

**11<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Society for Mitochondrial Research & Medicine**  
**“Mitochondria in Health, Disease and Ageing”**  
**Manipal School of Life Sciences, MAHE, Manipal, India**  
**9 – 11 October 2025**

**SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME**

Day 1, Thursday, 9 October 2025		
13:00 - 14:00h	Registration	
14:00 - 14:30h	Inauguration	
14:30 – 15:00h	<b>Presidential Address:</b> <b>K Thangaraj</b> , <i>CSIR-CCMB, Hyderabad</i> Recent advances in mitochondrial research and medicine	
15:00 - 16:00h	<b>Session I: Mitochondrial genome integrity and maintenance</b> <b>Chair:</b> Robert McFarland, <i>University of Newcastle, UK</i>	
15:00 – 15:20h	Genome integrity in mitochondria - trying to go from basic biology to translational biology	<b>Sagar Sengupta</b> <i>NIBMG, Kalyani, India</i>
15:20 – 15:40h	An unusual role of RECQL5 helicase, a DNA repair protein, in the regulation of mitochondrial homeostasis	<b>Birija S. Patro</b> <i>BARC, Mumbai, India</i>
15:40 – 16:00h	Uncovering the genetic basis of mitochondrial dysfunction and neurodegeneration	<b>Debdeep Dutta</b> <i>IIT, Kanpur, India</i>
16:00 - 16:30h	Tea / Coffee break	
16:30 - 18:00h	<b>Session II: Mitochondrial dysfunction, diseases, and diagnosis</b> <b>Chair:</b> Anju Shukla, <i>Kasturba Medical College, MAHE, Manipal, India</i>	
16:30 - 16:50h	Dual genomic involvement in mitochondrial diseases of the nervous system	<b>P Govindaraj</b> <i>NIMHANS, Bengaluru, India</i>
16:50 – 17:10h	Improving the diagnosis of mitochondrial disease and defining mitochondrial protein function	<b>Robert Taylor</b> <i>University of Newcastle, UK</i>
17:10 – 17:30h	Untargeted proteomics enables ultra-rapid variant prioritization in mitochondrial and other rare diseases	<b>David Stroud</b> <i>University of Melbourne, Australia</i>
17:30 – 17:50h	Mitochondrial dysfunction due to PISD loss leads to skeletal phenotypes in spondyloepimetaphyseal	<b>Aarti Sevilimedu</b> <i>DRILS, Hyderabad, India</i>
18:00 – 19:00h	Poster Session	
Day 2, Friday, 10 October 2025		
09:30 - 10:50h	<b>Session III: Mitochondrial proteostasis, mitophagy, and aging</b> <b>Chair:</b> Mahadev Rao, <i>Manipal College of Pharmaceutical Sciences, MAHE, Manipal, India</i>	
09:30 – 09:50h	PRMT5 in mitochondria: Regulation of mtDNA stability through TFAM arginine methylations	<b>Benu Brata Das</b> <i>IACS, Kolkata, India</i>
09:50 – 10:10h	A diet-gene interaction that targets mitochondria to modulate longevity	<b>Arnab Mukhopadhyay</b> <i>NII, New Delhi, India</i>
10:10 – 10:30h	Molecular regulation of mitochondrial fission and mitophagy signaling in oral cancer stem cells	<b>Sujit K Bhutia</b> <i>NIT, Rourkela, India</i>
10:30 – 10:50h	Targeting mitophagy to restore mitochondrial health in aging muscle cells	<b>Anupam Patgiri</b> <i>Emory University School of Medicine, USA</i>
10:50 - 11:20h	Tea / Coffee break	

11:20 - 13:00h	<b>Session IV: Mitochondria: development and dysfunction</b> Chair: Naresh Babu V Sepuri, <i>University of Hyderabad, India</i>	
11:20 – 11:40h	Mitochondrial dynamics in cell formation in <i>Drosophila</i> embryogenesis	<b>Richa Rikhy</b> <i>IISER, Pune, India</i>
11:40 – 12:00h	Mitochondria play key roles in touch sensory habituation	<b>Sandhya P Koushika</b> <i>TIFR, Mumbai, India</i>
12:00 – 12:20h	Elucidating the role of PARK7/DJ-1 family proteins in maintaining mitochondrial health	<b>Patrick D'Silva</b> <i>IISc, Bengaluru, India</i>
12:20 – 12:40h	Exploring liver-to-pancreatic islet communication to uncover mechanisms that propel $\beta$ -cell dysfunction in MAFLD	<b>Prosenjit Mondal</b> <i>IISER, Berhampur, India</i>
12:40 – 13:00h	An integrated chemical proteomics and lipidomics approach towards protein function annotation	<b>Siddhesh Kamat</b> <i>IISER, Pune, India</i>
13:00 - 14:30h	<b>Lunch &amp; Poster session</b>	
14:30 - 16:10h	<b>Session V: SMRM- Young Scientist Award Presentation</b> Chair: K. Thangaraj, <i>President, SMRM, India</i> P. Govindaraj, <i>Secretary, SMRM, India</i>	
14:30 – 14:50h	TBA	
14:50 – 15:10h	TBA	
15:10 – 15:30h	TBA	
15:30 – 15:50h	TBA	
15:50 – 16:10h	TBA	
16:10 - 16:30h	<b>Tea / Coffee break</b>	
16:30 - 17:50h	<b>Session VI: Mitochondrial disorders: clinical perspectives</b> Chair: Robert Taylor, <i>University of Newcastle, UK</i>	
16:30 – 16:50h	Navigating the neurological manifestations of mitochondrial disorders: a case-based review	<b>Soumya Sundaram</b> <i>SCTIMST, Trivandrum, India</i>
16:50 – 17:10h	Simplifying the mysteries of mitochondrial disease: 25 years at the coalface	<b>Andrew Schaefer</b> <i>University of Newcastle, UK</i>
17:10 – 17:30h	Clinical spectrum, diagnosis, and management of mitochondrial disorders - old and new insights	<b>Sunita Bijarnia-Mahay</b> <i>Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, New Delhi, India</i>
17:30 – 17:50h	Challenges in counselling for mitochondrial disorders: heterogeneity, heteroplasmy & beyond	<b>Prajnya Ranganath</b> <i>NIMS, Hyderabad, India</i>
18:00 - 19:00h	<b>Poster session/ General Body meeting</b>	
19:00 - 20:00h	<b>Cultural programme</b>	
20:00h	<b>Gala Dinner</b>	
<b>Day 3, Saturday, 11 October 2025</b>		
09:30 - 10:50h	<b>Session VII: Mitochondrial Disorders: treatment and inflammation</b> Chair: Nandeesh BN, <i>NIMHANS, Bengaluru</i>	
09:30 – 09:50h	Mitochondrial DNA disease: what has the nucleus got to do with it?	<b>Sarah Pickett</b> <i>University of Newcastle, UK</i>
09:50 – 10:10h	Treatment of paediatric mitochondrial disease – “Are we there yet?”	<b>Robert McFarland</b> <i>University of Newcastle, UK</i>
10:10 – 10:30h	Host mitochondria in viral encephalitis: a key role in infection and inflammation	<b>Gulam Syed</b> <i>ILS, Bhubaneswar, India</i>

10:30 – 10:50h	Connecting two major hallmarks of aging: mitochondria and stem cells dysplasia	<b>Kasturi Mitra</b> <i>Ashoka University, NCR, India</i>
10:50 – 11:20h	<b>Tea / Coffee break</b>	
	<b>Session VIII: Mitochondria and cancer</b> <b>Chair:</b> Srinivas Mutalik, <i>Manipal College of Pharmaceutical Sciences, MAHE, Manipal, India</i>	
11:20 – 11:40h	Chimeric small molecules for targeting mitochondria in cancer cells	<b>Sudipta Basu</b> <i>IIT, Gandhinagar, India</i>
11:40 – 12:00h	Mitochondrial enzymes regulate epigenetic plasticity in cancer	<b>Subhamoy Dasgupta</b> <i>RPCI, Buffalo, USA</i>
12:00 – 12:20h	Chromosome 14 miRNA cluster regulates mitochondrial metabolism in cervical cancer	<b>Shama P Kabekkodu</b> <i>MSLS, Manipal, India</i>
12:20 – 12:40h	Unraveling mitochondrial alterations in glioblastoma	<b>Shilpa Rao</b> <i>NIMHANS, Bengaluru, India</i>
12:40 - 13:00h	<b>Session IX: Technical talks</b>	
12:40 – 12:50h	TBA	
12:50 – 13:00h	TBA	
13:00 - 14:30h	<b>Lunch &amp; Poster session</b>	
14:30 - 15:00h	<b>Session X: Mitochondrial metabolism and immunity</b> <b>Chair:</b> Manjunath B Joshi, <i>Manipal School of Life Sciences, MAHE, Manipal, India</i>	
14:30 – 14:50h	Mitochondria at the crossroads of metabolism and ferroptosis	<b>Soni Deshwal</b> <i>Helmholtz Munich, Germany</i>
14:50 – 15:10h	TRPV4 channels regulate mitochondrial phenotype switching in endothelial cells during angiogenesis	<b>Charles Thodeti</b> <i>The University of Toledo, USA</i>
15:10 – 15:30h	Diet, obesity, and cancer	<b>Prasenjit Dey</b> <i>Roswell Park Cancer Institute, USA</i>
15:30 - 16:00h	<b>Concluding session</b>	
16:00h	<i>High Tea</i>	