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# RAPID RESEARCH

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May 2022

## Inside This Week: Tendinopathy Intrinsic Factors

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- ✓ Mitochondrial Transplant to Help Tendinopathy

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  - ✓ Mitochondrial Dysfunction & Treatments in Tendinopathy

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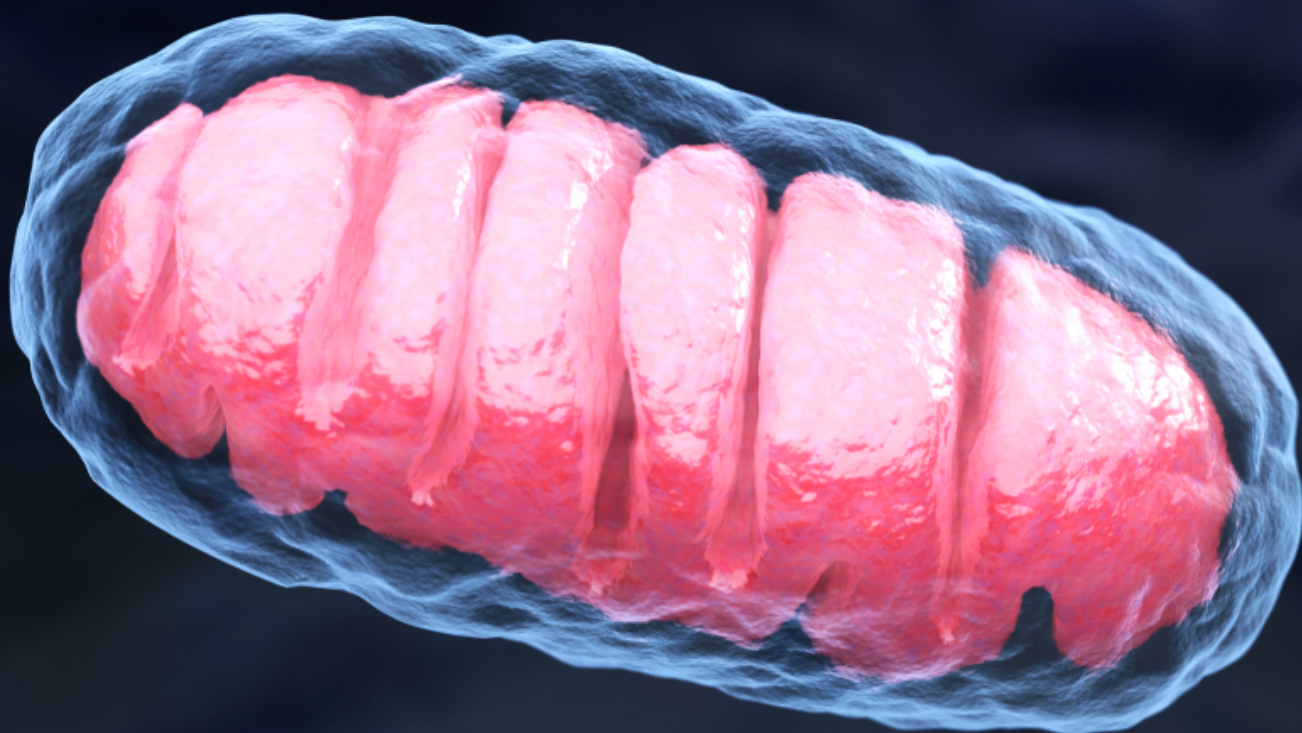
  - ✓ Oxidative Stress in Tendinopathy



# MITOCHONDRIAL TRANSPLANT TO HELP TENDINOPATHY

[Click for Full Text](#)  
([Lee et al. 2021](#))

This research assessed whether mitochondrial transplantation could induce anti-inflammatory activity and modulate the metabolic state of a tendinopathy in rat models.



# KEY FINDINGS

Tenocytes were treated with TNF- $\alpha$  for 24 h to establish an in vitro tendinopathy model.

Mitochondria were transferred into tenocytes by centrifugation and into tendon cells for the in vivo models.

## In Vitro:

- Levels of Tenomodulin and Collagen I in damaged tenocytes were restored
- The dysregulation of oxidative stress and mitochondrial membrane potential was attenuated.
- Activated mitochondrial fission markers were down regulated.
- Apoptosis signaling pathway proteins were restored to the pre-damage levels.

## In Vivo:

- Tendon thickness increased significantly at 1 and 2 weeks.
- Swelling subsided at 1 and 2 weeks after local injection
- Inflammatory and fission marker levels reduced significantly.
- Collagen production was restored.

# MAIN TAKEAWAYS

**This study provides the first evidence for the therapeutic effects of mitochondrial transfer in tendinopathy.**

**Exogenous mitochondria were successfully delivered into damaged tenocytes (in vitro) and tendons (in vivo).**

**They modulated inflammation and apoptosis and recovered the collagen component of the extracellular matrix.**

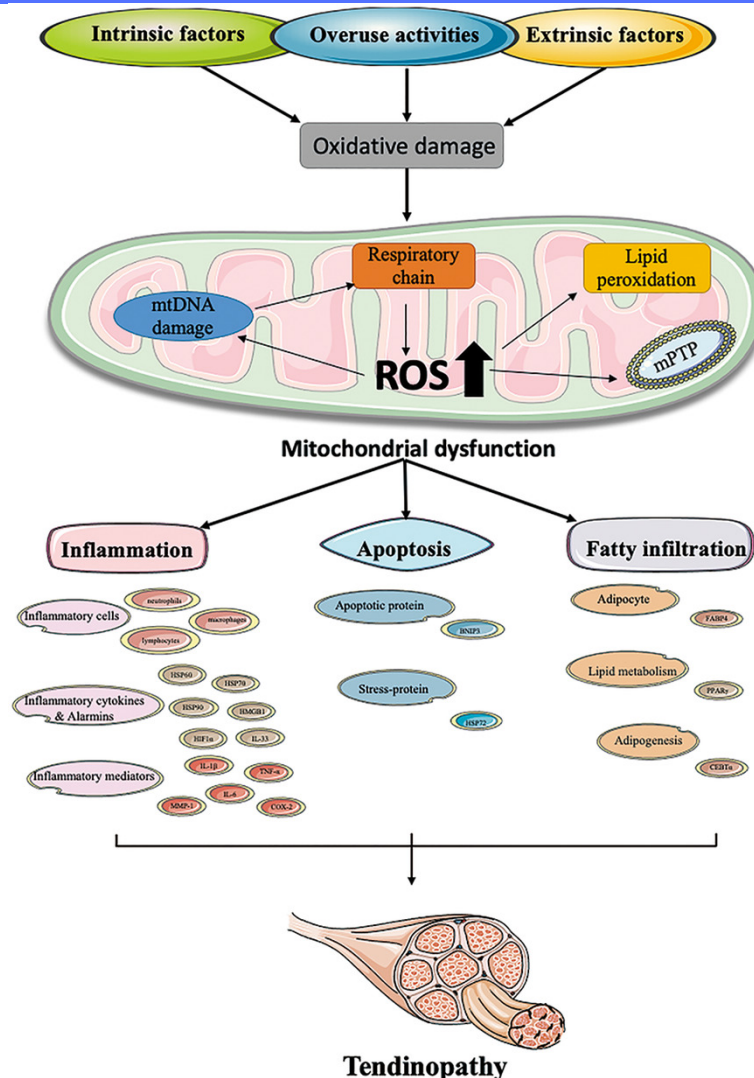
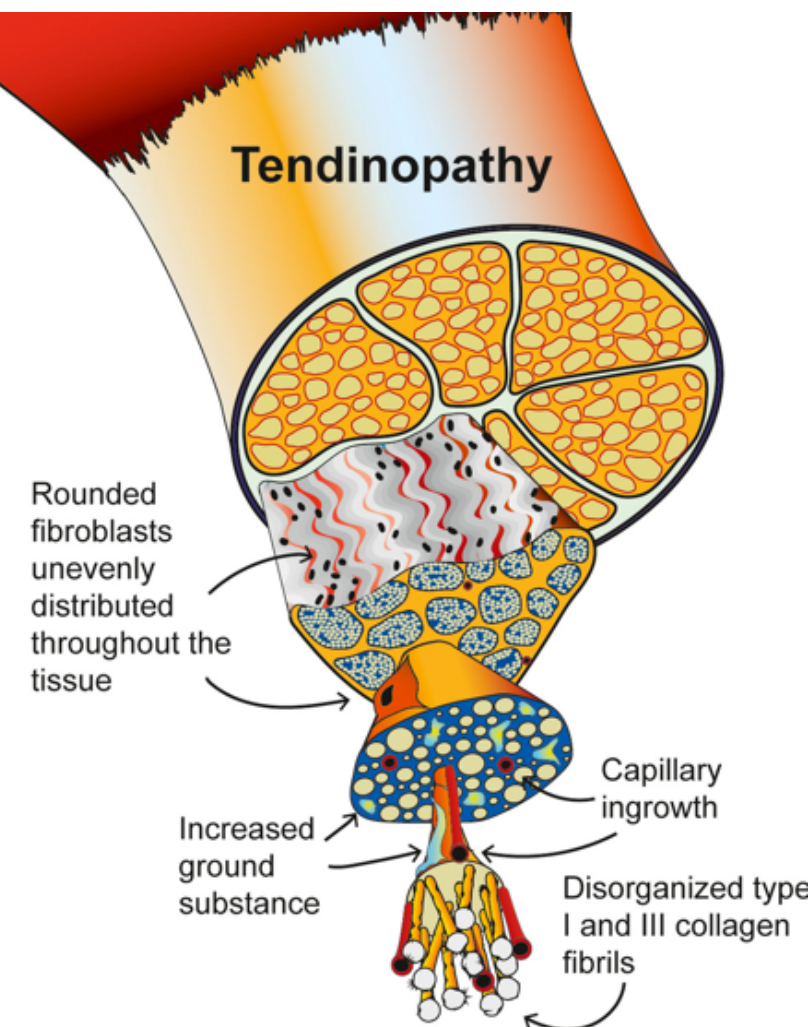
**Exogenous mitochondrial transfer may become a novel approach for the treatment of tendinopathy.**

# MITOCHONDRIAL DYSFUNCTION & TREATMENTS IN TENDINOPATHY

MAY 2022

[Click for Full Text \(Zhang et al. 2021\)](#)

This review summarizes the potential mechanism of mitochondrial dysfunction in tendinopathy and potential therapeutic benefits of mitochondrial protectants in the treatment of tendinopathy.



# KEY FINDINGS

## Potential Mechanisms:

- Inflammation
- Apoptosis & Cell Death
- Fatty Infiltration

## Mitochondrial Protectants as Treatment

- **Szeto-Schiller peptide-31 (SS-31)**
  - Improves mitochondrial function.
  - Potentially promotes ATP synthesis and oxidative phosphorylation, reducing the levels of Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS), thus preventing apoptosis and inflammation.
- **Nicotinamide mononucleotide (NMN)**
  - Protects mitochondria via NADPH synthesis
- **Cyclosporin A (CsA),**
  - Inhibits PTP complex; prevents cell death from oxidative stress.

# MAIN TAKEAWAYS

Mitochondrial dysfunction may be associated with the development of tendinopathy.

Damaged tendon's poor intrinsic regenerative potential, make it difficult for tendons to heal once injured.

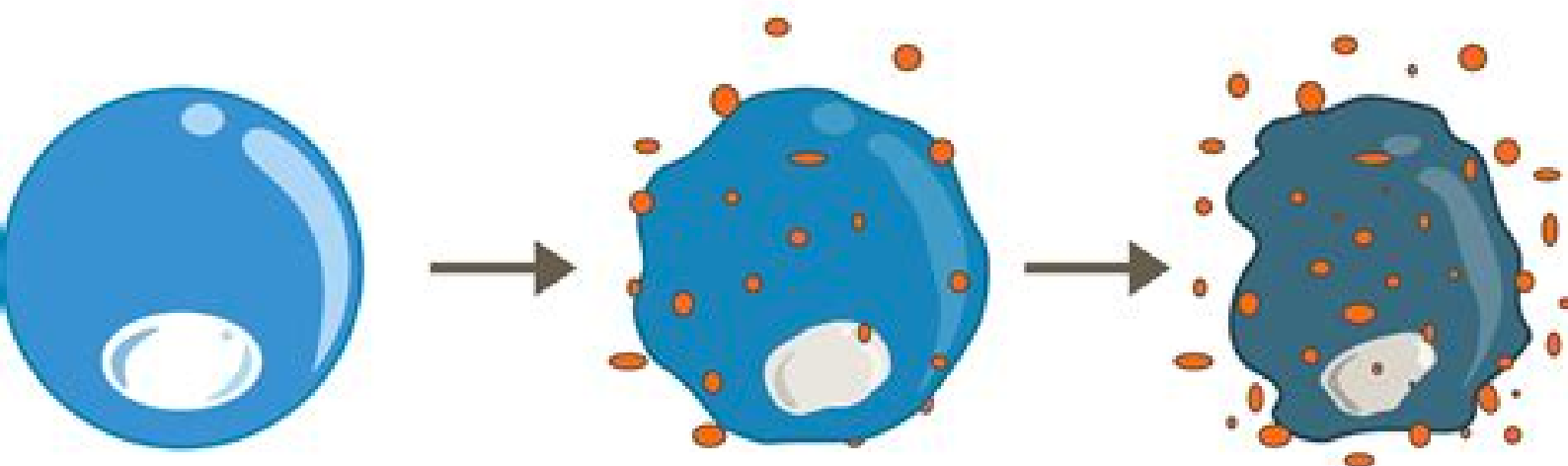
Several mitochondria-targeted drugs are being used in clinical trials and may be effective to treat and delay the development of tendinopathy through protection of mitochondria.

# OXIDATIVE STRESS IN TENDINOPATHY

[Click for Full Text](#)  
(Lui et al. 2022)

This Systematic Review aimed to summarize the clinical and pre-clinical evidence about the potential relationship of oxidative stress and tendon disorders.

## OXIDATIVE STRESS



Normal Cell

Free Radicals  
Attacking Cell

Cell With  
Oxidative Stress

81 articles included.

## Oxidative Stress in Degenerative Tendinopathy.

- Reactive oxygen species (ROS) are continually generated during normal cell metabolism, environmental and physiological stimulus.
- ROS can damage lipid, proteins and DNA in cells and tissues.
- Sustained oxidative stress is a major contributing factor to tendon fibrosis, adhesion, and pathological changes in tendinopathy

## Potential Sources and Mechanisms of Oxidative Stress in Tendon:

- The tendon constantly generates ROS after exercise and traumatic injury
- Both acute and chronic tendon injuries can induce oxidative stress and inflammation in tendon.
- Overuse and Overloading up-regulates genes related to ROS production.
- Deficiency of mTOR pathway
- Metabolic risk factors (obesity, diabetes, hypercholesterolemia)
- Use of fluoroquinolone antibiotics

# MAIN TAKEAWAYS

**Oxidative stress due to excessive ROS production might contribute to the pathogenesis of acute tendon injury and degenerative tendinopathy.**

**Tendon injury, overuse, metabolic risk factors and drug exposure are potential sources of ROS in tendon disorders.**

**Further research to understand the molecular mechanisms of oxidative stress-induced tendon damage and develop novel anti-oxidative therapies for the promotion of tendon healing is required.**

# GIVE US YOUR FEEDBACK!

## MEMBERS

We are on a mission to make research more accessible, easier to interpret, and quicker to implement.

Help us by giving 1 minute of your time to leave feedback for us.

We would greatly appreciate any feedback you have, as it helps us continually improve!

[Leave Review](#)

