

**mito**  canada

awareness • support • research

**It can happen at  
*anytime to anyone.***

**When the power supply  
in our cells fails, it's called**

**mitochondrial  
disease.**

**There is *no cure.***

## **What is mitochondrial disease?**

Mitochondrial disease is a group of disorders characterized by dysfunction of the mitochondria which are specialized compartments in virtually every cell of our body. These mitochondria generate more than 90% of the energy required by the body. When they don't function properly, the loss in energy causes cell damage and even cell death.

Mitochondrial disease typically affects those parts of the body that require lots of energy to function like the brain and our muscles. Other organs frequently affected include the eyes, ears, heart, liver, gastrointestinal tract, kidneys, endocrine organs (thyroid gland and pancreas) and blood.

## **Who gets mitochondrial disease?**

The disease predominately affects children, but adult-onset disorders are being recognized with increasing frequency.

## **MitoCanada Foundation**

Charitable Registration #81258 6667 RR0001  
info@mitocanada.org // www.mitocanada.org

Like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/MitoCanada](http://www.facebook.com/MitoCanada)  
Follow us on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/mitocanada>