

# *Frontiers in Predictive Toxicology*

## Thomas Hartung



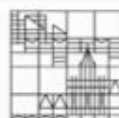
**frontiers**

in Pharmacology

Predictive Toxicology

3.8

IMPACT FACTOR



*You only bother about frontiers, if you need to travel*



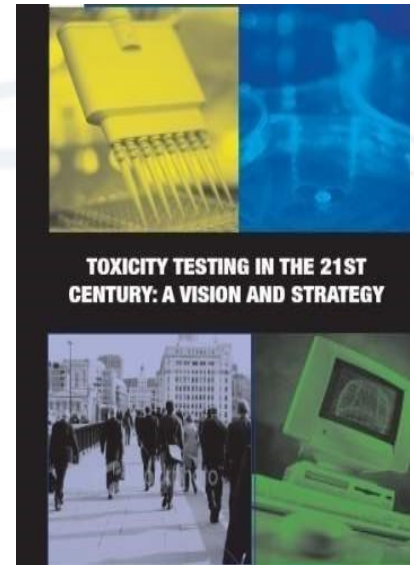
**“Away-from-here that is  
my destination”**

**Franz Kafka**



**1<sup>st</sup> frontier**

**Agreement  
that animal tests  
are not good enough**



**TOXICITY TESTING IN THE 21ST  
CENTURY: A VISION AND STRATEGY**

# *Enjoy!!!*

**Natural  
pesticides  
10,000x more,  
35 of 63  
carcinogenic**

**Protected  
against minute  
amounts of  
pesticides**

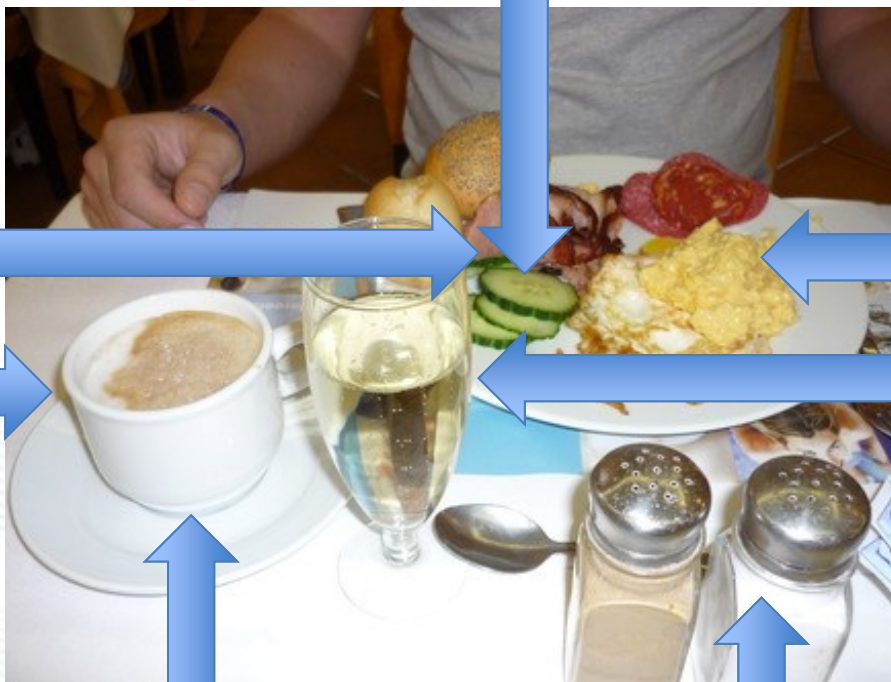
**Protected against  
TCDD in eggs**

**23 of 31  
tested coffee  
ingredients  
carcinogenic**

**Same calculation  
for alcohol:  
One glass per  
345 years**

**Genotoxic: sugar**

**Genotoxic: salt**



## ***We are not 70kg rats !!!***

**2-200 kg**

**Age 0 -100 years**

**Different ethnics,  
both gender**



**Diverse food,  
environment**

**Disease history,  
Comorbidities,  
Multiple treatments**



**20-500 g**

**Mostly 3 months,  
max 2 years**

**Mostly twins,  
one gender**



**Standardized  
chow and cage**

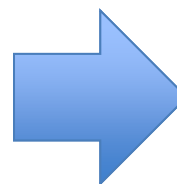
**Healthy,  
Artificial diseases,  
Mono-treatments**



# *Interspecies prediction of cancer*



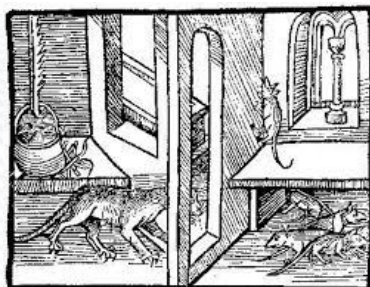
**Concordance 57%**



## **Concordance of Noncarcinogenic Endpoints in Rodent Chemical Bioassays**

**Bing Wang<sup>1</sup> and George Gray<sup>2,\*</sup>**

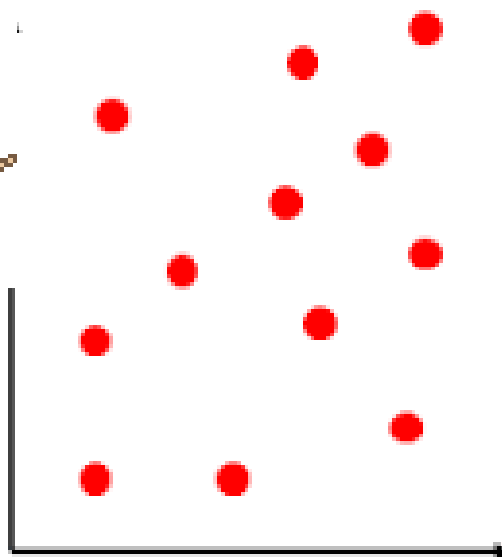
**Prediction of noncancer toxicologic outcomes in rodent bioassays of 37 chemicals from the National Toxicology Program was evaluated. ... Overall, there is considerable uncertainty in predicting the site of toxic lesions in different species exposed to the same chemical and from short-term to long-term tests of the same chemical.**



**Cancer studies in  
mice and rats of  
both gender**

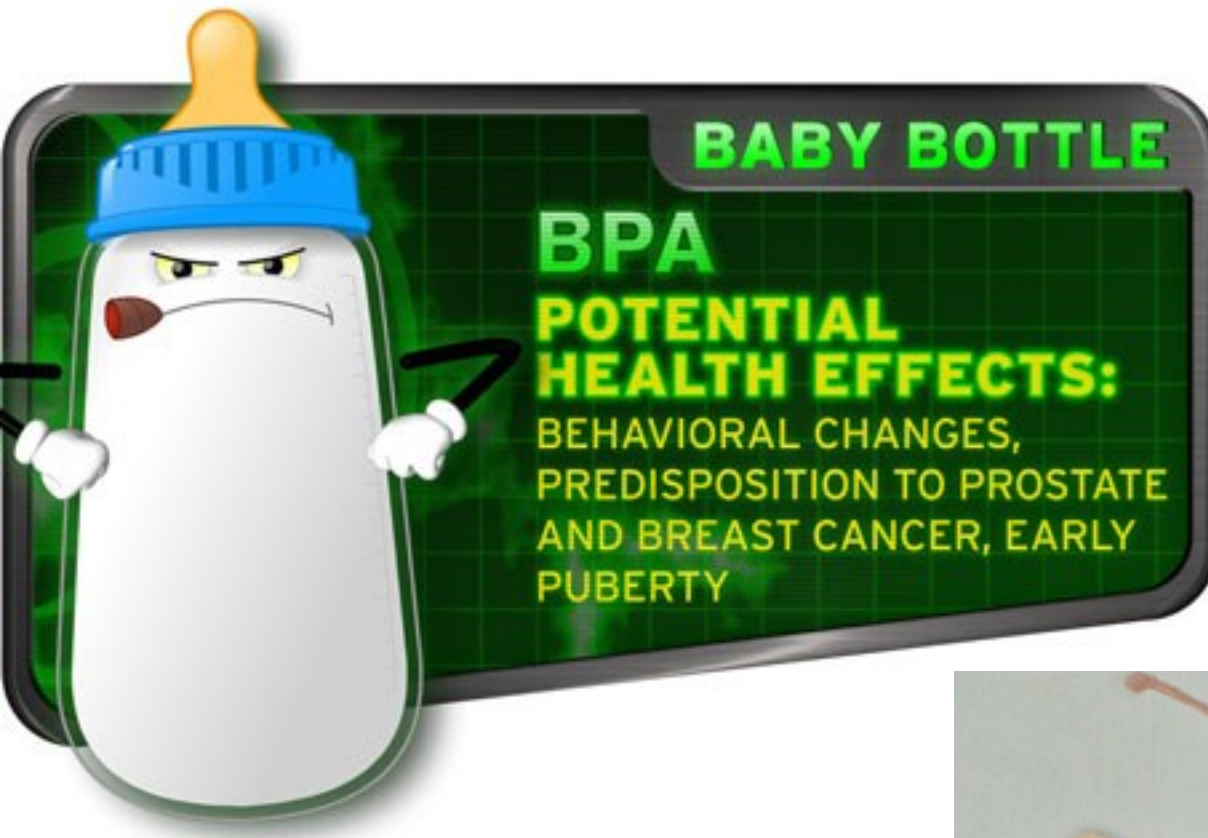


**No Correlation**



**Earlier repeat-dose  
studies**





**The test solution:  
The uterotrophic assay  
on ovariectomized rats**

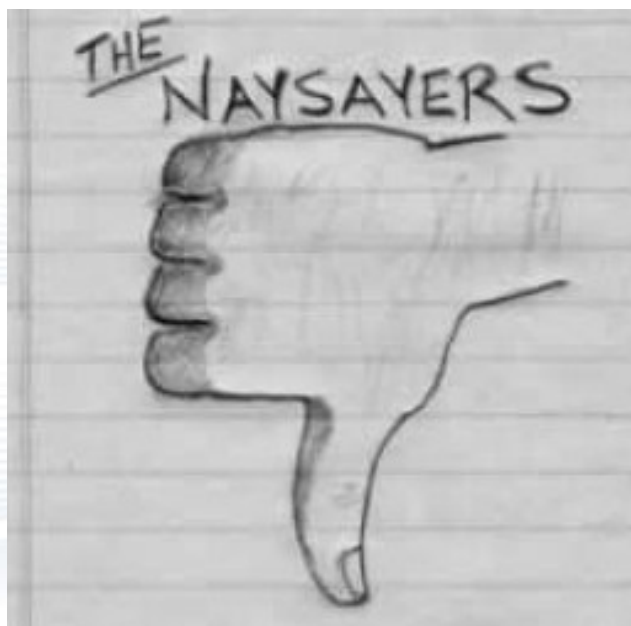






## The uterotrophic assays

OECD-"validated" test

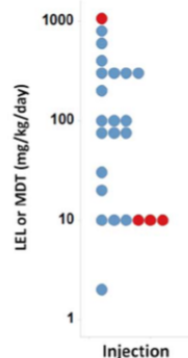


Part of peer-  
review

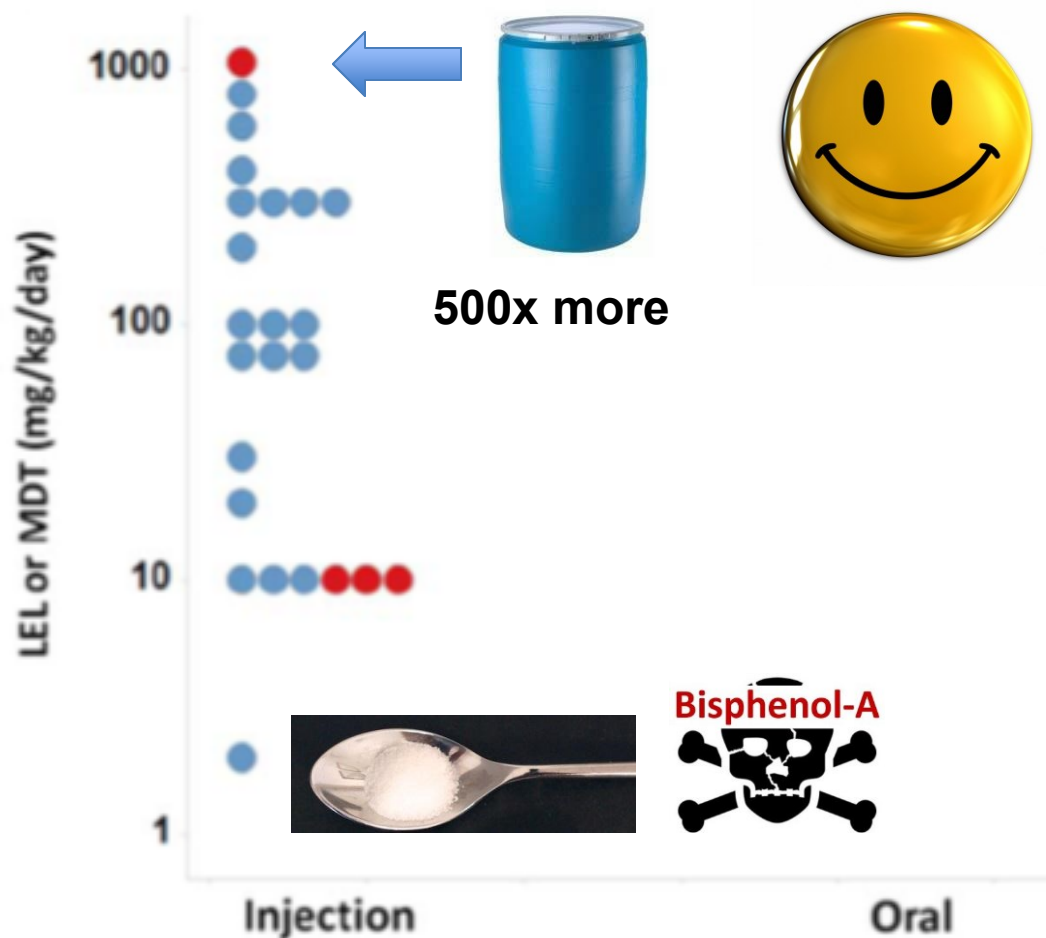
# ENVIRONMENTAL Sciences

## Screening & Computational

Patience Browne,  
and Russell S. Th



**Figure 1.** Variability of results for bisphenol A (BPA) in uterotrophic studies conducted in the immature rat model. All studies are methodologically similar to the EDSP Tier 1 guideline and considered “guideline-like”, yet have discordant results even with the same route of administration. LEL = lowest effect level; MDT = maximum dose tested.



**Figure 1.** Variability of results for bisphenol A (BPA) in uterotrophic studies conducted in the immature rat model. All studies are methodologically similar to the EDSP Tier 1 guideline and considered “guideline-like”, yet have discordant results even with the same route of administration. LEL = lowest effect level; MDT = maximum dose tested.

“Basic research is like shooting  
an arrow in the air and, where it lands,  
painting a target.”

Homer Adkins, 1984  
*Nature* 312, 212.

# Food for Thought

## Look Back in Anger – What Clinical Studies Tell Us About Preclinical Work

*Thomas Hartung*

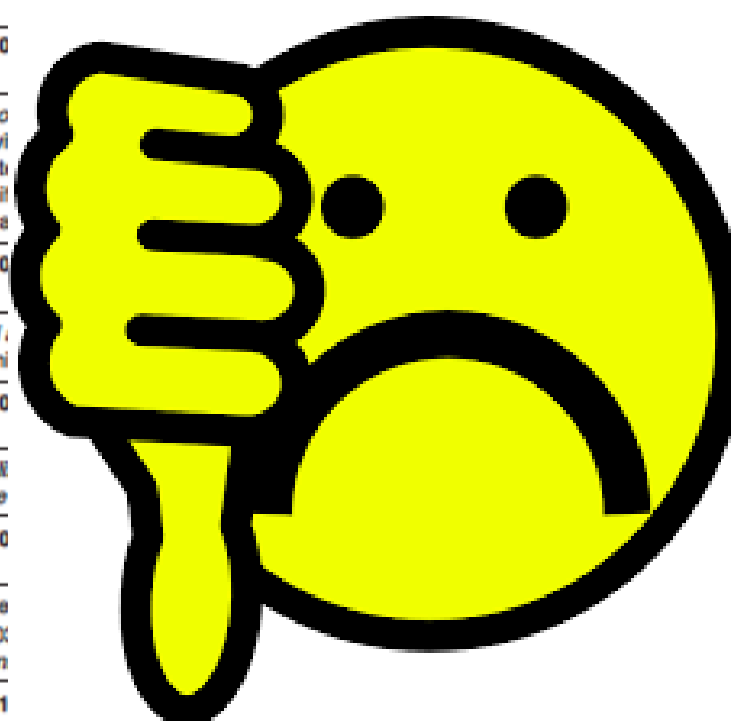
Johns Hopkins University, Bloomberg School of Public Health, CAAT, Baltimore, USA and University of Konstanz,  
CAAT-Europe, Germany

**Bayer, 2011: 20-25% in-house studies reproduce publications**

**Amgen, 2012: 6% of cancer hallmark papers reproducible**

Tab. 2: Examples of more systematic evaluations of the quality of animal studies of drug efficacy

First author	Year published	(Number of) indications	Number of studies considered (of total)	Reproducible in humans
Horn	2001	stroke	20 (225)	50%
The methodological quality of the animal studies was found to be poor. Of the included studies, 50% were in favor of nimodipine (which was not effective in human trials). In-depth analyses showed statistically significant effects in favor of treatment (10 studies) (Horn et al., 2001).				
Corpet	2003			55%
"We found that the effect of moxibustion on the data of Table 3 (Corpet et al., 2003) with data or inclusion/exclusion criteria in rat and mice showed a significant analysis published (Corpet et al., 2003).				
Perel	2004			50% (of indications)
"Discordance between animal and human studies: Poor quality of animal studies." Data extracted from the literature. No quality assurance of the data. The two animal models were very similar.				
Bebarta	2005			n.a.
"Animal studies that do not utilize the same study groups as human studies." Mimic clinical disease				
Pound	2006			n.a.
Analysis of 25 systematic reviews of animal studies. Mapstone et al., 2002; Mapstone et al., 2003; potential treatments for human disease. Much animal research into human clinical reviews."				
Sena	2010			n.a.
Analysis of 16 systematic reviews of interventions tested in animal studies of acute ischemic stroke involving 525 unique publications. Publication bias was highly prevalent (Sena et al., 2010).				
Hackam	2006	diverse	76	37%
"Only about a third of highly cited animal research translated at the level of human randomized trials." (Hackam and Redelmeier, 2006)				



## Systematic reviews

- Stroke
- Colon cancer
- head injury, antifibrinolytics, stroke, neonatal resp. distress, osteoporosis
- Emergency med.
- 25 other SR
- stroke
- diverse





**Evident data gaps  
(PEW report 2013), but  
traditional approaches  
not suitable**

**Consumer are little  
aware of animal  
testing for food**

**Strong  
discrepancies for  
e.g. food additives  
vs. pesticides**



## 2<sup>nd</sup> frontier

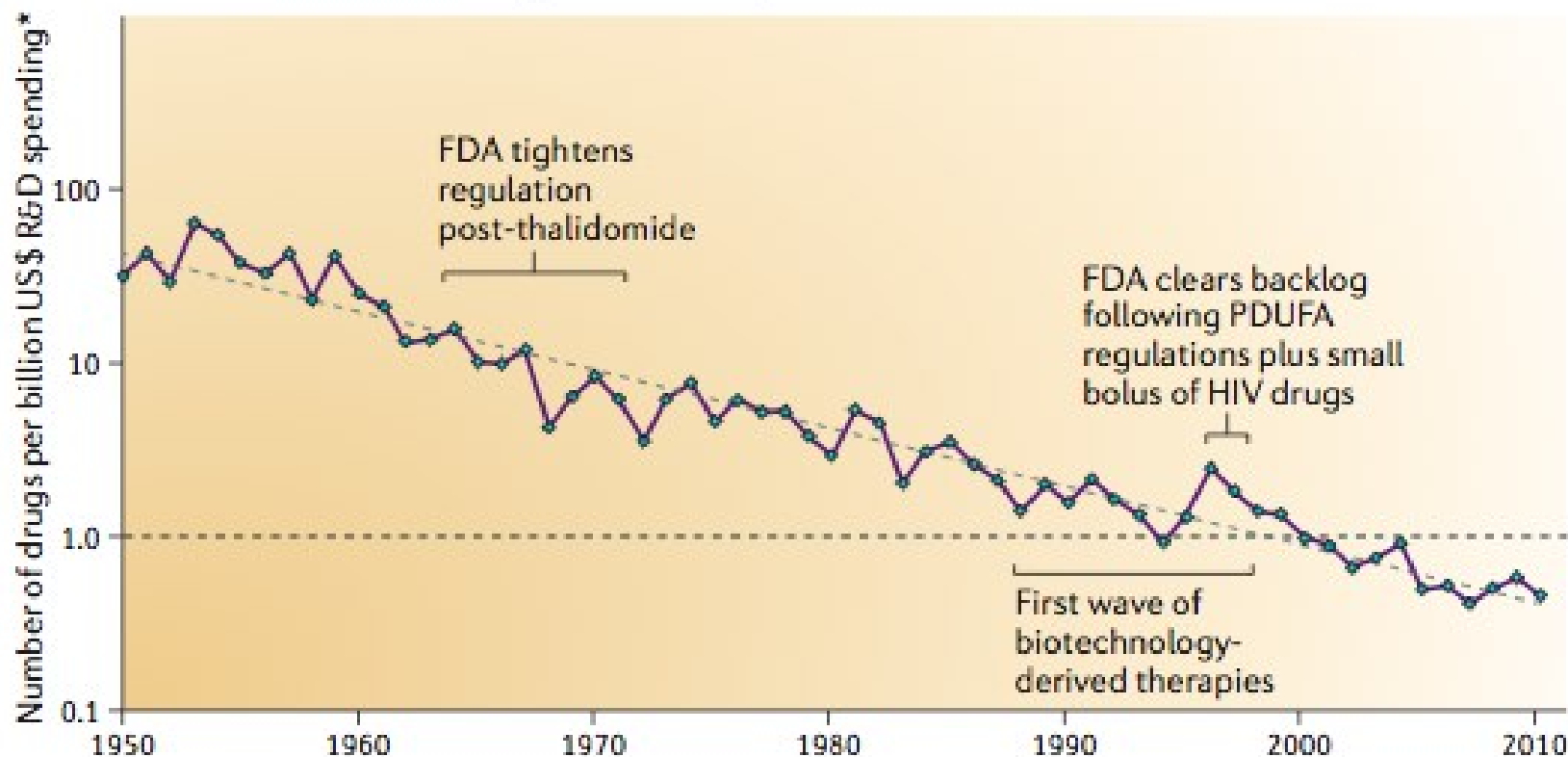
**Understanding that misleading animal tests make a problem**

$$f(\text{trash can}) = \text{trash can}$$



# ***FDA-approved drugs per billion \$ R&D (inflation corrected) “Eroom’s Law”***

**a Overall trend in R&D efficiency (inflation-adjusted)**



**Scannell et al., Nature Rev. Drug Disc. 2012**

**Average cost**  
**\$4-11 billion**  
**Forbes 2012**

**95% fail**  
**(Arrowsmith**  
**2012)**

**1:**  
**toxicity not**  
**predicted**  
**- 40% no efficacy**



**Research**



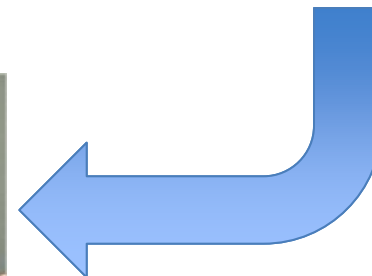
**Drug development**



**Clinical trials**

**1 in 100 patients**  
**in hospitals dies**  
**from adverse**  
**drug reactions**

**47 drugs**  
**withdrawn**  
**since 1990**

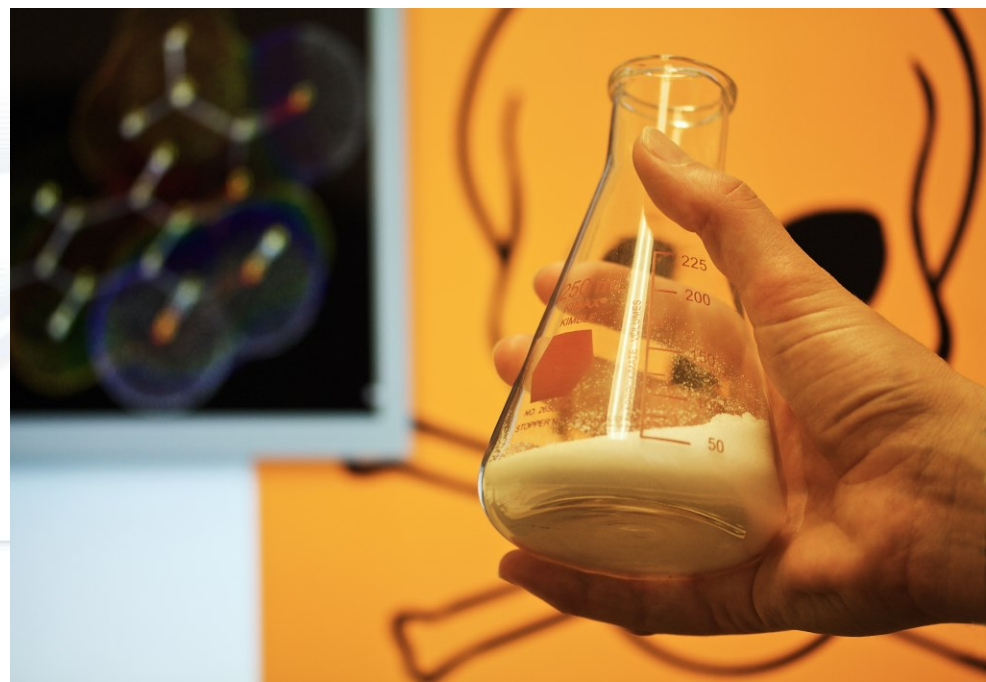
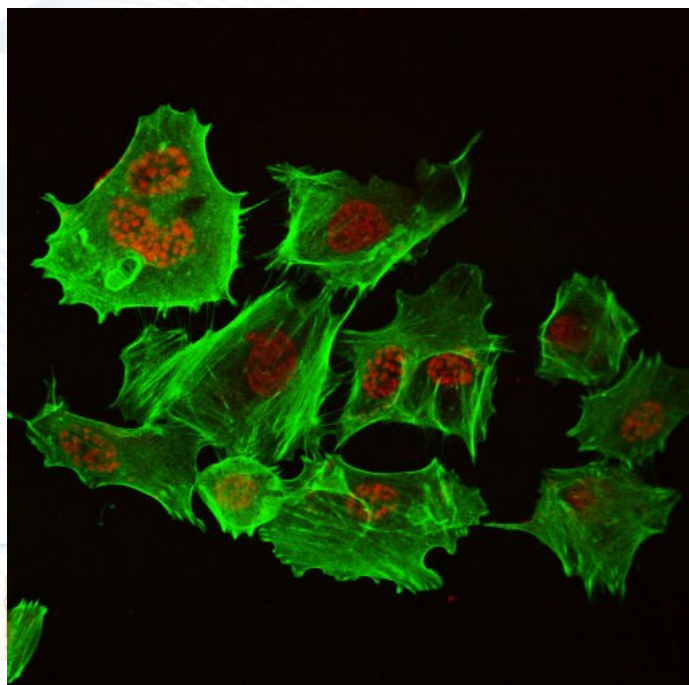






## 3<sup>rd</sup> frontier

**Understanding and overcoming shortcomings of current *in vitro* tests**



## *Limitations of in vitro models*

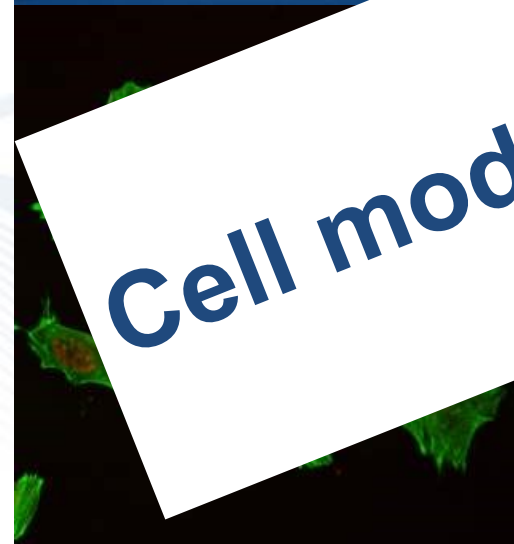
- Mycoplasma
- Dedifferentiation
- growth

**Cell models have not less limitations**

metabolism and

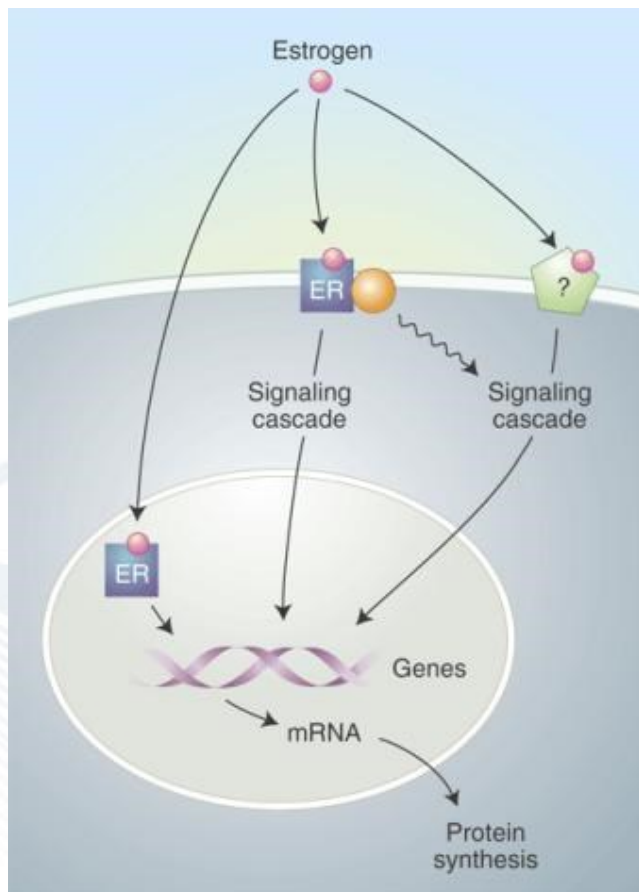
use

- Unknown fate of test compounds in culture
- Tumor origin of many cells
- Cell identity



# Mapping the Human Toxome by Systems Toxicology

## Endocrine disruption

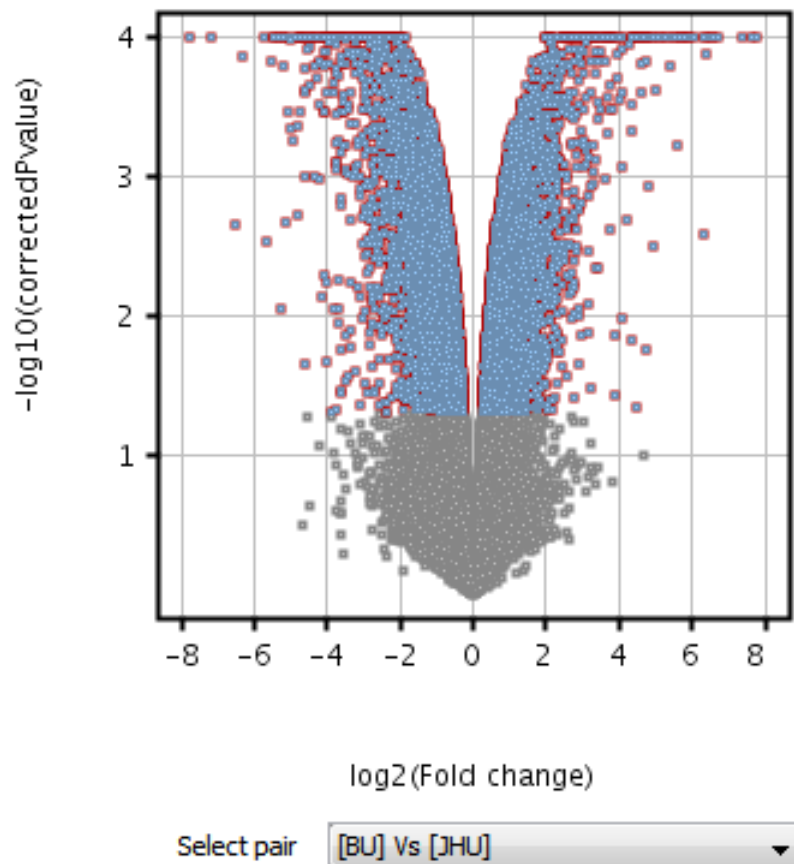


- **Use “omics” to map PoT for endocrine disruption**
- **Develop software tools**
- **Identify PoT**
- **Develop a process for PoT annotation, validation**
- **Establish public database on PoT.**

[www.humantoxome.com](http://www.humantoxome.com)

Hewitt et al., 2005. *Science*, 307:1572-1573

# Comparison of MCF-7 in two laboratories



Same batch from ATCC

Method transfer

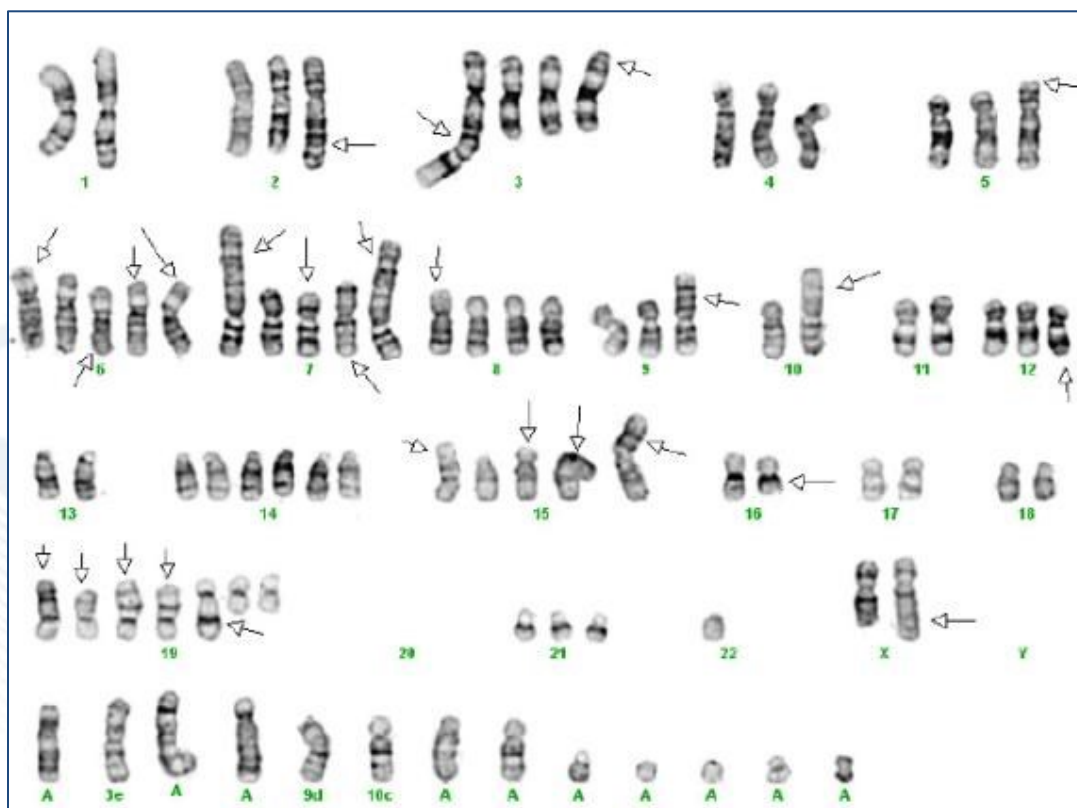
Transcriptomics

negative controls, 4h, gene level,  $n = 3$  / group



# *QA of cell system is of critical importance*

## Good Cell Culture Practice (Coecke et al. 2005)



## Karyotyping

## ***Extent of deviations from normal genome***

<b>Classification</b>	<b>Kilobases</b>	<b>Percentage of genome</b>
Losses	4587603	51.2%
Deletions	667374	7.5%
Amplifications	26904	0.3%
Gains	2587093	28.9%
Normal	871166	9.7%
Centromeres	217339	2.4%
Total Abberations	7868974	87.8%
All Entries	8957479	

**SurePrint G3 ISCA CGH+SNP Microarray Kit, 4x180K**

**115234 CGH features.2440 CGH replicate probes, 59647 SNP features  
reference mapping: caucasian female human reference DNA**



# *Good Cell Culture Practice Collaboration*

**Coecke et al. (2005), secretariat: David Pamies**

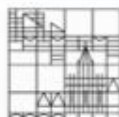


**Workshops**  
**Jun, Baltimore**  
**Dec, Konstanz**



THE EUROPEAN UNION REFERENCE LABORATORY  
FOR ALTERNATIVES TO ANIMAL TESTING

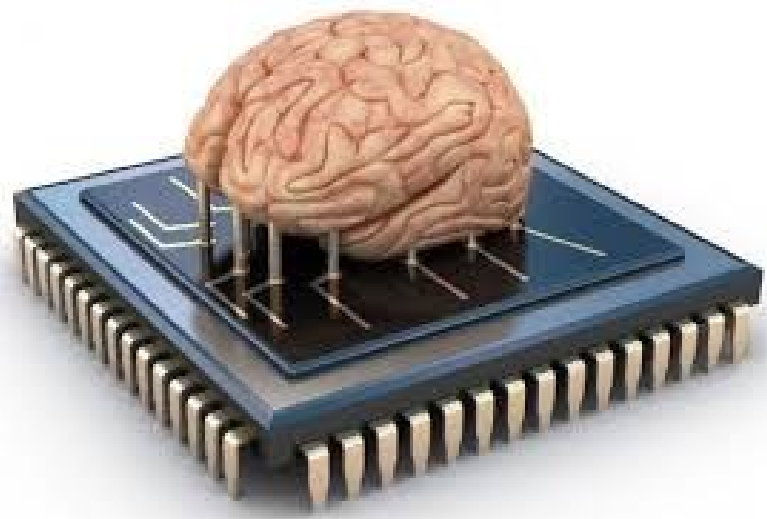
**Advancing Public Health  
and Animal Welfare**



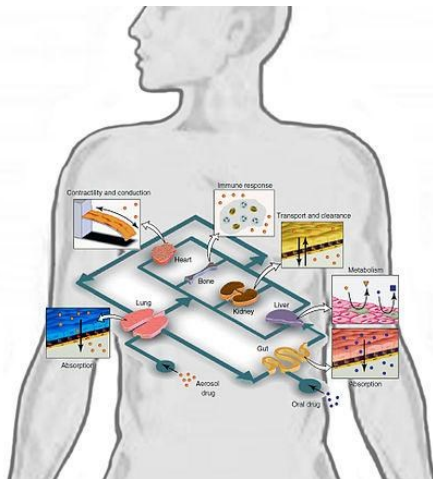


## 4<sup>th</sup> frontier

**Creating organo-typic cell cultures  
& organs on chip**



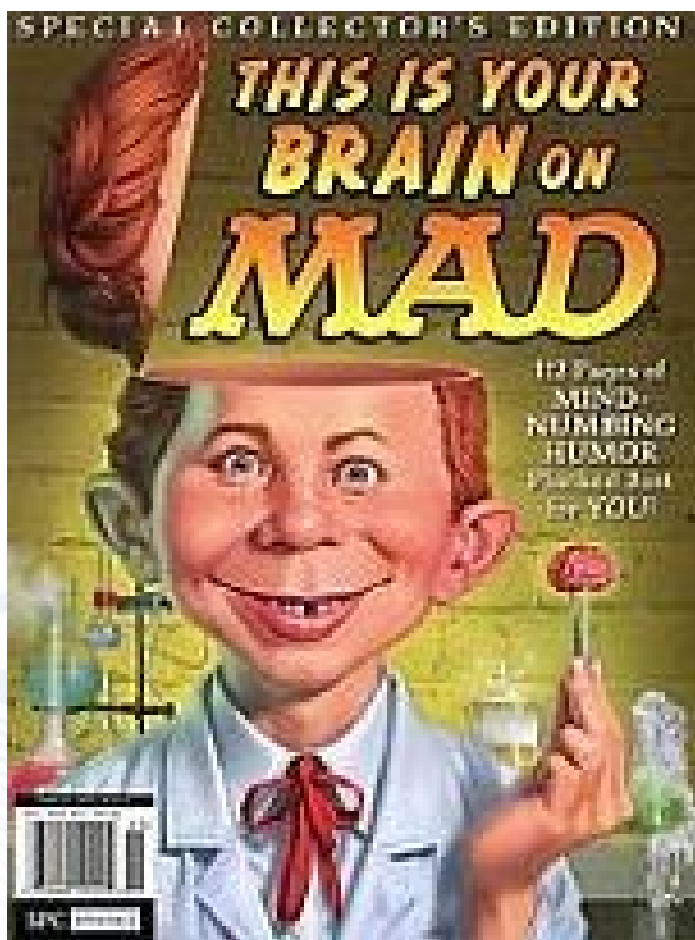




<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Organ-on-a-chip>

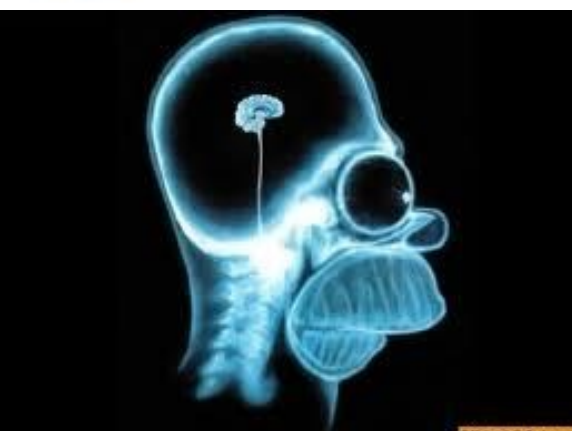
**21<sup>st</sup> century  
toxicology starts  
with 21<sup>st</sup> century  
cell culture**

**Stem cells &  
Organo-typic  
culture & High-  
content**



## *Our mini-brain project*



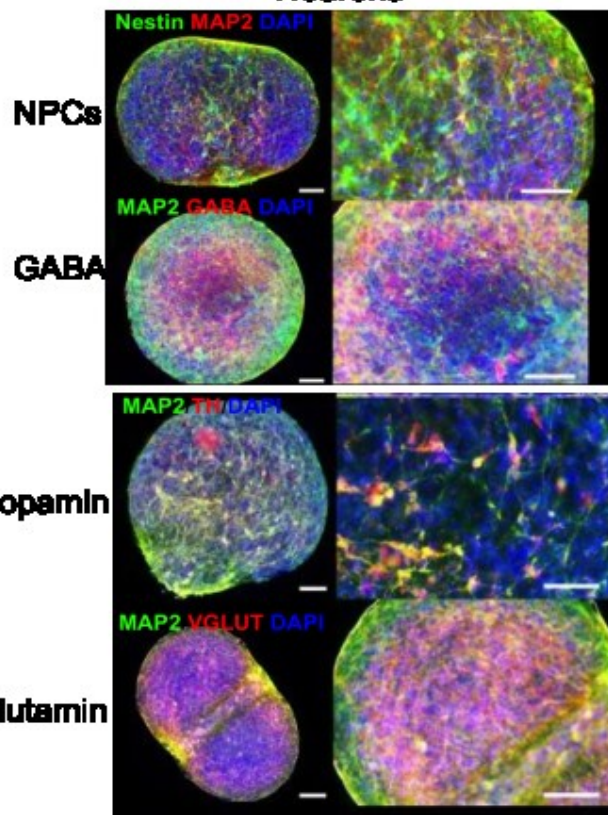


# Summary

## Human “mini-brain” developing from iPSC

- All cell types but micro-glia
- 350um diameter
- 800 per batch
- Reproducible
- Electrophysiological active
- From patient cells:  
gene/environment  
interactions

Neurons

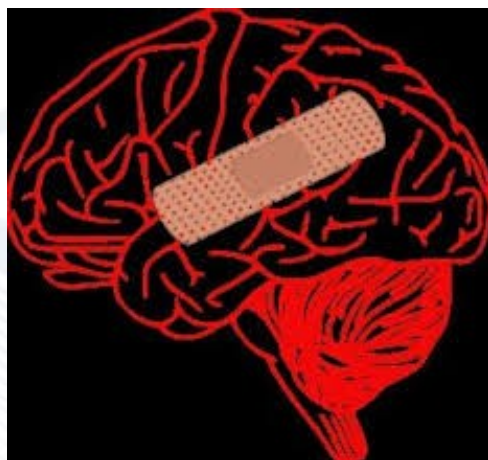






## *Opportunities for human mini-brain research*

- Map the neurotoxic chemical universe
- Characterization of medical countermeasures
- Neurotoxic and DNToxic side effects
- Brain trauma, infectious disease and neurodegenerative disease research
- Individual susceptibility using patient iPSC – genetic risk factors
- Long-term culture and co-culture with other organs







## 5<sup>th</sup> frontier

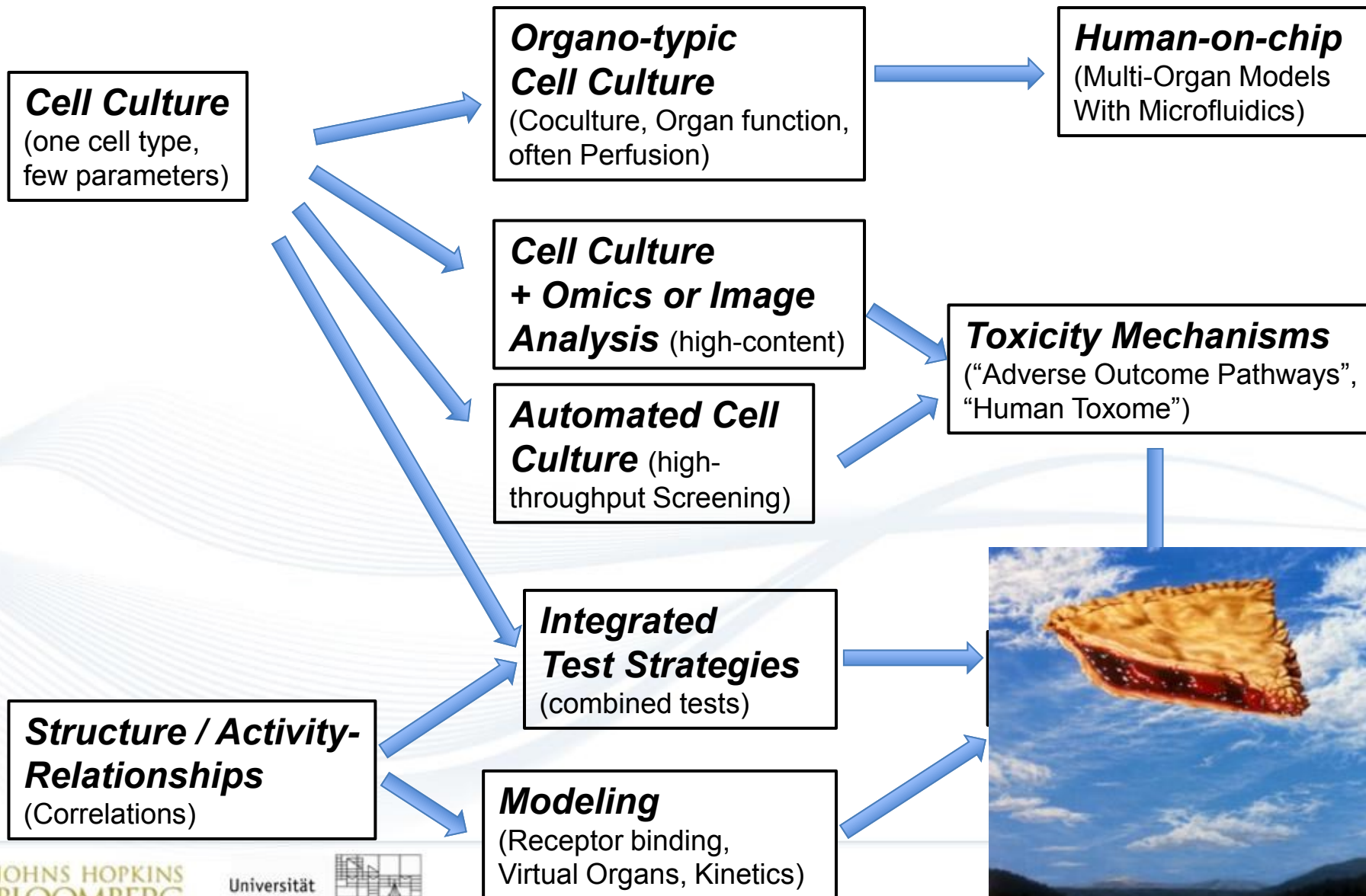
**Embracing other new technologies  
and approaches**



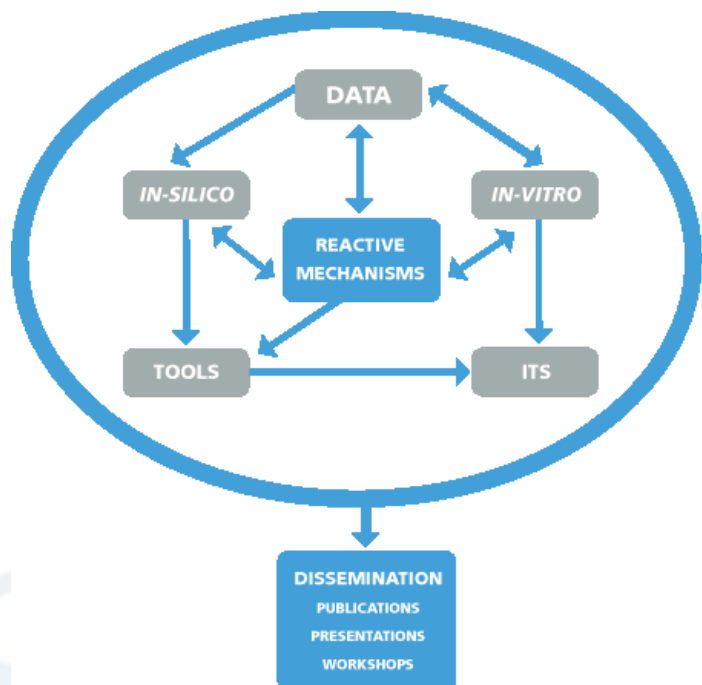
## Early Alternatives

## Today

## Future



# Integrated Testing Strategies



- Many PoT = many tests
- Need for data integration
- Use of multiple information, not stand-alone replacement
- OECD: Integrated Approaches to Testing and Assessment (IATA)  
= ITS + kinetics + exposure + RA

**Toxicology will make more use of Integrated Testing Strategies**



# Food for Thought ... Integrated Testing Strategies for Safety Assessments

*Thomas Hartung<sup>1,2</sup>, Tom Luechtefeld<sup>1</sup>, Alexandra Maertens<sup>1</sup>, and Andre Kleensang<sup>1</sup>*

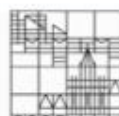
<sup>1</sup>Johns Hopkins University, Bloomberg School of Public Health, CAAT, Baltimore, USA; <sup>2</sup>University of Konstanz, CAAT-Europe, Germany



## **t4 Workshop Report\***

# **Integrated Testing Strategies (ITS) for Safety Assessment**

*Costanza Rovida<sup>1</sup>, Nathalie Alépée<sup>2</sup>, Anne M. Api<sup>3</sup>, David A. Basketter<sup>4</sup>, Frédéric Y. Bois<sup>5</sup>, Francesca Caloni<sup>6</sup>, Emanuela Corsini<sup>7</sup>, Mardas Daneshian<sup>1</sup>, Chantra Eskes<sup>8</sup>, Janine Ezendam<sup>9</sup>, Horst Fuchs<sup>10</sup>, Patrick Hayden<sup>11</sup>, Christa Hegele-Hartung<sup>12</sup>, Sebastian Hoffmann<sup>13</sup>, Bruno Hubesch<sup>14</sup>, Miriam N. Jacobs<sup>15</sup>, Joanna Jaworska<sup>16</sup>, André Kleensang<sup>20</sup>, Nicole Kleinstreuer<sup>17</sup>, Jon Lalko<sup>3</sup>, Robert Landsiedel<sup>18</sup>, Frédéric Lebreux<sup>19</sup>, Thomas Luechtefeld<sup>20</sup>, Monica Locatelli<sup>21</sup>, Annette Mehling<sup>18</sup>, Andreas Natsch<sup>22</sup>, Jonathan W. Pitchford<sup>23</sup>, Donald Prater<sup>24</sup>, Pilar Prieto<sup>25</sup>, Andreas Schepky<sup>26</sup>, Gerrit Schüürmann<sup>27,28</sup>, Lena Smirnova<sup>20</sup>, Colleen Toole<sup>29</sup>, Erwin van Vliet<sup>30</sup>, Dirk Weisensee<sup>10</sup> and Thomas Hartung<sup>1,20</sup>*





## Research Article

Received: 9 February 2015,

Revised: 6 April 2015,

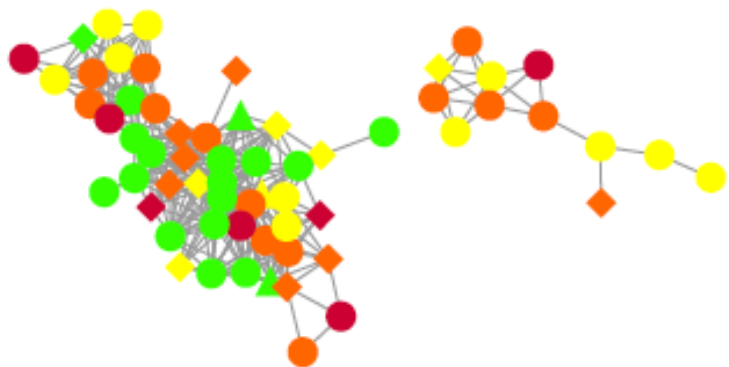
Accepted: 13 April 2015

Published online in Wiley Online Library

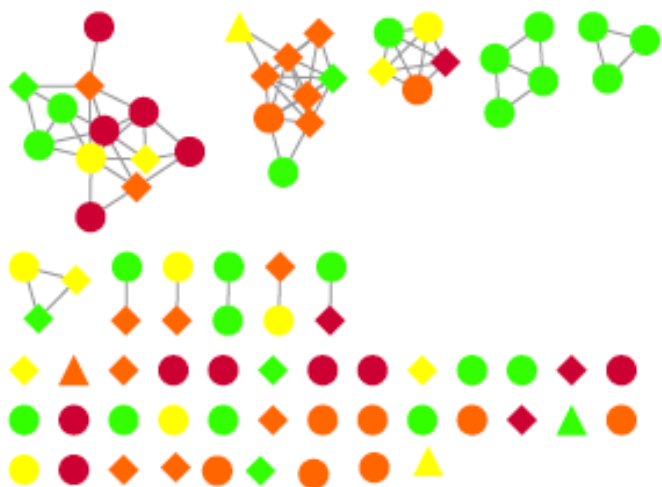
(wileyonlinelibrary.com) DOI 10.1002/jat.3172

# Probabilistic hazard assessment for skin sensitization potency by dose–response modeling using feature elimination instead of quantitative structure–activity relationships

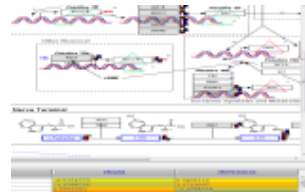
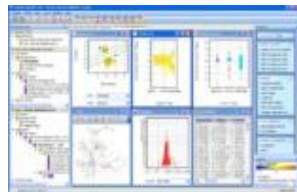
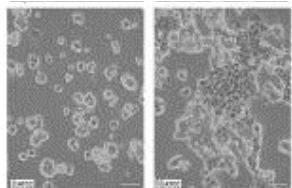
Thomas Luechtefeld<sup>a†</sup>, Alexandra Maertens<sup>a†</sup>, James M. McKim<sup>b</sup>,  
Thomas Hartung<sup>a,c\*</sup>, Andre Kleensang<sup>a</sup> and Vanessa Sá-Rocha<sup>a,d</sup>



- Structure alone does not suffice
- Feature elimination as good or better than QSAR
- Supervised machine learning optimizes ITS for skin sensitization **potency**
- Hidden Markov Chain reduces extreme misclassification
- Accuracy 60-70%, off-by-one-class >90% standing cross-validation



Chemical similarity map (Tanimoto index)



**In vitro  
model**

**omics data  
generation**

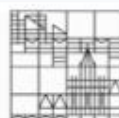
**Software  
tools**

**Pathways  
of Toxicity**

**Validation  
tools**

**Human  
Toxome  
Database**

# Mapping the Human Toxome by Systems Toxicology



## Review Article

Journal of  
**Applied Toxicology**

Received: 5 November 2012,

Revised: 10 February 2013,

Accepted: 11 February 2013

Published online in Wiley Online Library

(wileyonlinelibrary.com) DOI 10.1002/jat.2874

# Review: Toxicometabolomics

**Mounir Bouhifd<sup>†</sup>, Thomas Hartung<sup>\*†</sup>, Helena T. Hogberg<sup>†</sup>,  
Andre Kleensang<sup>†</sup> and Liang Zhao<sup>†</sup>**

**METABOLOMICS  
3 WORKSHOPS  
2 INFODAYS**



## Quality Assurance of Metabolomics

**Mounir Bouhifd, Richard Beger, Thomas Flynn, Lin Guo, Georgina Harris, Helena Hogberg, Rima Kaddurah-Daouk, Hennicke Kamp, Andre Kleensang, Alexandra Maertens, Shelly Odwin-DaCosta, David Pamies, Donald Robertson, Lena Smirnova, Jinchun Sun, Liang Zhao, and Thomas Hartung**



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## EUToxRisk21 to start this autumn

Project aims to put mechanistic-based alternative toxicity testing in a regulatory context

17 June 2015 / Europe, Risk assessment, Test/non test methods

François Busquet, Johns Hopkins University, Center for Alternatives to Animal Testing, CAAT Europe Policy Coordinator, Brussels

### François Busquet: Why Europe needs the Human Toxome Project

**30.05.2012 - What is the Human Toxome Project? It's a wide-reaching programme aimed at helping us to reconsider how hazard/risk assessment has been performed over the last 50 years on marketed substances like chemicals, cosmetic products, pharmaceuticals, pesticides, biocides and feedstuffs.**

It's necessary because most of the scientific community now accepts that animal models for testing the safety of these products have more limitations than advantages. In basic terms, the loose genetic homology to humans is no match for modern cell-culture technology, which promises to be much more apt to correctly predict toxic effects in humans. These cell cultures can

CO.DON (D)	2.80 EUR	5.26%
<b>FLOP</b>		
ANTISOMA (UK)	1.32 GBP	-14.84%
XENETIC BIOSCIENCES (UK)	6.00 GBP	-14.29%
PAION (D)	3.18 EUR	-7.29%

NO LIABILITY ASSUMED, DATE: 22.06.2014



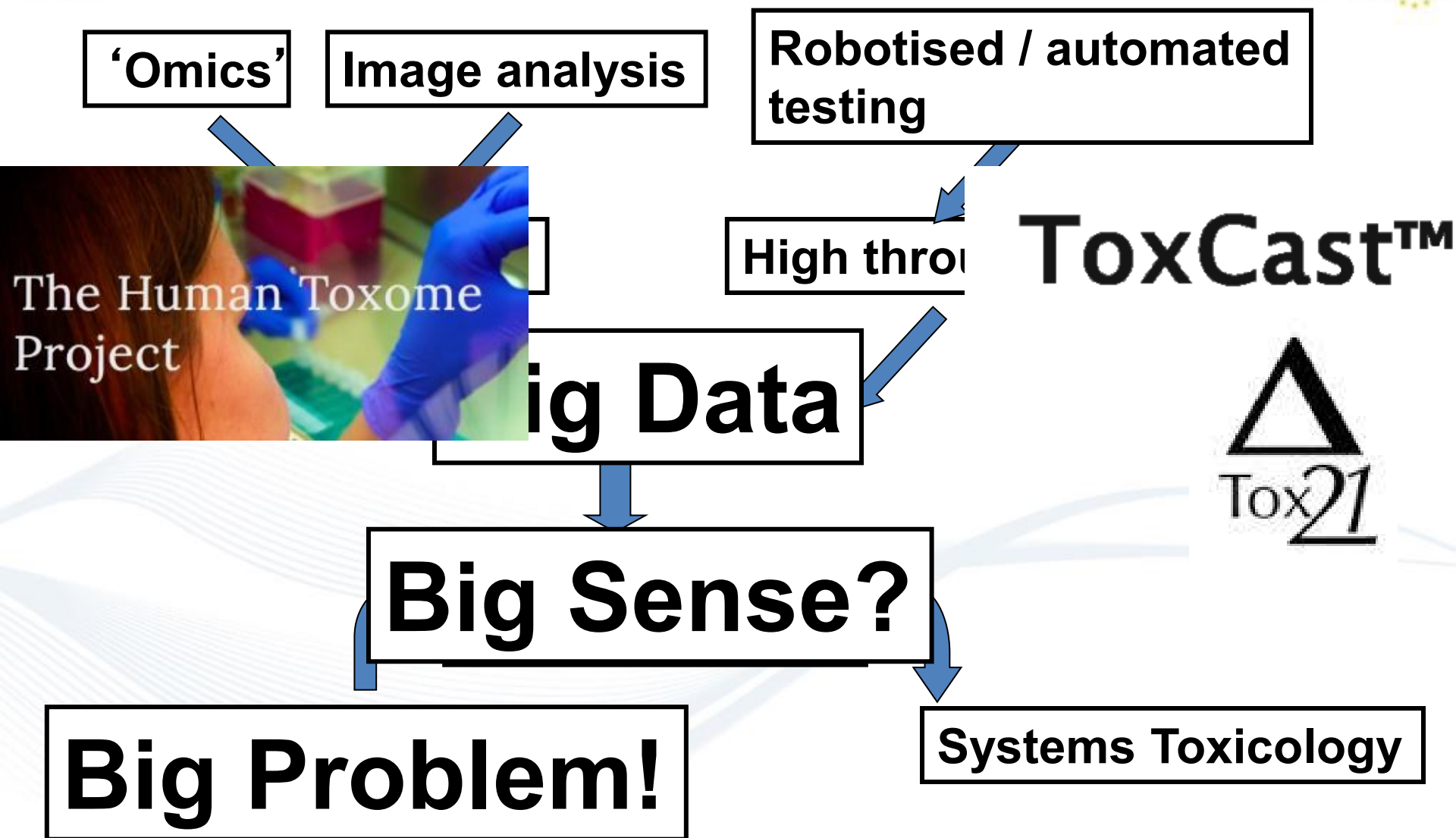
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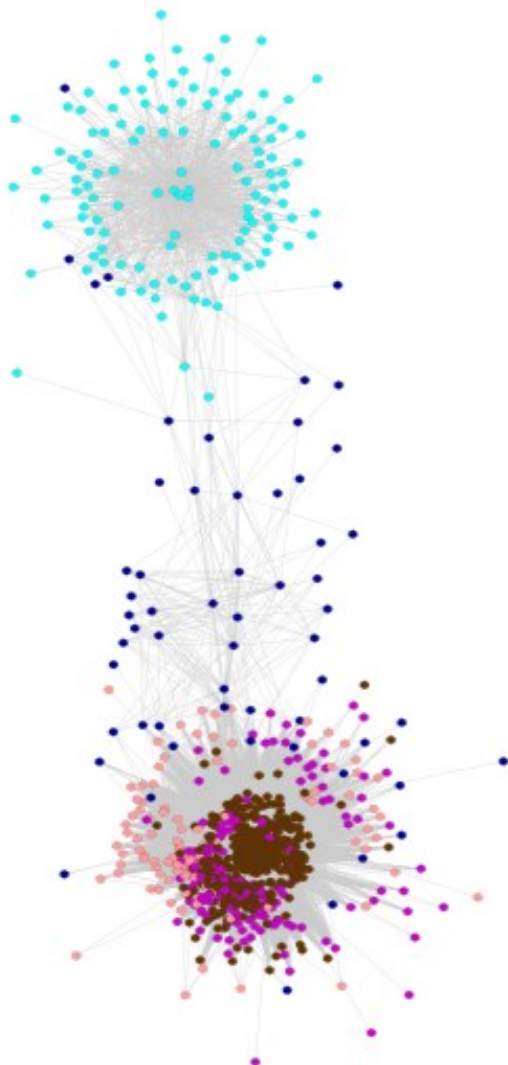


**6<sup>th</sup> frontier**

**Big data & bioinformatics**







**Fig. 1** Network generated by WGCNA, colored by module, using spring-embedded bio-layout based on edge strength

Arch Toxicol  
DOI 10.1007/s00204-015-1509-6

IN VITRO SYSTEMS

## MPTP's Pathway of Toxicity Indicates Central Role of Transcription Factor SP1

Alexandra Maertens<sup>1</sup> · Thomas Luechtefeld<sup>1</sup> · Andre Kleensang<sup>1</sup> · Thomas Hartung<sup>1,2,3</sup>

Arch Toxicol (2015) 89:809–812  
DOI 10.1007/s00204-015-1512-y

GUEST EDITORIAL

## Developing tools for defining and establishing pathways of toxicity

Melvin E. Andersen<sup>1</sup> · Patrick D. McMullen<sup>1</sup> · Daniel Krewski<sup>2,3</sup>

Arch Toxicol  
DOI 10.1007/s00204-015-1497-6

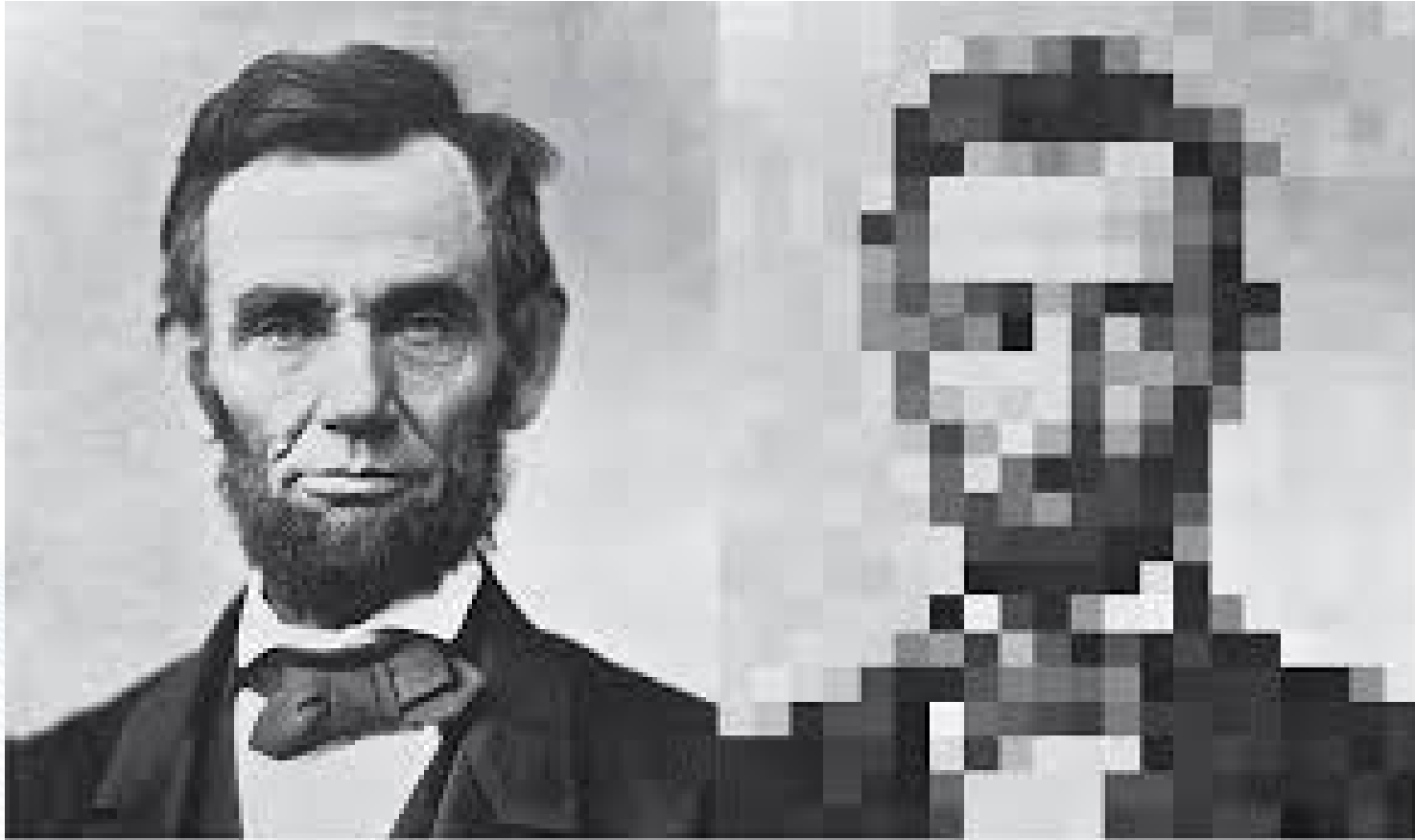
GUEST EDITORIAL

## From smoking guns to footprints: mining for critical events of toxicity pathways in transcriptome data

Jörg Rahnenführer · Marcel Leist



*You don't need perfect resolution to recognize something important*





**7<sup>th</sup> frontier**

**Handling evidence differently**



2006-7: Publication / 1<sup>st</sup> conference

Mar 2011: US EBTC

Oct 2011: Secretariat at CAAT

[www.ebtox.com](http://www.ebtox.com)

Jan 2012: First conference hosted by EPA

Jun 2012: EU EBTC

**Diverse working groups**

Jul 2013: IUTOX, Seoul, Korea

Sep 2013: EuroTox, Interlaken, Switzerland

**Systematic reviews increasingly embraced  
by EPA/IRIS, NTP and EFSA**

Nov 2014: Forum Systematic Reviews

Feb 2015: FDA Training

*1st International Forum towards  
Evidence-Based Toxicology (EBT)  
October 15-18, 2007, Como, Italy*



## New organization in progress:

- Board of directors
- Scientific Advisory Council
- Secretariat / administration

## New BoD Members

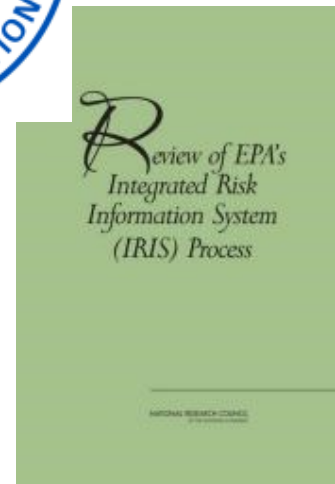
- **Jack Fowle, retired, EPA (Pres)**
- Jim Freeman, ExxonMobil
- Ian Kimber, U. of Manchester
- **Rob de Vries, SYRCLE (VP)**
- Nancy Beck, ACC
- Thomas Hartung, Hopkins
- Thomas Singer, Hoffmann-LaR.
- Andrew Rooney, NTP/OHAT

Ex officio, non-voting:

**Katya Tsaouin (director), Sebastian Hoffmann & Martin Stephens**



# Systematic review & related approaches: Gaining acceptance in toxicology



Feb. '15 Workshop



## 8<sup>th</sup> frontier

# Pragmatism - Getting the rubber on the ground



GREENTOXICOLOGY

# Giving screening the green light

By working with toxicologists while they're designing new compounds, chemists can avoid problems further down the chain, as Emma Davies reports



## *Green Toxicology Collaboration*

- Connecticut, Dec 2012
- Baltimore, Nov 2013
- Zurich, Switzerland  
23 Oct 2014
- Frankfurt, Mar 2014
- SoT 2015, San Diego
- **EUROTOX Sep 2016,  
Istanbul**
- **TRAINING !!!**

# *Read-across Collaboration*



**ALTEX 2014, 31:387-396**

## **Food for Thought ...**

## **Read-Across Approaches – Misconceptions, Promises and Challenges Ahead**

*Grace Patlewicz<sup>1</sup>, Nicholas Ball<sup>2</sup>, Richard A. Becker<sup>3</sup>, Ewan D. Booth<sup>4</sup>, Mark T. D. Cronin<sup>5</sup>, Dinant Kroese<sup>6</sup>, David Steup<sup>7</sup>, Ben van Ravenzwaay<sup>8</sup> and Thomas Hartung<sup>9\*</sup>*

**International Steering Group & Whitepaper  
Workshop in Baltimore Oct 8-9, 2015**

**“Good Read-across Practice”**

**Stakeholder Fora Brussels & Washington early 2016**

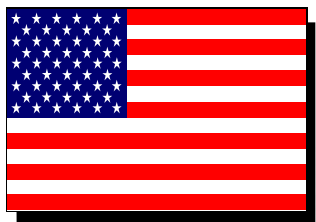




## 9<sup>th</sup> frontier

### Managing the trans-Atlantic divide

Top-down development  
of new toxicological tools



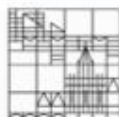
**Tox-21c**



**3Rs**



Bottom-up support to  
alternative methods and  
legislative pressure



NON SOLO PER I

# CONIGLI

Ridurre la sperimentazione sugli animali si può. Con il vantaggio di far diventare **PIÙ RIGOROSI I TEST SULLA SICUREZZA DEI PRODOTTI**

di Alan M. Goldberg  
e Thomas Hartung



78 LE SCIENZE

- Better science
- Less animals
- Human relevance
- Faster and cheaper results
- Refinement

- Information, Grants
- Think tank
- New tools, quality control
- EU branch, policy program
- Stakeholder consensus

## *Funding from industry, philanthropy and research funding agencies*



**The Bernice Barbour Foundation**



**THE ESTHER A. & JOSEPH KLINGENSTEIN FUND, INC.**

...and individuals





# CAAT-Europe 2010

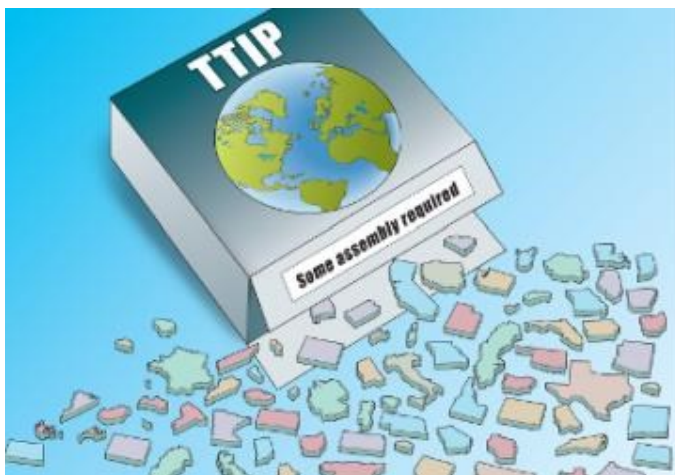
**US Policy program 2006  
EU center of excellence**

**EU Policy program 2012**

transatlantic cooperation







## *Challenge and opportunity of TTIP for harmonization of regulation*





## 10<sup>th</sup> frontier

**In a global market, no new method will be used until the last important region accepts it.**



# ***Toward humane science***

**CAAT**



In vitro  
testing



**ECVAM**



Russell  
and  
Burch



Validation



Tox-21c



**Yes, we  
can!  
Let's do  
it!**

***“There is a destination  
but no way:  
what we call ‘The Way’,  
is our hesitation.”***



**Franz Kafka**