FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MitoAction Approved to Host Externally-Led Patient-Focused Drug Development Meeting on MELAS

Virtual PFDD Meeting Scheduled for February 10, 2026

Boston, MA — May 12, 2025 — MitoAction is honored to announce that it has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to host a Patient-Focused Drug Development (PFDD) meeting focused on MELAS (Mitochondrial Encephalomyopathy, Lactic Acidosis, and Stroke-like Episodes). The virtual meeting will be held on **February 10, 2026**, and is open to all members of the mitochondrial disease community, including patients, caregivers, clinicians, researchers, and industry partners.

This PFDD meeting is a critical opportunity to elevate the voice of those impacted by MELAS, helping the FDA and other key stakeholders understand the real-life burden of this complex and progressive mitochondrial disorder. Insights shared during the meeting will help guide future research, therapy development, and regulatory decisions. MitoAction will be working alongside advocacy partners including UMDF, IMP, and MDA among others to bring this meeting forward.

Mitochondrial encephalomyopathy with lactic acidosis and stroke-like episodes (MELAS) is a rare genetic mitochondrial syndrome that can present in childhood or, more commonly, in adulthood. Along with the stroke-like episodes and lactic acidosis, other symptoms of MELAS include muscle weakness, fatigue, hearing loss, and progressive neurological decline. The condition significantly affects daily functioning and quality of life, with no cure currently available. Treatment is limited to symptom management and supportive care.

“MELAS deeply impacts every aspect of life for patients and families,” said Kira Mann, CEO of MitoAction. “This PFDD meeting is a crucial platform for our community to educate regulators, researchers, and developers about the urgent needs and challenges of living with this devastating condition.”

Participants will be invited to share their experiences through live testimony, polling, and written comments. MitoAction encourages all individuals and families affected by MELAS—and those who support them—to attend and be part of shaping the future of mitochondrial disease care and treatment.

Event Details:
Title: Patient-Focused Drug Development Meeting on MELAS
Date: February 10, 2026
Time: To Be Announced
Location: Virtual (Registration details to be announced)

For updates and registration information, please visit www.mitoaction.org or contact **info@mitoaction.org**.

About MitoAction

MitoAction is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for children, adults, and families living with mitochondrial disease through support, education, advocacy, and the advancement of therapeutic development. For more information, visit www.mitoaction.org.