



What is mitochondrial disease?

Mitochondrial disease is a chronic, genetic disorder that occurs when the mitochondria of the cell fails to produce enough energy for cell or organ function. Mitochondria are responsible for creating more than 90% of the energy needed by the body to sustain life and support growth. When they fail, less and less energy is generated within the cell.

How common are mitochondrial diseases?

The incidence is about 1 in 2,000 individuals and is more common than cystic fibrosis. Mitochondrial dysfunction has also been implicated in autism, diabetes, Parkinson's disease, and Alzheimer's disease.

What are the symptoms of mitochondrial disease?

"Mito" commonly manifests with devastating symptoms such as stroke, muscle pain, extreme fatigue, and organ failure. The illness can range in severity from mild to fatal.

How are mitochondrial diseases diagnoses and treated?

There is no single laboratory or diagnostic test that confirms a diagnosis of mitochondrial disease. Blood DNA and/or muscle biopsies are the best means of diagnosing patients.

Who is MitoAction?

MitoAction is a Boston-based 501(c)(3) charity incorporated in 2005 (tax ID 55-0899427) whose mission is to improve the quality of life for everyone affected by Mito through support, advocacy and educational initiatives, all provide free. Visit our website: www.MitoAction.org.



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