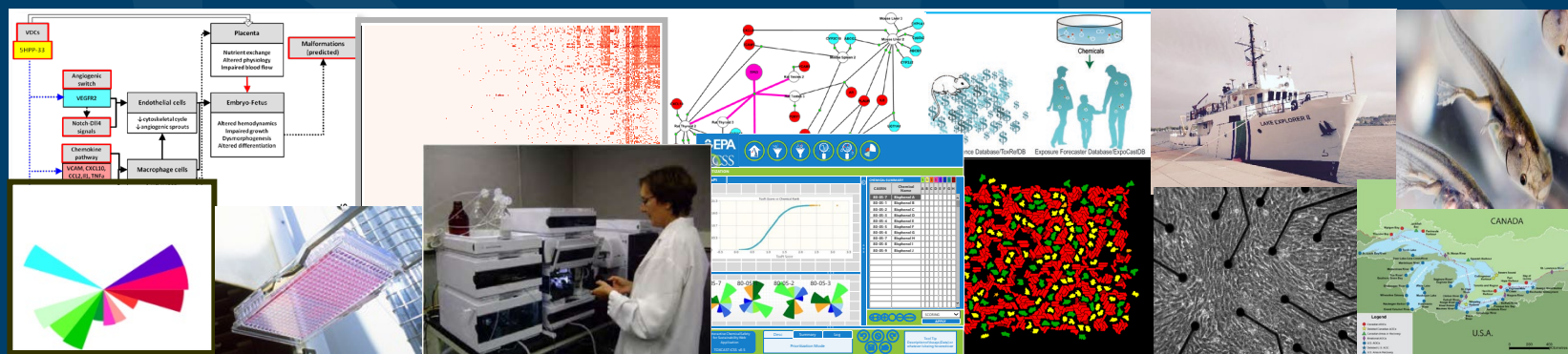


# Application of New Approach Methods for Hazard Characterization of Chemicals



**German MAK Commission**

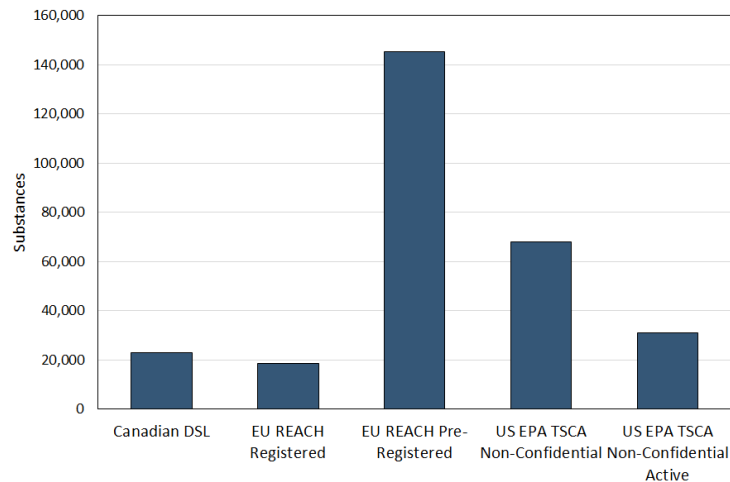
**May 19, 2021**

**Rusty Thomas**  
**Director**  
**Center for Computational Toxicology and Exposure**

The views expressed in this presentation are those of the presenter and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the U.S. EPA

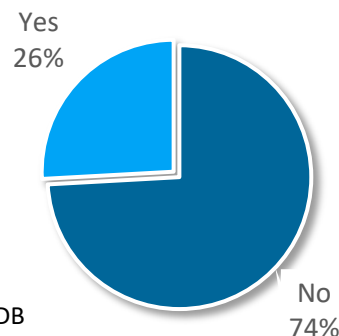
# Toxicology and Risk Assessment Face Many Challenges

## Number of Substances



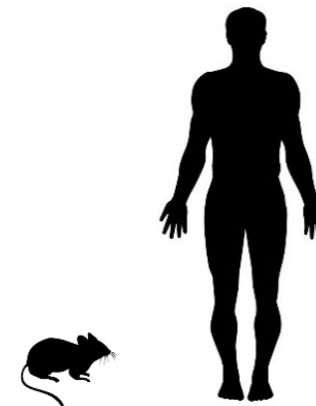
## Amount of Data

% of Non-Confidential, Active TSCA Inventory with Repeat Dose Toxicity Studies

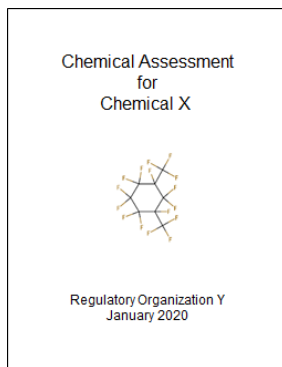


\*Data from ToxValDB (Dec 2019)

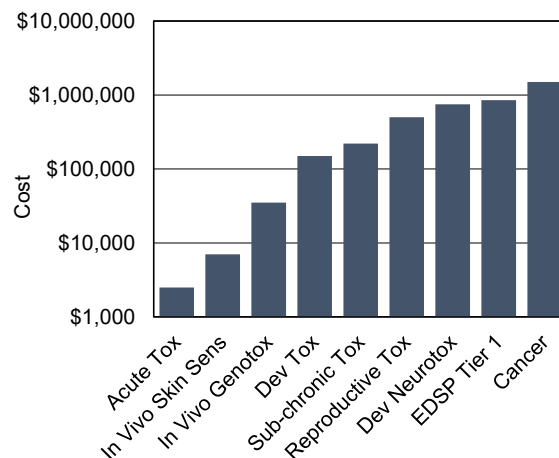
## Reliability/Relevance/Ethics



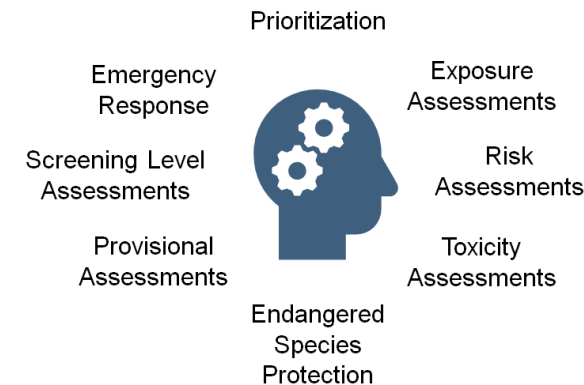
## Time



## Economics

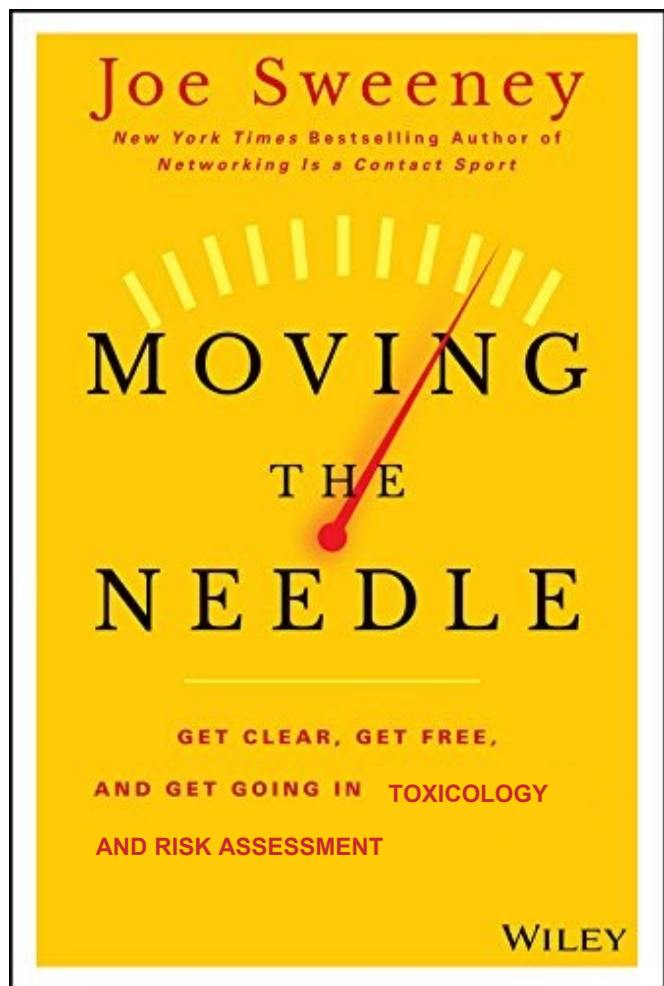


## Broad Range of Decision Contexts



- [illegible]

## But, “Moving the Needle” Has Been Difficult...



### Frequent Criticisms Against Broader Application

- Limited coverage of important cellular and intracellular processes
- Relatively short duration exposures
- Endpoints with indirect connection to adverse responses in organs and tissues
- Limited metabolic capacity
- Reduced biological complexity
- “Black box” predictions
- Limited chemical domain of applicability
- Lack of familiarity and training
- Complex data interpretation
- Lengthy validation process



# EPA Developed an Operational Blueprint to Focus and Facilitate Progress



- DSSTox
- **Chemical library**
- Read across
- SAR/QSAR modeling
- Chemotypes
- TTC

- **Case Studies**
- Reference Materials
- Reporting Templates

- In Vitro Assays (**HTTr**, **HTPP**, **ToxCast**)
- Tiered testing
- Organotypic models
- Addressing limitations (**metabolism**, **chemical space**)
- Statistical and Biologically-based Modeling
- AOPs

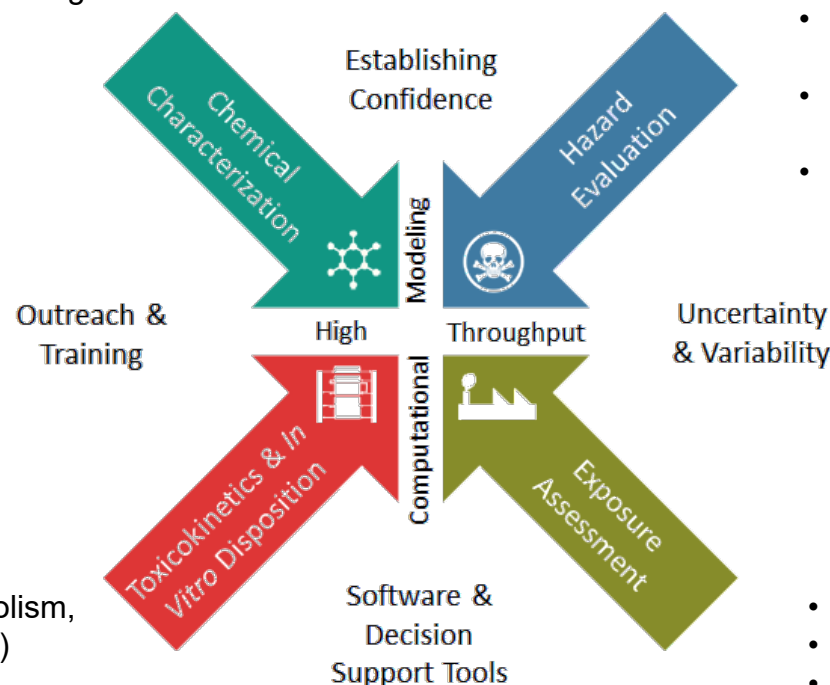
- Communities of Practice
- ToxCast Owners Manual
- Training courses/ videos

- SEEM
- ToxBoot
- HTKK
- ENTACT
- ToxRefDB

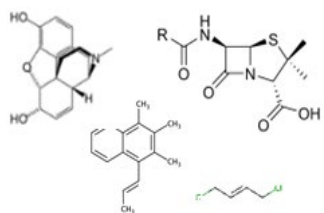
- **HTTK assays** (metabolism, bioavailability, binding)
- Partition coefficients
- **HTTK R package**
- **Multi-route models**
- **Model verification** (e.g., CvT)
- In vitro disposition

- **CompTox Chemicals Dashboard**
- RapidTox
- Factotum
- ECOTOX
- SeqAPASS

- ExpoCast
- NTA/SSA
- CPDat/CPCat
- Product emissivity



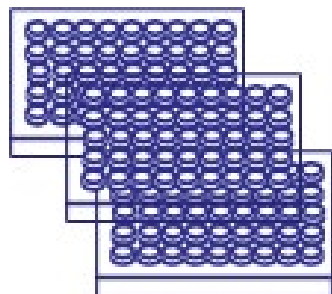
# Application of High-Throughput Assays to Test Thousands of Chemicals



Thousands of  
Chemicals



Concentration  
Response  
Screening



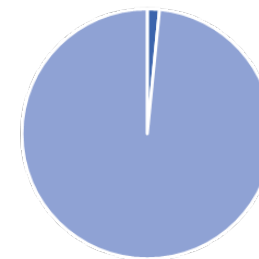
## **ToxCast Assays**

Transcription Factors  
Transporter  
Cytokines  
Kinases  
Nuclear Receptors  
CYP450 / ADME  
Cholinesterase  
Phosphatases  
Proteases  
XME metabolism  
GPCRs  
Ion channels

~700 Assay Endpoints

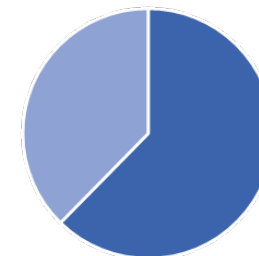


## **Gene Coverage**



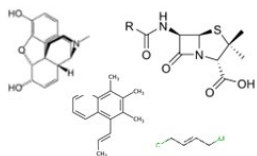
■ ToxCast  
■ Not in  
ToxCast

## **Pathway Coverage\***

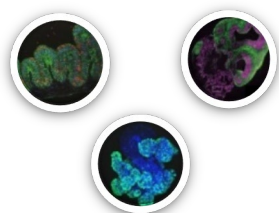


\*At least one gene from  
pathway represented

# Incorporating High-Content Technologies to Increase Biological Coverage

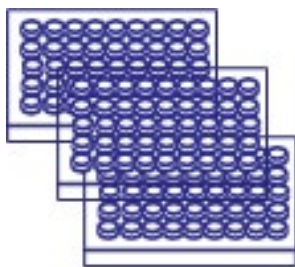


Thousands of  
Chemicals

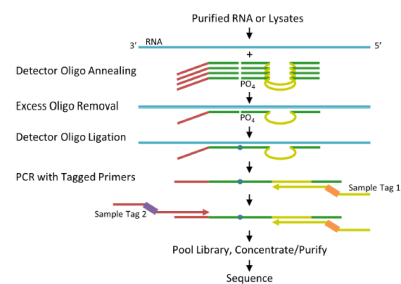


Multiple Cell  
Types

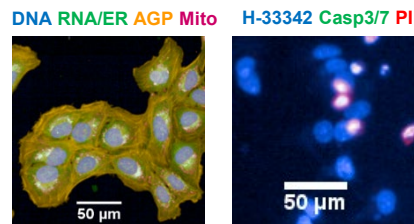
Concentration  
Response  
Screening



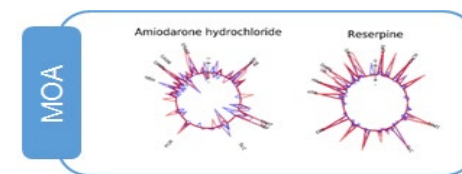
Whole Genome  
Transcriptomics



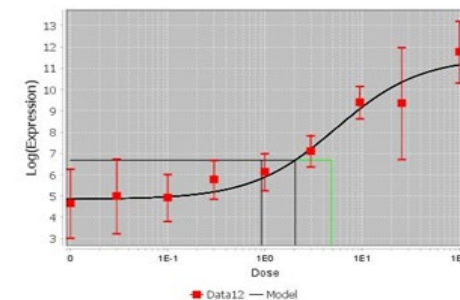
Multi-Parameter Cellular  
Phenotypic Profiling



Mode-of-Action Identification



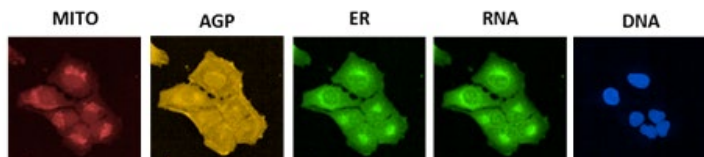
Concentration Response  
Modeling



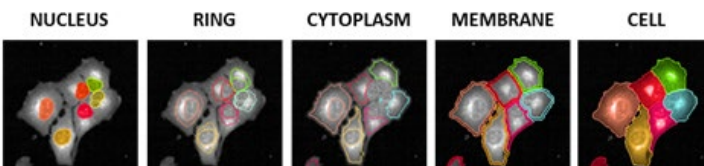
Increased Coverage of  
Important Pathways and  
Processes

# Cellular Phenotypic Profiles Reflect Similarity in Molecular Mechanisms

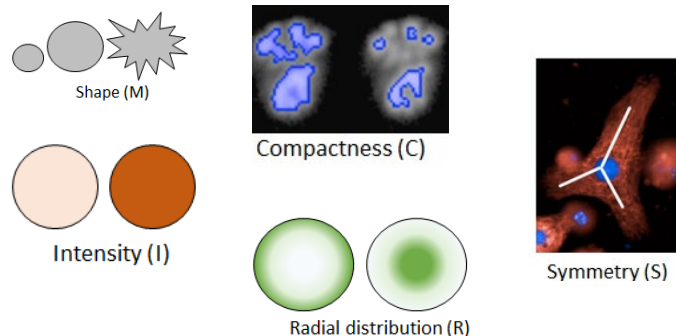
## Non-Ab Dyes



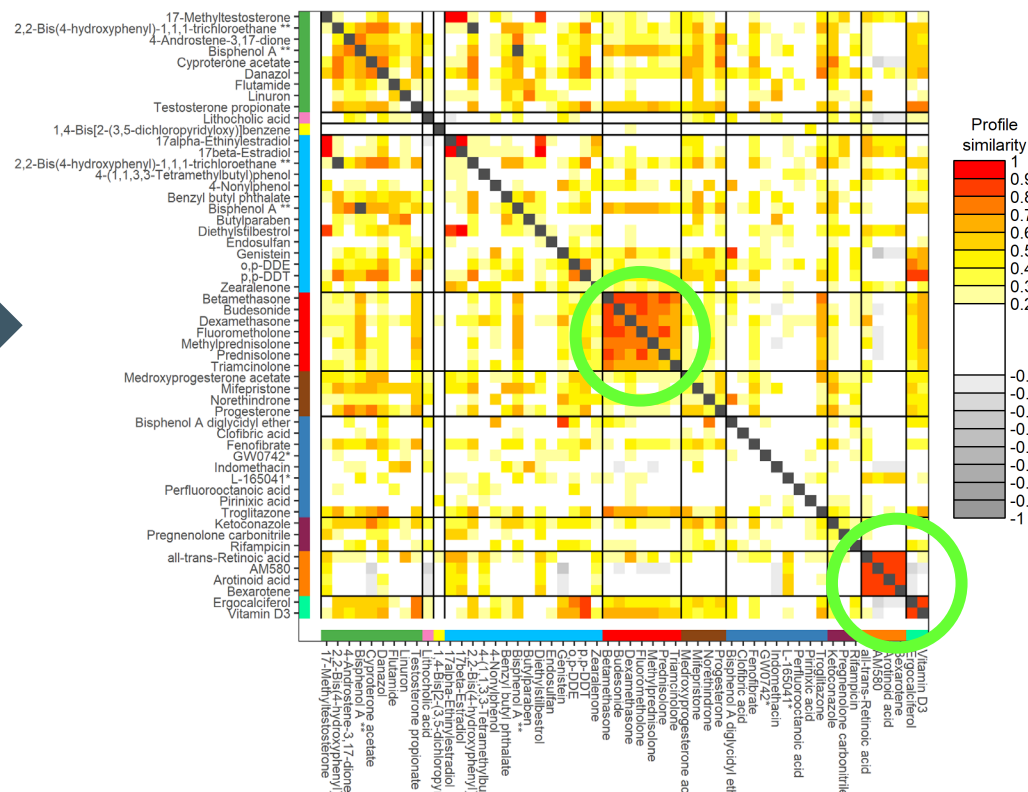
## Cell Compartments



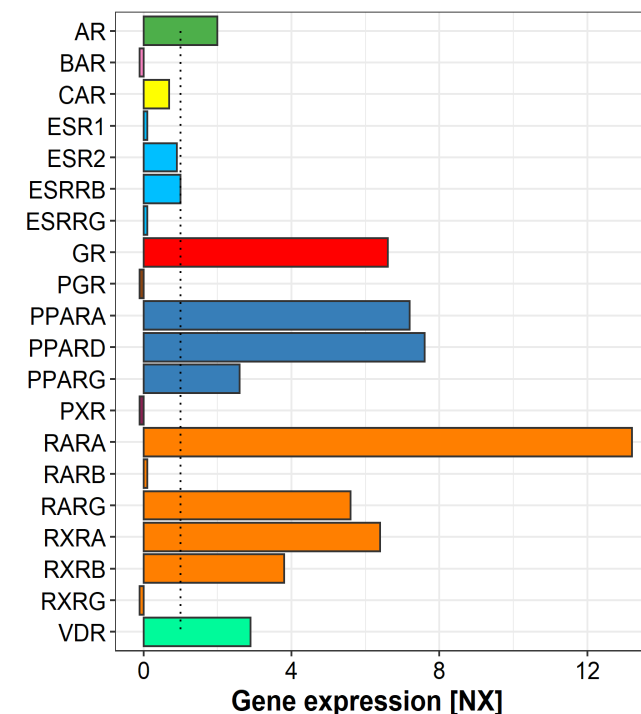
## Staining Characteristics (not complete)



## Profile Similarity in U-2 OS Cells



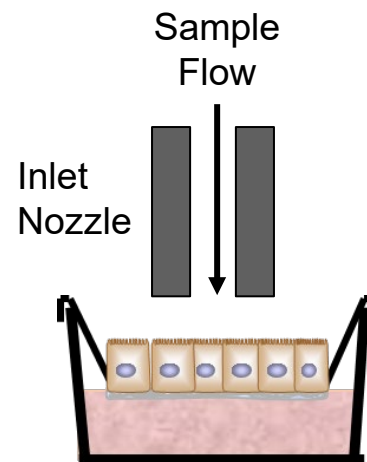
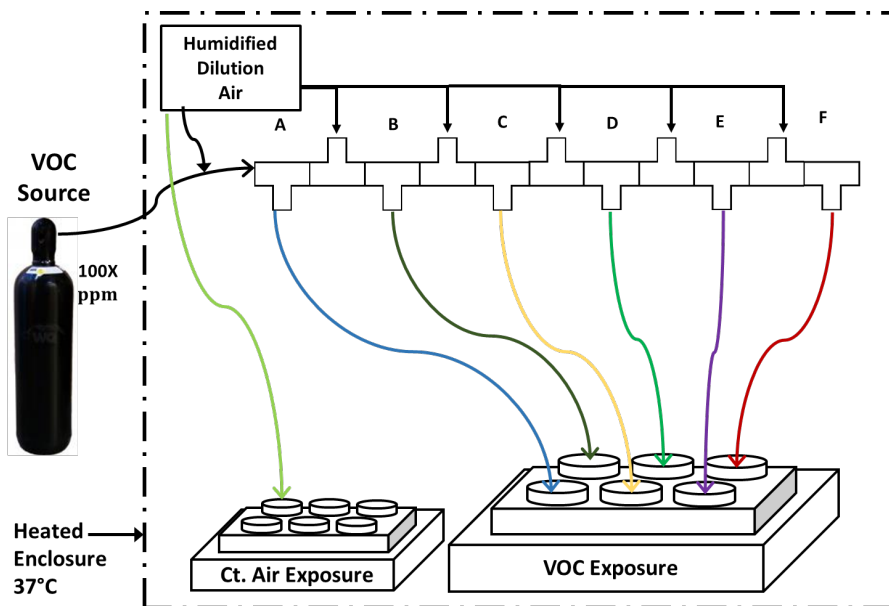
## Gene expression in U-2 OS



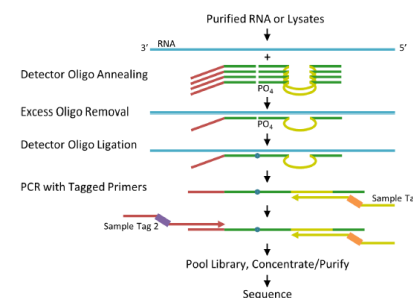
~1,300 total phenotypic endpoints



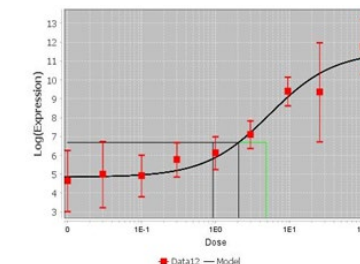
# *In Vitro* Transcriptomic Points of Departure for Volatile Chemicals are Similar to Occupational Exposure Limits



## Whole Genome Transcriptomics (HTTr)



## Concentration Response Modeling



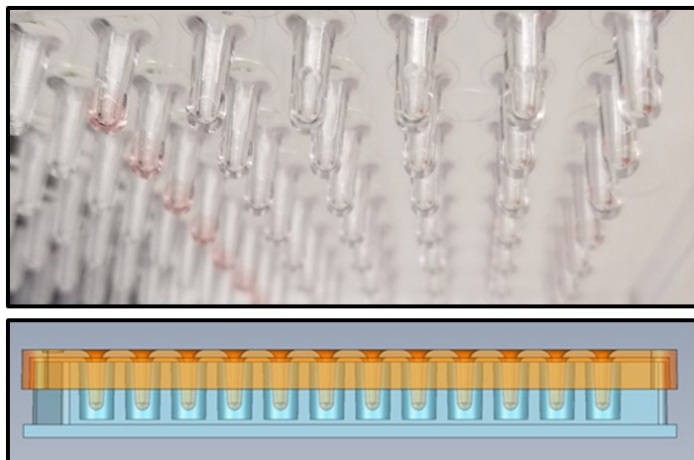
	ACGIH TLV-TWA (ppm)	BEAS-2B HTTr POD (ppm)	HBEC HTTr POD (ppm)
Acrolein	0.1	0.58	--
Formaldehyde	0.3	NA	--
1,3-Butadiene	10	13.98	--
Acetaldehyde	25	NA	--
1-Bromopropane	0.1 *	2.25	NA
Carbon Tetrachloride	10	9.56	NA
Trichloroethylene	50	44.8	28.1
Dichloromethane	100	142.13	266.7

\* The ACGIH TLV TWA for 1-bromopropane was updated to 0.1 ppm in 2012. Prior to that the TLV-TWA for 1-bromopropane was 10 ppm.

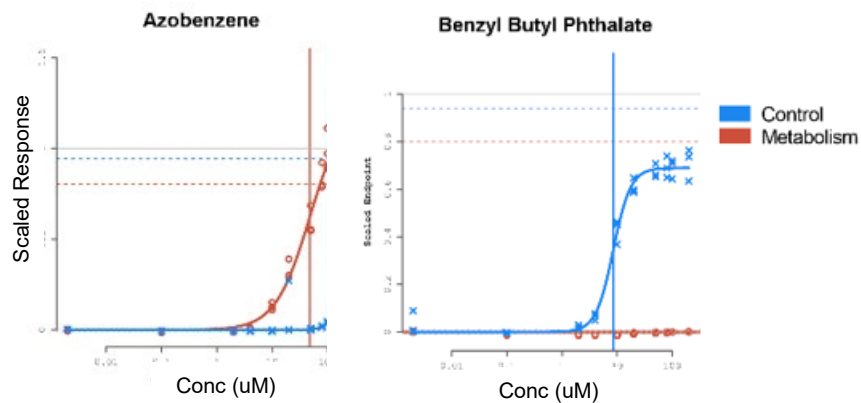
A.Speen (CPHEA), M. Higuchi  
(CPHEA), and J. Harrill,  
Unpublished

# Retrofitting *In Vitro* Assays with Xenobiotic Enables Identification of Bio(in)activated Chemicals

**AIME Method: S9 Fraction Immobilization in Alginate Microspheres on 96- or 384-well peg**

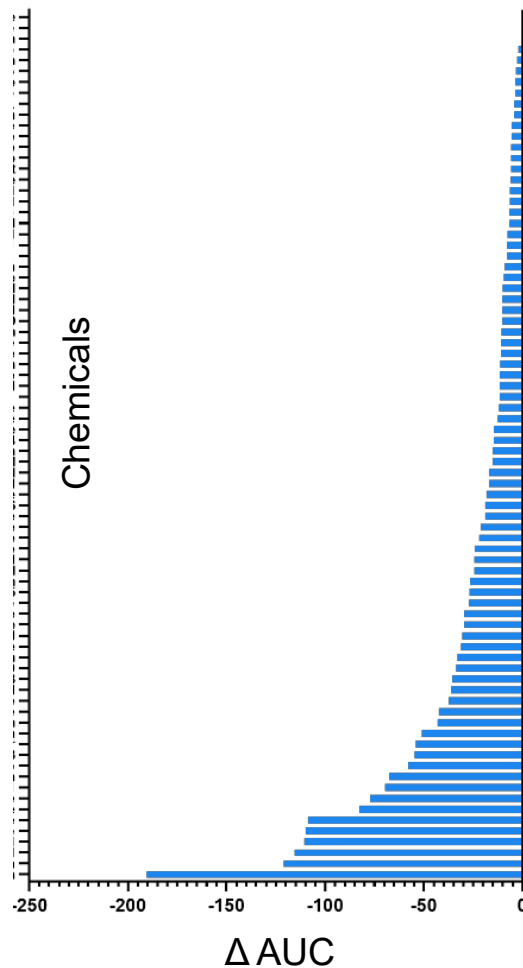


**Application to ER Transactivation Assay (ERTA)  
Pilot Screening Results of Pinto et al., 2016 Library**

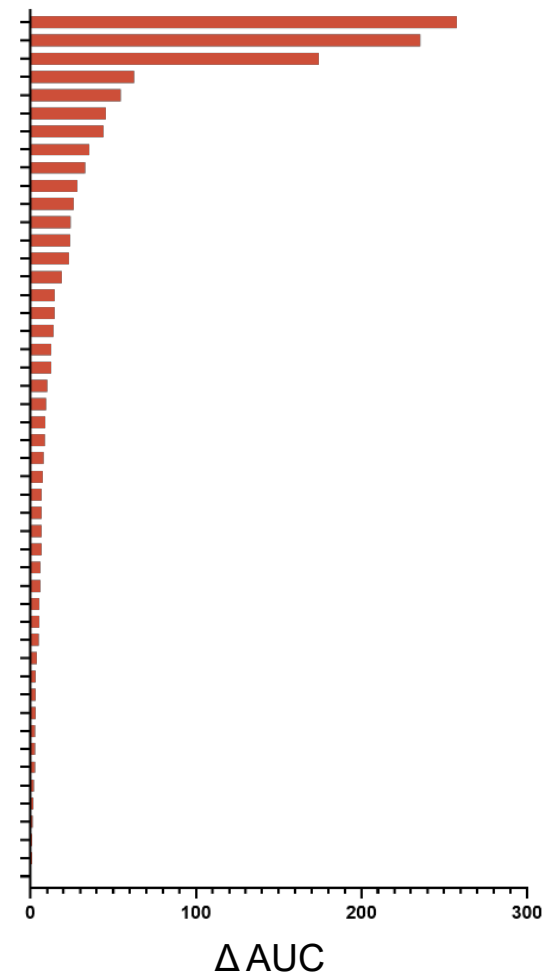


Preliminary Analysis of 768 ToxCast Chemical Screen

Bioinactivation

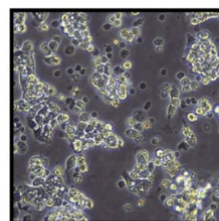


Bioactivation

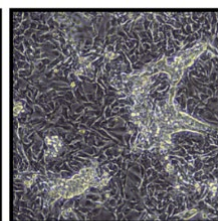


# Complex Organotypic Culture Models Enable Evaluation of Tissue/Organ Effects

Normal Human  
Thyroid Gland



Harvest Follicle  
Fragments



Attachment and  
Outgrowth of Cells

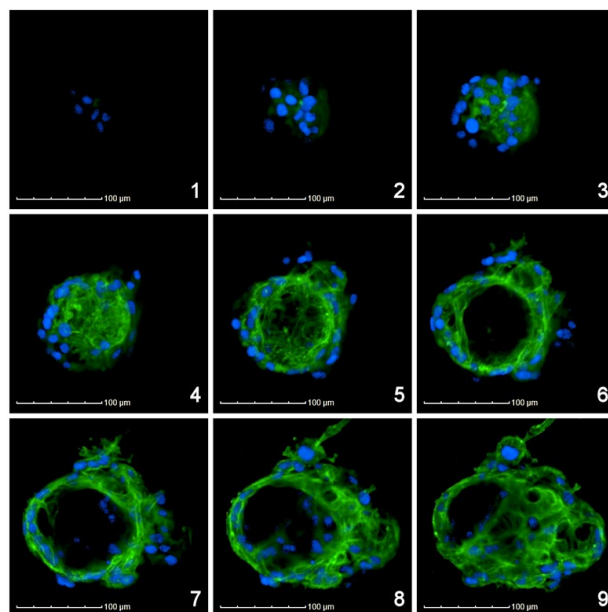
2D Cell Expansion



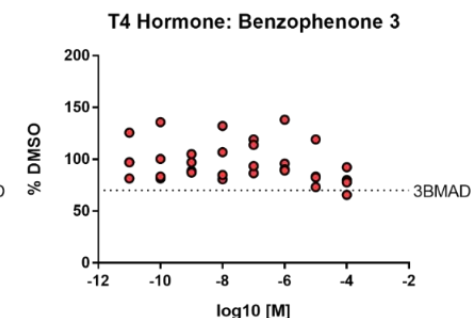
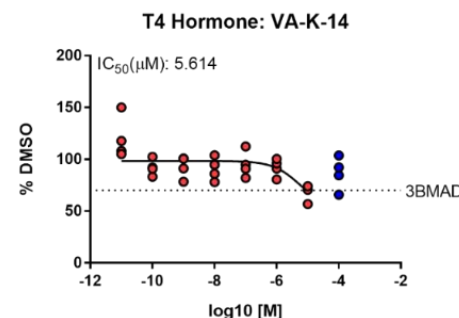
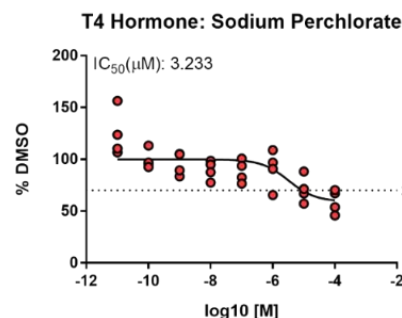
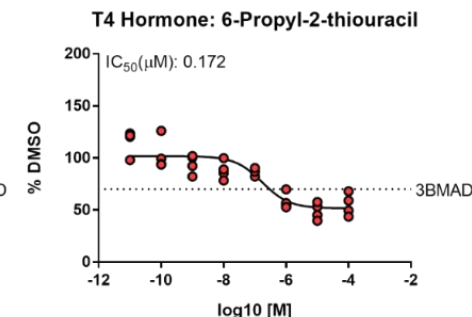
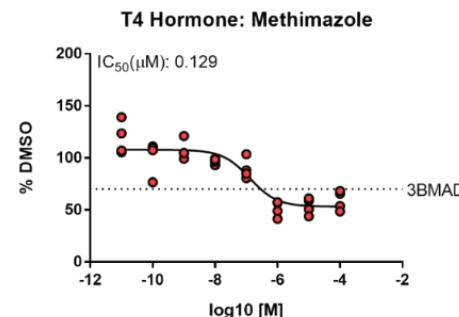
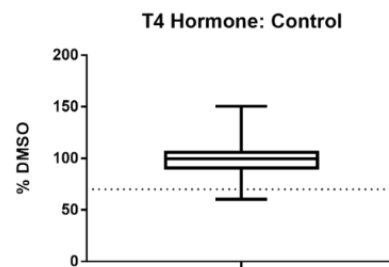
2D Monolayer  
Culture



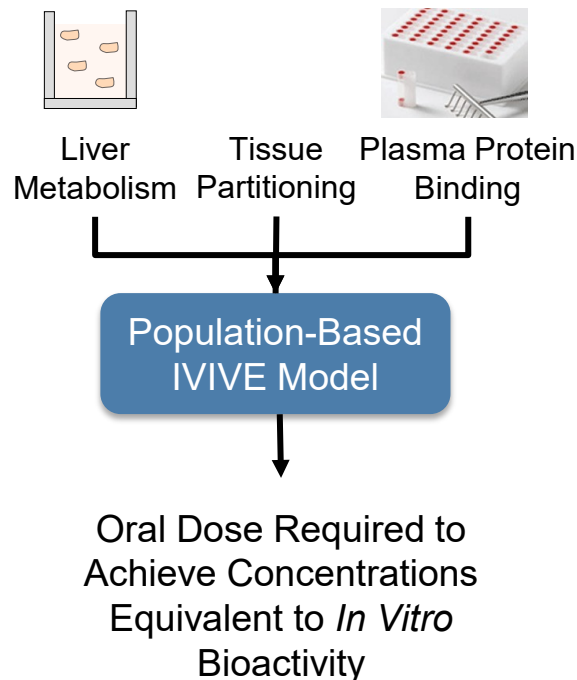
3D Sandwich  
Culture



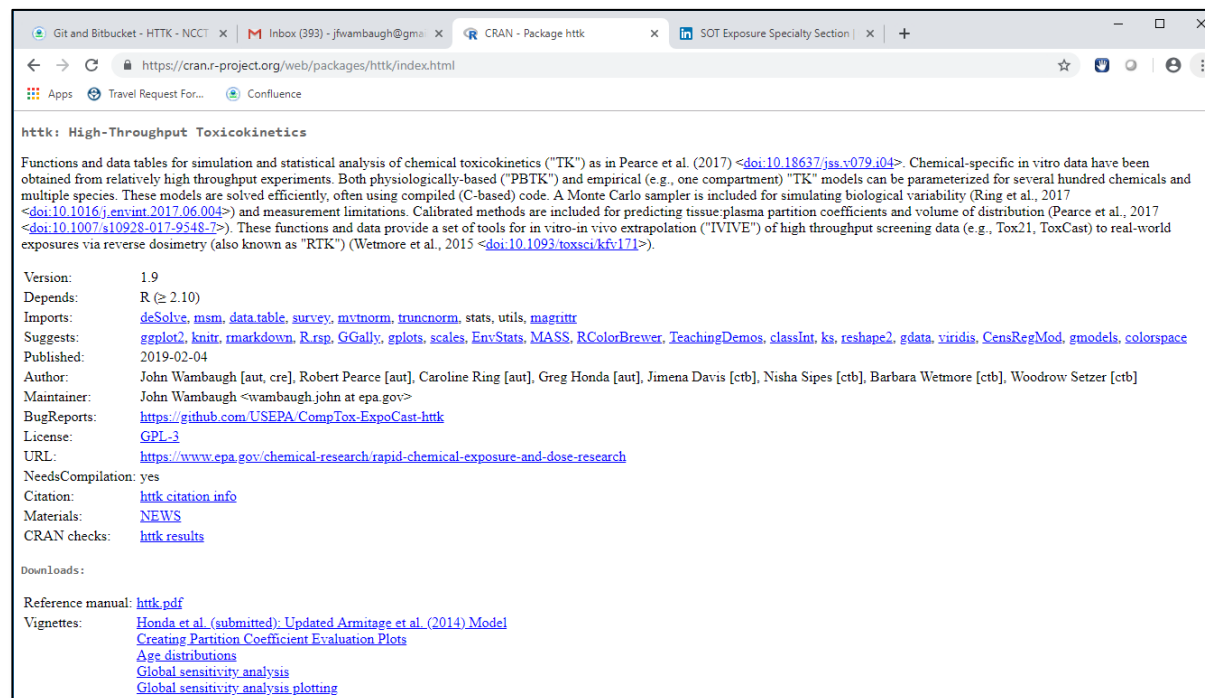
Blue, Hoechst 33342 /DNA  
Green, Phalloidin/Actin



# Expanding Toxicokinetic Data Availability Using High-Throughput *In Vitro* Data and Modeling



Rotroff *et al.*, *Tox Sci.*, 2010  
Wetmore *et al.*, *Tox Sci.*, 2012  
Wetmore *et al.*, *Tox Sci.*, 2015  
Wambaugh *et al.*, *J Stat Softw.*, 2017  
Wambaugh *et al.*, *Tox Sci.*, 2018  
Wambaugh *et al.*, *Tox Sci.*, 2019



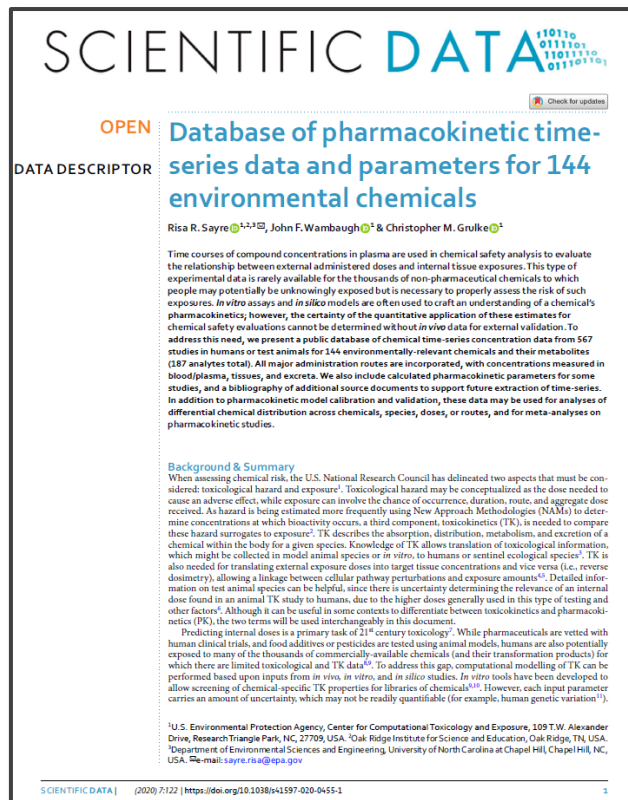
## R package "httk"

- Open source, transparent, and peer-reviewed tools and data for **high throughput toxicokinetics (httk)**
- Allows *in vitro-in vivo* extrapolation (IVIVE) and physiologically-based toxicokinetics (PBTK)
- v1.10 features **942 total chemicals**
- Now allows propagation of uncertainty

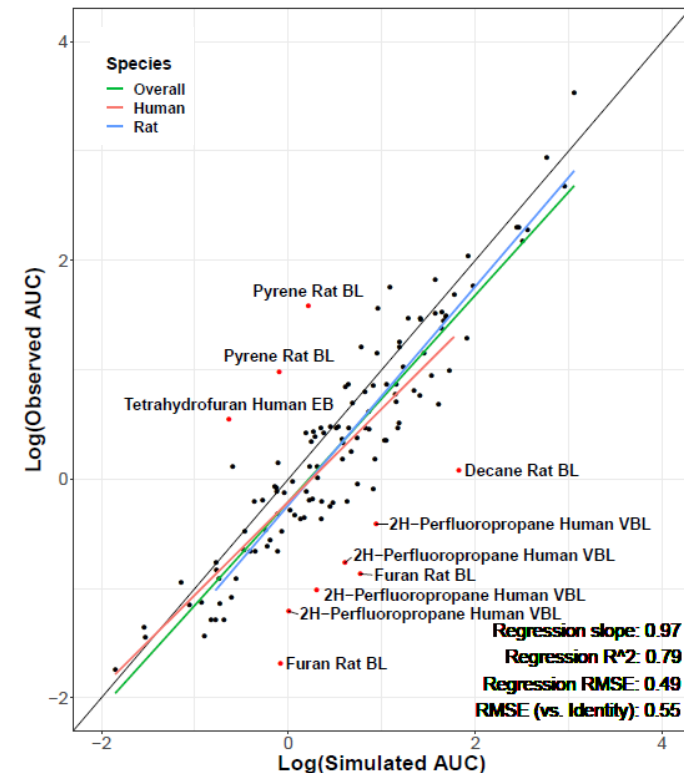
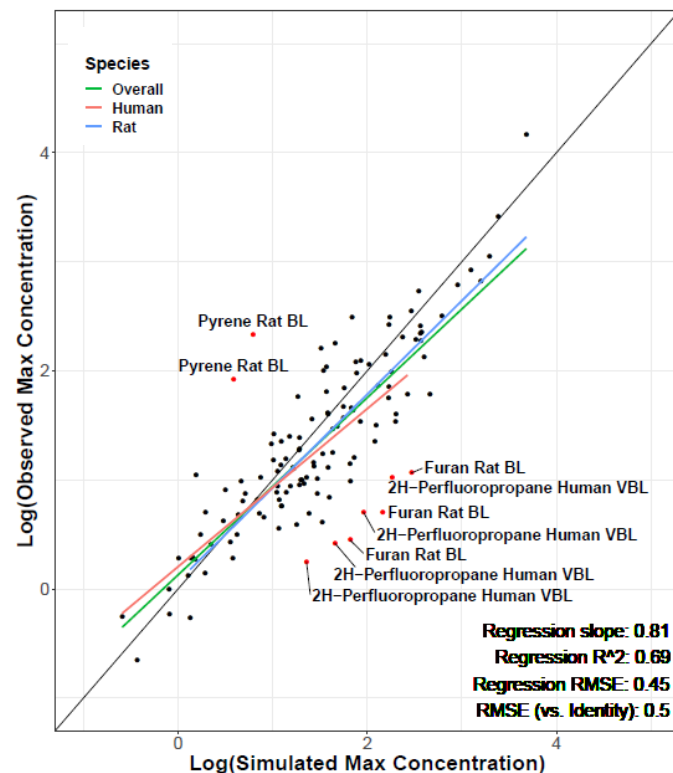


# Extending High-Throughput Toxicokinetic Models to Inhalation Route

## Evaluating Performance of Generic Inhalation PBTK Models



142 Exposure Scenarios  
41 VOCs



Sayre et al., *Scientific Data*. 2020

Linakis et al., *J Expo Sci Environ Epidemiol*. 2020

# Case Studies to Build Confidence and Help Translate to Regulatory Application

## Ongoing and New Case Studies

- Use NAMs on selected pesticides with established MOAs
- Develop and apply NAMs for evaluating developmental neurotoxicity
- Integrating NAMs to screen candidates for prioritization under TSCA
- Application of *in vitro* bioactivity and HTTK for screening-level assessments in biosolids
- Prospective case study on application of *in vitro* assays for hazard characterization
- Using NAMs to inform chemical categorization
- Computational approaches for rapid exposure estimates
- Using *in vitro* bioactivity to inform quantitative ecological hazard assessments
- Evaluating predictivity of HTTK methods



Recently complete case studies

**Now for the Main Event...**