Studies in Venezuela led to the discovery of the gene for the crippling neurodegenerative disorder Huntington's Disease. Since then, studies of postmortem human brains, transgenic animals and cell cultures have led to a new understanding of the potential mechanisms underlying the disease. Now we have entered a new phase in the story of Huntington's, in which biomarkers of the disease are being discovered that will change the effectiveness of our interventions.

Dr. Young will discuss the clinical, genetic, pathological and pathogenic mechanisms that play a role in Huntington's disease, and how these findings are being applied to new clinical tools that have the potential for restoring the lives of those stricken with the disease, and those living at risk.

Anne B. Young is the Julieanne Dorn Professor of Neurology at Harvard Medical School.