Mitocon
Insieme per lo studio e la cura
delle malattie mitocondriali ODV

Mitochondrial Disease Conference

January 23rd -24th 2026

PISA

Satellite Symposia

Friday 23rd – Concorde Room

9:00 am– 12:00 pm

Artificial Intelligence in Mitochondrial Medicine: emerging tools for diagnosis and monitoring

Chair: Michelangelo Mancuso

Friday 23rd – Mustang Room

10:30 am – 12:00 pm

Advances in Mitochondrial Optic Neuropathies

Chair: Valerio Carelli

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Mito Conference 2026 - Scientific Program

Friday 23rd – Concorde Room

12:00 –1:15 pm

Arrivals, Registration & Light lunch

1:15 **Welcome to the Mitochondrial Diseases Conference 2026**

- **Marco Marmotta**, President, Mitocon – Insieme per lo Studio e la Cura delle Malattie Mitocondriali ODV
- **University of Pisa and AOUP Delegates**
- **Paula Morandi**, International Mito Patients Delegate
- **Olimpia Musumeci**, Scientific Committee Delegate

The Voice of patients

- **What Does Mitochondrial Disease Mean to Me** – Stories from Mito Patients and Families

2:00 pm

Introduction:

Chair: **Massimo Zeviani,** Institute for Maternal and Child Health IRCCS Burlo Garofolo, Trieste (TBC)

Keynote Lecture **Mechanisms for mtDNA maintenance and relevance for human pathology** - **Nils-Göran Larsson**, Karolinska Institute

2:45 – 4:15 pm

Session 1 - Basic Science

Chair: **Valeria Tiranti**, Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Neurologico Carlo Besta

Chair: **Piero Santantonio**, Mitocon

Speakers

2:45 **New therapeutic approaches for mitochondrial myopathies - Carlo Viscomi**, University of Padova

Q&A

3:15 **The SURF1 KO pig: A translational model to implement new therapeutic treatments for Leigh Syndrome - Dario Brunetti,** Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Neurologico Carlo BestaQ&A

3:45 **Restoring mitochondrial DNA metabolism and function - Antonella Spinazzola**, University College London

Q&A

4:15 pm **Scientific Coffee with Poster**

5:00 – 6:30 pm

Session 2 - Clinical Updates

Chair: **Enrico Bertini**, Bambino Gesù Children's Research Hospital IRCCS

Chair: **Paola Desideri**, Mitocon

Speakers

5:00 **Mitochondrial Leukoencephalopathies: data from a multicentric observational study** - **Anna Ardissone**, Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Neurologico Carlo Besta

Q&A

5:30 ***Sildenafil in Leigh syndrome: translational path from stem cells-based drug discovery to clinical trials*, Alessandro Prigione,** University of Dusseldorf

Q&A

6:00 **MELAS Management**, **Costanza Lamperti** - Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Neurologico Carlo Besta

Q&A

6:30 pm Closing day 1

8:30 pm Networking Dinner

Day 2 Saturday January 24th – Concorde Room

8:15 am Arrivals and Registrations

8:30 -10:00 Session 3 - Advances in Therapies

Chair: **Massimiliano Filosto**, University of Brescia

Chair: **Paula Morandi**, Mitocon

Speakers

8:30 **Advances in MNGIE** – (TBC)

Q&A

9:00 **Advances in Thymidine Kinase 2 Deficiency - Cristina Dominguez**, '12 de Octubre' Hospital Research Institute of Madrid

Q&A

9:30 **Mitochondrial Donation in Clinical Practice: Insights from the UK Reproductive Care Pathway – Robert McFarland**, Newcastle University

Q&A

10:00 -11:00 am **Young Investigator Session**
Chair: **Carlo Viscomi**, University of Padova

Chair: **Francesca Latella**, Mitocon

10:00 Flash talk

10:15 Flash talk

10:30 Flash talk

10:45 Flash talk

11:00 am Coffee Break

11:15 -12:00 am

Keynote lecture 2: Gene therapies in PMDs

Introduction: **Valeria Tiranti,** I Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Neurologico Carlo Besta

Speaker **Carlos T. Moraes**, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine

12:00 – 1:30 pm

Session 4: Collaboration models to accelerate therapies — Pharma, Academia, Regulators and Foundations

Chairs: **Michelangelo Mancuso, Valerio Carelli**

Chair: **Piero Santantonio**, Mitocon

Participants: Representatives from academia, industry, regulators foundations
1:15 Discussion

1:30 – 2:30 pm Lunch break

2:30-4:00 pm

Session 5: Clinical Registries as a tool for Improving Patient Care and Research

Chair: **Costanza Lamperti**

Chair: **Piero Santantonio**, Mitocon

Speakers

2:30 **The Power of collaboration: how the GENOMIT Registry enables Natural History Studies and advanced Genetics of Mitochondrial Diseases- Holger Prokisch,** Helmholtz Zentrum, Munich

Q&A

3:00 **Insights from the Spanish Clinical Registry and biobank - Marcello Bellusci,** University Hospital "12 de Octubre" Madrid

Q&A

3:30 **The Italian Clinical Registry for Mitochondrial Diseases: Insights from a National Experience – Michelangelo Mancuso**, University of Pisa

Q&A

4:00 - 4:45 pm

LATE BREAKING NEWS

Chair: **Serenella Servidei,** Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, Roma

Chair: **Paola Desideri**, Mitocon

4:00 Talk 1

4:20 Talk 2

4:40 Talk 3

5:00 pm Coffee break

5:15-5:45 pm

Closing Lecture

An overview on LHON management,

Valerio Carelli, University of Bologna

Introduction (TBC)

5:45 pm Mito Awards

Chair: **Carlo Viscomi,** University of Padova

Chair: **Marco Marmotta**, Mitocon

6:00 pm Closing Remarks - Michelangelo Mancuso, University of Pisa

6:10 pm Closing Mito Conference 2026