

## CURRICULUM VITAE

**Name:** John Edgar French, Ph.D.

**Position** Professor

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### **EDUCATION**

- 1975-1978 Post-doctoral research in radiation biology and cancer. NCI-NNMC, 9000 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda, MD (Mentor: Dr. Sigmund J. Baum, NNMC)
- 1970-1975 Ph.D., Physiology and Cell Biology; North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC (Mentors: Drs. E. Hodgson and J. Roberts)
- 1967-1968 Environmental Physiology, Colorado State University, Ft. Collins, CO (Mentor: Dr. W. Marquardt)
- 1965-1967 M.S., Physiology and Immunology; Mississippi State University, State College, MS (Mentors: Drs. B. Glick and R. Sadler)
- 1961-1965 B.S., Zoology and Chemistry, Mississippi State University, State College, MS

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- 7/1/19-Present Professor, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Gillings School of Global Public Health, Department of Nutrition & Nutrition Research Institute, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27599 & Kannapolis, NC 28081  
*Research focused on pre-clinical genetically-diverse models for translation to nutrition and health outcomes related to diet-induced obesity, environmental exposures, and associated co-morbidities (cancer, type 2 diabetes, metabolic syndrome, etc. in at risk human populations.*
- 9/1/2017- 6/30/2019 Visiting Professor, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Gillings School of Global Public Health, Nutrition Research Institute, Kannapolis, North Carolina 27599. *Responsibilities have included development and implementation of pre-clinical mouse models and infrastructure for precision nutrition using genetically-diverse Collaborative Cross*

*Recombinant Inbred Lines (CC RIL) and Diversity Outbred mice (DO). Experimental models developed with UNC faculty for nutritional intervention in fetal alcohol syndrome disorder, obesity heterogeneity and associated diseases (atherosclerosis, diabetes, salt sensitivity, and basic studies of host genetics on inter-individual differences in metabolomics and gut microbiota.*

2013-Present      Adjunct Associate Professor, Center for Pharmacogenetics and Individualized Therapy (Dr. Tim Wiltshire, Director), Eshelman School of Pharmacy, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC 27599. *Responsibilities have included interacting with faculty and students, participating in lecture courses focusing on inter-individual differences in serious adverse reactions by providing invited lectures and serving on student academic and research committees.*

2007-2013      Branch Chief, Host Susceptibility, National Toxicology Program (John Bucher, Ph.D., Associate Director, NTP), National Toxicology Program, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, NIH, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27709 USA. *Responsibilities included supervision of a team of Ph.D. level scientists to develop and manage a multidisciplinary research and testing program focused on developing our understanding of the genetic basis for population-level differences for both toxicant exposures and/or disease susceptibility. This multidisciplinary research initiative will aid understanding of how and why substances in our environment are hazardous to some individuals and not to others. Asthma, cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes, and obesity are a few examples of diseases associated with multiple interacting genes and their allelic variants that are induced or influenced by environmental exposure to toxins and xenobiotic chemicals. Specific research projects included the use of population-based panels of laboratory and wild-derived inbred mice linking exposure to genetic susceptibility, population variation in ADME and toxicokinetics, and genome wide linkage and mapping studies for toxicity phenotypes, mouse aging and spontaneous disease profiles for the Collaborative Cross and DO mice founder strains for reference, DNTP/DIR mouse methylome reference using C57BL/6, C3H/He, and their F1 hybrid to establish within and between strain differences in methylation marks and parent of origin effects using DNA-Seq, Bis-Seq, and RNA-Seq under NTP standard dietary and environmental conditions. The Host Susceptibility Branch supports the NIEHS & NTP mission by planning, designing, conducting, and analyzing a multi-model assessment of the xenobiotic chemicals that are associated with human diseases or disease processes (e.g., cytotoxicity, tissue regeneration, DNA damage and repair, nuclear receptor-based hormonal signaling, immunosuppression, mitochondrial energetics, xenobiotic metabolism, etc.) resulting from gene-environment interactions.*

- 2001-2007 Group and NTP Discipline Leader, Transgenic Carcinogenesis, Laboratory of Molecular Toxicology (John Pritchard, Ph.D., Acting Chief), Environmental Toxicology Program, Division of Intramural Research, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, NIH, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, USA. *Genetically modified rodent models of cancer were developed and used for short-term cancer bioassays to complement conventional studies for the identification and characterization of presumptive genotoxic or immunosuppressive human carcinogens. Genes and their allelic variants associated with susceptibility to chemical and physical carcinogens that induced the loss of tumor suppressor gene function and increased tumor progression were investigated using molecular biology and genetic analysis through hypothesis-based research.*
- 1996 to 2001 Unit and Discipline Leader, Transgenic Carcinogenesis, Laboratory of Environmental Carcinogenesis and Mutagenesis (Raymond W. Tennant, Ph.D., Chief), Environmental Toxicology Program, Division of Intramural Research, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, NIH, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, USA. *Genetically modified mouse models of carcinogen and nutrient-gene interactions that modulate the cellular redox state, mitogenesis, and apoptosis were investigated to identify modes of action and predictivity for human carcinogens.*
- 1990 to 1996 Research Physiologist, Laboratory of Environmental Carcinogenesis and Mutagenesis (Raymond W. Tennant, Ph.D., Chief), Environmental Carcinogenesis Program, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, NIH, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina USA. *Investigated p53 tumor suppressor gene function in chemically induced mutagenesis and carcinogenesis were investigated for the identification of carcinogens using p53 haploinsufficient mice carrying a *λ*liza transgene for rapid in vivo mutagenesis for short-term cancer and mutagenesis.*
- 1989 to 1990 Senior Scientist, US Public Health Service Foreign Work/Study Fellowship; Combined Nordic Studies, Project on Molecular Genetics, Institute of Occupational Health, Helsinki, Finland. *RAS proto-oncogene mutations and chromosomal abnormalities associated with a loss of heterozygosity at known sites of tumor suppressor genes were investigated in asbestos and smoking related human lung and pleural membrane tumors from occupational exposed workers.*
- 1984 to 1989 Physiologist, Carcinogenesis and Toxicology Evaluation Branch (James K. Selkirk, Ph.D., Chief), Division of Toxicology Research and Testing, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, NIH, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina USA. *Study design, data evaluation and interpretation, and reporting (technical reports/scientific literature) on NTP/NIEHS toxicology and carcinogenesis studies. Management and administration of NTP contracted studies at a major contract laboratory. Technical evaluation and monitoring of study conduct, costs, and laboratory performance by site visit evaluation and reports are essential elements.*

- 1982 - 1984      Physiologist, Carcinogenesis and Toxicology Evaluation Branch (Bernard Schwetz, DVM, Ph.D., Chief), Division of Toxicology Research and Testing, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, NIH, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina USA. *Study director, Carcinogenesis Bioassays; Independent research on chemically induced lesions in the hematopoietic system of rats and mice.*
- 1978 - 1982      Supervisory Research Physiologist (Blood and Blood Products Branch (Joseph Fratantoni, M.D., Chief), Division of Blood and Blood Products, National Center for Drugs and Biologics, NIH and Food and Drug Administration, Building 29, NIH, 8800 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland USA. *Cell physiology of inflammatory cells and stem cells isolated from leukapheresis and counter flow centrifugal pheresis before and after cryopreservation for transplantation was investigated. In addition, I was responsible for review of investigational and new drug applications related to therapeutic uses of blood, stem cells, and associated products.*
- 1976 - 1978      Supervisory Research Physiologist, Department of Experimental Hematology (Sigmund Baum, Ph.D., Director), Radiobiology Research Institute, National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Maryland USA. *Research focused on radiation biology and physiology of cell transfusion therapy for immunosuppression, septicemia, and shock.*
- 1973 - 1975      Post-Doctoral Fellow in Radiation Biology and Toxicology of Mammalian Systems (Sigmund Baum, Ph.D., Mentor), Department of Experimental Pathology, Radiobiology Research Institute, National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Maryland USA. *Radiation biology and the dysregulation of cell function in hematopoietic stem cells and inflammatory cells and xenobiotic metabolism was the focus of this training program.*
- 1970 - 1973      NIEHS Pre-doctoral Student in Molecular Toxicology and Comparative Biochemistry (Drs. John F. Roberts and E. Hodgson), Inter-Departmental Graduate Program in Toxicology, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North Carolina USA. *Drug metabolism, reactive intermediates and DNA damage response and replication in prokaryotes and eukaryotes were investigated.*
- 1968 - 1970      Instructor of Biology & Physiology (Howard Erikson, Ph.D., Chairman), Department of Biological Sciences, Towson State University, Baltimore, Maryland USA. *Taught immunology and physiology courses to undergraduate students in Biology Department and Nursing programs.*

**HONORS, AWARDS, and FELLOWSHIPS**

Visiting Professorship, Precision Nutrition, UNC Nutrition Research Institute, Kannapolis, NC 2017 –2018.

NIH Merit Award for demonstrating the importance of genetically diverse mouse models in understanding how and why environmental substances are hazardous to some individuals and not to others. February 13, 2013.

President and President-Elect, The Genetics and Environmental Mutagenesis Society, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, USA, 2008—2010.

NIH Merit Award for development of the NTP Host Susceptibility Initiative, 2008.

President, Carcinogenesis Specialty Section, Society of Toxicology, 2005—2006.

Visiting Professor, Department of Environmental Sciences & Engineering, School of Public Health, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, USA, 2004-2005.

President, Carcinogenesis Specialty Section, Society of Toxicology, 2005—2006.

NIH Merit Award for Genetically Modified Mouse Models for Carcinogenesis Research, 2001.

NIH Intramural Research Award: Antioxidants and Cancer, 1998.

NIH Intramural Research Award: IGF-1 and Urinary Bladder Cancer, 1996.

Sustained Performance Award, Laboratory of Environmental Carcinogenesis and Mutagenesis, Environmental Carcinogenesis Program, NIEHS, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, USA, 1996

US PHS Foreign Work/Study Fellowship: Combined Nordic Ministries Project on Human Molecular Genetics, Helsinki, Finland (Sponsor: Drs. Richard Griesemer, DTRT, NIEHS and Phil Chen, NIH), 1989 to 1990

PHS NIH Special Achievement Award: Providing Direction and Guidance in Branch Use of Computers for Meeting Program Goals and Office Automation (Sponsor: Dr. James Selkirk), 1988.

Outstanding Employee, Radiobiology Research Institute, National Naval Medical Center, 1977 and 1978 (Sponsor: Dr. S. Baum).

NIEHS Traineeship in Molecular Toxicology and Comparative Biochemistry, (Mentors: Drs. John Roberts and Ernest Hodgson), 1970-1975

***Post-Graduate Training and Education in Mammalian Genetics:***

Short Course on Complex Trait Analysis and Statistical Genetics, The Jackson Laboratory, 2007, High Seas, Bar Harbor, ME

Short Course on Experimental Genetics of The Laboratory Mouse in Cancer Research, The Jackson Laboratory, 1996, High Seas, Bar Harbor, ME

Short Course on Medical and Experimental Mammalian Genetics, The Jackson Laboratories, 1988, Bar Harbor, ME

***Intramural/Extramural Committees/Faculties Service:***

NTP Bimolecular Screening Faculty 2009-2013 (Kristine Witt, Chair)

NTP Toxicogenomics Faculty 2008-2013 (Nigel Walker, Chair)

NIEHS Conferences and Distinguished Lecture's Committee 2009-2013

External Advisory Board for UNC-CH-MIT Bioengineering Research Partnership in Toxicology, 2007-2012

NCI-Mouse Models of Human Cancer Consortium – Ad hoc Prevention Advisory Committee (Cory Abate-Shen, Chair) 2011

NTP/NIEHS Management Committee 2009-2010 (Nigel Walker, Chair)

NIEHS Bioinformatics Search Committee 2008-2009 (Tom Kunkel, Chair)

External Advisory Board for Systems Genetics Program, Oak Ridge National Laboratories, Oak Ridge, TN 2007-2009

Planning and Development of the NTP Host Susceptibility Initiative (Lead, October 2006 – October 2007) (John Pritchard, Chair)

Review of the Use of Transgenic Rodent Models for the Environmental Toxicology Program (John Pritchard, Chair), 2001-2002

*p53 Model Assay Working Group, Alternatives to Carcinogenicity Testing Committee*, International Life Sciences Institute, Health and Environmental Sciences, Washington, DC, 1998-2002

Transgenic Models Faculty, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, 1996-2001

*Animal Use and Care* (Robert Chapin, Chairman) Division of Intramural Research, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, 1993-1998

*Career Development and Training* (Paul Nettesheim, Chairman) Division of Intramural Research, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, 1998

*Transgenic Technology and Use Committee* (Mitch Eddy, Chairman) Division of Intramural Research, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, 1994-96

*Special Emphasis Review Panel*, CSR, NIGMS, NIH for RO1 Grant Reviews, 1996, 1998, 2001, 2002

### ***Society Membership***

American Society of Nutrition

Complex Traits Community

Genetics and Environmental Mutagenesis Society

Society of Toxicology

### ***Journal Referee***

*Archives of Toxicology, Cancer Research, Carcinogenesis, Chemico-Biological Interactions, Environmental Health Perspectives, Frontiers in Genetics, International Journal for Cancer, Nature Genetics, NIEHS Intramural Manuscript Review, Nutrition & Cancer, Oncogene, PLoS*

*One, PLoS Biology, PLoS Genetics, Science, Toxicological Pathology, and Toxicological Sciences*

***Chair and Organizer for NIH, Regional, National, and International Meetings***

1. Population based animal models for discovery of complex traits, American Society of Human Genetics, October 22-26, 2013, Boston, MA.
2. NextGen Mouse Models: The Use of Population Based Mouse Models in Toxicology, Toxicology Forum, July 8-11, 2013, Aspen, CO.
3. Genetics & Epigenetics – The Link Between Individual Genomes-Environment Interaction and Toxicity, International Congress of Toxicology 2013, June 30-July 4, Seoul, Korea.
4. Genetics: The Link Between Exposure, Gene X Environment Interaction, and Toxicity, Society of Toxicology, March 7-11, 2010, Salt Lake City, UT, USA.
5. Dissecting Genome Structure, Genetic Traits, and the Basis for Complex Diseases, Genetics and Environmental Mutagenesis Society, October 5, 2009, The Friday Center, UNC-Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC.
6. Genome Architecture: The Role for Copy Number and Structural Variation, Genetics and Environmental Mutagenesis Society, April 13, 2009, Research Triangle Park, NC.
7. Genetic Susceptibility – The Link between Environmental Exposure and Human Disease, NIH Research Festival, October 14, 2008, Bethesda, MD
8. Host Susceptibility and Chemical Safety Testing: New Approaches to Estimate Risks in The Human Population, Co-Chair with Ivan Rusyn, M.D., Ph.D., 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society of Toxicology, March 18, 2008, Seattle, WA.
9. 5<sup>th</sup> Complex Traits Consortium, Chapel Hill, NC, Co-Chair with David Threadgill, UNC-CH, May 6-9, 2006, Chapel Hill, NC.
10. Alternatives to Carcinogenicity Testing Using Genetically Altered Rodent Models for Carcinogen Identification and Determining Mechanisms of Action, American College of Toxicology, November 3, 2003, Washington, DC.
11. *p53 and RasH2 Mouse Models*, International Workshop on Genotoxicity, Plymouth, England, June 27-29, 2002.

***Invited Symposia/Workshop Presentations:***

1. How does genetic diversity affect metabolism and cancer risk? Cancer and Metabolism Symposium, Turku Center for Disease Models, December 13-14, 2016, Turku, Finland.
2. Using Diversity Outbred Mice to Identify the Genetic Basis for Toxicity Thresholds and Susceptibility, Genetics and Environmental Mutagenesis Society, April 15, 2015, USEPA, Research Triangle Park, NC.
3. Identifying G X E Interactions and Thresholds for Toxicity in Diversity Outbred Mice. Population-based Rodent Resources for Environmental Health Sciences Meeting, March 18-19, 2015, NIEHS, Research Triangle Park, NC.
4. Integrating pathology and toxicology with genetics using MAGIC Mice, American College of Veterinary Pathology, November 7-12, 2014, Atlanta, GA, USA.

5. Mapping Susceptibility QTLs for GEI and Environmental Toxicity, American Society of Human Genetics, October 13-16, 2013, Boston, MA.
6. Population Based Mouse Models for Toxicology and Carcinogenesis, International Congress of Toxicology, July 3, 2013, Seoul, Korea.
7. A new genetically diverse mouse population model reveals individual susceptibilities to benzene genotoxicity, Mouse Models for Human Cancer Consortium, June 18, 2013, Bethesda, MD.
8. The Use of Population-Based Inbred Panels and Diversity Outbred Mouse Models to Explore Individual Variability and Toxicity to Benzene, Society of Toxicology, March 14, 2013, San Antonio, TX.
9. Using Population-based Models to Explore Individual Variability and Susceptibility to Toxicity, Michigan Society of Toxicology, December 1, 2012, Ann Arbor, MI.
10. *Genetic Basis of the Response to Drugs and Chemicals*, STP Mechanisms of Toxicity, Annual Meeting, June 24-28, 2012, Boston, MA USA.
11. *DNA damage phenotypes in diversity outbred (J:DO) mice are associated with QTLs demonstrating allele specific resistance and susceptibility*, Complex Trait Community, The Pasteur Institute, June 12-15, 2012, Paris, France,
12. *Using In Vivo Animal Models to Explore Individual Variability in Toxicity, Biological Factors that Underlie Individual Susceptibility to Environmental Stressors, and Their Implications for Decision-Making*. National Academy of Sciences, April 18-19, 2012, Washington, DC.
13. *Ionizing Radiation Induced DNA Damage, Strand Break (DSB) Repair and Lymphohematopoietic Disease In Vivo and In Vitro*, Mouse Genetics 2011, June 24, 2011, Washington, DC.
14. *The Host Susceptibility Initiative: A new NTP research and testing strategy and paradigm for hazard characterization and risk assessment*, Society of Toxicology, March 7-11, 2010, Salt Lake City, UT.
15. *Benzene Mode of Action, Hazard, and Risk Characterization in Genetically-Defined and Modified Mouse Models*, Benzene 2009: Health Effects and Mechanisms of Bone Marrow Toxicity, September 10, 2009, Munich, Germany.
16. *Genetically Modified Mouse Models for Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment in Toxicology and Carcinogenesis: Strengths and Weaknesses*, Society of Toxicologic Pathology, June 23, 2009, Washington, DC.
17. *Genetic Susceptibility: The Link Between Exposure and Disease*, ICCA-LRI Workshop, June 16, 2009, Charleston, SC.
18. *Genetic susceptibility to DNA strand break damage, loss of heterozygosity (genomic instability), and cancer*, NIH Research Festival, October 14, 2008, Bethesda, MD.
19. *The radiation induced tumor and DNA strand break repair phenotype in p53 deficient and wildtype mouse hematopoietic stem cells (HSC) in vivo and in vitro is genetic background dependent*, Phenotyping of Model Organisms, CTC/QTRN Satellite Conference, May 31, 2008, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.



20. *Host susceptibility and individual susceptibility to environmental agents and diseases*, Host Susceptibility and Chemical Safety Testing: New Approaches to Estimate Risks in The Human Population, Co-Chair, 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society of Toxicology, March 18, 2008, Seattle, WA.
21. *Genetically-Engineered Mouse Models for Hazard Identification and Risk Extrapolation: A Brief Overview on the 20th Anniversary*, CEA-TAC Symposium, 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society of Toxicology, March 17, 2008, Seattle, WA.
22. *Identification of Presumptive Human Carcinogens and their Mode of Action using Toxicogenetics*. Approaches to determining whether a carcinogen is acting via a genotoxic mode of action, 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the SOT, March 25, 2007, Charlotte, NC.
23. *NTP Host Susceptibility Initiative: Genetic Variation and Susceptibility to Toxicity*, Toxicology Forum, July 10, 2007, Aspen, CO.
24. *Gene-Environment Interaction in a Mouse Model for Susceptibility to Carcinogen Induced DNA Damage*. Second Annual Conference CRG - Unveiling Genome-Wide DNA Variation in 15 Diverse Mouse Strains, September 25, 2006, Research Triangle Park, NC.
25. *Genetic Susceptibility to Ionizing Radiation Induced Loss of Heterozygosity in Mouse and Human Hematopoietic Stem Cells*, 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Complex Traits Consortium Meeting, May 7, 2006, Chapel Hill, NC.
26. *Signaling pathways for DNA damage and repair, apoptosis, and lymphoid progenitor survival are deregulated by N-acetyl-L-cysteine*. DNA Evaluation and Repair, Co-Chair and presenter, 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the SOT, March 8, 2005, New Orleans, LA.
27. *Genotoxic stress and genomic instability in the p53 haploinsufficient mouse*. C.L. Davis Symposium, Hoffman-La Roche, December 10, 2004, Nutley, NJ.
28. *The role of the p53 haploinsufficient mouse model in toxicology and cancer studies*. American College of Toxicology, November 3, 2003, Washington, DC.
29. *Alternative carcinogenicity testing with the FVB/N-TgN<sup>Led</sup> (v-Ha-Ras) and the B6;129-Trp53<sup>tm1Brd</sup> (N5) genetically altered mouse models*. DIA, June 16, 2003, San Antonio, TX.
30. *An overview of selected transgenic models used for carcinogen identification*. NTP Workshop, February 20, 2003, Washington, DC.
31. *p53 and Ras function in cancer*. Japanese Society for Animal Models of Human Disease, November 6 & 7, 2002, Tokyo, Japan.
32. *New Models for Toxicology and Carcinogenesis*. Food Safety Symposium, American Chemical Society, August 18 & 19, 2002, Boston, MA.
33. *Alternative models for identification of potential human carcinogens*. Fourth International Congress for Alternatives, August 14 & 15, 2002, New Orleans, LA.
34. *p53 and RasH2 mouse models for identification of carcinogens*. UK Environmental Mutagen Society, July 3, 2002, Plymouth, England.

35. *The application of mechanistic information from transgenic animal studies for identification and characterization of presumptive human carcinogens.* Workshop on Mechanistic Considerations in the Molecular Epidemiology of Cancer, International Agency for Research on Cancer, November 14-17, 2001, Lyon, France.
36. *The development, characterization, and use of the TSG-p53 haploinsufficient and the Tg.AC (v-Ha-Ras) mouse models for rapid identification of carcinogens.* Eighth International Conferences on Environmental Mutagenesis. October 24, 2001, Shizuoka, Japan.
37. *p53 and Hras2 transgenic tumor models working group.* Eighth International Conferences on Environmental Mutagenesis. October 22, 2001, Shizuoka, Japan.
38. *Application of transgenic models in toxicology* (A CE Course Sponsored by the IUTOX). Chinese Toxicology Society, October 15-16, 2001, Nanjing, China.
39. *The development, characterization, and use of genetically altered mouse models for identification of carcinogens.* American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine, April 3, 2001, Point Clear, AL.
40. *The nature of the p53 haploinsufficient mouse model.* ILSI/HESI Evaluation of Alternative Methods for Carcinogenicity Testing, November 1-3, 2000, Leesburg, VA.
41. *p53 Haploinsufficiency, genetic susceptibility, and environmental Carcinogenesis.* Thirty-Eighth Hanford Symposium on Health and the Environment, October 19-20, 2000, Richland, WA.
42. *Immune suppression and immunomodulation in genetically altered mouse models.* Mechanisms of Immunomodulation, September 23, 1999, Bethesda, MD.
43. *Benzene leukemogenesis: an environmental carcinogen induced tissue specific model of neoplasia using genetically altered mouse models.* Benzene State of the Science Workshop, December 15-17, 1998, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Canada.
44. *Genetically altered mouse models for rapid identification and investigation of carcinogens.* Alternative Toxicological Methods for the 21st Century: Protecting Human Health and Advancing Animal Welfare, December 3, 1998, Bethesda, MD.
45. *Identification and investigation of mutagenic carcinogens using the heterozygous p53 deficient mouse model.* American College of Toxicology, November 11, 1998, Orlando, FL.
46. *Identification and investigation of mutagenic carcinogens using the heterozygous p53 deficient mouse model.* 1st Rodent Models of Modern Risk Assessment Meeting, The Jackson Laboratory, , September 8-12, 1998, Bar Harbor, ME.
47. *Studies in the heterozygous p53 deficient mouse model.* NTP Board of Scientific Counselors, NIEHS, NIH, February 5, 1998, Research Triangle Park, NC, USA.
48. *The use of transgenic animals in cancer testing.* Colloquium on scientific advances and the future in toxicologic risk assessment: 50th Anniversary of the National Research Council's Committee on Toxicology, December 4-5, 1997, Washington, DC.
49. *Genetically altered mouse models for predicting mutagenicity and carcinogenicity.* American College of Toxicology, November 10, 1997, Washington, DC.

50. *The heterozygous p53 deficient mouse model for cancer endpoints in safety assessment.* Drug Information Association Workshop, October 26 & 27, 1997, Noordwijk, The Netherlands.
51. *Transgenic models for mutagenesis and carcinogenesis: testing of xenobiotics.* Eighth Annual North American ISSX Meeting, October 26-30, 1997, Hilton Head, SC.
52. *Evaluation of transgenic mouse models for drug and chemical safety assessment.* Second Annual Conference on Molecular Toxicology, IBC, April 28-30, 1997, Rockville, MD
53. *Applications of transgenic models in toxicology.* Monsanto Annual Toxicology Symposium, May 5, 1997, Creve Coeur, St. Louis, MO.
54. *Susceptibility of Tg.AC (v-Ha-Ras) and p53 deficient transgenic mouse lines to environmental carcinogens identified in long-term bioassays.* US-Japan Workshop: Genetic and Environmental Actions in Cancer, Susceptibility in Animal Models, NIH, March 27-28, 1997, Bethesda, MD.
55. *Update of benzene studies in transgenic mouse models.* The 22nd Winter Toxicology Forum, February 22-27, 1997, Washington, DC.
56. *Rapid identification of mutagenic carcinogens in tumor suppressor gene p53 deficient (+/-) mice.* December 4-6, 1996, Barton Creek, TX.
57. *Alternative in vitro and in vivo assays using genetically altered mice for predicting carcinogenicity.* American College of Toxicology, November 10, 1996, Valley Forge, PA.
58. *Rapid identification of in vivo mutagenic carcinogens using the p53 deficient (+/-) mouse with a lacI neutral reporter gene.* 14th Annual GEMS Fall Meeting, October 11, 1996, Research Triangle Park, NC.
59. *Short-term mutagenesis and carcinogenesis assays in genetically altered mice.* Genetic Toxicology of Pharmaceuticals, American Society of Industrial Microbiology, August 6, 1996, Research Triangle Park, NC.
60. *Indirect Mechanisms of Carcinogenesis.* Food and Drug Administration Workshop, March 4-5, 1996, Bethesda, MD.
61. *Correlation between mutagenic carcinogens induced mutant frequency and tumorigenesis in  $\lambda$ liza:p53<sup>def</sup> (+/-) F1 transgenic mice.* Transgenic Mice in Mutation Research, March 20-23, 1996, Sidney, BC, Canada.
62. *Validation of the p53 deficient mouse carcinogenesis model.* 1995 Toxicology Fall Workshop; Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturing Association, October 5-6, 1995, Rockville, MD.
63. *The bi-transgenic lacIq:p53def mouse model for mutagenesis and carcinogenesis studies.* Mini-Symposium on the Use of Transgenic Mice for Short Term Bioassays, National Institute of Public Health and Environmental Protection, November 10, 1995, Utrecht, The Netherlands.
64. *Chemical effects in transgenic mice In Vivo Transgenic Models,* International Congress of Toxicology-VII, July 2-6, 1995, Seattle, WA.

65. *Short-term chemical carcinogenesis studies in Big Blue™ TSG-p53™ deficient mice.* Midwest Society of Toxicology, May 20, 1994, Chicago, IL.
66. *The p53 deficient mouse model for mutagenesis and carcinogenesis studies. Potential use of transgenic mouse models for in vivo mutagenesis and carcinogenesis studies.* Gene Therapy Symposium, Glaxo, November 9, 1993, Research Triangle Park, NC.
67. *Chemical effects in transgenic mice.* Environmental Carcinogens and Risk Assessment, November 30, 1993, Barton Creek, TX.
68. *Short-term carcinogenesis studies in mice haploinsufficient for the wildtype p53 tumor suppressor gene.* Use of Transgenic Animal Models in Biomedical Research. American College of Toxicology, October 5, 1993, New Orleans, LA.
69. *US NTP summary results on organic solvent toxicology and carcinogenesis studies in rats and mice.* Toxicology of Industrial Chemicals Symposium, 11th Annual Meeting of the Finnish Society of Toxicology, May 25-26, 1990, Tampere, Finland.

### ***Selected Invited Seminars***

1. Interindividual Genetic Variation and Biological Relevance: The Collaborative Cross and Diversity Outbred Mice: New Models for Gene x Environment Interaction (GEI) Investigations. May 4, 2017, UNC Nutrition Research Institute, Kannapolis, NC.
2. Mapping susceptibility QTLs for gene-environment interactions and environmental toxicity. January 14, 2014, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC.
3. Using Population-based Models to Explore Individual Variability and Susceptibility to Toxicity in Environmental Health Research. University of North Carolina at Greensboro, March 20, 2013, Greensboro, NC.
4. Using Population-based Models to Explore Individual Variability and Susceptibility to Toxicity in Environmental Health Research, November 30, 2012, Center for Molecular Toxicology and Carcinogenesis, Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA.
5. GWAS in Diversity-Outbred mice exposed to benzene reveals candidate genes for resistance and susceptibility alleles to genotoxicity. September 11, 2012, National Advisory Environmental Health Sciences Council, Research Triangle Park, NC.
6. *Mouse GWAS in diversity outbred mice reveals resistance and susceptibility alleles to benzene hematotoxicity and genotoxicity*, July 2, 2019, ILS, RTP, NC.
7. *Host susceptibility: Why some people might get cancer and others don't!* May 29, 2012, DNTP Post-Doctoral IRTA Seminar, NIEHS, RTP, NC.
8. *The CC/DO mice in toxicology.* May 23, 2012, The NIH Deputy Directors, Bethesda, MD.
9. *ADME & HAM*, November 20, 2009, The DNTP Forum, RTP, NC.
10. *Genetic Susceptibility - The Link between Exposure, Toxicity, and Disease*, January 29, 2009, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ.
11. *Genetic Susceptibility – The Link between Exposure, Toxicity, and Disease*, October 15, 2008, CDER, USFDA, White Oak, MD.
12. *Genetic Susceptibility to LOH and Cancer.* LPC/LMT Seminars, October 12, 2006, NIEHS, RTP, NC.

13. *Genetically altered mouse models for carcinogens of presumptive risk to humans.* January 18, 2005, NCEA, USEPA, Washington, DC.
14. *Genotoxic stress and genomic instability in the p53 haploinsufficient mouse.* LPC/LMT Seminars, NIEHS, October 7, 2004, RTP, NC.
15. *Genetically altered rodent models and mechanisms of carcinogenesis.* April 16, 2004, Pfizer, Kalamazoo, Michigan.
16. *The role of tumor suppressor gene haploinsufficiency in genomic instability and cancer.* February 25, 2003, NHERRL, Triangle Park, NC.
17. *p53 Haploinsufficiency, LOH, and Genomic Instability.* November 11, 2002, National Cancer Research Center, Tokyo, Japan.
18. *p53/Tg.AC/RasH2 transgenic mouse models for carcinogen identification.* November 6, 2002. IBL, Tokyo, Japan.
19. *The application of transgenic mouse models to toxicology and cancer.* April 24, 2002, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC.
20. *The role of p53 haploinsufficiency in tumorigenesis.* November 1, 2001, Laboratory of Molecular Carcinogenesis, NIEHS, RTP, NC.
21. *Use of genetically altered mouse models for pharmaceutical safety assessment.* February 12, 200, Glaxo Smith Kline.
22. *Potential roles of p53, p16Ink4a, and p19ARF in urinary bladder cancer.* December 6, 1999, NIEHS Transgenics Faculty, RTP, NC.
23. *Use of transgenic mice to identify carcinogens of potential human risk.* November 12, 1999, Department of Pathobiology, University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, Illinois, USA.
24. *Benzene leukemogenesis in transgenic mouse models.* February 19, 1998, Environmental and Occupational Health Institute, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey and Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ.
25. *Chemical carcinogenesis in the p53 haploinsufficient mouse.* January 5, 1998, Chemical Industries Institute for Toxicology, Research Triangle Park, NC.
26. *The p53 mouse model.* October 28, 1997, The National Institute of Public Health and the Environment, Bilthoeven, The Netherlands.
27. *The potential for transgenic mouse models in toxicology and carcinogenesis.* June 9, 1997, NIEHS, Molecular Oncology Faculty,
28. *The TP53 gene suppresses cancer by regulating critical signaling pathways for DNA damage and repair, apoptosis, and gene-environment interactions.* May 20, 1997, US EPA, Research Triangle Park, NC.
29. *The potential for p53 and Tg.AC mouse models in safety assessment of pharmaceuticals.* May 7, 1997, Boehringer-Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals Inc., Ridgefield, CT.
30. *Carcinogen-induced genomic instability in the p53 deficient mouse.* May 5, 1997, GD Searle and Monsanto Symposium, St. Louis, MO.
31. *p53 Mouse model for cancer.* December 2, 1996, Triangle Carcinogenesis Club, CIIT, RTP, NC.

32. *Conduct of carcinogenesis bioassays using transgenic mouse models.* November 22, 1996, Integrated Laboratory Systems, RTP, NC.
33. *Induction of LOH in the p53 deficient mouse.* May 10, 1996, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX.
34. *Mutagenesis and carcinogenesis in transgenic mouse models.* May 12, 1994, Wallenberg Laboratory, Stockholm University, Stockholm, Sweden.
35. *Modeling environmental exposures in transgenic mouse models.* February 11, 1994, Swedish Institute of Occupational Health, Division of Toxicology, Stockholm, Sweden.
36. *Investigation of tumorigenesis mechanisms in transgenic mouse models.* December 12, 1993, Karolinska Institute, Department of Tumor Biology, Solna, Sweden.
37. *Mechanisms of tumorigenesis in the p53 deficient mouse.* Karolinska Institute, Department of Nutrition and Toxicology, Huddinge, Sweden, December 18, 1993.
38. *Mechanisms of mutagenesis and carcinogenesis.* September 7, 1993, North Carolina State University, Department of Toxicology, Raleigh, NC.
39. *Role of folate deficiency in mutation frequency.* September 2, 1993, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC.

### **MENTORING AND TEACHING**

2013-Present Invited Lectures in Exposure Assessment ENVR770 (Prof. Nylander-French)  
Department of Environmental Science and Engineering, UNC-CH

#### **Research Fellows/Trainees**

- 2004-2007 Hengning Ke, M.D., Ph.D. (IRTA) (Pleiotropic functions of *BCL2* in apoptosis, cell adhesion and migration in mouse and human cells)
- 1998–2003 Keith Martin, Ph.D. (IRTA Fellow, Intramural Research Award on Antioxidant/Oxidant Modulation of Apoptosis, Cell Proliferation and Cancer)
- 2000-2002 Janis Hulla, Ph.D., Senior Research Fellow. (The *Trp53* tumor suppressor gene and suppression of tumorigenesis. Co-mentor with Ken Tindall, Ph.D., NIEHS, NIH)
- 1998-2000 Muriel Saulnier, DVM, Ph.D. (Ph.D. student, NCSU-Raleigh) Interaction between the *Hras* proto-oncogene and the *Trp53* tumor suppressor gene in benzene induced leukemogenesis.
- 1985-1988 S. Gangjee, Ph.D. (The role of *Csfl* (*cFms*) proto-oncogene activity in the origin and development of F344 rat mononuclear cell leukemia.)

#### **Student Trainees & Advisory Committees**

- 2018-Present Laura W. Taylor, Department of Environmental Sciences & Engineering, Ph.D. student, UNC-CH, Chapel Hill, North Carolina (Leena A. Nylander-French, Ph.D., CIH; Thesis Director)
- 2009–2013 Michelle Disimone, Department of Genetics, Ph.D. student, UNC-CH & NCSU, Raleigh, North Carolina (David W. Threadgill, Ph.D.; Thesis Director)

- 2007–2012 Rong Jiang, Department of Environmental Sciences & Engineering, Ph.D. student, UNC-CH, Chapel Hill, North Carolina (Leena A. Nylander-French, Ph.D., CIH; Thesis Director)
- 2006–2010 Connie Kang, Department of Environmental Sciences & Engineering, Ph.D. student, UNC-CH, Chapel Hill, North Carolina (Leena A. Nylander-French, Ph.D., CIH; Thesis Director)
- 2005–2006 Thembekile Dube, Biological Science Laboratory Technician (SIS), Earned BS (Genetics) at NCSU-Raleigh, North Carolina (NIH Bachelor of Science Trainee)
- 2003–2005 Matthew Smith, Biological Science Laboratory Technician (SIS), Earned BS (Genetics) at NCSU-Raleigh. Biologist, Cellzdirect, Inc., Pittsboro, NC (NIH Bachelor of Science Trainee)
- 1998–2003 Hayden Honeycutt, Matthew Smith, Biological Science Laboratory Technician (SIS), Earned BS (Biochemistry) at NCSU-Raleigh and PharmD. (Nuclear Pharmacy) at UNC-CH. Managing Director, Nuclear Pharmacy, Lubbock, TX. (NIH Bachelor of Science Trainee)

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### **Refereed research papers/articles (reverse order)**

1. Grimm SA, Shimbo T, Mav D, Takaku M, **French, JE** et al. Genetics, sex, and life experience-based influences on DNA methylation in mice. *Nat Comm* doi: 10.1038/s41467-018-08067-z, 10(1):305, 2019.
2. Rusyn I, Kleeberger SR, McAllister KA, **French JE**, Svenson KL. Introduction to mammalian genome special issue: the combined role of genetics and environment relevant to human disease outcomes. *Mamm Genome*. 29:1-4, 2018.
3. R Vermeulen, I Linhart, O Raaschou-Nielsen, P Gunel, A Seidler, R Andreoli, F Belpoggi, S Fustinoni, Y Hirabayashi, H Tsuda, D-H Koh, J Kirkeleit, N B Hopf, P Vineis, W A Chiu, **J E French**, J Huff, J Jinot, D M Reif, D B Richardson, D Ross, N Rothman, K Salazar, S Silver, E Symanski, R Thomas, L Zhang. Carcinogenicity of Benzene, *Lancet Oncology* 18:274-5, 2017.
4. Gatti, D, **French, JE**, Schughart, K. QTL Mapping and Identification of Candidate Genes in DO mice: A Use Case Model Derived from a Benzene Toxicity Experiment. *Methods Mol Biol*. 1488:265-281, 2017.
5. **French JE**, Gatti DM, Morgan DL, Kissling GE, Shockley KR, Knudsen GA, Shepard KG, Price HC, King D, Witt KL, Pedersen LC, Munger SC, Svenson KL, Churchill GA: Diversity Outbred mice identify population-based exposure thresholds and genetic factors that influence benzene-induced genotoxicity. *Environ Health Perspect* 123(3):237-45, 2015. [PMCID: PMC4348743].
6. Miousse IR, Currie R, Datta K, Ellinger-Ziegelbauer H, **French JE**, Harrill, AH, Koturbash I, Lawton M, Mann D, Meehan RR, Moggs JG, O'Lone R, Rasoulpour RJ, Pera RA, Thompson K. Importance of investigating epigenetic alterations for industry and regulators: an appraisal of current efforts by the Health and Environmental Sciences Institute. *Toxicology*. 335:11-9, 2015 (Epub 2015 Jun 29).

7. John P Didion, Andrew P Morgan, Liran Yadgary, Timothy A Bell, Rachel C McMullan, Lydia Ortiz de Solorzano, Janice Britton-Davidian, Carol J Bult, Karl J Campbell, Riccardo Castiglia, Yung-Hao Ching, Amanda J Chunco, James J Crowley, Elissa J Chesler, Daniel W Förster, **John E French**, Sofia I Gabriel, Daniel M Gatti, Theodore Garland Jr., Eva B Giagia-Athanasopoulou, Mabel D Giménez, Sofia A Grize, İslam Gündüz, Andrew Holmes, Heidi C Hauffe, Jeremy S Herman, James M Holt, Kunjie Hua, Wesley J Jolley, Anna K Lindholm, María J López-Fuster, George Mitsainas, Maria da Luz Mathias, Leonard McMillan<sup>22</sup>, M Graça Ramalhinho, Barbara Rehmann, Stephan P Rosshart, Jeremy B Searle, Meng-Shin Shiao, Emanuela Solano, Karen L Svenson, Pat Thomas-Laemont, David W Threadgill, Jacint Ventura, George M Weinstock, Daniel Pomp, Gary A Churchill, Fernando Pardo-Manuel de Villena. *R2d2* drives selfish sweeps in the house mouse. *Mol Biol Evol.* 33(6):1381-95, 2016.
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9. Leena A. Nylander-French, Michael C. Wu, **John E. French**, Jayne Boyer, Lisa Smeester, Alison P. Sanders, Rebecca C. Fry. DNA Methylation Modifies Urine Biomarker Levels in 1,6-Hexamethylene Diisocyanate Exposed Workers: A Pilot Study. *Toxicol Lett.* 2014 Dec 1;231(2):217-26, Letters, doi: 10.1016/j.toxlet.2014.10.024.
10. David A. Eastmond, Suryanarayana V. Vulimiri, **John E. French**, and Babasaheb Sonawane, The use of genetically modified animals in cancer risk assessment: Challenges and limitations. *Crit Rev Toxicol* 43(8):611-631, 2013.
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**Refereed technical reports**

1. Morgan DL, Dixon D, King DH, Travlos GS, Herbert RA, **French JE**, Tokar EJ, Waalkes MP, Jokinen MP. NTP Research Report on Absence of Formaldehyde-Induced Neoplasia in Trp53 Haploinsufficient Mice Exposed by Inhalation: Research Report 3 [Internet] Durham (NC): National Toxicology Program; 2017.
2. Toxicology and Carcinogenicity Studies of 3'-Azido-3'-Deoxythymidine (CAS No. 30516-87-1) in Genetically Modified C3B6.129F1-*Trp53*<sup>tm1Brd</sup> N12 Haploinsufficient Trp53 Mice, Technical Report Series GMM-14, 2011.
3. Toxicology Study of Senna (CAS No. 8013-11-4) in C57BL/6NTac Mice and Toxicology and Carcinogenesis Study of Senna in Genetically Modified C3B6.129F1-*Trp53*<sup>tm1Brd</sup> N12 Haploinsufficient Mice (Feed Studies). Technical Report Series GMM-15, 2011
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7. Toxicology and Carcinogenesis Study of Benzene (CAS No. 71-43-2) in Genetically Modified Haploinsufficient p16<sup>Ink4a</sup>/p19<sup>Arf</sup> Mice (Gavage Study) - Technical Report Series GMM-8, 2007.
8. Toxicology Studies of Dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (CAS No. 538-75-0) in F344/N Rats, B6C3F1 Mice, and Genetically Modified (FVB Tg.AC HEMIZYGOUS) Mice and Carcinogenicity Study of Dicyclohexylcarbodiimide in Genetically Modified [B6.129-*Trp53*<sup>tm1Brd</sup> (N5) Haploinsufficient] Mice (Dermal Studies) - Technical Report Series GMM-9, 2007.
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***UNC-CH CONTRACTS/GRANTS***

**Genetic and Dietary Influence on Carboplatin Efficacy and Resistance in a Population-Based Mouse Model of Basal-Like Breast Cancer.** Principal Investigator. Application/Award ID 3R35CA197627-03, 08/1/2018-07/31/2020.

**Population-based Genetic Model for Diisocyanate-induced Asthma.** French, John E., Ph.D. (Co-Investigator) CDC/NIOSH, R21 OH011562, 04/01/2018 – 03/31/2020.

***APPLICATIONS UNDER REVIEW***

Revision Application to National Cancer Institute (NCI)-supported P50 Awards. Charles Perou (PI). - **Diet-Gene Interactions in Chemotherapy Resistance in a Population-Based Mouse Model of Basal-Like Breast Cancer.** Stephen D. Hursting and John E. French. 09/01/2018 - 08/31/2023.

**Defining in utero suboptimal nutrition metabolotypes using population genetics (Diversity Outbred mice). NORC Pilot & Feasibility, 01/31/ 2019.** John E. French, Principal Investigator.

## CAREER FOCUS STATEMENT

Dr. French is Professor in the Department of Nutrition, the Nutrition Research Institute, Gillings School of Global Public Health, and Adjunct Associate Professor, Center for Pharmacogenomics & Individualized Therapy, Eshelman School of Pharmacy, The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Previously, he was Visiting Professor in both the UNC Department of Nutrition and the Department of Environmental Science and Engineering. He has focused his research and mentoring students and faculty on the development and use of the Collaborative Cross recombinant inbred lines (CCRIL) and Diversity Outbred Mice (DO) in research focused on nutrition and cancer, nutritional intervention and host genetics in fetal alcohol syndrome, diet-induced obesity (cancer, type 2 diabetes, metabolic syndrome, cardiovascular disease, etc.). These eight-way multiparental advanced generation intercross CCRIL and DO mouse models have more than 45 million single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNP) and structural variants (SV) that show an average 12% minor allele frequency (MAF) distributed randomly. Their genomic architecture provides a powerful model for genotype-phenotype analysis via genome-wide associations in complex diseases (asthma, cancer, diabetes, obesity, etc.). The genetic diversity, fine meiotic recombination intervals, and a balanced 12% minor allele frequency enable genome-wide association or linkage analysis research on complex polygenic phenotypes for health and disease. At the UNC NRI, Dr. French and colleagues have developed an active collaborative research program to establish the CCRIL and DO pre-clinical mouse models for precision nutrition research to complement clinical research. Dr. French's previous research experience was focused on gene x environment interactions (GEI) and toxicogenetics at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, NIH. Dr. French has extensive research experience and publications in genetically-engineered mouse models for investigation of host-genetic mechanisms of chemical stressors, nutrient/chemical antioxidants, and carcinogenicity as well as population-based genetically diverse Diversity Outbred (DO) mice derived from the incipient lines of the Collaborative Cross Recombinant Inbred Lines (CCRIL) to quantitatively measure host responses to nutritional and environmental insults. Most diseases are polygenic complex traits that require our understanding of inter-individual differences in disease mechanisms and treatment. Mouse models for preclinical research have been limited by investigation of the one gene at a time research paradigm using inbred mouse strains with limited genetic diversity resulting in poor translation to human research. New genetically-diverse mouse models like the CCRIL and DO offer the possibility of experimental pre-clinical studies based upon multiple interacting genes, their allelic variants, and other genomic modifiers (e.g., methylome, gut microbiota) to improve reliability and reproducibility between preclinical and clinical research. The DO and CCRIL models enable both candidate-gene and genome-wide association studies to identify quantitative trait loci and haplotype intervals for identification of DNA coding and non-coding (regulatory) sequences and assessing quantitative potential causal relationships associated with susceptibility or resistance based on exposure-response measurements. The forward genetics approach uses SNPs (to identify associated founder haplotypes) as genetic markers that are unbiased and provide a physical location for a quantitative trait locus (QTL) and the haplotype of origin. Sanger Institute in-depth and high coverage sequences for each of the founder homozygous inbred lines provides the basis for an informatics approach to analyze both coding and non-coding DNA sequences that contain genetic or epigenetic risk variants. Candidate sequences with significant effect size can thus be investigated using reverse genetic methodologies using CRISPR/Cas9 technology based on predicted network and pathways associated with the interacting QTLs (candidate risk variants) and tested for proof of biological plausibility. These predictive tools are based on large-scale databases cataloging gene-gene, gene-protein, and protein-protein interactions observed in mouse and/or human cells. Predicted networks and pathways are based on significant statistical size effects that reduce the risk for false positive outcomes and can be used to guide mechanistic research to substantiate causality and better understand disease etiology based on the NRI Precision Nutrition paradigm.