

“FROM NATURE TO THE CLINIC-MANAGING SIDE EFFECTS OF RADIOTHERAPY FOR CANCER TREATMENT”

Melpo Christofidou-Solomidou, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Medicine

*University of Pennsylvania, Department of Medicine, Pulmonary, Allergy
and Critical Care Division, Philadelphia, PA, USA*



Presentation Outline

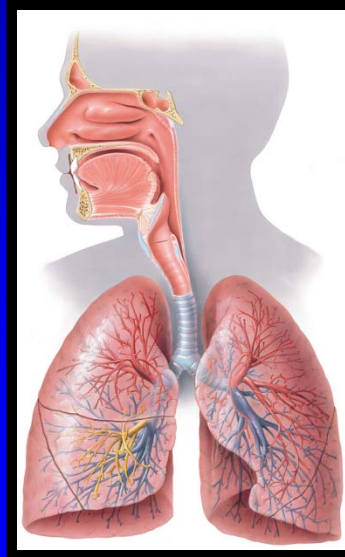
1. Introduce oxidative lung damage.
2. Radiation toxicity of normal lung tissues
3. Natural products and their use in mitigating radiation lung damage.
4. Modeling lung toxicity in rodents to study adverse effects of therapeutic radiation
5. Designing Effective Radioprotecting agents



Oxidative Lung Damage



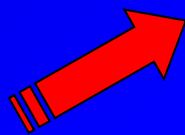
Airborne Toxins



Asbestos fibers



Blood-borne Toxins



Radiation



Oxidative/Nitrosative Stress and Radiation Lung Damage

The lung is one of the most sensitive tissues to ionizing radiation, and damage to normal lung tissue remains a major obstacle in the treatment of a variety of cancers.

An immediate effect of tissue irradiation is the generation of reactive oxygen (ROS) and nitrogen (RNS) species that can produce oxidative damage to DNA, lipids, and proteins resulting in cell injury or death



Oxidative/Nitrosative Stress and Tissue Damage

Enzymatic and nonenzymatic antioxidants (endogenous tissue defense) detoxify ROS and RNS and minimize damage to biomolecules.

An imbalance between the production of ROS/RNS and antioxidant capacity leads to "oxidative stress" that contributes to the pathogenesis of radiation-induced tissue damage by damaging lipids, protein, and DNA.



RADIATION PNEUMONOPATHY



Radiation Pneumonopathy

Radiation Therapy is commonly used to treat lung cancer and other thoracic malignancies (mesothelioma, breast cancer, esophageal cancer, lymphomas).

Up to **30% of patients** irradiated for lung cancer and **10-15%** of other thoracic oncology patients develop clinically significant radiation lung injury.

Radiation Damage to the Lung is characterized by:

- A) Pneumonia-like symptoms (inflammation)
- B) Fibrotic lung damage (irreversible).



Scoring of Clinical Manifestations of Radiation Damage of Lung Tissues

RTOG/EORTC Late Radiation Morbidity Scoring Schema

ORGAN TISSUE	0	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5
LUNG	None	Asymptomatic or mild symptoms (dry cough) Slight radiographic appearances	Moderate symptomatic fibrosis or pneumonitis (severe cough) Low grade fever Patchy radiographic appearances	Severe symptomatic fibrosis or pneumonitis Dense radiographic changes	Severe respiratory insufficiency / Continuous O ₂ / Assisted ventilation	Death directly related to radiation late effects



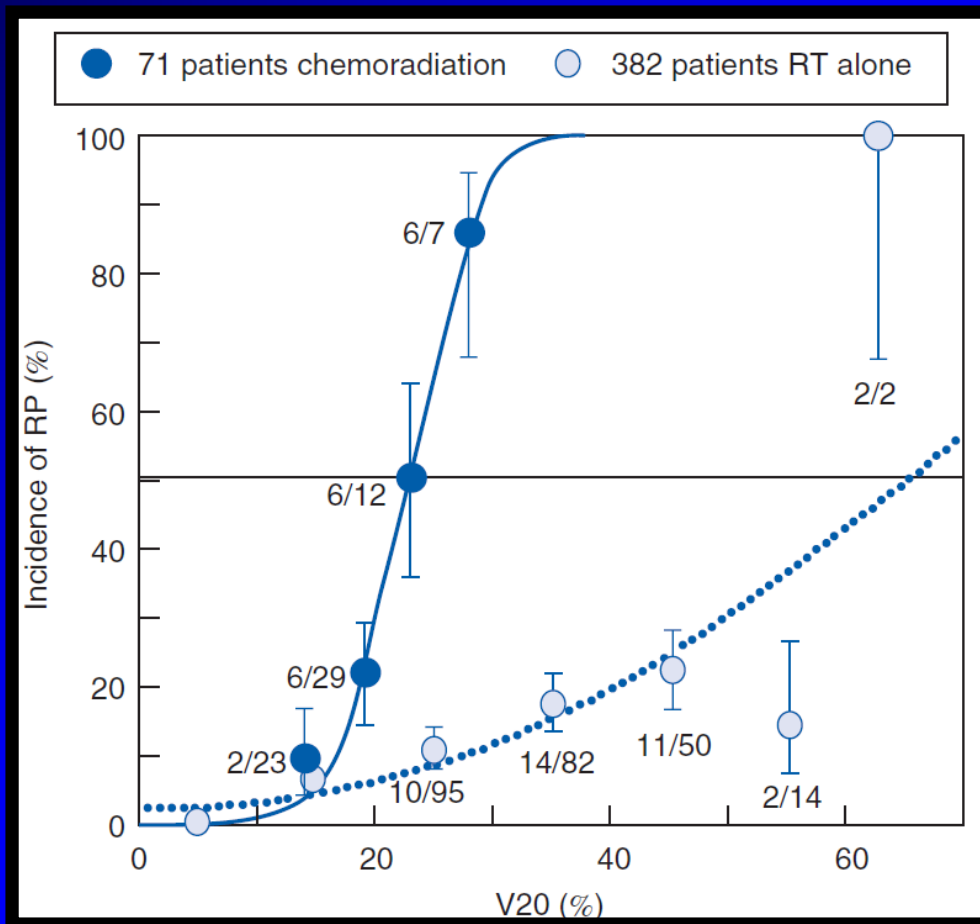
Current Readings: Improvements in Intensity-Modulated Radiation Therapy for Malignant Pleural Mesothelioma

Table 1. Comparison of Dosimetric Parameters, Toxicity, and Outcome in Patients Receiving IMRT After Extrapleural Pneumonectomy

Reference	Number of Patients	Technique	Dose (Gy)	Boost (Gy)	V5 (%)	V20 (%)	Mean Lung Dose (Gy)	Grade 3 + RP (%)	Grade 5 RP (%)	2-Year OS (%)
Giraud et al ⁹	24	HT	50	4-6	99	4	11	16	8	–
Patel et al ⁸	30	IMRT	45	8-25	56	4	7.2	13	3	
Gomez et al ⁷	86	IMRT	45-50	10			8	12	6	32

Gy, Gray; V5 and V20, dose of lung receiving 5 and 20 Gy, respectively; RP, radiation pneumonitis; OS, overall survival.

Incidence of Radiation Pneumonitis (RP) in Relation to V20 and Effects of Concurrent Chemoradiation.



Incidence of Grade 2 radiation pneumonitis as a function of the relative lung volume irradiated to more than 20 Gy (V20) of patients treated with radiotherapy alone (open circles) or with chemo-radiotherapy (closed circles).

Patients receiving chemotherapy had a sharper increase in risk of radiation pneumonitis as the volume of normal lung exposed to 20 Gy increased.



Radiation Toxicity to Normal Tissues

The usefulness of thoracic radiotherapy in the treatment of cancer is greatly limited by toxicity of ionizing radiation (radiation pneumonopathy).

Therefore, if we protect “normal” lung parenchyma from radiation injury, we will increase the ability to deliver tumoricidal radiotherapy doses.



Pharmacologic Treatment of Radiation Pneumonopathy

Despite active research in the development of tissue radioprotectors, there is no known effective pharmacologic therapy for the **prevention** of radiation pneumonopathy.

Steroids are used to treat **Acute** radiation pneumonitis, but do not alter risk of developing long term, **Chronic**, fibrotic complications



Use of Botanicals And Dietary Supplements Derived From Natural Substances

An expanding body of preclinical evidence suggests that a number of botanicals have the potential to impact a variety of human diseases including lung disease.

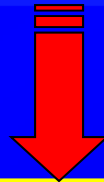
Therefore, **non-toxic natural agents** could be useful either alone or in combination with conventional therapeutics for the prevention or therapy of oxidative lung disease.



Usefulness of Dietary Supplements

Annual sale of Medicinal Herbs in the US is > **3 Billion \$\$\$**

More than **60 million consumers** in the U.S. take herbal remedies. More physicians are recommending herbal medicines and some health insurance plans offer coverage for alternative health treatments such as **herbal remedies**.



In 1993 the NIH opened the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM), now NCCIH, which along with the Office of Dietary Supplements (ODS) aim to promote the safety, effectiveness, and biological action of botanical products.



Complementary & Integrative Health Approaches

Natural Products

This group includes a variety of products, such as herbs (also known as botanicals), vitamins and minerals, and probiotics. They are widely marketed, readily available to consumers, and often sold as **dietary supplements**.

Mind and Body Practices

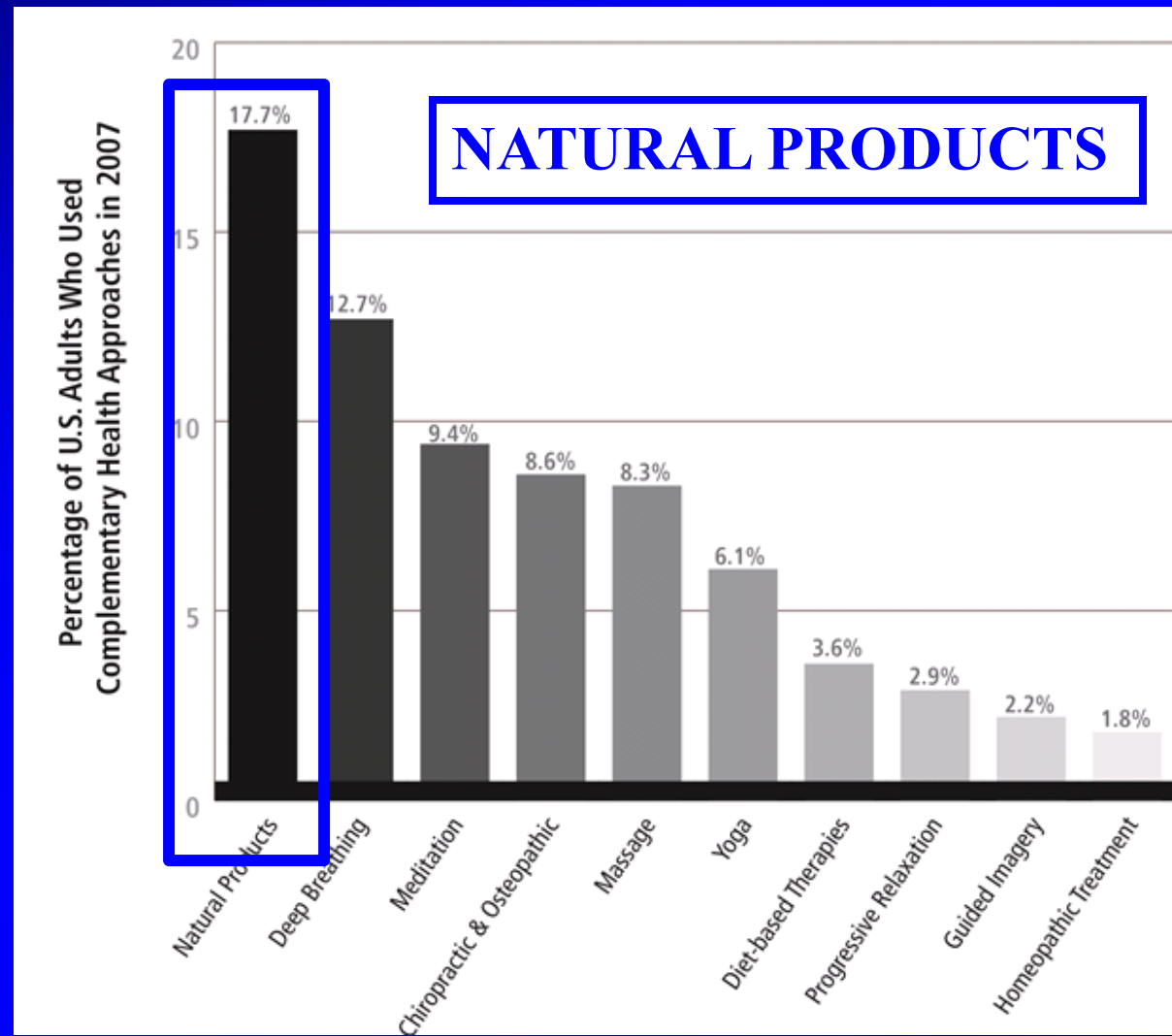
Mind and body practices include a large and diverse group of procedures or techniques administered or taught by a trained practitioner or teacher.

Other Complementary Health Approaches

The practices of **traditional healers**, **Ayurvedic medicine** from India, **traditional Chinese medicine**, **homeopathy**, and **naturopathy**.



The Ten Most Common Complementary Health Approaches Among Adults (2007)



Barnes et al, 2007; CDC National Health Statistics Report#12, 2008



Spices



Asian ginger (1)
(*Alpinia galanga*)



Fennel (2)
(*Foeniculum vulgare*)



Sesame seed (3)
(*Sesamum indicum*)



Turmeric (4)
(*Curcuma longa*)



Cloves (5)
(*Eugenia caryophyllu*)



Red chili (6)
(*Capsicum annuum*)



Fenugreek (7)
(*Trigonella foenum graecum*)



Poppy seed (8)
(*Papaver somniferum*)



Gamboge (9)
(*Garcinia hanburyi*)



Onion (10)
(*Allium cepa*)



Onion seed (11)
(*Nigella sativa*)



Holy basil (12)
(*Ocimum sanctum*)



Pomegranate (13)
(*Punica granatum*)

Ayurvedic Medicine



Aloe (1)
(*Aloe vera*)



Veldt-grape (2)
(*Cissus quadrangularis*)



Picroliv (3)
(*Picrorhiza kurroa*)



Himalayan fir (4)
(*Abies webbiana*)



Chitrak (5)
(*Plumbago zeylanica*)



Boswellia (7)
(*Boswellia serrata*)



Beauty berry (7)
(*Calliandra macrophylla*)



Pink trumpet tree (8)
(*Tabebuia avellanedae*)



Bloodroot (9)
(*Sanguinaria canadensis*)



Guggulu (10)
(*Commiphora mukul*)



False pepper (11)
(*Embellia ribes*)



Rohitukine (12)
(*Dysoxylum binectariferum*)



Ashwagandha (13)
(*Withania somnifera*)



Indigo (14)
(*Polygonum tinctorium*)



Pinecone ginger (15)
(*Zingiber zerumbet*)

Fruits & Vegetables



Cauliflower (1)
(*Brassica oleracea*)



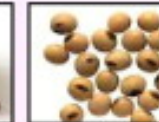
Mullberry (2)
(*Morus nigra*)



Artichoke (3)
(*Cynara cardunculus*)



Grapes (4)
(*Vitis vinifera*)



Soybean (5)
(*Glycine max*)

Traditional Chinese Medicine



Lacquer tree (1)
(*Rhus verniciflua*)



Goldenseal (2)
(*Hydrastis canadensis*)



God of thunder vine (3)
(*Tripterygium wilfordii*)



Smoke tree (4)
(*Cotinus coggygria*)



Evodia (5)
(*Evodia rutaecarpa*)



Song gen (6)
(*Phellinus linteus*)



Magnolia (7)
(*Magnolia officinalis*)

Others



Cashew nut (1)
(*Anacardium occidentale*)



Horse chestnut (2)
(*Aesculus hippocastanum*)



Palm (3)
(*Elaeis guineensis*)



Elephant's foot (4)
(*Elephantopus scaber* Linn)



Hop (5)
(*Humulus lupulus* L.)



Ginger lily (6)
(*Hedychium coronarium*)



Cork bush (7)
(*Mundulea sericea*)

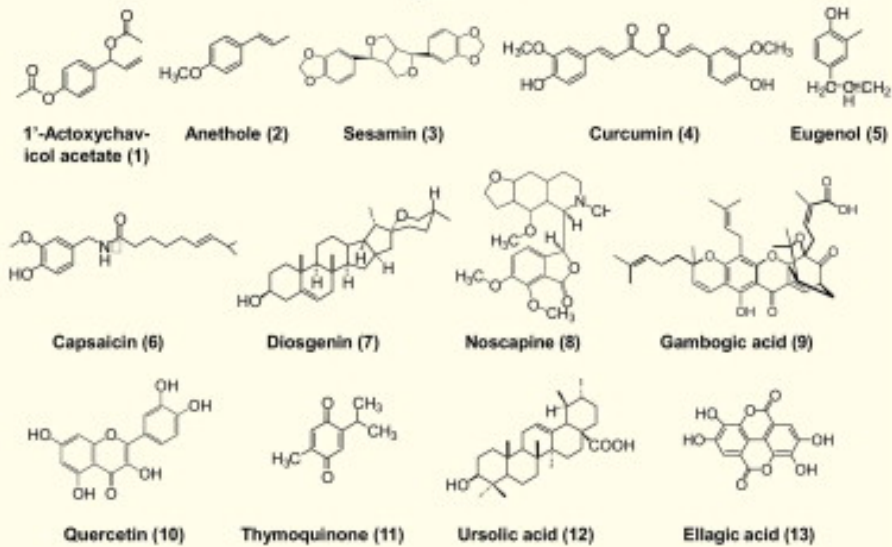


Tropical rose mallow (8)
(*Hibiscus vitifolius*)

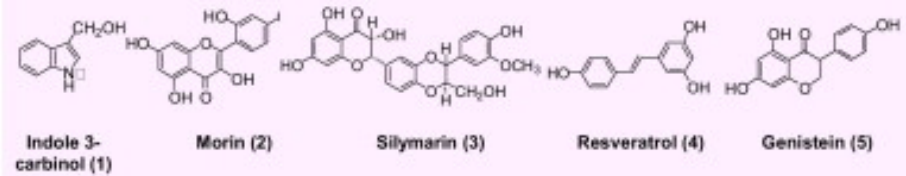


Oleander (9)
(*Nerium oleander*)

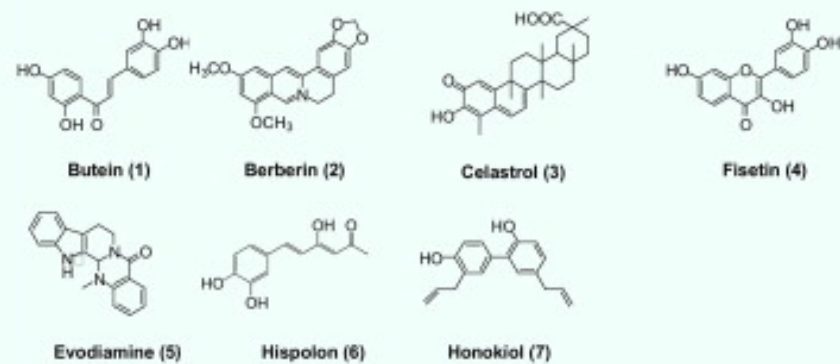
Spices



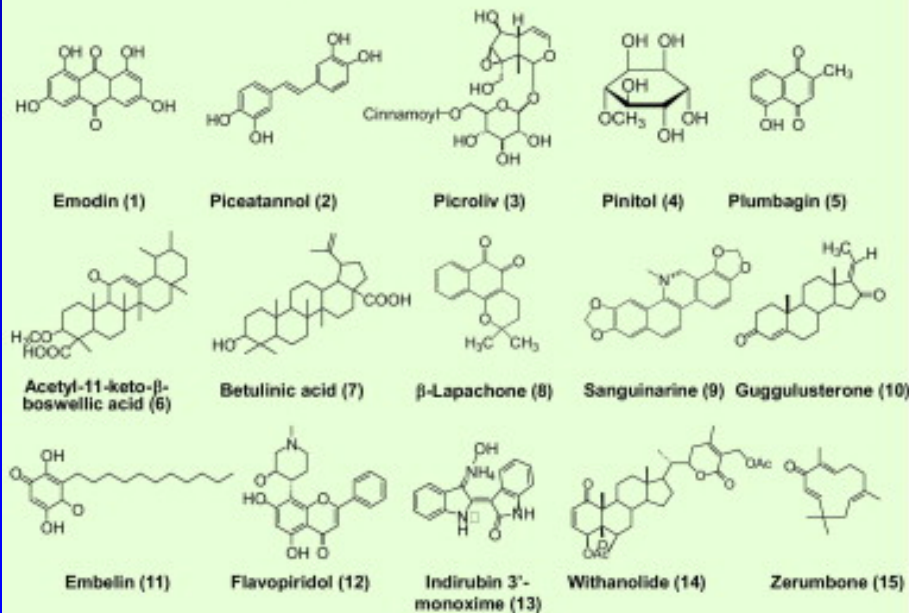
Fruits & Vegetables



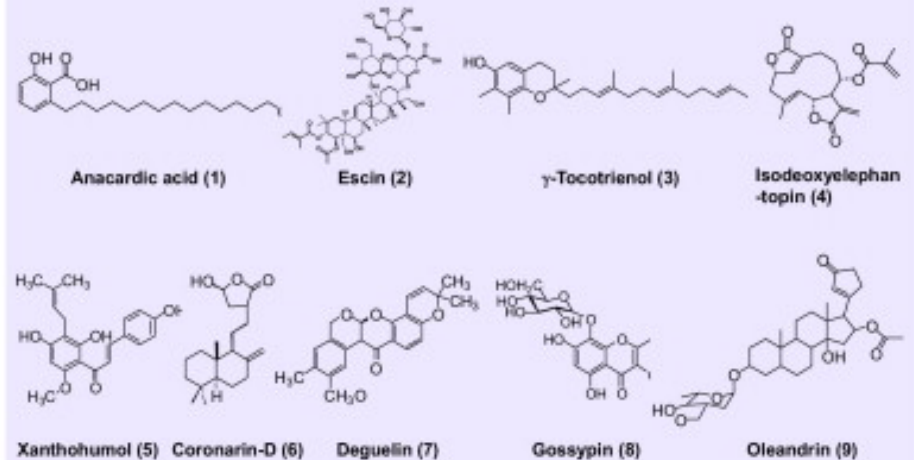
Traditional Chinese Medicine



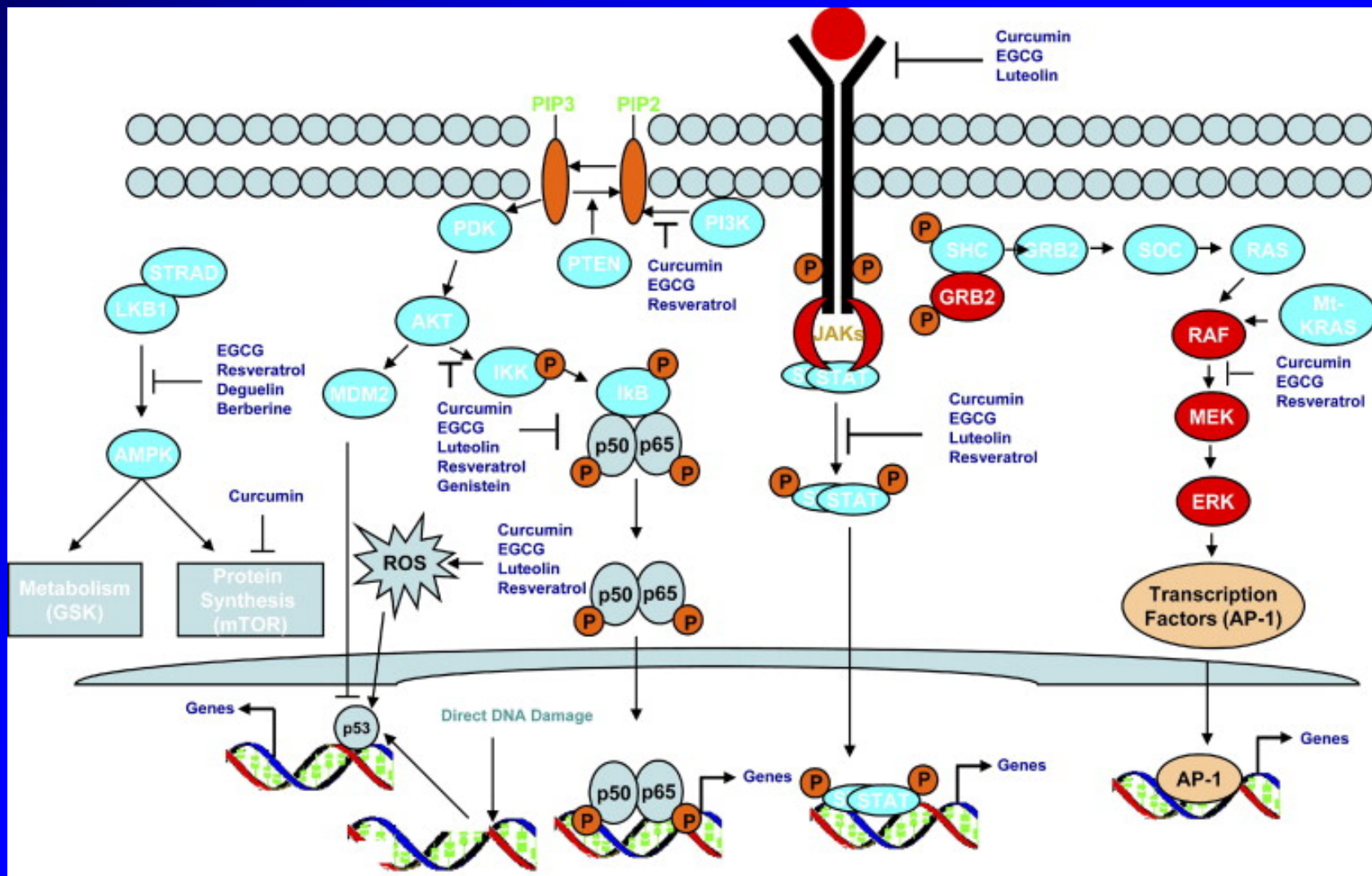
Ayurvedic Medicine



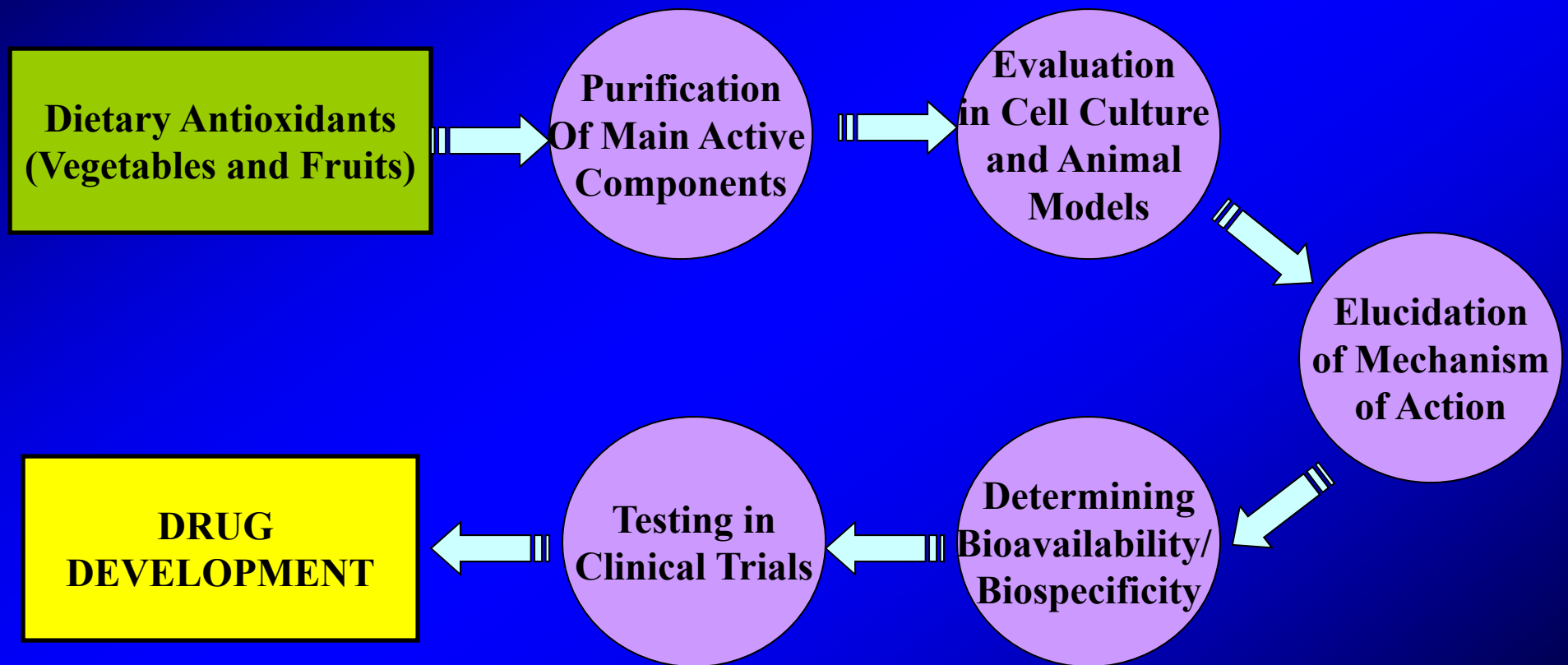
Others



Molecular Pathways Affected by Common Botanicals



Drug Development From Bioactive Dietary Agents

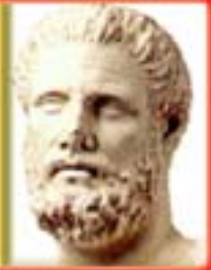


The image shows three wooden spoons filled with flaxseeds, arranged in a row on a wooden surface. The background is a warm, brownish-orange color, and the text is overlaid in white on a semi-transparent orange rectangle.

Flaxseed: “an ancient remedy in a modern world”



Hippocrates, the Greek physician and philosopher, by 650 B.C. wrote about the use of flax.



The father of modern medicine, Hippocrates, the Greek physician, by 650 B.C. wrote about the use of flax to relieve inflammation of mucous membrane and for the relief of abdominal pains and diarrhea.

By the 8th Century A.D. Charlemagne one the greatest medieval kings, considered flax so important that for the health of his subjects he passed laws and regulation requiring its consumption.

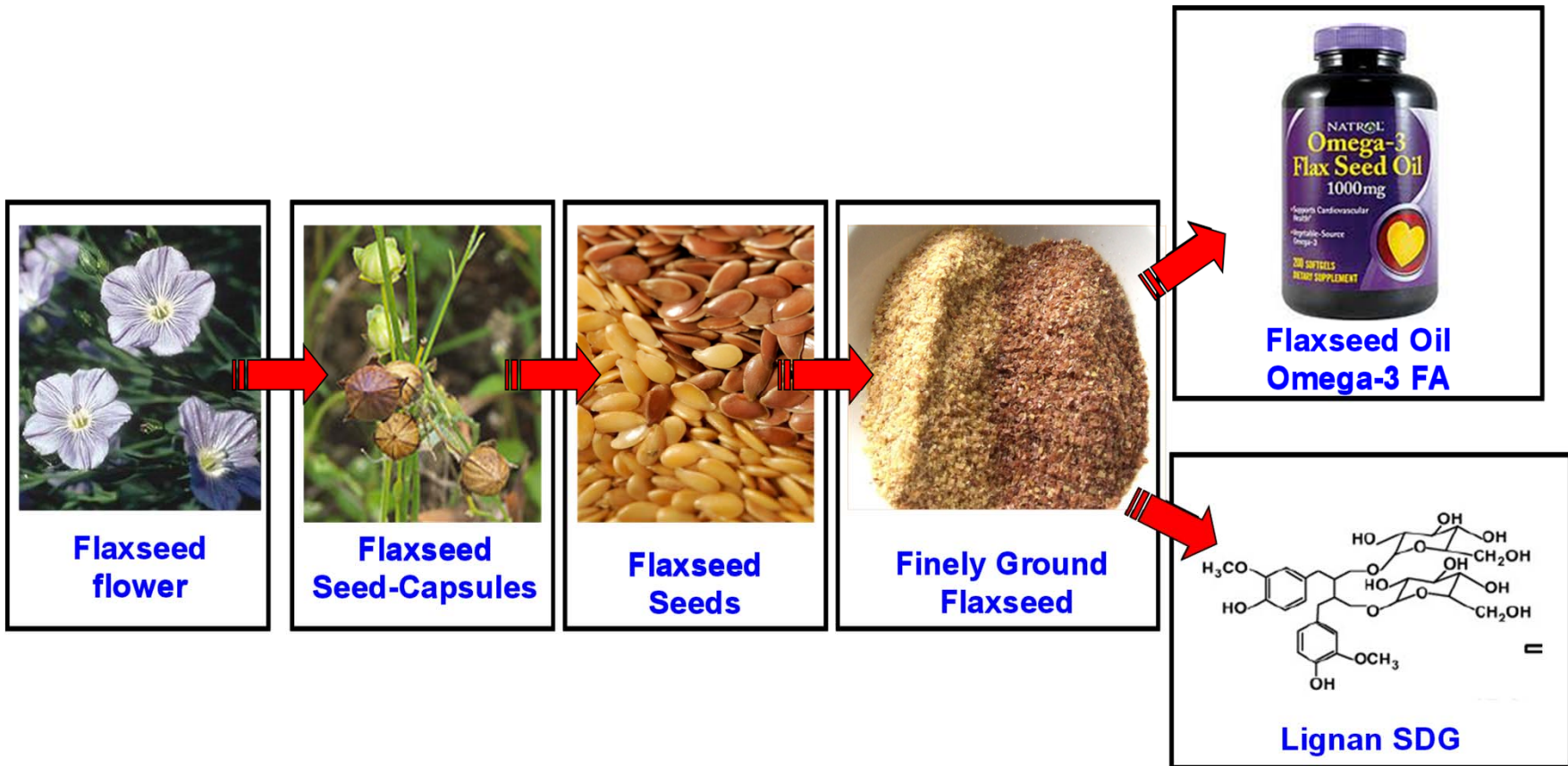


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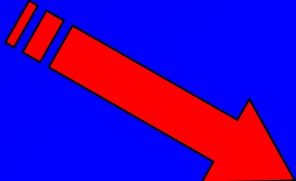
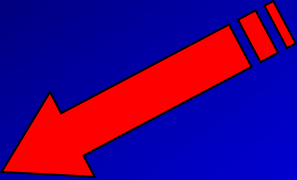


Mahatma Gandhi said that when flaxseed was added to people's diet their health improved.

Flaxseed - a Natural Product



FLAXSEED



Plant Lignan Precursors

- Secoisolarisresinol diglycoside (SDG)
- matairesinol

Intestinal Bacteria

Lignans

- Enterodiol (ED)
- Enterolactone (EL)

Omega-3 Fatty Acids

α-Linolenic Acid

EPA

(eicosapentanoic Acid)

DHA

(Docosahexanoic Acid)

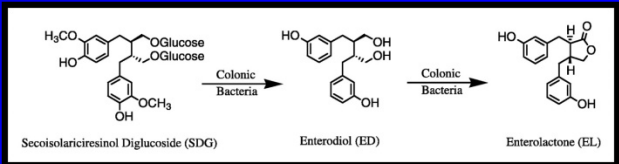
Biological Properties

- *** Antioxidative
- Antiproliferative
- Antiangiogenic

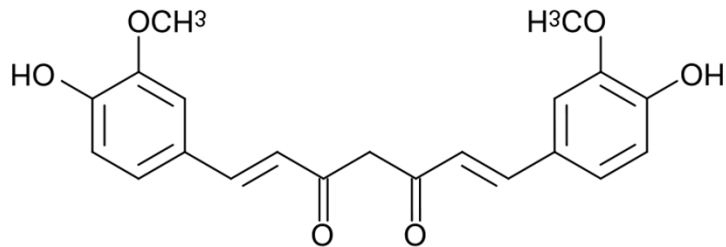
Estrogenic/Antiestrogenic

Cancer Protection

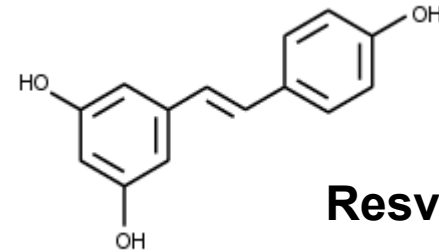
****Anti-inflammatory**



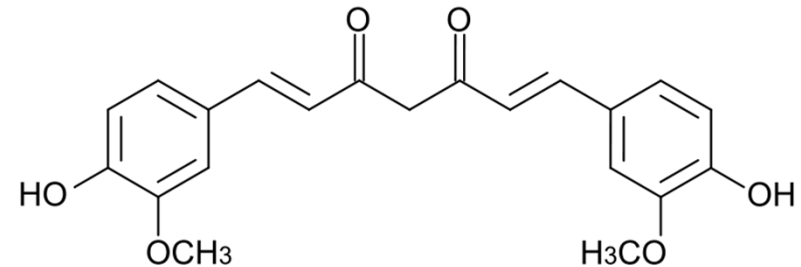
Flaxseed Lignan Structure



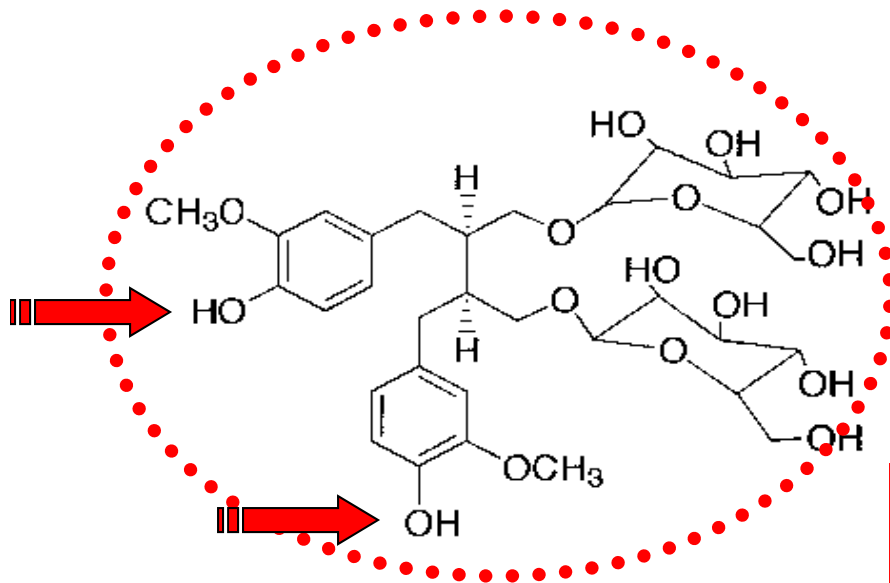
Curcumin



Resveratrol



Quercetin



**Secoisolariciresinol
diglucoside (SDG)**

**A bi-phenolic with potent
antioxidant properties**





**Our Group Has Identified Flaxseed As A Potent Inhibitor Of
Oxidative Lung Injury In A Number Of Animal Models**



Protective Properties of Flaxseed in Preclinical Models of Cancer & Acute/Chronic Lung Damage

**FLAXSEED
(wholegrain)
& SDG**

THORACIC RADIATION
PNEUMONOPATHY

HYPEROXIC
LUNG DAMAGE

ISCHEMIA-REPERFUSION
LUNG DAMAGE

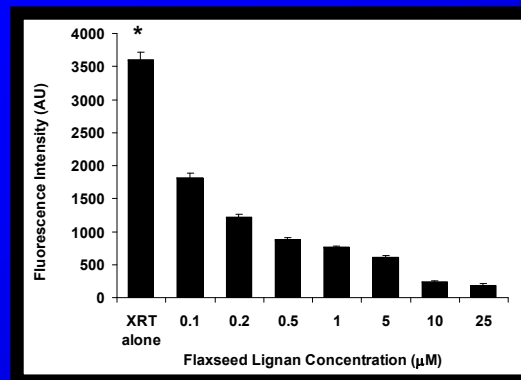
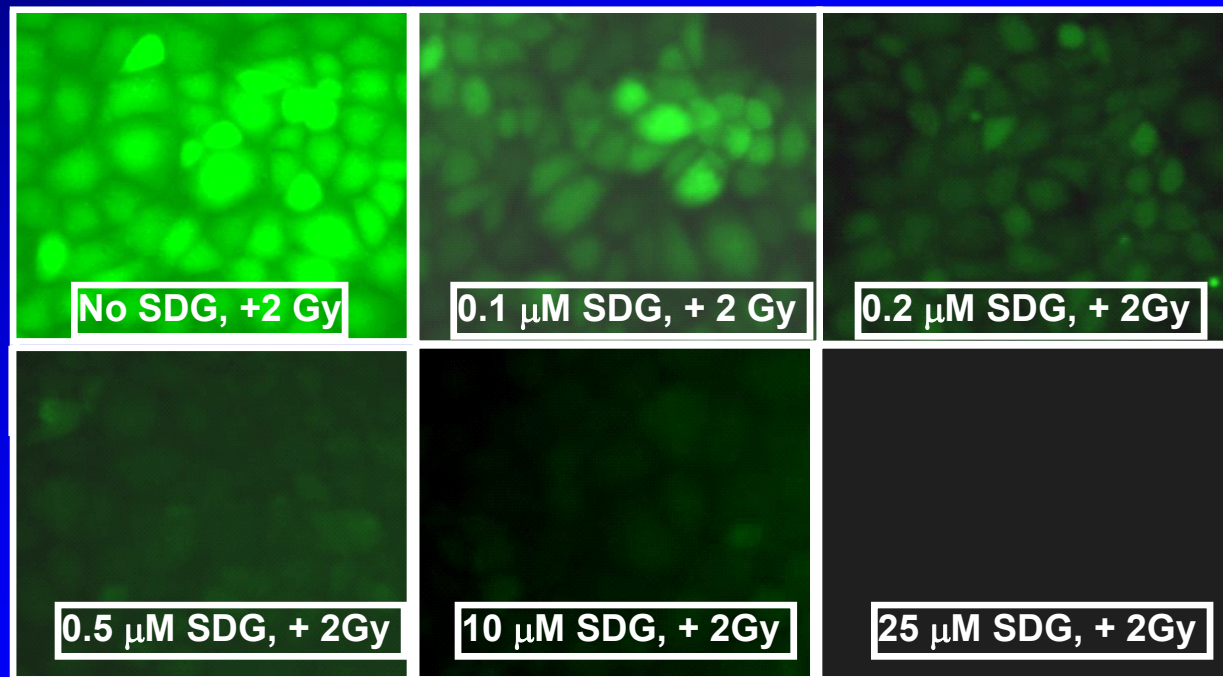
ACID ASPIRATION-INDUCED
LUNG DAMAGE

ASBESTOS-INDUCED
MESOTHELIOMA

TOBACCO CARCINOGEN-
INDUCED LUNG CANCER



Direct Free Radical Scavenging by Flaxseed Lignan-Antioxidant action in γ -irradiated lung Endothelial cells

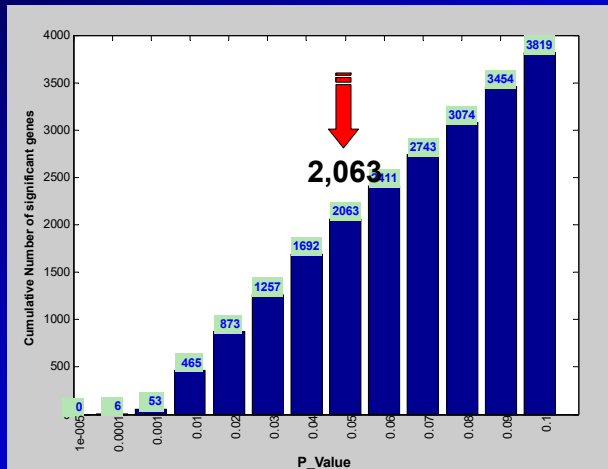


Lee et.al, 2009

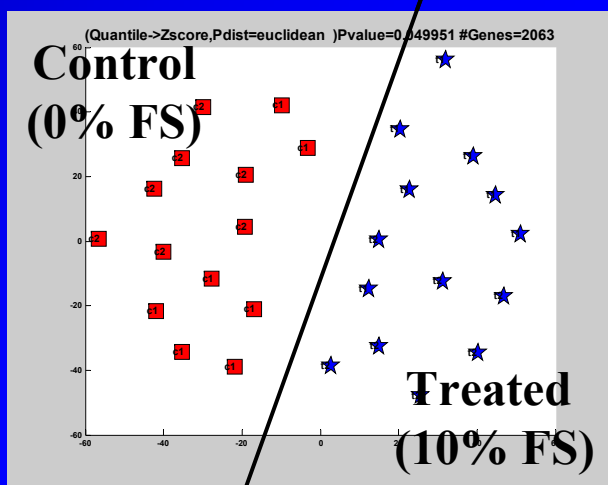


Genetic profiling of flaxseed in lung (30,000 gene array of entire mouse genome)

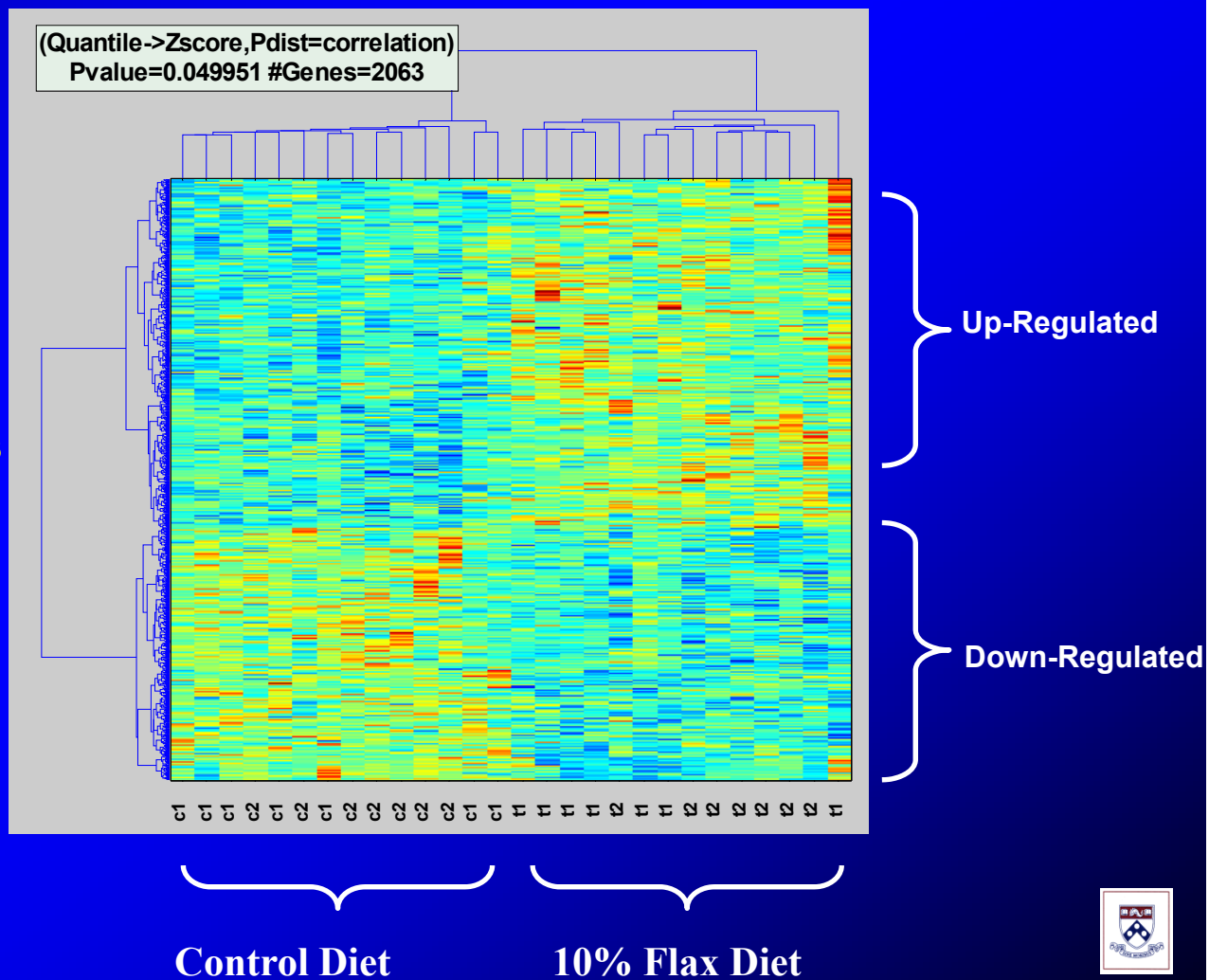
6.8% of all mouse genes in lung tissues are significantly modified by flaxseed



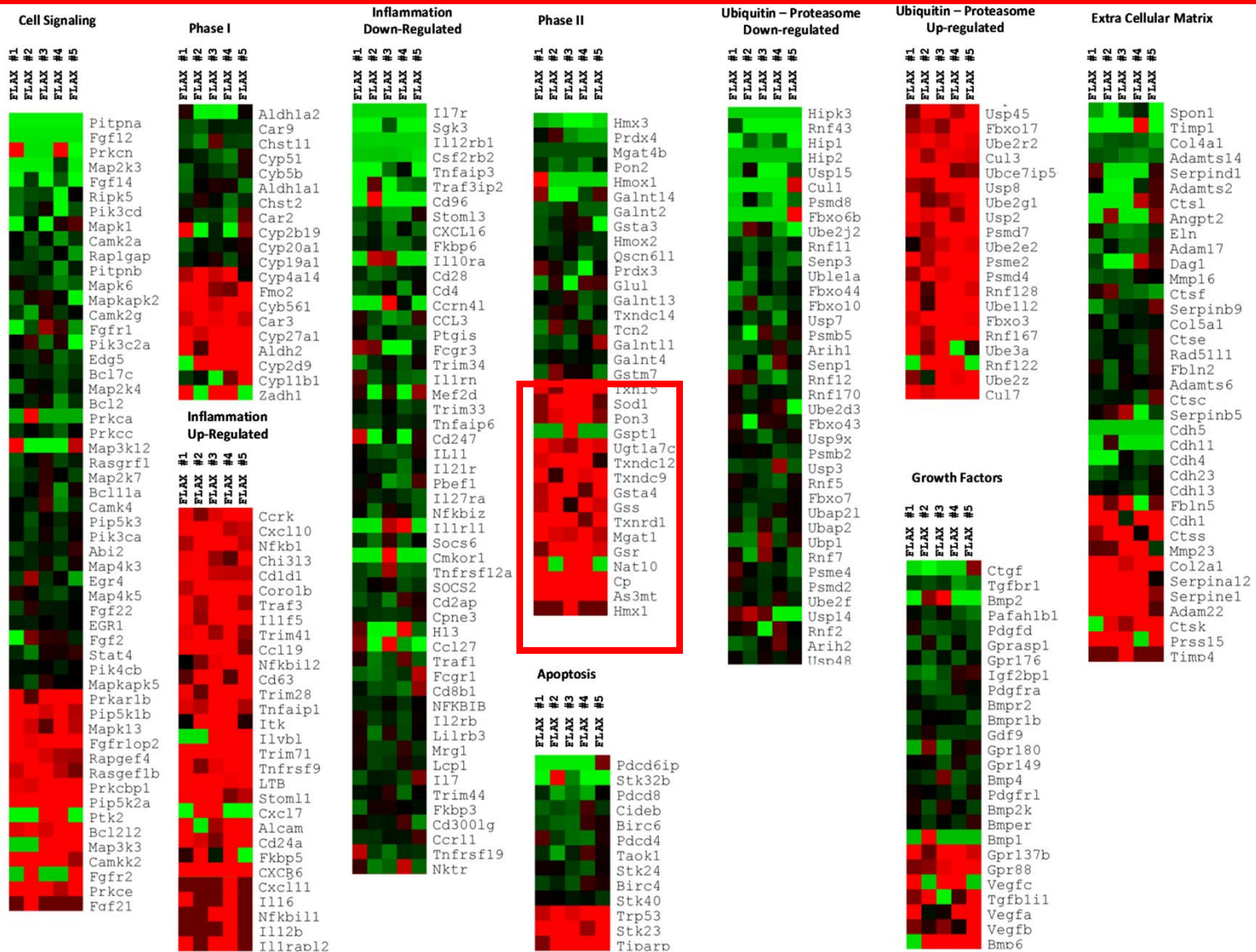
Principle Component Analysis



Dukes et.al, 2012



Pulmonary Gene Expression Profiling of Genes With >1.5x fold Change in Individual Flax-fed Mice as Compared to Mean of Control



Red indicates up-regulation, green down-regulation

Dukes et.al, 2012

HYPOTHESIS

Given the direct **free radical scavenging** properties of the flaxseed lignans and the robust **boost of antioxidant tissue** defenses,

We Hypothesized, That Dietary Flaxseed and Will Ameliorate Oxidative Acute and Chronic Lung Damage such as that resulting from **Radiation Exposure**, Modeled In Mice



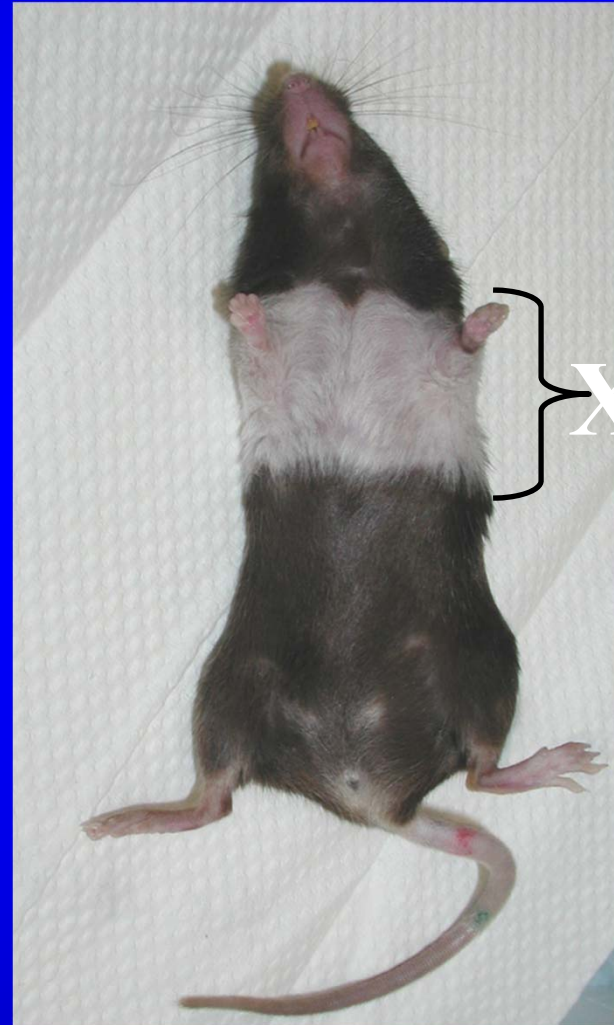
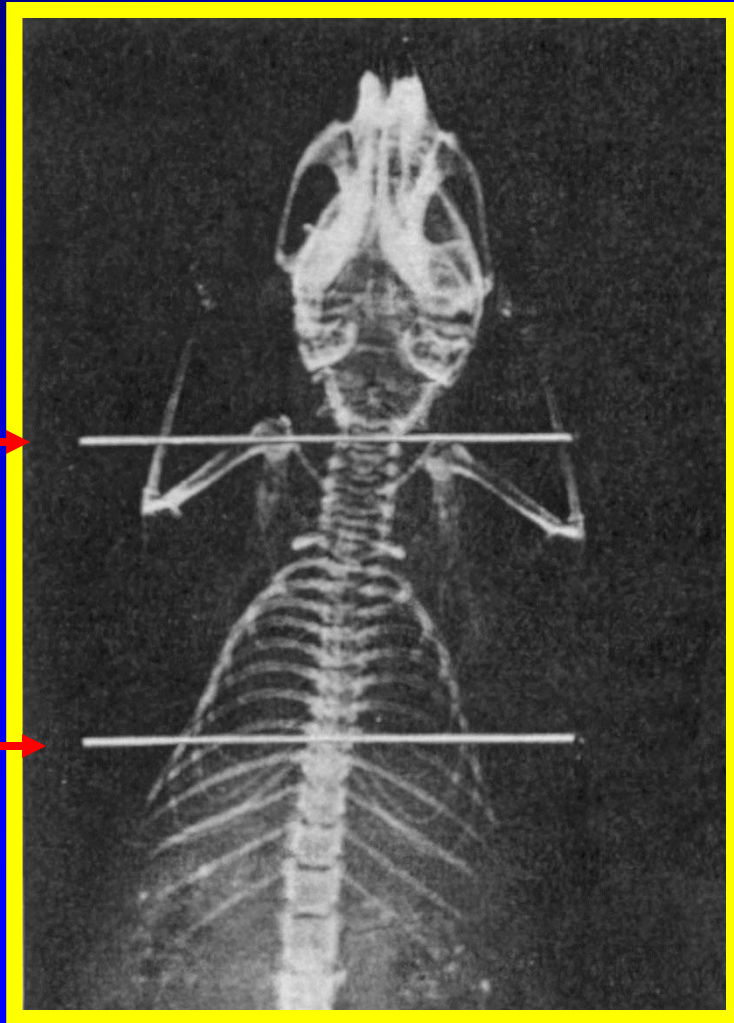
Mouse Model of Thoracic Radiation Damage



Mouse Radiographs

Cephalic
margin

Caudal
margin

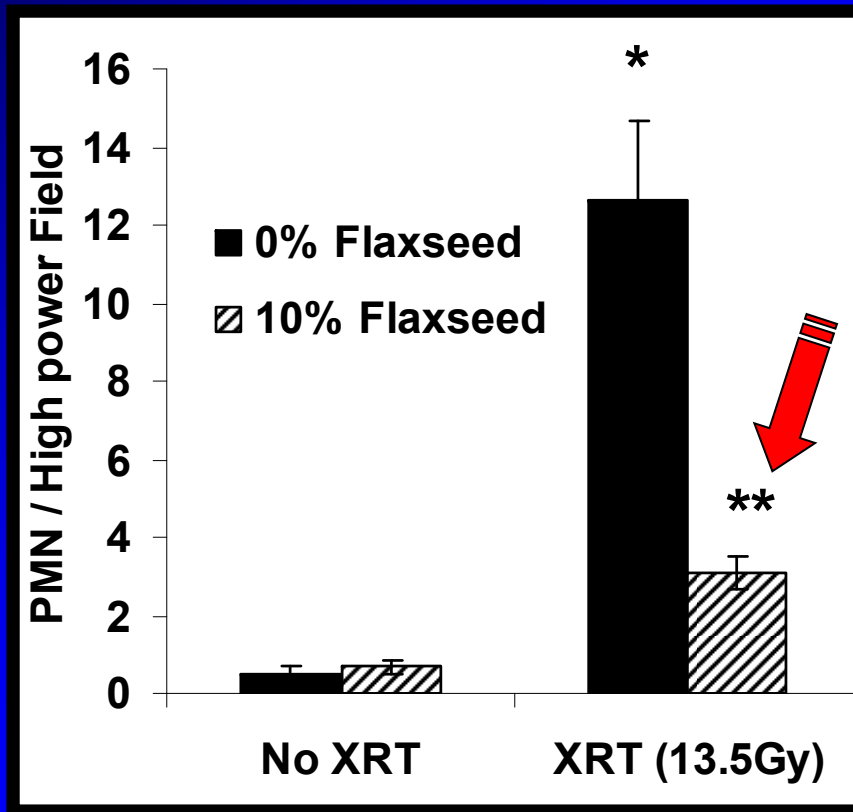


XRT

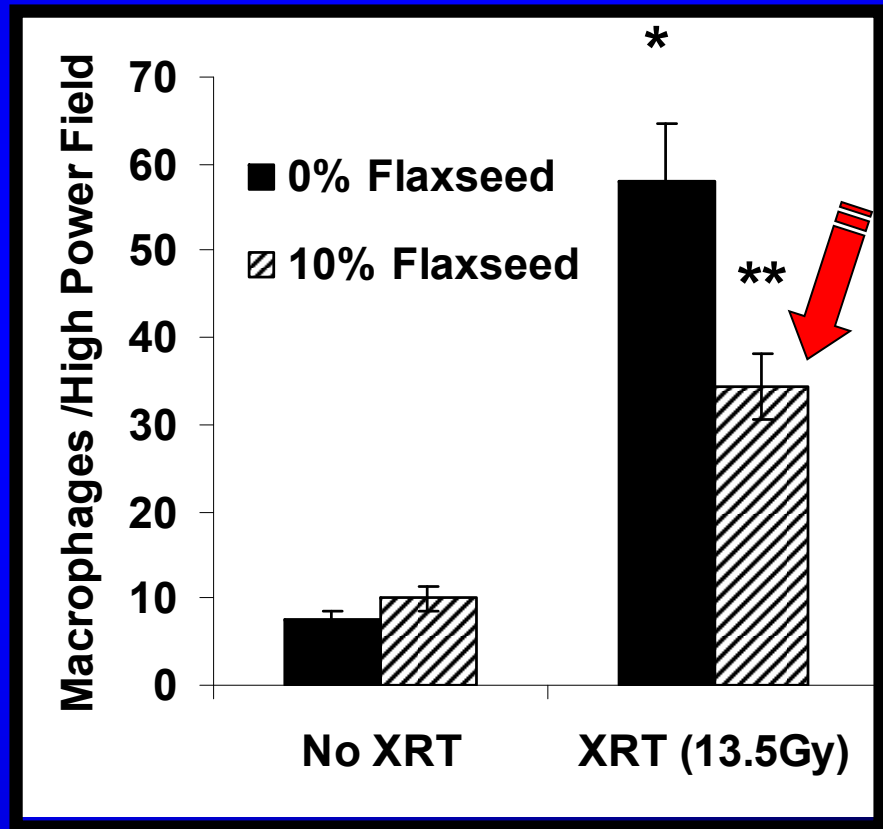
(XRT=X-Ray Treatment)



Dietary Flaxseed Ameliorates Radiation-Induced Pneumonitis (Inflammation) in Mice



Alveolar Neutrophils

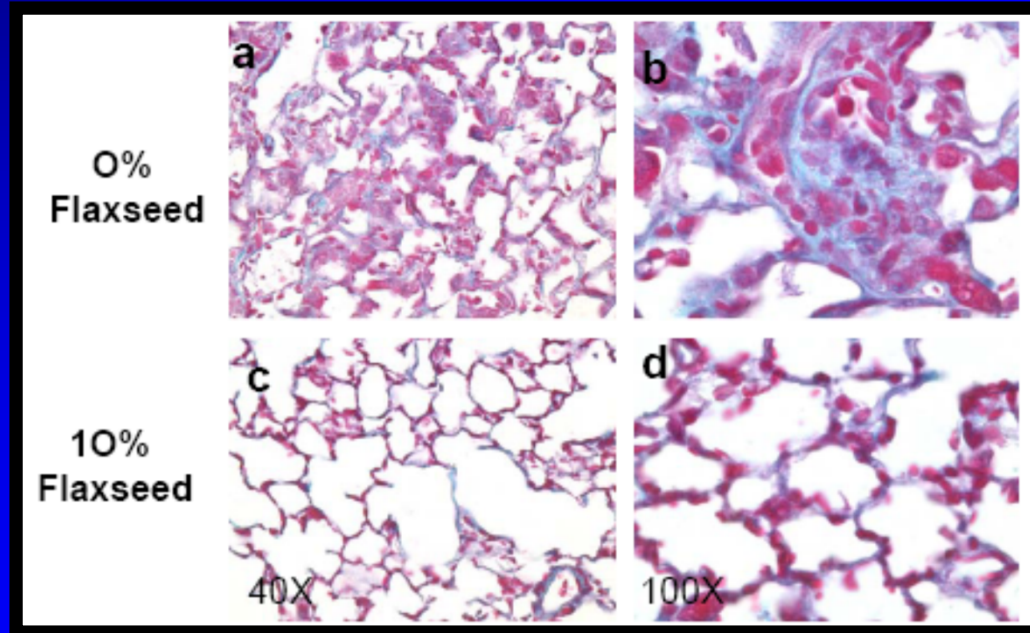


Alveolar Macrophages



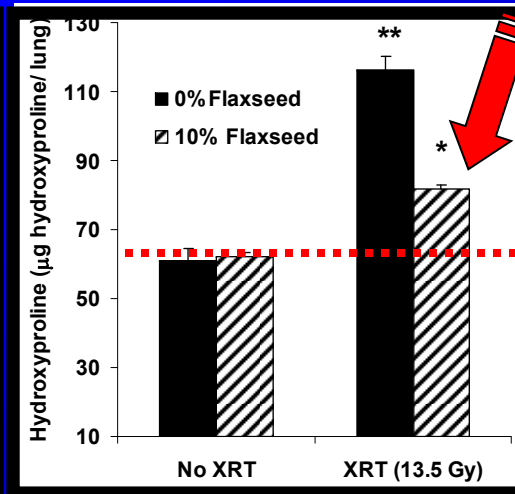
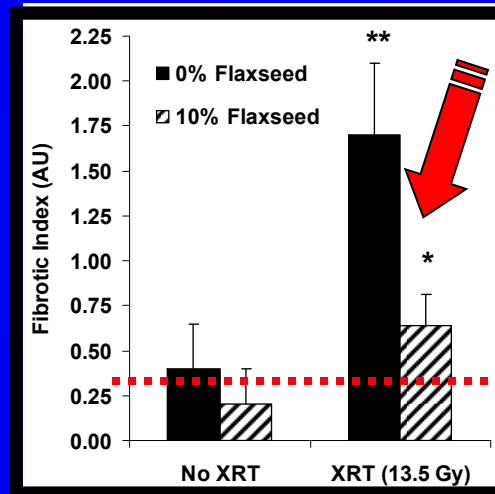
Antifibrotic Role of Flaxseed

Flaxseed
Decreased
Radiation-
Induced
Collagen
Deposition in
Lungs



Trichrome
Blue Staining
for Collagen
(Marker for
Lung
Fibrosis)

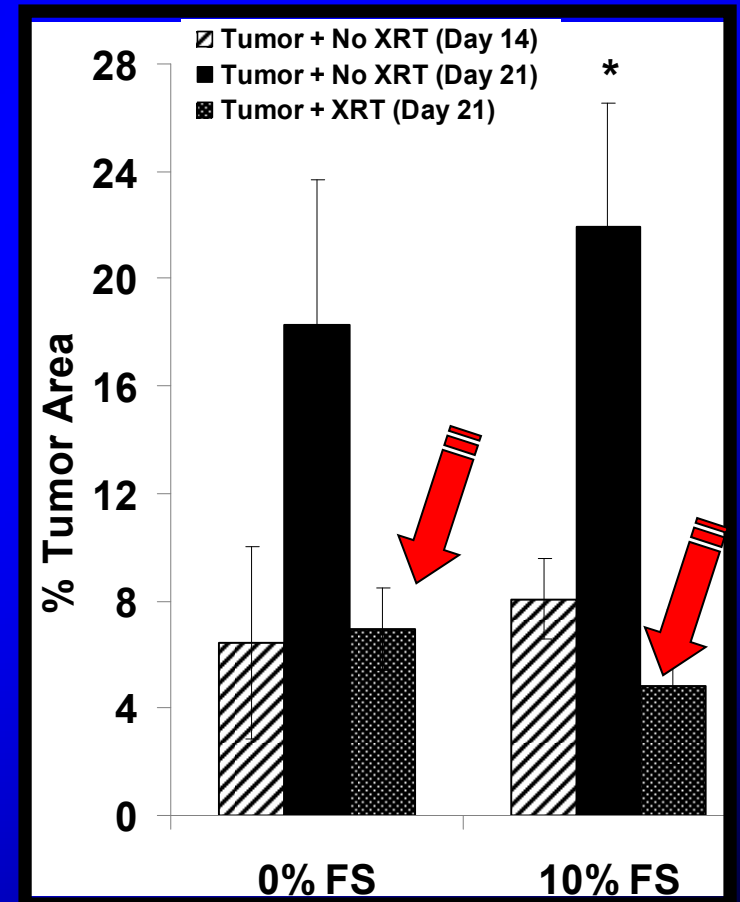
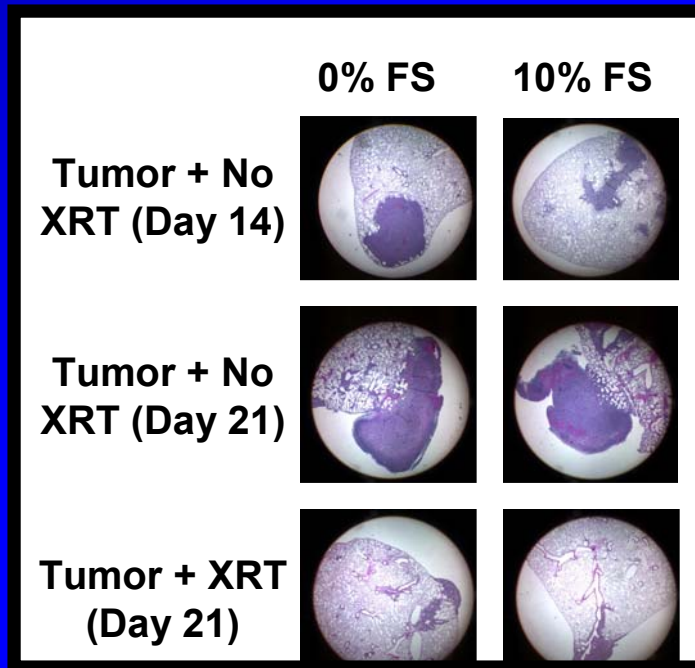
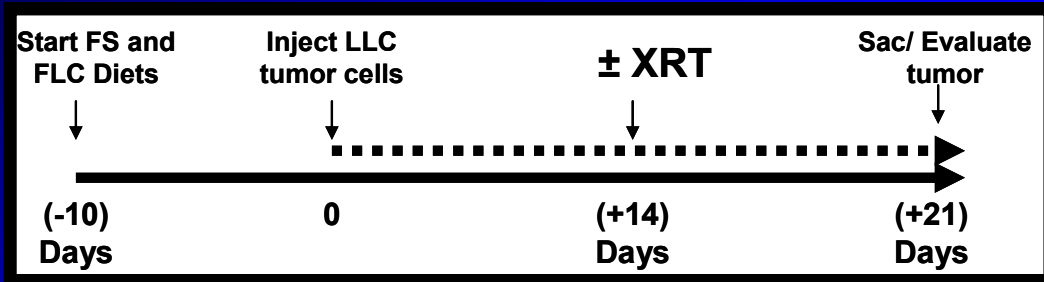
Fibrotic Index
(Pathology)



OH-Proline
Content



Flaxseed Does Not Impair Tumor Eradication By Radiation

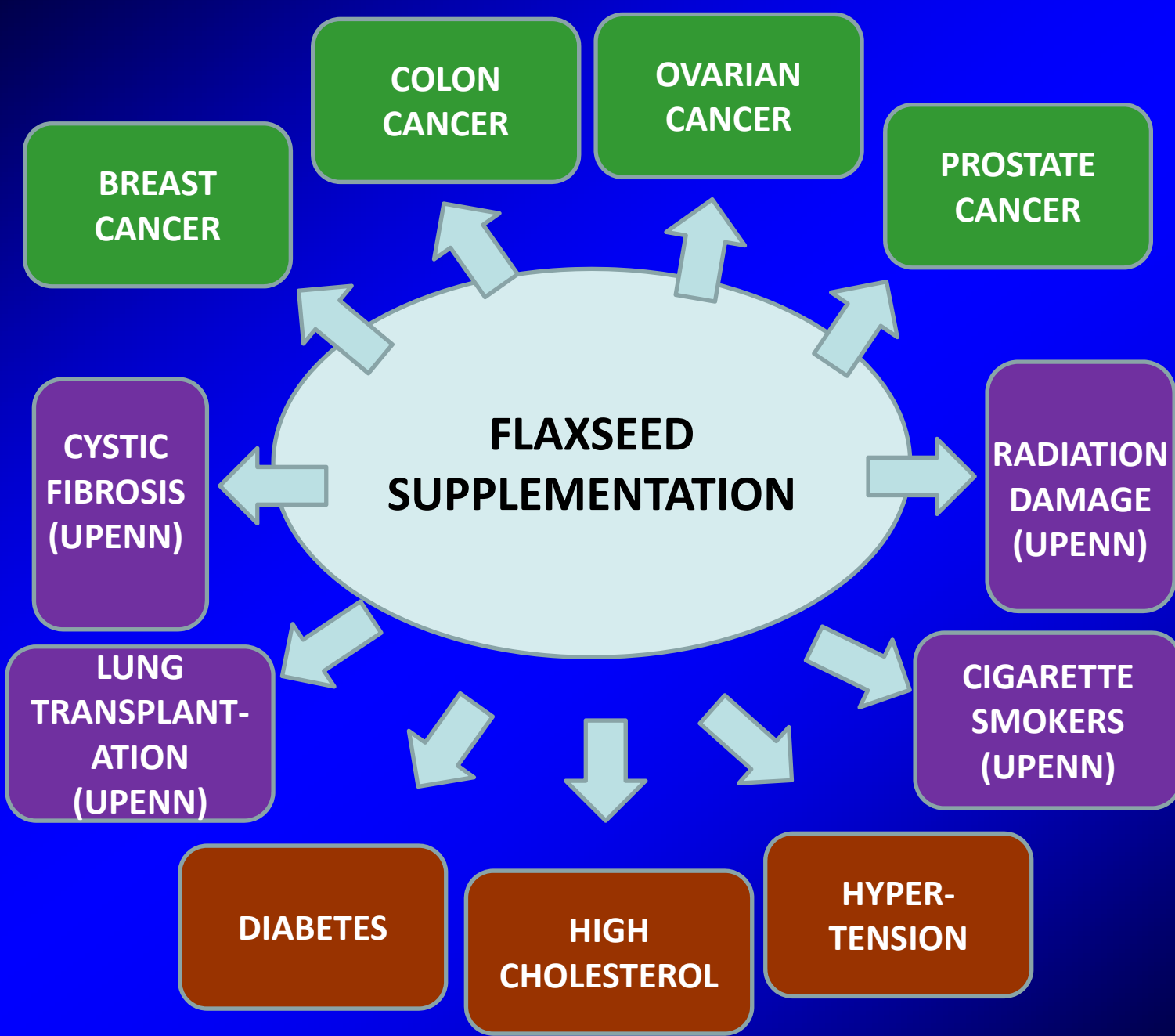


Summary

Dietary Flaxseed:

- Improves Survival
- Prevents Radiation-induced
 - Oxidative Tissue Injury
 - Pneumonitis
 - Inflammation
 - Lung Fibrosis
 - Cytokine Secretion
 - Does NOT protect Tumor

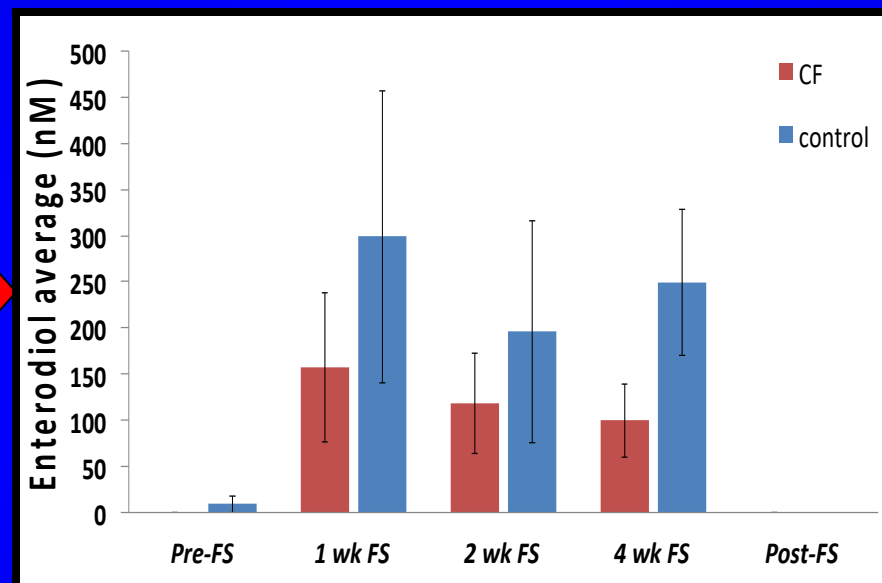




DIETARY FLAXSEED IS WELL TOLERATED BY HEALTHY VOLUNTEERS AND CYSTIC FIBROSIS PATIENTS



**Dietary Flaxseed (40g daily)
Supplementation**



**Plasma Lignan Concentration
Increases after Flaxseed Consumption**

**Future Plans: Determine if Flaxseed Supplementation Modulates
systemic inflammation and disease exacerbations in CF patients**

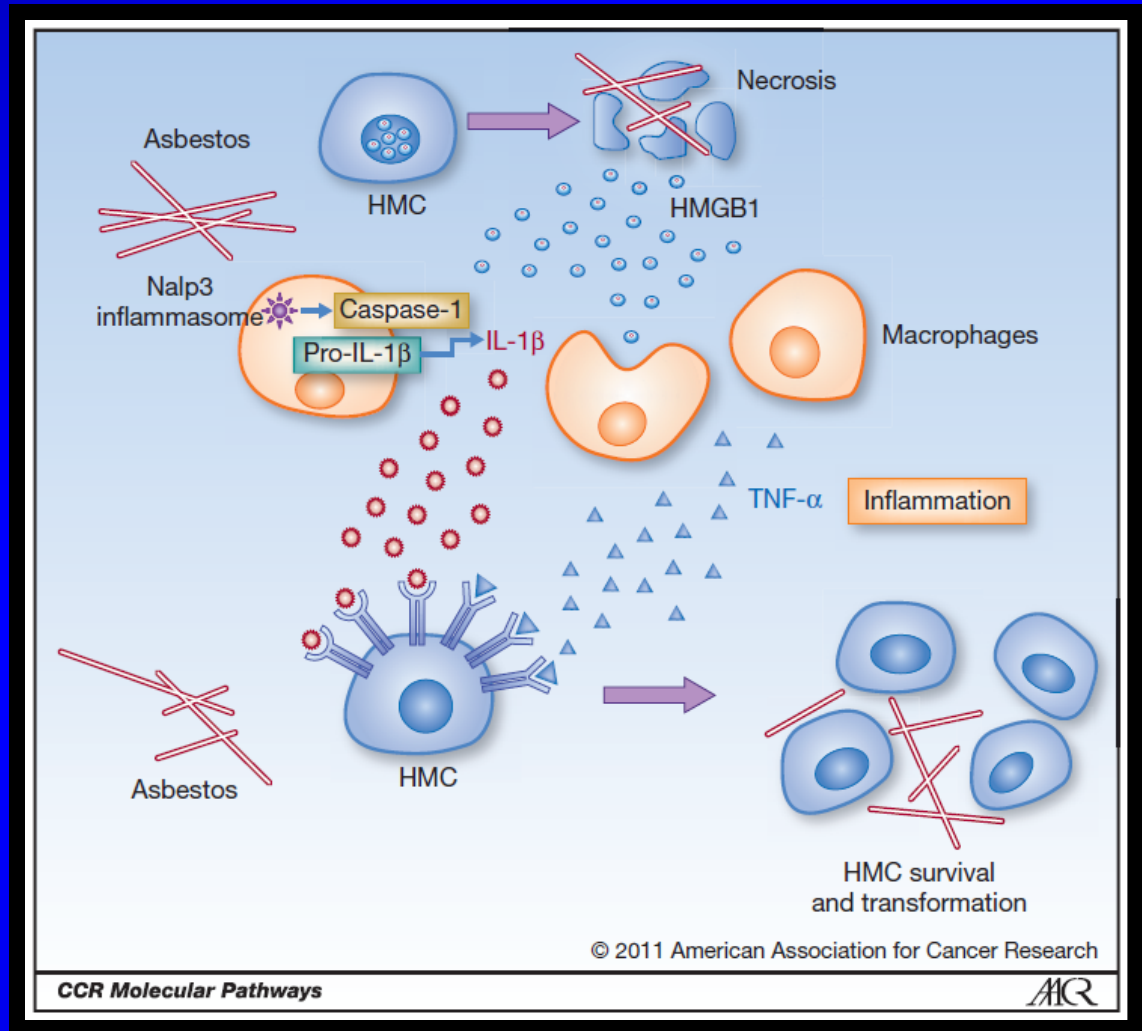
Turowski et al, in review



ROS/Inflammation in Mesothelioma:

The working paradigm of mesothelioma carcinogenesis is that asbestos induces a state of chronic inflammation in the pleura that ultimately leads to mutagenesis and tumor formation (especially in those with a genetic predisposition).

Key roles of:
HMGB1, TNF α , IL-1 β
AND
REACTIVE OXYGEN SPECIES



Hypothesis

Inhibition of inflammation and/or ROS will delay or prevent the induction of asbestos-induced mesothelioma.

We want to test this using Flaxseed and the main lignan found in Flaxseed: the SDG



LEGAL NEWSLINE

Legal Newsline Legal Journal

Monday, December 1, 2014 Last Update: 12/01/14 03:15 pm

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University of Pennsylvania receives \$10M to study Superfund asbestos site

July 11, 2014 9:52 AM

By HEATHER ISRINGHAUSEN GVILLO

PHILADELPHIA (Legal Newsline) – Researchers with the University of Pennsylvania have received a \$10 million grant to study asbestos and how the toxic fiber leads to cancer at America's 10 Superfund sites.

The grant, which came from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, will help researchers from the school's Center of Excellence in Environmental Health Sciences and the Perelman School of Medicine to study asbestos, mesothelioma and other asbestos-related diseases over the next four years.

University of Pennsylvania researchers receive \$10 million to study asbestos in Ambler

Published: Tuesday, June 24, 2014

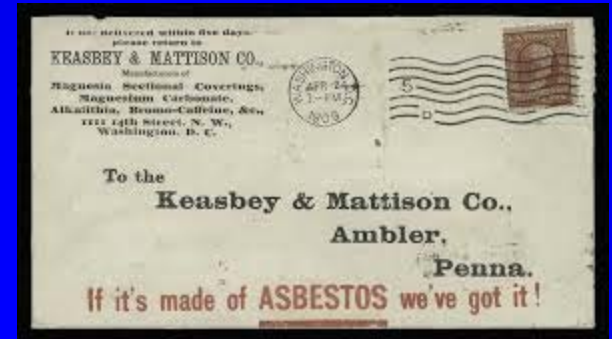
By Eric Devlin

edevlin@montgomerynews.com

The University of Pennsylvania recently announced it has received a \$10 million grant from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to study asbestos and its impact on the Ambler community.

The grant will allow researchers from Penn's Center of Excellence in Environmental Toxicology to, over the next four years, study asbestos, the rare asbestos-related cancer, mesothelioma, and other asbestos-related diseases, according to a press release. Researchers from the Abramson Cancer Center, the Penn School of Arts and Sciences and Fox Chase Cancer Center are also lead investigators on the grant.

The BoRit site where research will take place, located in Ambler Borough, Upper Dublin and Whitpain townships between Butler Avenue, North Maple Street and the Wissahickon Creek, was placed on the Environmental Protection Agency's Superfund National Priorities List in April 2009.



A 2010 aerial view of the BoRit asbestos site following two phases of removal action. Photo by: salbocutti.com

[View and purchase photos](#)



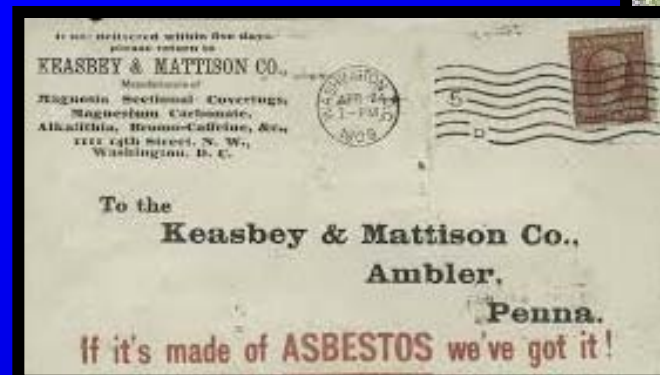
Asbestos Contamination-Ambler PA

AMBLER ASBESTOS PRODUCTS



PAPER, MILLBOARD, PACKINGS
GASKETS, TEXTILES AND GARMEN

KEASBEY & MATTISON
COMPANY



“Asbestos fate, exposure, remediation, and adverse health effects”

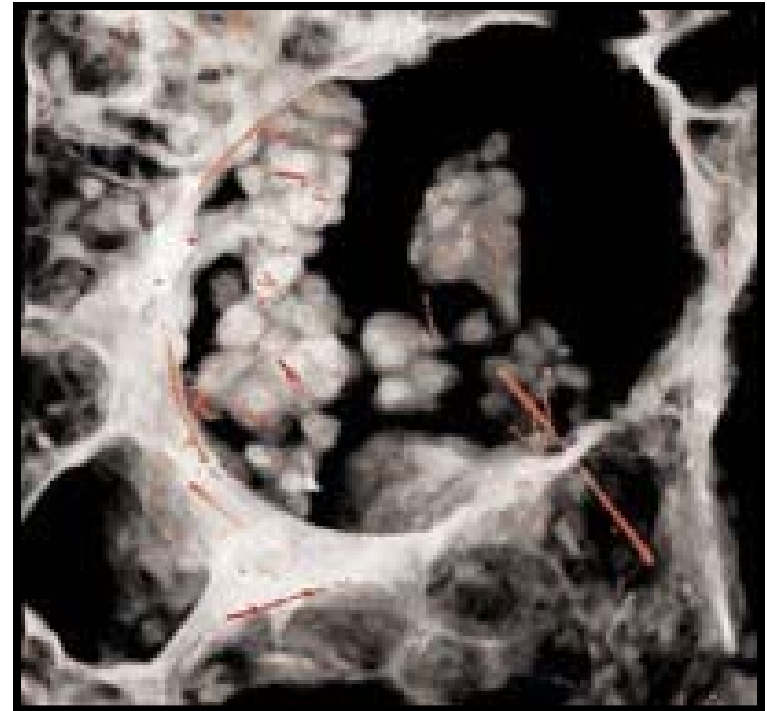
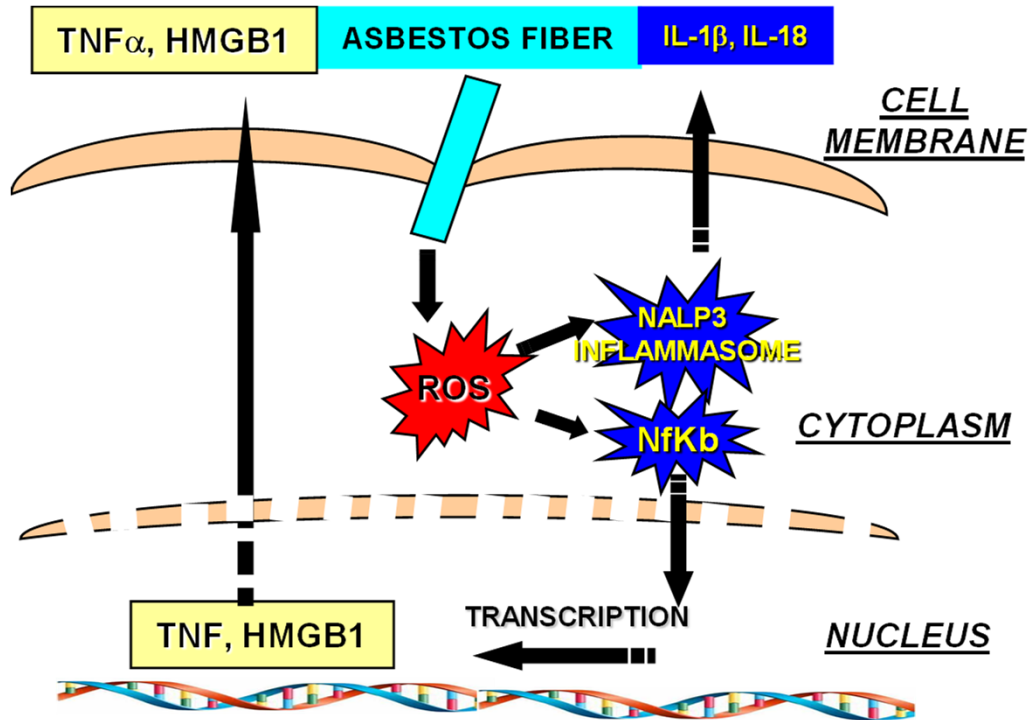
1. Can we remediate asbestos without moving it from the original disposal site?
2. What do we know about the fate and transport of asbestos in the environment by water and air?
3. What do we know about the exposure pathways that were responsible for the mesothelioma cluster in Ambler? And why is the incidence higher in women?
4. Is susceptibility to mesothelioma genetic?
- 5. Can asbestos-related disease be prevented?**
6. Is there a blood test to determine whether a person will get asbestos-related disease?



**USEFULNESS OF
FLAXSEED TO PREVENT
MM FROM ASBESTOS
EXPOSURE**

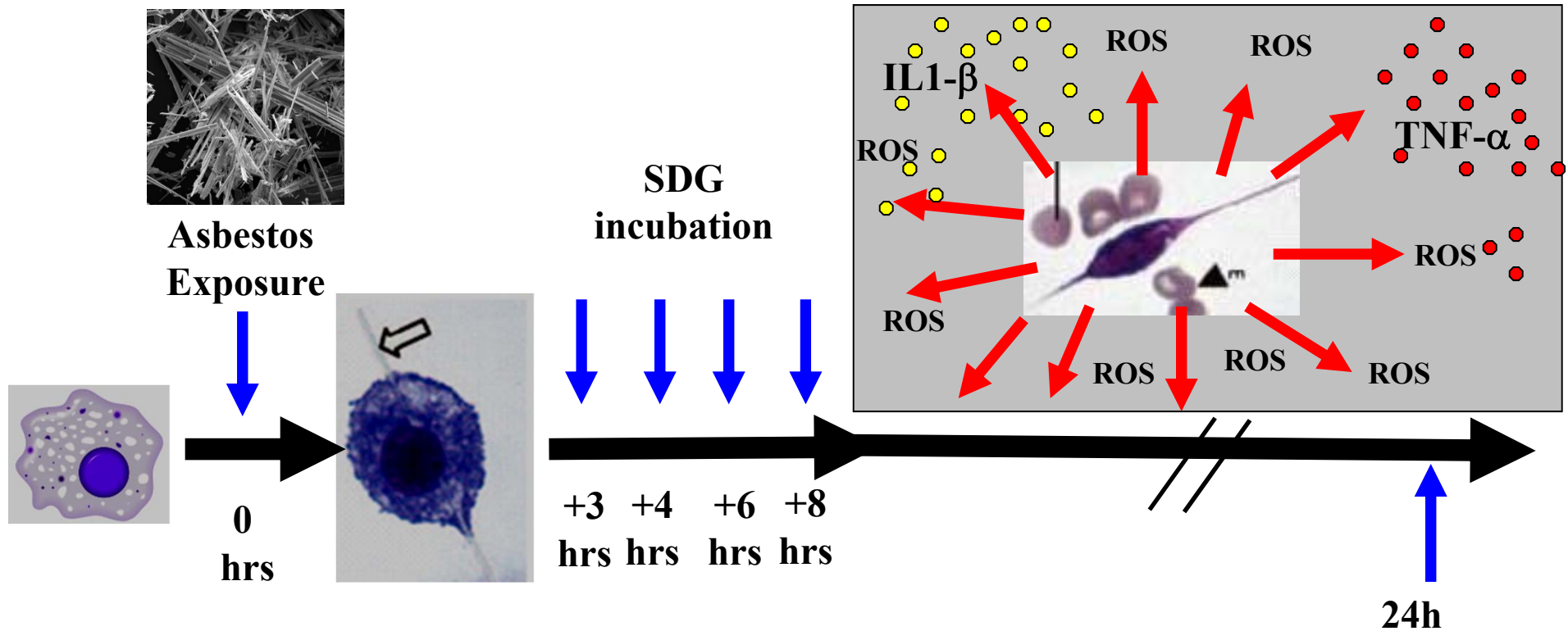


Role of Flaxseed and SDG in Preventing Asbestos-Induced Mesothelioma in Mice



We hypothesize that SDG or flaxseed diets will decrease asbestos-induced ROS/inflammation leading to: 1) ROS, 2) decreased cytokines, 3) decreased HMGB1, 4) less tumorigenic foci, and 5) less tumors

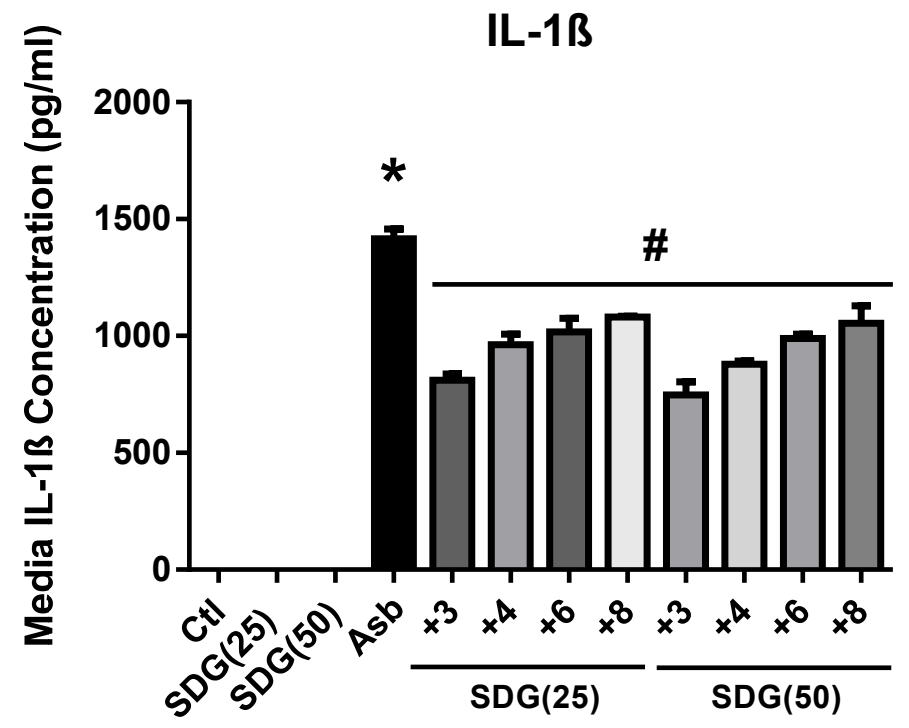
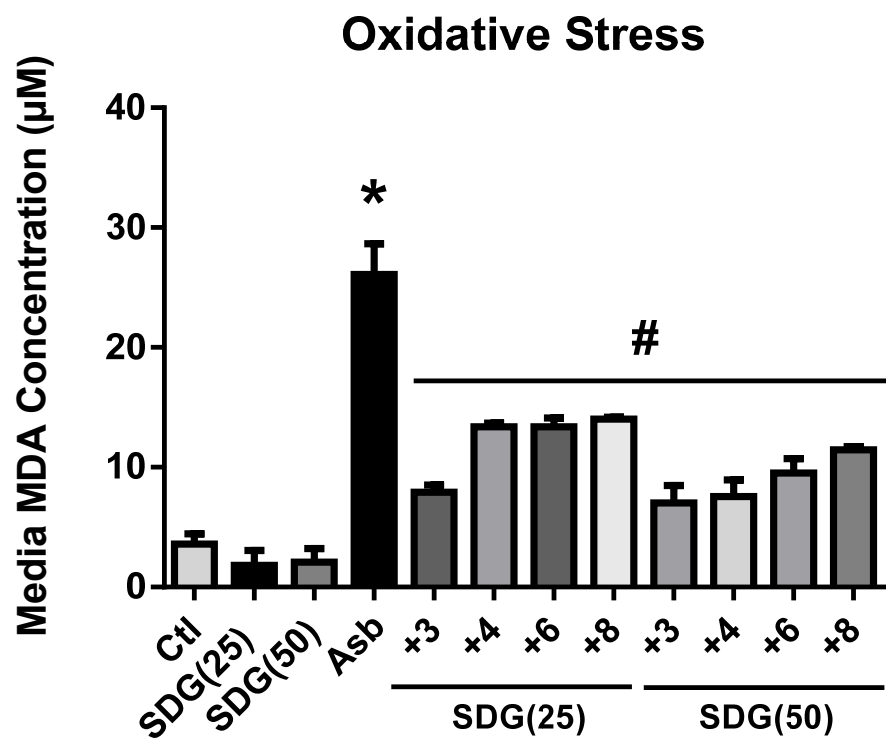
EXPOSING CELLS TO ASBESTOS



1. ROS levels using H₂DCFDA
2. Supernatant → Cytokine (TNF-α; IL-1β)
3. Cells → Inflammasome activation
4. MDA (Lipid Peroxidation)
5. Nitrite/Nitrate levels



SDG given to Macrophages Post Asbestos-Exposure Decreases Oxidative Stress and Inflammatory Cytokines



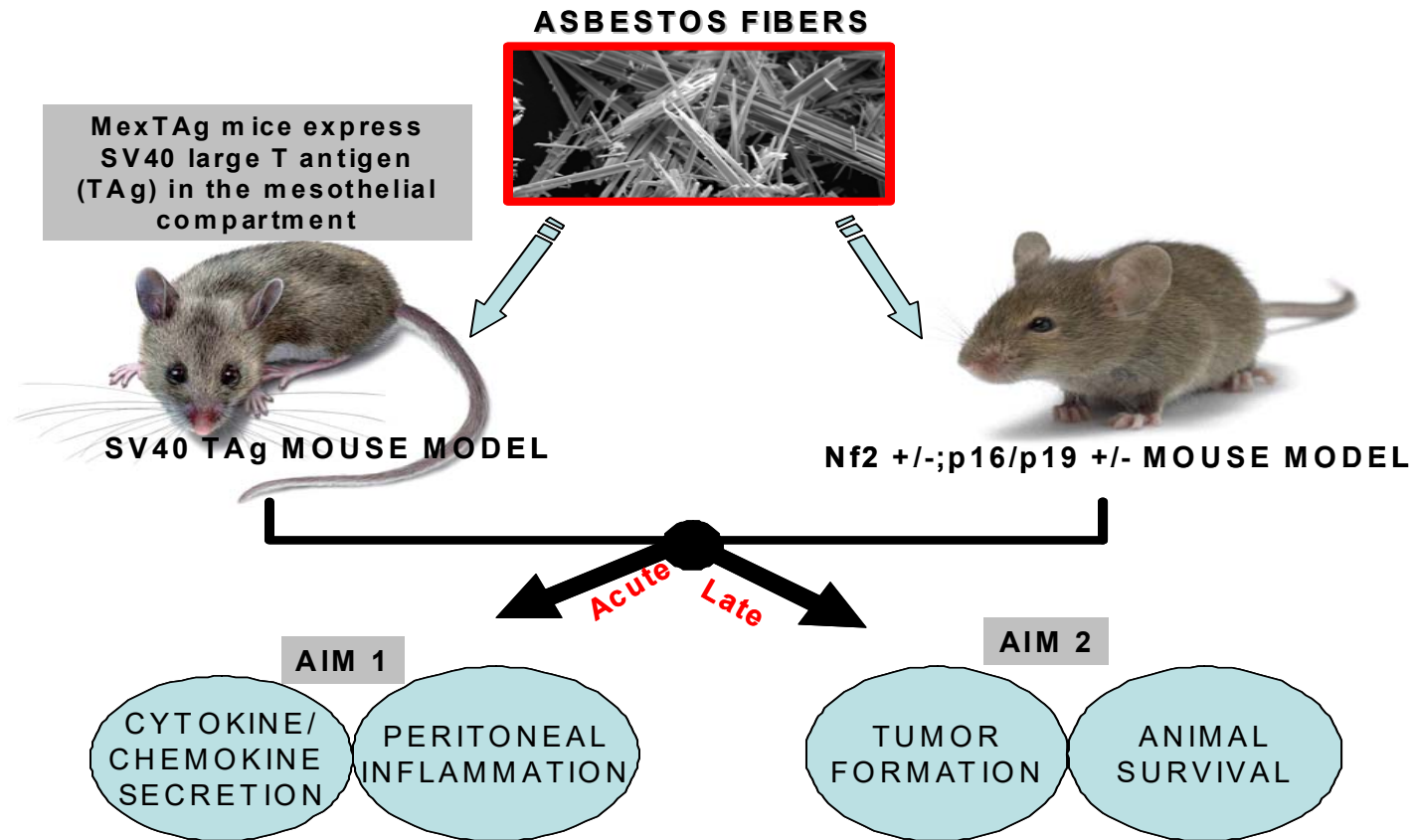
Summary of Findings

- 1. SDG blocks asbestos-induced ROS macrophages.**
- 2. SDG blocks inflammatory cytokine secretion by mouse peritoneal macrophages exposed to asbestos**
- 3. SDG blocks oxidative (lipid peroxidation) and nitrosative stress (nitrite levels) in mouse peritoneal macrophages exposed to asbestos**

Findings from cell experiments justify pre-clinical experimentation to determine the usefulness of flaxseed and its lignan SDG in blunting chronic inflammation and ultimately malignancy due to asbestos exposure



Testing Flaxseed and SDG in Asbestos-Induced Malignant Mesothelioma



Using 2 models of mice genetically predisposed to develop mesothelioma after asbestos exposure, we will: Evaluate the acute effects of Flaxseed and SDG on asbestos exposed mice; test whether Flaxseed and SDG inhibits the development of tumors in genetic models of accelerated, asbestos induced MM.



Chemoprevention of Asbestos-Induced Malignant Mesothelioma Using Dietary Flaxseed

Data from this work will provide important evidence for the usefulness of this bioactive natural product in blunting cancer development from asbestos exposure and provide insight in the mechanisms involved.

If our studies show efficacy with safety, our long-term goal would be the evaluation of Flaxseed and SDG as chemopreventive agents for mesothelioma in exposed populations.



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