





Pennington-Rutgers

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## Technologies and experimental approaches in the NCCAM/ODS Botanicals Centers

### Stephen Barnes, PhD Purdue-UAB Botanicals Center for Age-Related Disease

West Lafayette, IN and Birmingham, AL







**Wake Forest-Harvard** 

Memorial-Sloan-Kettering

## Challenges in NCCAM Botanicals Centers

How to bring systematic research to a complex problem

A botanical is a complex mixture

Reductionist approach

Identify the active agent and study it using in vitro, molecular, cellular and in vivo models A disease is complex process

Reductionist approach

Identify the target and study it using in vitro, molecular and cellular models

# Pharmaceuticals versus botanicals or supplements

**Target specific** 

Are they absorbed?

Metabolism?

Pharmacokinetics?

Tissue levels?

Effective doses?

Toxic doses?

Pharmacogenomics?

What is the target?

Are they absorbed?

Metabolism?

Pharmacokinetics?

Tissue levels?

Effective doses?

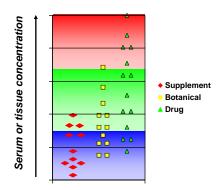
Toxic doses?

**Nutrigenomics?** 

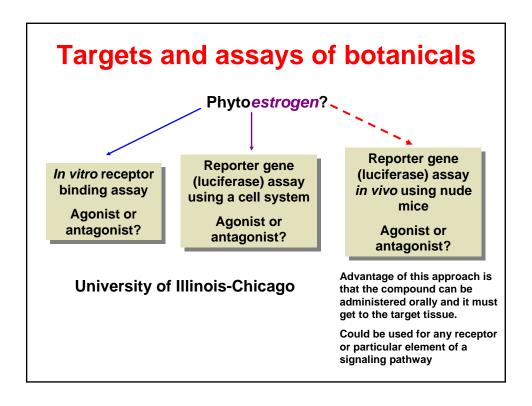
## From no effect to toxicity

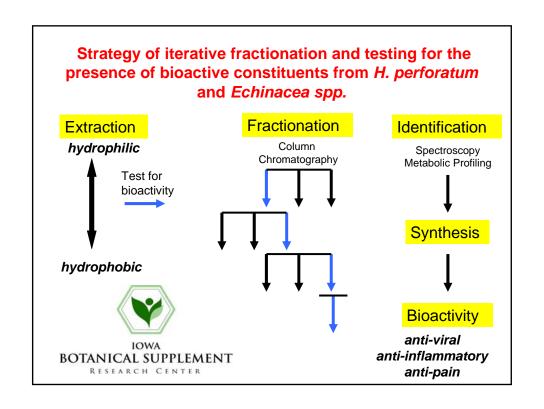
Addition of exogenous compounds can prevent the imbalance of metabolites associated with chronic disease

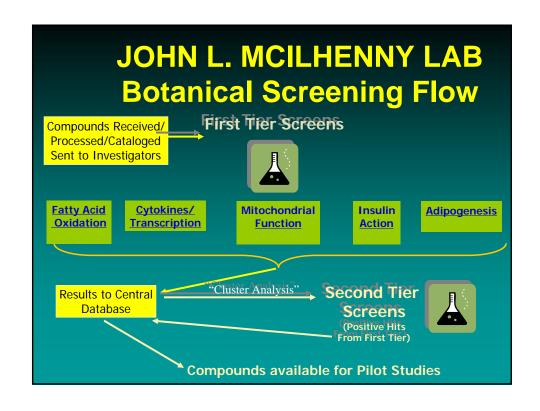
 However, even the most targeted of xenobiotics hit other unintended targets

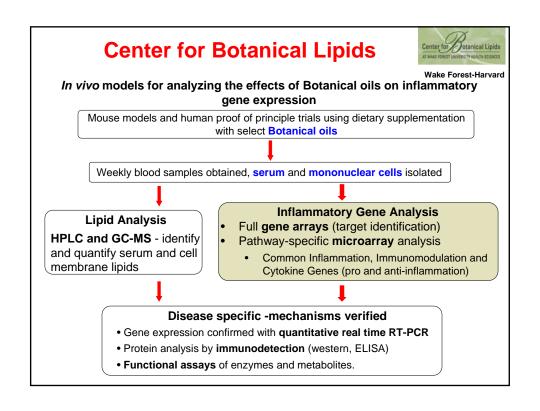


Note the very wide range of concentration with each mode - due to genetic variation in response









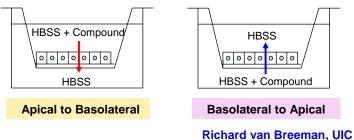
## Mass spectrometry and botanicals research

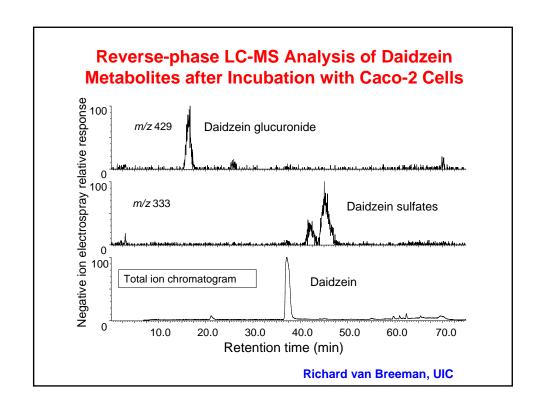
#### Mass spectrometry is an essential tool to:

- establish the qualitative and quantitative content of a botanical
- ensure quality control of a botanical preparation or subfraction
- to identify and quantify the metabolites of specific botanical compounds in the blood, urine and other physiologically relevant fluids and tissues

## Real-time screening of metabolites in an *in vitro* small intestine (Caco-2 cells)

- Uptake of compounds across intestinal mucosa is determined by a several processes.
- Facilitated transport (i.e., P-glycoprotein) can be probed using specific inhibitors and measuring transport rates in opposite directions
- Use of mass spectrometry enhances the amount of information available concerning substrate metabolism and allows multiple compounds to be studied simultaneously





But mass spectrometry offers much more

### Mass spectrometry beyond botanicals and their metabolites

#### **Accelerator mass** spectrometry

to measure <sup>14</sup>C or <sup>41</sup>Ca at sub-fmole levels in tissues and fluids

#### **Qtof or Qtrap mass** spectrometry

to identify posttranslational modifications of proteins

#### Triple quad mass spectrometry

to quantitatively measure peptides

#### **MALDI-TOF** mass spectrometry

to carry out peptide mass fingerprinting and identify proteins and peptides

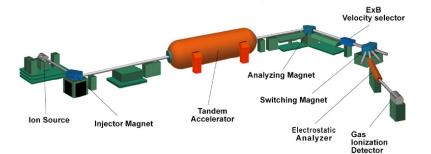
#### **MALDI-TOF** mass spectrometry

For imaging and profiling proteins regionally in tissues

#### **FT-ICR mass** spectrometry

For high resolution analysis of proteins and protein structure

## **Purdue Rare Isotope Measurement Lab**



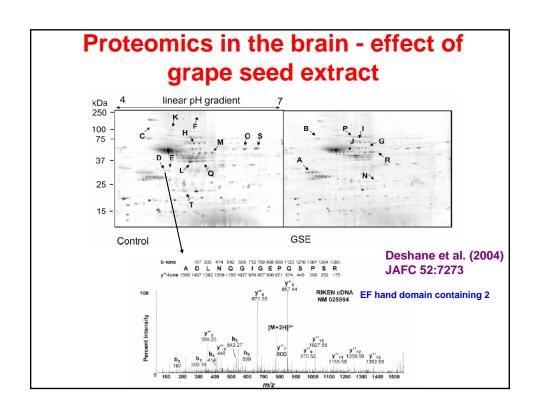
Accelerator mass spectrometry for rare isotopes, <sup>10</sup>Be, <sup>14</sup>C, <sup>26</sup>Al, <sup>36</sup>Cl, <sup>41</sup>Ca, <sup>129</sup>I

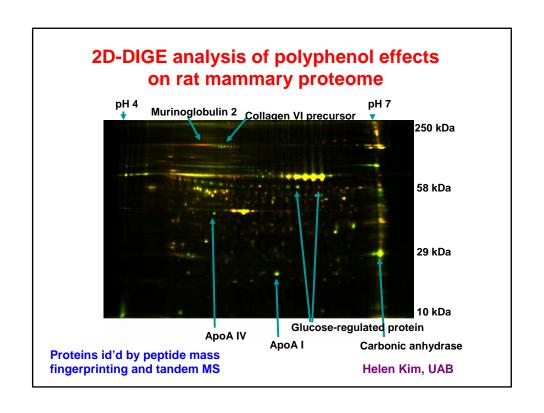
Mary Ann Lila (UIUC) in the Purdue-UAB Botanicals Center has synthesized radiolabeled polyphenols in plant cell culture

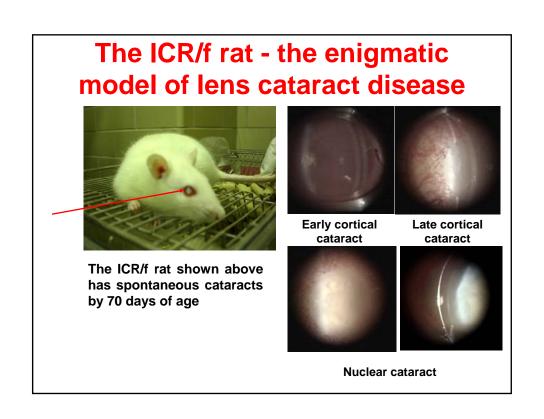
## **Accelerator in PRIME Lab**



Dr. David Elmore next to the 10 MV accelerator







## **Summary**

- The general structure of research on dietary supplements and botanicals is essentially the same as for natural products and combinatorial chemistry
- A key element in the progress of Botanicals Centers research has been in the rigorous analysis and quality control of the materials being used
- The breadth of dietary supplements research is amazing - each Center uses a diverse group of methodologies, many of which are state-of-the-art

### **Acknowledgements**



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