Huntington's Disease Society of America

Human Embryonic Stem Cell Research

https://hdsa.org/about-hdsa/scientific-board/

Huntington's Disease Society of America states that their Scientific Advisory Board "can be called upon to advise HDSA on any scientific issues that may arise (e.g., stem cell policy, use of animals in research)."

One of HDSA's Scientific Advisory board members, Kim Kegel-Gleason, PhD, works with human stem cells: "Dr. Kegel-Gleason studies the normal and altered function of huntingtin (HTT), the protein mutated in Huntington Disease (HD) using cell biology and biochemical approaches including proteomic and lipidomic analysis. **Dr. Kegel-Gleason uses human stem cells** and mouse models to study effects of normal and mutant HTT lowering on protein and lipid changes in brain."

While they do not state which kind of human stem cells Dr. Kegel-Gleason works with in the above statement, upon further research, ALL discovered that she has worked with human embryonic stem cells before: https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0212337

In Vitro Fertilization

https://hdsa.org/what-is-hd/history-and-genetics-of-huntingtons-disease/genetic-testing-family-planning/

HDSA has a page dedicated to the promotion of genetic testing to see if the preborn child has inherited Huntington's disease. Following this paragraph, HDSA has a "Prenatal Planning" write-up which encourages parents to use IVF alongside genetic testing:

> For families wishing to have a child who does not have the gene that causes HD, there are a few options. Pre-genetic diagnostic (PGD) testing can be used with In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) **to make sure that any fertilized egg implanted does not have the abnormal gene.** This can be done without informing the at-risk patient whether they have the gene that causes HD. If

a woman is already pregnant, she can receive testing for the fetus with a chorionic villus biopsy at 10-11 weeks or via amniocentesis at 14-18 weeks.

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