</sup>, William Camu, M.D.<sup>11,12</sup>, Ruth Chia, Ph.D.<sup>1</sup>, Adriano Chiò, M.D.<sup>13,14,15</sup>, John Cooper-Knock, M.D.<sup>16</sup>, Jinhui Ding, Ph.D.<sup>17</sup>, Carsten Drepper, Ph.D.<sup>18</sup>, Vivian E. Drory, M.D.<sup>19</sup>, Travis L. Dunckley, Ph.D.<sup>20</sup>, Faraz Faghri, B.S.<sup>21,22</sup>, Jennifer Farren, R.N.<sup>23</sup>, Eva Feldman, M.D.<sup>24</sup>, Mary Kay Floeter, M.D.<sup>23</sup>, Pietro Fratta, M.D.<sup>2</sup>, Glenn Gerhard, M.D.<sup>20</sup>, J. Raphael Gibbs, Ph.D.<sup>17</sup>, Summer B. Gibson, M.D.<sup>25</sup>, Jonathan D. Glass, M.D.<sup>26</sup>, John A. Hardy, Ph.D.<sup>27</sup>, Matthew B. Harms, M.D.<sup>28</sup>, Terry D. Heiman-Patterson, M.D.<sup>29,30</sup>, Dena G. Hernandez, Ph.D.<sup>3</sup>, Lilja Jansson<sup>31</sup>, Freya Kamel, Ph.D.<sup>32</sup>, Janine Kirby, Ph.D.<sup>16</sup>, Neil W. Kowall, M.D.<sup>33,34</sup>, Hannu Laaksovirta, M.D.<sup>31</sup>, John E. Landers, Ph.D.<sup>35</sup>, Francesco Landi, M.D.<sup>36</sup>, Isabelle Le Ber, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>8,9</sup>, Serge Lumbroso, M.D.<sup>37</sup>, Daniel JL. MacGowan, M.D.<sup>38</sup>, Nicholas J. Maragakis, M.D.<sup>39</sup>, Gabriele Mora, M.D.<sup>40</sup>, Kevin Mouzat, M.D.<sup>37</sup>, Liisa Myllykangas, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>41</sup>, Mike A. Nalls, Ph.D.<sup>21,42</sup>, Richard W. Orrell, M.D.<sup>43</sup>, Lyle W. Ostrow, M.D.<sup>39</sup>, Roger Pamphlett<sup>44</sup>, Stuart Pickering-Brown, Ph.D.<sup>45</sup>, Erik Pioro, M.D.<sup>46</sup>, Stefan M. Pulst, M.D.<sup>25</sup>, John M. Ravits, M.D.<sup>47</sup>, Alan E. Renton, Ph.D.<sup>1,48</sup>, Wim Robberecht, M.D.<sup>49</sup>, Ekaterina Rogaeva, Ph.D.<sup>50</sup>, Jeffrey D. Rothstein, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>39</sup>, Sonja W. Scholz, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>51,39</sup>, Michael Sendtner, M.D.<sup>52</sup>, Pamela J. Shaw, M.D.<sup>16</sup>, Katie C. Sidle, M.D.<sup>27</sup>, Zachary Simmons, M.D.<sup>53</sup>, Andrew B. Singleton, Ph.D.<sup>21</sup>, David C. Stone, Ph.D.<sup>54</sup>, Pentti J. Tienari, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>31</sup>, Bryan J. Traynor, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>1,39</sup>, John Q. Trojanowski, M.D.<sup>55</sup>, Juan C. Troncoso, M.D.<sup>56</sup>, Miko Valori, Ph.D.<sup>31</sup>, Philip Van Damme, M.D.<sup>49,57</sup>, Vivianna M. Van Deerlin, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>55</sup>, Ludo Van Den Bosch, Ph.D.<sup>49</sup>, Lorne Zinman, M.D.<sup>58</sup>

1. Neuromuscular Diseases Research Section, Laboratory of Neurogenetics, National Institute on Aging, Bethesda, MD 20892, USA
2. Sobell Department of Motor Neuroscience and Movement Disorders, Institute of Neurology, University College London, London, WC1N 3BG, UK
3. Genomics Technology Group, Laboratory of Neurogenetics, National Institute on Aging, Bethesda, MD 20892, USA
4. Department of Neurology, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA 90048, USA
5. Division of Neurology, Barrow Neurological Institute, Phoenix, AZ 85013, USA
6. Research and Development Service, Veterans Affairs Boston Healthcare System, Boston, MA 02130, USA
7. Program in Behavioral Neuroscience, Department of Neurology, Boston University School of Medicine, 72 E Concord St, Boston, MA 02118, USA
8. Centre de Recherche de l'Institut du Cerveau et de la Moelle épinière, Université Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris, France
9. INSERM U975, Paris, France
10. Department of Biochemistry, Penn State College of Medicine, Hershey, PA 17033, USA

11. The Institute for Neurosciences of Montpellier, INSERM UMR1051, Saint Eloi Hospital, Montpellier, France
12. Department of Neurology, Gui-de-Chauliac Hospital, Montpellier, France
13. 'Rita Levi Montalcini' Department of Neuroscience, University of Turin, Via Verdi 8, Turin, 10124, Italy
14. Azienda Ospedaliero Universitaria Città della Salute e della Scienza, Corso Bramante, 88, Turin, 10126, Italy
15. Institute of Cognitive Sciences and Technologies, C.N.R., Via S. Martino della Battaglia, 44, Rome, 00185, Italy
16. Department of Neuroscience, University of Sheffield, Sheffield, S10 2HQ, UK
17. Computational Biology Core, Laboratory of Neurogenetics, National Institute on Aging, Bethesda, MD 20892, USA
18. Institute for Clinical Neurobiology, University of Würzburg, Würzburg, D-97078, Germany
19. Department of Neurology, Tel-Aviv Sourasky Medical Center, Tel-Aviv, Israel
20. Department of Pathology, Penn State College of Medicine, Hershey, PA 17033, USA
21. Molecular Genetics Section, Laboratory of Neurogenetics, National Institute on Aging, Bethesda, MD 20892, USA
22. Department of Computer Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 201 North Goodwin Avenue, Urbana, IL 61801, USA
23. Motor Neuron Disorders Unit, Neurogenetics Branch, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, Bethesda, MD 20892, USA
24. Department of Neurology, University of Michigan, 1500 E Medical Center Dr, Ann Arbor, MI 48109, USA
25. Department of Neurology, University of Utah School of Medicine, 175 North Medical Drive East, Salt Lake City, UT 84132, USA
26. Department of Neurology, Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta, GA 30322, USA
27. Department of Molecular Neuroscience and Reta Lila Weston Laboratories, Institute of Neurology, University College London, London, WC1N 3BG, UK
28. Department of Neurology, Columbia University, New York, NY 10032, USA
29. Department of Neurology, Drexel University College of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA 19102, USA
30. Department of Neurology, Temple University, 7602 Central Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19111, USA
31. Department of Neurology, University of Helsinki, Helsinki, FIN-02900, Finland
32. Epidemiology Branch, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Durham, NC 27709, USA
33. Department of Neurology, Veterans Affairs Boston Healthcare System, 150 S Huntington Ave, Boston, MA 02130, USA
34. Boston University Alzheimer's Disease Center, Boston University School of Medicine, 72 E Concord St, Boston, MA 02118, USA

35. Department of Neurology, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA 01605, USA
36. Department of Geriatrics, Neurosciences and Orthopedics, Center for Geriatric Medicine, Catholic University of Sacred Heart, Rome, 00168, Italy
37. Service de Biochimie, CHU de Nîmes, Nîmes, France
38. Neuromuscular Division and ALS Center, Beth Israel Medical Center, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York, NY 01605, USA
39. Department of Neurology, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD 21287, USA
40. ALS Center, ICS Mageri, IRCCS, Via Camaldoli, 64, Milan, 20138, Italy
41. Department of Pathology, Haartman Institute/HUSLAB, University of Helsinki and Folkhalsan Research Center (LM), Helsinki, FIN-02900, Finland
42. Data Tecnica International, Glen Echo, MD 20812, USA
43. Department of Clinical Neuroscience, Institute of Neurology, University College London, London, NW2 2PG, UK
44. Discipline of Pathology, Brain and Mind Centre, University of Sydney, Camperdown, NSW 2050, Australia
45. Faculty of Human and Medical Sciences, University of Manchester, Manchester, M13 9PT, UK
46. Department of Neurology, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, OH 44195, USA
47. Department of Neuroscience, Experimental Neurology and Leuven Research Institute for Neuroscience and Disease, University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive, La Jolla, CA 92093, USA
48. Department of Neuroscience, Ronald M. Loeb Center for Alzheimer's Disease, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, NY 10029, USA
49. Department of Neurosciences, Experimental Neurology and Leuven Research Institute for Neuroscience and Disease, University of Leuven, Leuven, 3000, Belgium
50. Division of Neurology, Tanz Centre for Research of Neurodegenerative Diseases and Toronto Western Hospital, University of Toronto, Toronto, M5S 3H2, Canada
51. Neurodegenerative Diseases Research Unit, Laboratory of Neurogenetics, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, Bethesda, MD 20892, USA
52. Department of Neurology, Institute for Clinical Neurobiology, University of Würzburg, Würzburg, D-97078, Germany
53. Department of Neurology, Penn State College of Medicine, Hershey, PA 17033, USA
54. Genetics, Genetics and Pharmacogenomics, Merck Research Laboratories, Merck & Co., Inc., West Point, PA 19486, USA
55. Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104, USA
56. Clinical and Neuropathology Core, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD 21287, USA
57. VIB, Center for Brain & Disease Research, Laboratory of Neurobiology, University of Leuven, Leuven, 3000, Belgium



58. Division of Neurology, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, University of Toronto, Toronto, M4N 3M5, Canada

**The members of The International LBD Genomics Consortium (iLBDgc) are:**

Dag Aarsland, M.D.<sup>1</sup>, Yevgeniya Abramzon, B.Sc.<sup>2</sup>, Sarah Ahmed, B.Sc.<sup>3</sup>, Camille Alba, Ph.D.<sup>4</sup>, Marilyn S. Albert, Ph.D.<sup>5</sup>, Safa Al-Sarraj, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>6</sup>, Johannes Attems, M.D.<sup>7</sup>, Dagmar Bacikova, Ph.D.<sup>4</sup>, Matthew J. Barrett, M.D.<sup>8</sup>, Thomas G. Beach, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>9</sup>, David A. Bennett, M.D.<sup>10</sup>, Lilah M. Besser, Ph.D., M.Ph.<sup>11</sup>, Eileen H. Bigio, M.D.<sup>12</sup>, Sandra E. Black, M.D.<sup>13,14,15,16,17</sup>, Bradley F. Boeve, M.D.<sup>18</sup>, Ryan C. Bohannon, B.Sc.<sup>19</sup>, Francesca Brett, M.D.<sup>20</sup>, Alexis Brice, M.D.<sup>21</sup>, Maura Brunetti, M.Sc.<sup>22</sup>, Chad A. Caraway, Ph.D.<sup>23</sup>, Jose-Alberto Palma, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>24</sup>, Andrea Calvo, M.D.<sup>22</sup>, Antonio Canosa, M.D.<sup>22</sup>, Ruth Chia, Ph.D.<sup>2</sup>, Adriano Chiò, M.D.<sup>22,25,26</sup>, Jordi Clarimon, Ph.D.<sup>27</sup>, Clifton L. Dalgard, Ph.D.<sup>4,28</sup>, Dennis Dickson, M.D.<sup>29</sup>, Monica Diez-Fairen, M.Sc.<sup>30</sup>, Jinhui Ding, Ph.D.<sup>31</sup>, Charles Duyckaerts, M.D.<sup>32</sup>, Kelley Faber, M.Sc.<sup>33</sup>, Tanis Ferman, Ph.D.<sup>34</sup>, Raffaele Ferrari, Ph.D.<sup>35</sup>, Luigi Ferrucci, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>36</sup>, Margaret E. Flanagan, M.D.<sup>12</sup>, Gianluca Floris, M.D.<sup>37</sup>, Tatiana M. Foroud, M.D.<sup>33</sup>, Juan Fortea, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>27</sup>, Ziv Gan-Or, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>38</sup>, Steve Gentleman, M.D.<sup>39</sup>, Bernardino Ghetti, M.D.<sup>40</sup>, Jesse Raphael Gibbs, Ph.D.<sup>31</sup>, Alison Goate, Ph.D.<sup>41</sup>, David Goldstein, M.D.<sup>42</sup>, Isabel González-Aramburu, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>43</sup>, Neill R. Graff-Radford, M.D.<sup>44</sup>, John A. Hardy, Ph.D.<sup>35</sup>, Angela K. Hodges, Ph.D.<sup>1</sup>, Heng-Chen Hu, Ph.D.<sup>4</sup>, Daniel Hupalo, Ph.D.<sup>4</sup>, Jon Infante, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>43</sup>, Scott M. Kaiser, M.B.A.<sup>45</sup>, Horacio Kaufmann, M.D.<sup>24</sup>, Julia Keith, M.D.<sup>46</sup>, Ronald C. Kim, M.D.<sup>47</sup>, Gregory Klein<sup>10</sup>, Rejko Krüger, M.D.<sup>48,49,50</sup>, Walter Kukull, Ph.D.<sup>51</sup>, Amanda Kuzma, M.Sc.<sup>52</sup>, Carmen Lage, M.D.<sup>43</sup>, Suzanne Lesage, Ph.D.<sup>21</sup>, Alberto Lleó, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>27</sup>, James Leverenz, M.D.<sup>53</sup>, Giancarlo Logroschino, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>54</sup>, Grisel Lopez, M.D.<sup>55</sup>, Seth Love, M.D.<sup>56</sup>, Teresa X. Malondra, M.Sc.<sup>57</sup>, Qinwen Mao, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>12</sup>, Elisa Martinez-McGrath, Ph.D.<sup>4</sup>, Mario Masellis, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>58,59,16,17</sup>, Eliezer Masliah, M.D.<sup>60</sup>, Patrick May, Ph.D.<sup>48</sup>, Ian McKeith, M.D.<sup>7</sup>, Ed Monuki, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>61</sup>, Christopher M. Morris, Ph.D.<sup>7</sup>, Huw R. Morris, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>35,62</sup>, Kathy L. Newell, M.D.<sup>63</sup>, Lucy Norcliffe-Kaufmann, Ph.D.<sup>24</sup>, Laura Palmer, Ph.D.<sup>64</sup>, Pau Pastor, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>30</sup>, Matthew Perkins, B.Sc.<sup>65</sup>, Stuart Pickering-Brown, Ph.D.<sup>66</sup>, Olga Pletnikova, M.D.<sup>67</sup>, Laura Porcel-Molina, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>68</sup>, Alan E. Renton, Ph.D.<sup>69</sup>, Susan M. Resnick, M.D.<sup>70</sup>, Regina H. Reynolds, M.Sc.<sup>71</sup>, Eloy Rodríguez-Rodríguez, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>43</sup>, Ekaterina Rogaeva, Ph.D.<sup>72</sup>, Jonathan D. Rohrer, M.D.<sup>73</sup>, Owen A. Ross, Ph.D.<sup>74</sup>, Mina Ryten, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>35</sup>, Marya S. Sabir, B.Sc.<sup>3</sup>, Pascual Sanchez-Juan, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>43</sup>, Clemens R. Scherzer, M.D.<sup>75</sup>, Sonja W. Scholz, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>3,5</sup>, Geidy Serrano, Ph.D.<sup>9</sup>, Vikram Shakkotai, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>76</sup>, Ellen Sidransky, M.D.<sup>55</sup>, Andrew B. Singleton, Ph.D.<sup>77</sup>, Toshiko Tanaka, Ph.D.<sup>36</sup>, Nahid Tayebi, Ph.D.<sup>55</sup>, Alan J. Thomas, M.B.B.S., Ph.D.<sup>7</sup>, Bension S. Tilley, M.B.B.S., Ph.D.<sup>39</sup>, Bryan J. Traynor, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>2,5</sup>, Claire Troakes, Ph.D.<sup>1</sup>, Juan C. Troncoso, M.D.<sup>67</sup>, Coralie Viollet, Ph.D.<sup>4</sup>, Ronald L. Walton, B.Sc.<sup>29</sup>, Randy Woltjer, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>78</sup>, Zbigniew K. Wszolek, M.D.<sup>44</sup>, Georgia Xiromerisiou, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>79</sup>, Chiara Zecca, B.Sc.<sup>54</sup>

1. Department of Old Age Psychiatry, Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology and Neuroscience (IoPPN), King's College London, London, SE5 8AF, UK
2. Neuromuscular Diseases Research Section, Laboratory of Neurogenetics, National Institute on Aging, Bethesda, MD 20892, USA
3. Neurodegenerative Diseases Research Unit, Laboratory of Neurogenetics, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, Bethesda, MD 20892, USA
4. Department of Anatomy, Physiology and Genetics, Physiology and Genetics, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, Bethesda, MD 20814, USA
5. Department of Neurology, Johns Hopkins University Medical Center, Baltimore, MD 21287, USA
6. Department of Clinical Neuropathology and London Neurodegenerative Diseases Brain Bank, Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology and Neuroscience (IoPPN), King's College Hospital and King's College London, London, SE5 8AF, UK
7. Mental Health, Dementia and Neurodegeneration, Translational and Clinical Research Institute, Newcastle University, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 5PL, UK
8. Department of Neurology, University of Virginia School of Medicine, Charlottesville, VA 22903, USA
9. Civin Laboratory for Neuropathology, Banner Sun Health Research Institute, Sun City, AZ 85006, USA
10. Rush Alzheimer's Disease Center, Rush University, Chicago, IL 60612, USA
11. Institute for Human Health and Disease Intervention, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL 33431, USA
12. Mesulam Center for Cognitive Neurology and Alzheimer's Disease, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Chicago, IL 60611, USA
13. Institute of Medical Science, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON M5S 1A8, Canada
14. Division of Neurology, Department of Medicine, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON M5S 1A1, Canada
15. Heart and Stroke Foundation Canadian Partnership for Stroke Recovery, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON M5S 1A8, Canada
16. Hurvitz Brain Sciences Research Program, Sunnybrook Research Institute, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON M4N 3M5, Canada
17. LC Campbell Cognitive Neurology Research Unit, Sunnybrook Research Institute, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON M4N 3M5, Canada
18. Center for Sleep Medicine, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN 55905, USA
19. Department of Neurobiology and Behavior, University of California Irvine, Irvine, CA 92697, USA
20. Dublin Brain Bank, Neuropathology Department, Beaumont Hospital, Dublin, D2, Ireland
21. Paris Brain Institute, Sorbonne Universites, Paris, CS 21 414 – 75646, France
22. Rita Levi Montalcini Department of Neuroscience, University of Turin, Turin, 10126, Italy

23. Institute for Memory Impairments and Neurological Disorders, University of California Irvine, Irvine, CA 92697, USA
24. Department of Neurology, New York University School of Medicine, New York, NY 10016, USA
25. Institute of Cognitive Sciences and Technologies, C.N.R., Rome, 185, Italy
26. Azienda Ospedaliero Universitaria Città della Salute e della Scienza, Turin, 10126, Italy
27. Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Barcelona, 8041, Spain
28. The American Genome Center, Collaborative Health Initiative Research Program, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, Bethesda, MD 20814, USA
29. Department of Neuroscience, Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, FL 32224, USA
30. Memory and Movement Disorders Units, Department of Neurology, University Hospital Mutua de Terrassa, Barcelona, 8221, Spain
31. Computational Biology Core, Laboratory of Neurogenetics, National Institute on Aging, Bethesda, MD 20892, USA
32. Department of Neuropathology Escourolle, Paris Brain Institute, Sorbonne Universites, Paris, CS 21 414 – 75646, France
33. Department of Medical and Molecular Genetics, Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, IN 46202, USA
34. Department of Psychiatry and Psychology, Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, FL 32224, USA
35. Department of Molecular Neuroscience, Institute of Neurology, University College London, London, WC1B 5EH, UK
36. Longitudinal Studies Section, National Institute on Aging, Baltimore, MD 21224, USA
37. Department of Neurology, University Hospital of Cagliari, Cagliari, 9124, Italy
38. Montreal Neurological Institute and Hospital, Department of Neurology & Neurosurgery, McGill University, Montreal, QC H3A 2B4, Canada
39. Neuropathology Unit, Division of Brain Sciences, Department of Medicine, Imperial College London, London, W12 0NN, UK
40. Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, IN 46202, USA
41. Nash Family Department of Neuroscience, Department of Genetics and Genomic Sciences, and Department of Pathology, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, NY 10029, USA
42. Clinical Neurocardiology Section, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, Bethesda, MD 20892, USA
43. Neurology Service, University Hospital Marqués de Valdecilla-IDIVAL-UC, Santander, 39011, Spain
44. Department of Neurology, Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, FL 32224, USA
45. Department of Neuropathology, Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, IN 46202, USA

46. Department of Anatomical Pathology, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON M5S 1A8, Canada
47. Department of Neuropathology, School of Medicine, University of California Irvine, Irvine, CA 92697, USA
48. Luxembourg Center for Systems Biomedicine, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg, L-4362, Luxembourg
49. Luxembourg Institute of Health (LIH), University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg, L-4362, Luxembourg
50. Centre Hospitalier de Luxembourg (CHL), University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg, L-4362, Luxembourg
51. National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center (NACC), University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195, USA
52. Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104, USA
53. Cleveland Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health, Neurological Institute, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, OH 44195, USA
54. Department of Basic Medical Sciences, Neurosciences and Sense Organs, University of Bari "Aldo Moro", Bari, 70121, Italy
55. Medical Genetics Branch, National Human Genome Research Institute, Bethesda, MD 20892, USA
56. Dementia Research Group, School of Clinical Sciences, University of Bristol, Bristol, BS10 5NB, UK
57. Hospital Clinic de Barcelona, IDIBAPS, Barcelona, 8036, Spain
58. Cognitive & Movement Disorders Clinic, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON M5S 1A8, Canada
59. Department of Medicine, Division of Neurology, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON M5S 1A8, Canada
60. Molecular Neuropathology Section, Laboratory of Neurogenetics, National Institute on Aging, Bethesda, MD 20892, USA
61. Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine, School of Medicine, University of California Irvine, Irvine, CA 92697, USA
62. Department of Clinical and Movement Neuroscience, Royal Free Campus UCL Institute of Neurology, University College London, London, NW3 2PF, UK
63. Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, KS 66160, USA
64. South West Dementia Brain Bank, Bristol Medical School, University of Bristol, Bristol, BS10 5NB, UK
65. Michigan Brain Bank, University of Michigan Medical School, Ann Arbor, MI 48109, USA
66. Division of Neuroscience and Experimental Psychology, Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health, The University of Manchester, Manchester, M13 9PT, UK

67. Department of Pathology (Neuropathology), Johns Hopkins University Medical Center, Baltimore, MD 21287, USA
68. Neurological Tissue Bank, Biobanc-Hospital Clinic - IDIBAPS, Barcelona, 8036, Spain
69. Department of Neuroscience, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, NY 10029, USA
70. Laboratory of Behavioral Neuroscience, National Institute on Aging, Baltimore, MD 21224, USA
71. Department of Neurodegenerative Diseases, Institute of Neurology, University College London, London, WC1B 5EH, UK
72. Tanz Centre for Research in Neurodegenerative Diseases, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON M5S 1A8, Canada
73. Department of Neurodegenerative Diseases, Dementia Research Centre, University College London, London, WC1N 3BG, UK
74. Department of Neuroscience & Department of Clinical Genomics, Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, FL 32224, USA
75. Precision Neurology Program, Brigham & Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA 2115, USA
76. Department of Neurology, University of Michigan Medical School, Ann Arbor, MI 48109, USA
77. Molecular Genetics Section, Laboratory of Neurogenetics, National Institute on Aging, Bethesda, MD 20892, USA
78. Department of Neurology, Oregon Health & Sciences University, Portland, OR 97239, USA
79. Department of Neurology, University Hospital of Larissa, University of Thessalia, Larissa, 41110, Greece

## Supplementary Methods and Materials

### **Description of clinical cases carrying pathogenic *HTT* repeat expansions**

#### *Patient #1*

The patient developed neurologic symptoms at age 68. His neurologic examination was consistent with a diagnosis of FTD-PSP. There was no family history of neurological disease.

#### *Patient #2*

The patient developed behavioral changes at the age of 56, and she was diagnosed with behavioral variant FTD. By report, her elderly mother had been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease.

#### *Patient #3*

The patient was a woman who developed language disturbances at age 57. She was subsequently diagnosed as having nonfluent primary progressive aphasia. There was no family history of neurological disease.

#### *Patient #4*

The patient was a 19-year-old woman who had presented with a two-year history of progressive academic performance decline, dysarthria, bradykinesia, and gait disturbance. Her speech had become progressively slurred and soft, and her handwriting had deteriorated. She did not report any falls, but she did have several episodes of syncope that were initially diagnosed as seizures. Cranial nerve examination revealed supranuclear vertical gaze palsy, masked facies, and dysarthria. She also was noted to have bradykinesia with cogwheeling in her upper limbs, and spasticity and hyperreflexia in the lower limbs. MRI of the brain showed basal ganglia iron deposition. She was started on Sinemet with no improvement. The patient's father was said to have a similar neurological syndrome consisting of cognitive decline, gait disorder, and dysarthria that started in his late twenties.

#### *Patient #5*

The patient developed symptoms of ALS at age 56 and died eleven years later of respiratory failure after a typical course of motor neuron disease.

#### *Patient #6*

The patient presented at the age of 44 with personality changes (short temper) and decreased initiative (apathy). His memory was intact, and neuropsychological evaluation was consistent with FTD. His father had speech loss and gait disturbance at age 40 and died from his illness at the age of 52.

### *Patient #7*

This right-handed man presented with lower limb weakness at the age of 76. A sibling had been diagnosed with ALS. Neurological examination at the age of 84 revealed an ALS Functional Rating Scale of 17 (maximum score of the ALSFRS-R = 40). He had upper and lower motor neuron signs in the bulbar region, the upper limbs, and the lower limbs. Additionally, he was diagnosed with FTD. He was placed on non-invasive positive pressure ventilation for respiratory failure.

### *Patient #8*

This patient was a man who developed a right foot drop at the age of 62. He was initially diagnosed with primary lateral sclerosis and had a baclofen pump implanted for the treatment of spasticity. His symptoms progressed, and the diagnosis was changed to ALS based on neurophysiological testing. Before death, he was unable to ambulate, used a motorized wheelchair, had limited hand movements, wore a cervical collar to correct head tilt, and used an eye gaze system to communicate. He died at the age of 70 due to respiratory failure.

## **Whole-genome sequencing**

Genomic DNA was extracted from whole blood or cerebellar brain tissue using a Maxwell RSC Instrument (Promega Corp., Madison, WI, USA). PCR-free, paired-end, non-indexed libraries were constructed using the TruSeq PCR-free chemistry according to the manufacturer's instructions (Illumina Corp., San Diego, CA, USA). Sequencing was performed on an HiSeq X Ten sequencer (version 2.5 chemistry, Illumina) using 150 base pair (bp), paired-end cycles, applying a single sample to each lane.

Raw genome data in FASTQ file format were transferred to Google Cloud Storage. Paired-end sequences were processed by following the pipeline standard developed by the Centers for Common Disease Genomics (CCDG; <https://www.genome.gov/27563570/>). This standard allows for whole-genome sequence (WGS) data processed by different groups to generate 'functionally equivalent' results (PMID: 30279509). The GRCh38DH reference genome was used for alignment, as specified in the CCDG standard. For WGS alignments and processing, the Broad Institute's implementation of the functional equivalence standardized pipeline was used. This pipeline, which incorporates the GATK (2016) Best Practices (PMID: 25431634), was implemented in the workflow description language (WDL) for deployment and execution on the Google Cloud Platform. Single-nucleotide (SNV) and InDel variants were called from the processed WGS data following the GATK Best Practices using another Broad Institute workflow for joint discovery and Variant Quality Score Recalibration (VQSR). Both Broad workflows for WGS sample processing and joint discovery are publically available (<https://github.com/gatk-workflows/broad-prod-wgs-germline-snps-indels>). The average sequencing read-depth after

filtering by alignment quality was 35x, and mean coverage per genome was 36.3 (95% confidence interval: 29.3–43.3). All of the whole-genome sequence data (discovery and replication cohorts) were processed using the same pipeline. Genome data obtained from the Welllderly control cohort and the NIA control cohort were treated the same as the data generated for the dementia resource to ensure uniformity of processing.

Genomes were excluded from analysis for the following reasons: (1) high contamination rate (> 5% based on VerifyBamID freemix metric)<sup>4</sup>, (2) excessive heterozygosity rate (exceeding +/- 0.15 F-statistic), (3) low call rate ( $\leq$  95%), (4) discordance between reported sex and genotypic sex, and (5) duplicate samples (determined by pi-hat statistic). Samples with non-European ancestry based comparison of principal components analysis with the HapMap 3 Genome Reference Panel (Fig. S2) were flagged, but not excluded.<sup>5,6</sup>

Whole-genome sequence data was analyzed for pathogenic mutations in fifty genes associated with neurodegenerative diseases including *ALS2*, *APP*, *ATP13A2*, *ATXN2*, *BSN*, *C9orf72*, *CHCHD10*, *CHMP2B*, *CSF1R*, *DCTN1*, *DNAJC6*, *FBXO7*, *FIG4*, *FUS*, *GBA*, *GCH1*, *GRN*, *HNRNPA1*, *KIF5A*, *LRRK2*, *MAPT*, *MATR3*, *OPTN*, *PANK2*, *PARK2*, *PARK7*, *PFN1*, *PINK1*, *PLA2G6*, *POLG*, *PSEN1*, *PSEN2*, *RAB39B*, *SETX*, *SNCA*, *SOD1*, *SPG11*, *SPTLC1*, *SQSTM1*, *SYNJ1*, *TAF1*, *TARDBP*, *TBK1*, *TIA1*, *TUBA4A*, *UBQLN2*, *VAPB*, *VCP*, *VPS13C*, and *VPS35*.

### **Brain immunohistochemistry**

Formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded sections were prepared from postmortem brain regions and stained with Luxol fast blue counterstained with hematoxylin and eosin, and immunostained using polyclonal antibodies against huntingtin (2B4), p62, and 1c2 (see Table S3 for primary antibody conditions). The huntingtin/p62 dual stains were performed using a DAB and alkaline phosphatase dual staining system on a Leica Bond autostainer with a hematoxylin counterstain.

### **Repeat-primed PCR assay**

The repeat-primed PCR assay to measure HTT CAG repeat length was performed using the Eppendorf Mastercycler pro thermal cycler (Fisher Scientific, Houston, TX, USA) in a final volume of 20 $\mu$ l containing 1X FailSafe Premix J (Epicenter, Madison, WI, USA), 1.0U Platinum TaqDNA polymerase (Invitrogen Corporation, Carlsbad, CA, USA), 0.5  $\mu$ M Primer Mix containing 0.5  $\mu$ mol/L each of forward primer 5'-ATGAAGGCCTTCGAGTCCCTCAAGTCC-3', with a 5' 6FAM fluorescent tag, and reverse primer 5'-CGGTGGCGGCTGTTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTG-3' (Eurofins Genomics LLC, Louisville, KY, USA), and 1 $\mu$ l of 15-25ng/ $\mu$ l genomic DNA. Cycling conditions were identical to those in Jama

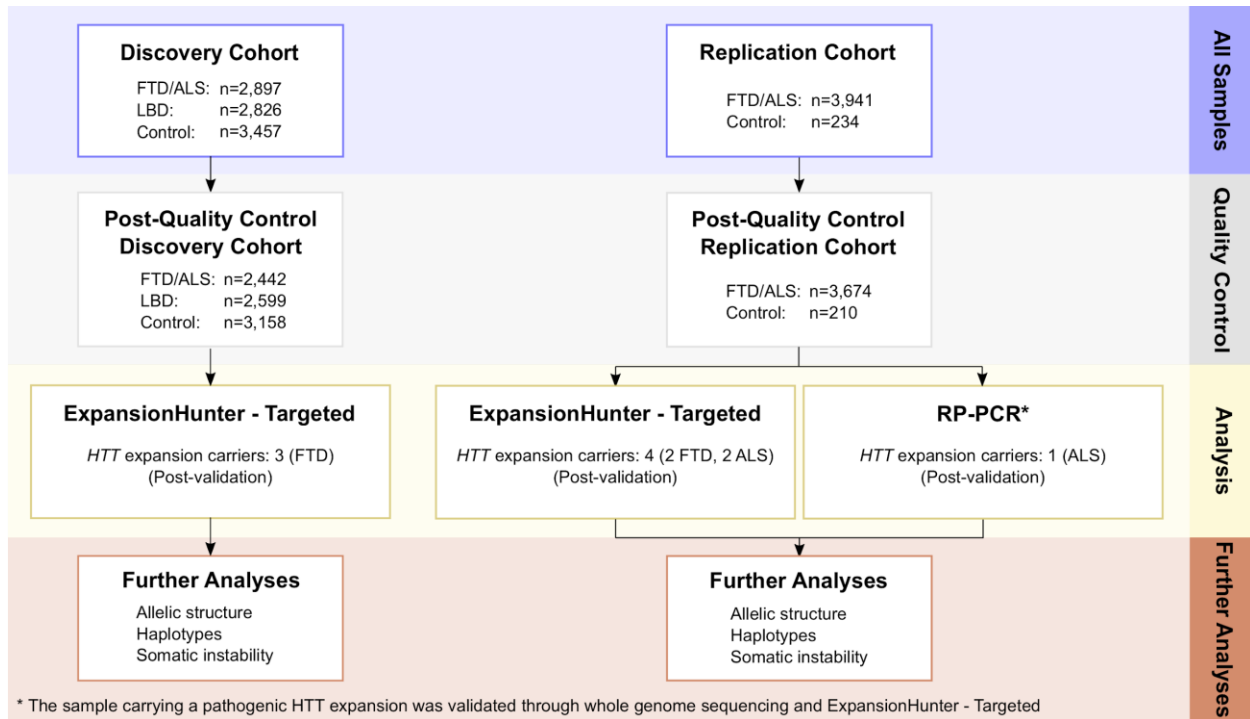


et al (Jama, 2013 #3). The 5' end of the reverse primer in this protocol contains 15 bp specific to the region in between the *HTT* CAG and CCG trinucleotide repeats, fully encapsulating the trailing CAA-CAG sequence and preventing against any changes in primer specificity due to loss of interruption (conversion to CAGCAG).

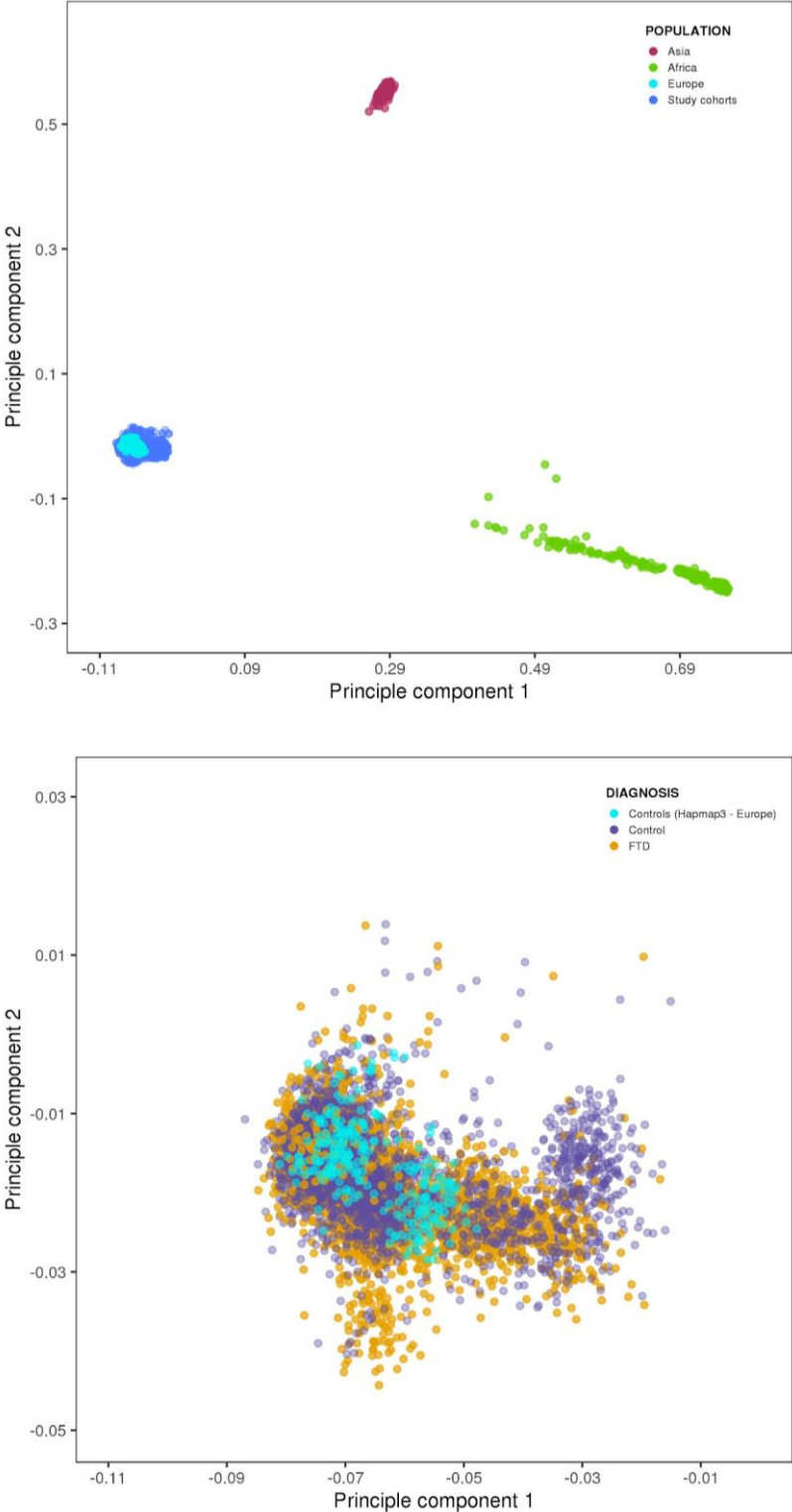
Fragment length analysis was performed on an ABI 3730xl genetic analyzer (Applied Biosystems Inc., Foster City, CA, USA), using a mixture of 2µl of repeat-primed PCR products, 0.5µl GeneScan 500 LIZ size standard (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Cincinnati, OH, USA) and 7.5µl HiDi formamide (Applied Biosystems Inc.). The mixture was heated at 95°C for 3 minutes and then immediately cooled on ice for at least 5 minutes, prior to loading for capillary electrophoresis. Data was analyzed using GeneScan software (version 4, Applied Biosystems Inc.). Repeat expansions were quantifiable with a 3-bp periodicity.

# Supplementary Figures

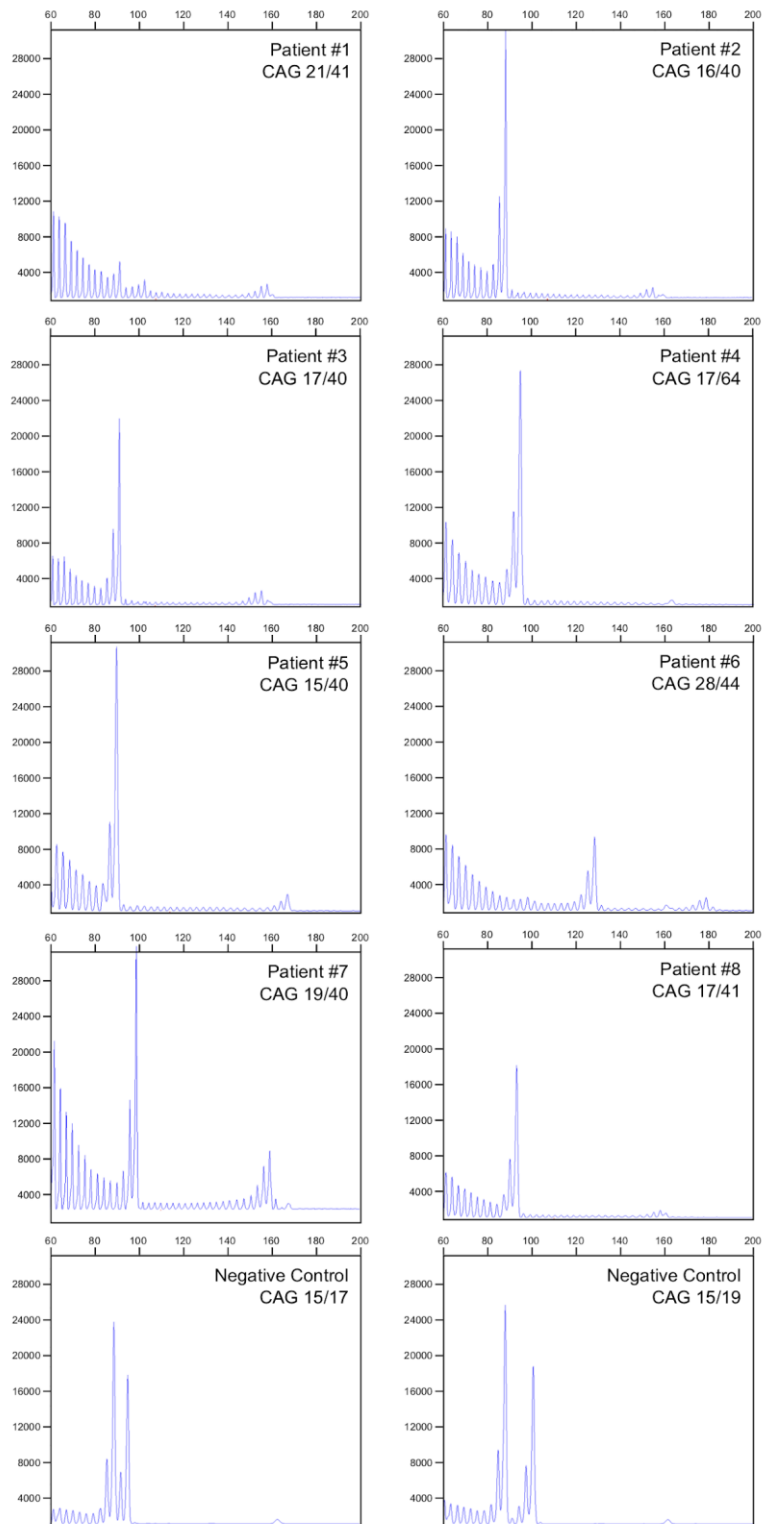
**Figure S1.** Flow chart outlining the study



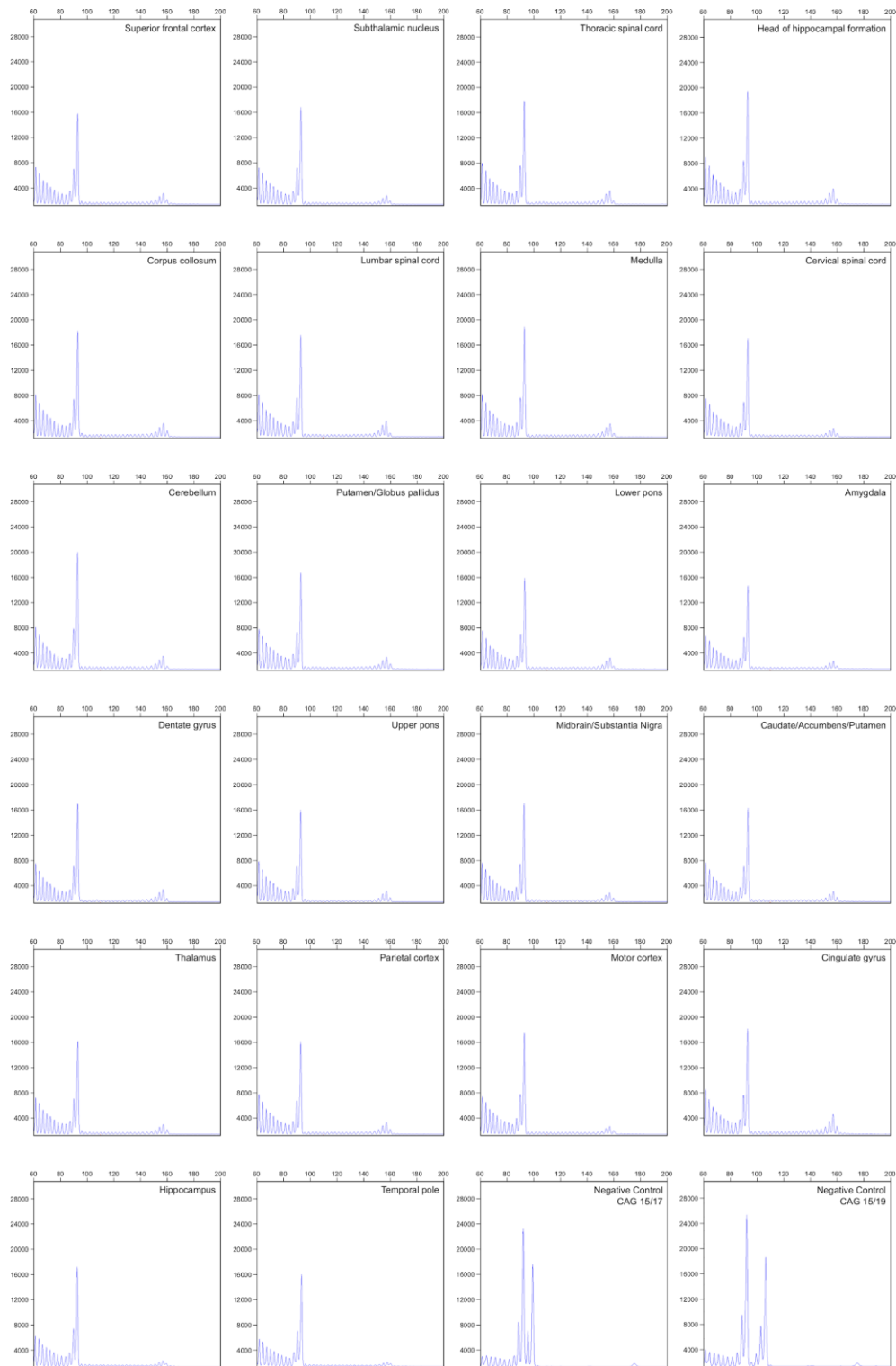
**Figure S2.** Ancestry determination using comparison of principal components analysis with the HapMap 3 Genome Reference Panel.<sup>5</sup>



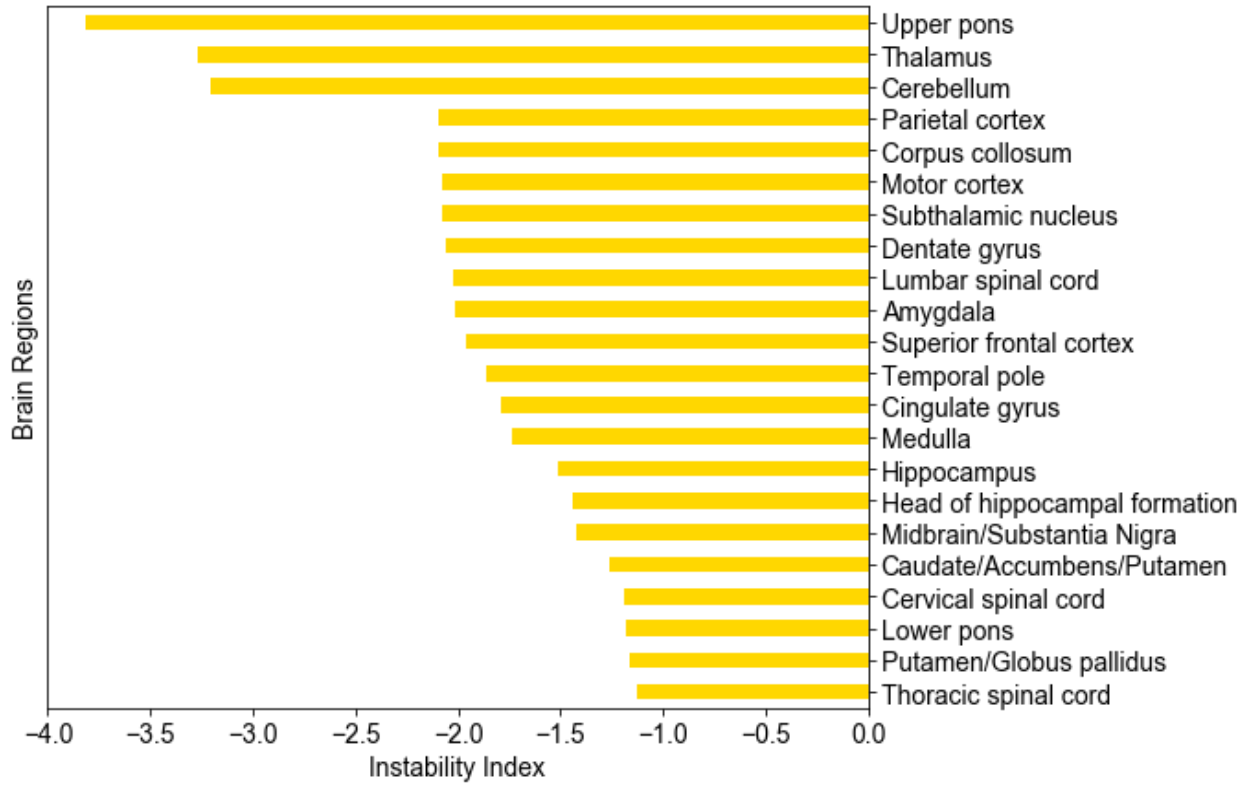
**Figure S3.** Chromatograms of repeat-primed PCR assay performed using samples carrying full-penetrance *HTT* pathogenic alleles.



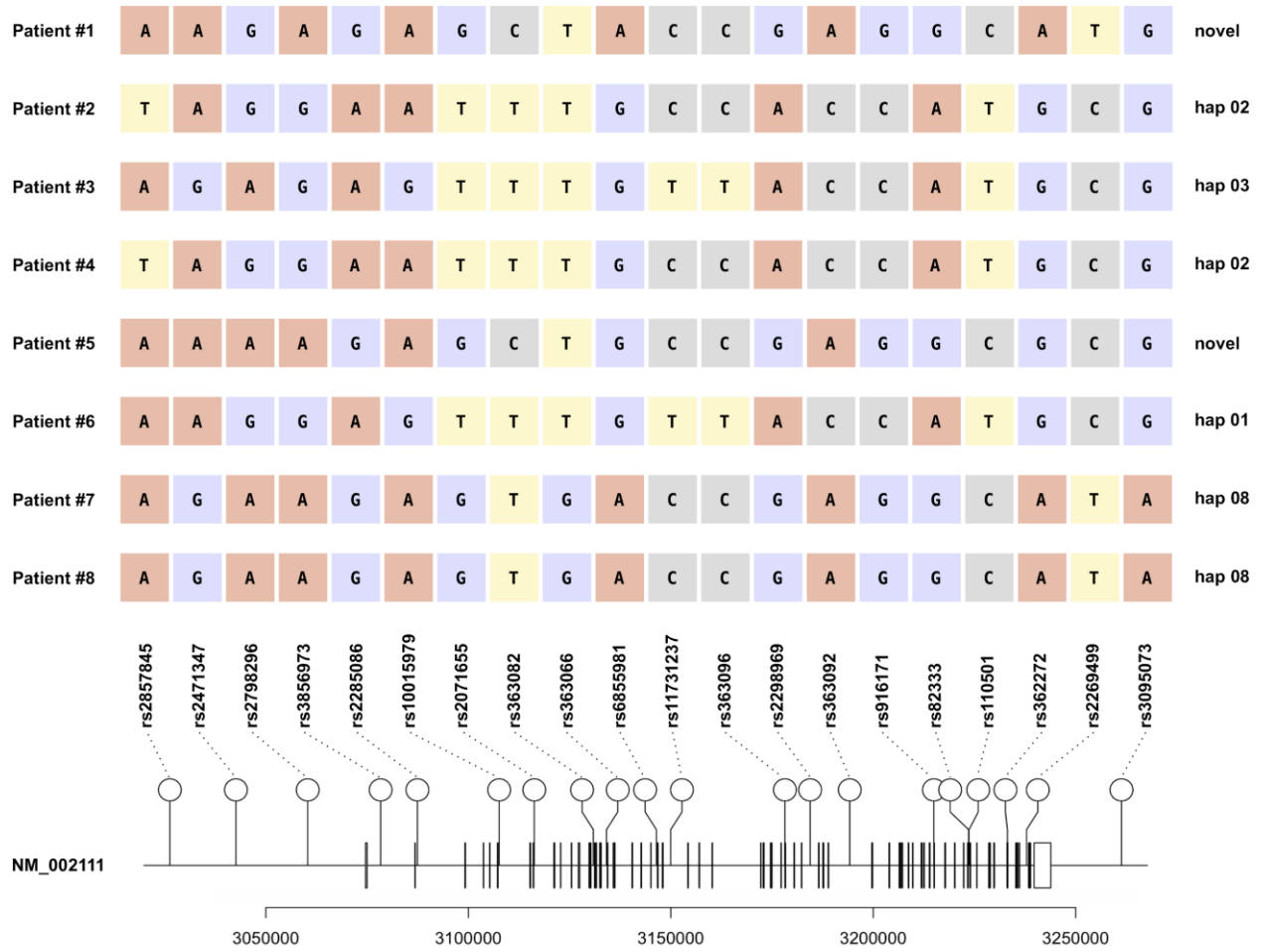
**Figure S4.** Chromatograms of repeat-primed PCR assay performed using samples from twenty-two brain and spinal cord regions obtained at the postmortem of patient #8.



**Figure S5.** Instability index performed using samples from twenty-two brain and spinal cord regions obtained at the postmortem of patient #8. The index was generated from ‘bulk’ genomic data represented in the repeat-primed PCR using the method described by Lee and colleagues.<sup>7</sup>



**Figure S6.** Occurrence of known haplotypes across the *HTT* locus in the FTD/ALS patients carrying full penetrance repeat expansions. Haplotypes were defined by Chao and colleagues.<sup>8</sup>



## Supplementary Tables

**Table S1.** Demographic and clinical features of samples included in the analysis.

	<b>FTD</b> (n = 1,476)	<b>ALS</b> (n = 1,065)	<b>LBD</b> (n = 2,599)	<b>Control</b> (n = 3,158)
Female (%)	678 (46.0%)	490 (46.0%)	1,649 (63.4%)	1,483 (47.0%)
Age (IQR)	65.2 (58.0–71.0)	65.6 (59.0–73.0)	74.7 (68.0–82.0)	77.0 (69.0–86.0)
Site of onset				
Cognitive (%)	1,476 (100%)	2 (0.2%)	2,599 (100.0%)	-
Bulbar (%)	-	322 (30.2%)	-	-
Spinal (%)	-	603 (56.6%)	-	-
Family history (%)	67 (4.5%)	111 (10.4%)	240 (9.2%)	-
<i>C9orf72</i> carrier	50 (3.4%)	104 (9.8%)	-	-

FTD, frontotemporal dementia; ALS, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; LBD, Lewy body dementia; IQR, interquartile range; *C9orf72* carrier status is based on repeat-primed PCR and ExpansionHunter – Targeted; Site of onset is missing for 138 ALS cases. *C9orf72* status is missing for 6 ALS and 22 FTD cases. The contributing study sites and consortia for these samples were: Pitie-Salpetriere Hospital (Paris), University of Thessalia (Volos), Dublin Brain Bank (Dublin), University of Torino (Torino), University Hospital of Cagliari (Cagliari), University of Bari (Bari), University of Luxembourg (Luxembourg City), Hospital de Sant Pau (Barcelona), University Hospital Mutua de Terrassa (Barcelona), Biobanc-Hospital Clinic - IDIBAPS (Barcelona), Hospital Universitario "Marques de Valdecilla" (Santander), King's College London (London), University College London (London), Imperial College London (London), University of Bristol Brain Bank (Bristol), Newcastle University (Newcastle upon Tyne), The University of Manchester (Manchester), McGill University (Montreal), University of Toronto (Toronto), Virginia Commonwealth University (Richmond, VA), Banner Sun Health Research Institute (Phoenix, AZ), Rush Alzheimer's Disease Center (Chicago, IL), Northwestern University (Evanston, IL), Parkinson's Disease Biomarker Program, Fox Investigation for New Discovery of Biomarkers Program, Indiana University School of Medicine (Indianapolis, IN), National Institutes of Health (Bethesda, MD), New York University Langone Medical Center (New York, NY), Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai (New York, NY), National Cell Repository for Alzheimer's Disease (Indianapolis, IN), University of California San Diego (San Diego, CA), University of California (Irvine, CA), North American Brain Expression Consortium, NINDS Biorepository at Coriell Institute (Camden, NJ), University of Maryland Brain Bank (Baltimore, MD), University of Kansas Medical Center (Kansas City, KS), University of Michigan Brain Bank (Ann Arbor, MI), Mayo Clinic (Jacksonville, FL), Mayo Clinic (Rochester, MN), Brigham & Women's Hospital (Boston, MA), Scripps Translational Science Institute (La Jolla, CA), Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore, MD), Oregon Health & Science University Brain Bank (Portland, OR), and Baltimore Longitudinal Study on Aging (Baltimore, MD).



**Table S2.** Primer sequences and conditions used for the repeat-primed PCR.<sup>9</sup>

<b>Primers</b>	<b>Sequence</b>
Forward	6FAM-ATGAAGGCCTTCGAGTCCCTCAAGTC
Reverse	ATGAAGGCCTTCGAGTCCCTCAAGTC

Thermocycling conditions were as follows: 95°C for five minutes, then 35 cycles consisting of 94°C for one minute, 64°C for one minute, 72°C for two minutes, followed by a final extension stage of 72°C for fifteen minutes.

**Table S3.** Conditions used for immunohistochemistry staining of brain and spinal cord tissue.

<b>Antibody</b>	<b>Company</b>	<b>Catalogue number</b>	<b>Dilution</b>	<b>Primary antibody incubation time (minutes)</b>	<b>Protocol and dilution</b>	<b>Platform</b>
Huntingtin/ p62 double stain	Millipore/ Abcam	MAB5492/ ab207305	1:2000	32/24	64 min (CC1)	Roche Ventana Instrument
Rabbit Anti- Ubiquitin	Dako	Z0458	1:2000	21 hrs	--	Manual
Anti- polyglutamine- Expansion Diseases Marker Antibody, clone 5TF1- 1C2	Millipore Sigma	MAB1574	1:500	21 hrs	--	Manual
Anti-phospho TDP-43 (pS409/410)	Cosmo Bio Co., Ltd	CAC-TIP- PTD-M01	1:2000	21 hrs	pretreat 10min boil citrate buffer, pH 6.0	Manual

**Table S4.** Results of ExpansionHunter – Targeted applied to whole genome sequence data for ten disease causing repeat expansions that have been previously experimentally validated.

Gene	Chr	Inheritance*	Lower Bound	Control Pathogenic / Total	Control Pathogenic Freq	FTD Pathogenic / Total	FTD Pathogenic Freq	ALS Pathogenic / Total	ALS Pathogenic Freq	LBD Pathogenic / Total	LBD Pathogenic Freq
AR	X	XL	37	10/3157	0.003168	3/1377	0.002179	3/1065	0.002817	6/2599	0.002309
AR Female	X	XL	37	2/1665	0.001201	1/634	0.001577	1/490	0.002041	2/903	0.002215
AR Male	X	XL	37	8/1454	0.005502	2/743	0.002692	2/575	0.003478	4/1603	0.002495
ATN1	12	AD	48	0/3158	0	0/1377	0	0/1065	0	0/2598	0
ATXN1	6	AD	39	14/3158	0.004433	6/1377	0.004357	4/1065	0.003756	16/2599	0.006156
ATXN3	14	AD	52	0/3158	0	0/1377	0	0/1065	0	0/2599	0
C9ORF72	9	AD	30	5/3158	0.001583	59/1377	0.042847	108/1065	0.101408	6/2599	0.002309
DMPK	19	AD	50	4/3158	0.001267	2/1377	0.001452	1/1065	0.000939	2/2599	0.00077
FMR1	X	XL	200	0/3158	0	0/1377	0	0/1065	0	0/2599	0
FMR1 Female	X	XL	200	0/1665	0	0/634	0	0/490	0	0/903	0
FMR1 Male	X	XL	200	0/1455	0	0/743	0	0/575	0	0/1603	0
FXN (hom)	9	AR	66	0/3158	0	0/1377	0	0/1065	0	0/2599	0
<b>HTT (CAG)</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>AD</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>0/3158</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3/1377</b>	<b>0.002179</b>	<b>0/1065</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0/2599</b>	<b>0</b>
PHOX2B	4	AD	25	776/3158	0.245725	296/1377	0.21496	251/1065	0.235681	542/2599	0.208542

\* Modes of inheritance: x-linked (XL), autosomal dominant (AD), autosomal recessive (AR); homozygous (hom) refers to biallelic expansion in genes with autosomal recessive

## Supplementary References

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