

Tucker, NN1, Nelson GM2, Harrill JA2, Chorley BN2.

10ak Ridge Institute for Science Education, Oak Ridge TN, United States,

2U.S. E.P.A. Center for Computational Toxicology and Exposure, Durham NC, United States.

This poster does not necessarily reflect EPA policy. Mention of trade names is not an endorsement or recommendation for use.

Prevalent (~1/3rd of the world)

Fat builds up in liver cells: displaces organelles

alters metabolism & cell function



EPA is mandated to consider vulnerable populations

[Toxic Substances Control Act (1976) & Lautenburg Act (2016)]

- Incorporate new approach methodologies & comp tox

Thomas et al. The Next Generation Blueprint of Computational Toxicology at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Toxicol Sci. 2019;169(2):317-332. doi:10.1093/toxsci/Mz205

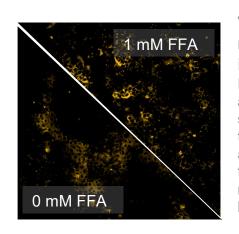
Establish an in vitro, high-throughput assay that assesses the impact of hepatic steatosis on chemical exposure susceptibility

World Population

25 – 33% NAFLD

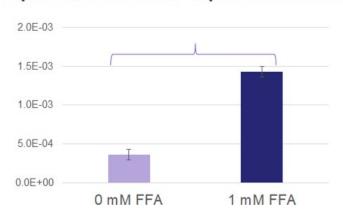
Establishing steatotic HepaRG cells

Creating steatotic HepaRG

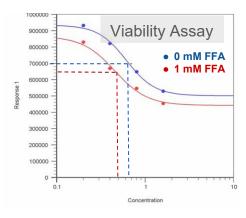


Visual comparative morphological change in steatosis, quantified. Hoechst [HO] nuclear stain and Nile Red [NR] triglyceride stain following 48h exposure to media containing 1 mM of a 1:2 oleate:palmitate free-fatty acid [FFA]. Figure on right demonstrates quantified lipid spots per cell.

Lipid Accumulation - Spot Count / Cell



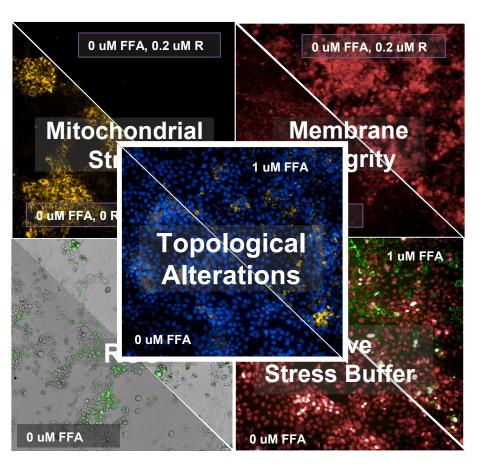
Measuring impact on chemical toxicity (Rotenone exposure)



Comparative IC50s

	ATP	LDH	Cell#
0 mM FFA	0.62	0.83	0.80
1 mM FFA	0.48	0.57	0.62

Establishing HC measurements and chemical screen



- Established steatotic HepaGR cell culture to assess high-throughput assay of chemical exposure susceptibility
- Established high-content imaging multiplexed assay to assess topological and mechanistic indicators of hepatotoxicity
- Current efforts to test chemical screen using reference panel of known CYP mediated toxicity/detoxification

