Centre renewal
We have some very good news to share, Wellcome has announced £6.3m of funding for its Centre for Mitochondrial Research at Newcastle University over the next five years. Professor Sir Doug Turnbull, Director of the Centre, said: “I am delighted that the Wellcome Centre for Mitochondrial Research at Newcastle University has been funded. The Wellcome Centre is about supporting research excellence and our aim is to use the very best science to improve the lives of our patients.”

HFEA announcement
On the 15th December the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA) announced that clinics in the UK can now apply for a licence to carry out mitochondrial donation. This landmark decision would not have happened without all of the fantastic patient support. We hope to start seeing patients for consideration of mitochondrial donation in February next year. Thank you!

Newcastle University festive lecture
Each year Newcastle University Faculty of Medical Sciences hold a festive lecture to inspire children and adults at Christmas with the aim of encouraging lifelong learning and a passion for science. This year on Friday, 9th December at the Centre for Life, Professor Sir Doug Turnbull gave the lecture entitled “The Small Circle of Life.” During the lecture, he explained how energy is generated in a cell and raised awareness of mitochondrial disease to over 200 school children and 250 members of the public.
Annual patient conference

This year's Mitochondrial Patient Information Day took place on Saturday 8th October 2016 at the Gosforth Marriott Hotel Newcastle. The programme included focus groups on patient priorities, interactive sessions in relation to diet, mitochondrial science research updates, as well as talks on parliamentary progress and patient guest speakers. We hope to have films and information from the day available on our website in the new year.

Lily family day

This year’s Lily Foundation family weekend was held at the Crowne Plaza Riverbank Hotel London on Saturday 11th and 12th November. Representatives from Newcastle, Oxford, and London presented their research. This event also provided unique opportunities for patients, clinicians and scientists to interact.

Congratulations!

We would like to say huge congratulations to our Centre Director, Professor Sir Doug Turnbull, who was recognised in the 2016 Queen’s birthday honours list!

Please remember to have your flu jab if you haven't already!

Useful contacts
Newcastle upon Tyne
Specialist Nurse Tel: 0191 2821740
Address: The Medical School, Newcastle University, NE2 4HH
London
Specialist Nurse Tel: 0203 4488009
Address: 8-11 Queens Square, London, WC1N 3BG

Websites
The Rare Mitochondrial Disease Service for Adults and Children: http://www.newcastle-mitochondria.com
Muscular Dystrophy Campaign www.muscular-dystrophy.org
Treat NMD www.treatnmd.eu
CLIMB www.climb.org.uk
We Move www.wemove.org
The Lily Foundation www.thelilyfoundation.org.uk
The Ryan Stanford Appeal www.ryanstanfordappeal.org.uk

For updates, please like and follow us on Facebook or Twitter by searching for Mitoresearch. Alternatively please get in touch with us at: mrg.socialmedia@newcastle.ac.uk