

## Mitochondrial DNA may hold answer to why women live longer than men

Scientists working on fruit flies say their work provides an answer to the question of why women tend to live longer than men. The research points to mitochondria, the 'batteries' within cells that generate energy, as hotspots for mutations that negatively affect male health.

Researchers from Lancaster University in the UK and Monash University in Australia studied the ageing of 13 different strains of fruit fly. They found that mutations in the mitochondrial DNA affected the how long male flies lived, and how fast they aged.

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