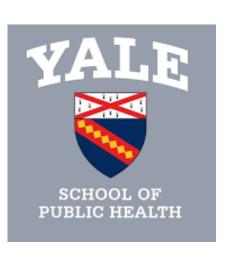
# Translational Exposomics for Advancement of Precision Health



#### Vasilis Vasiliou, PhD

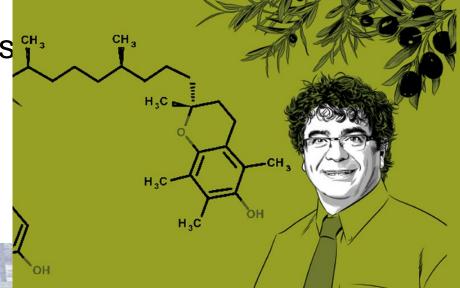
Susan Dwight Bliss Professor of Epidemiology Chair, Dept. of Environmental Health Sciences Director of Yale Superfund Research Center Yale School of Public Health/Environment/Med

New Haven, CT, USA

### Outline

- Exposome and Exposomics
- Translational Exposomics
- Precision Environmental Health to Precision Medicine
- Exposomics for the Alzheimer's Disease
- Climate Change as a Global Exposome Factor
- Role of Glutathione in Liver Disease and Diabetes





# Genetic Factors Are Not the Major Cause of Disease



RESEARCH ARTICLE

#### Genetic Factors Are Not the Major Causes of Chronic Diseases

Stephen M. Rappaport\*

School of Public Health, University of California, Berkeley, California, United States of America

\* srappaport@berkeley.edu

#### **Abstract**

The risk of acquiring a chronic disease is influenced by a person's genetics (G) and exposures received during life (the 'exposome', E) plus their interactions (GxE). Yet, investigators use genome-wide association studies (GWAS) to characterize G while relying on selfreported information to classify E. If E and G×E dominate disease risks, this imbalance obscures important causal factors. To estimate proportions of disease risk attributable to G (plus shared exposures), published data from Western European monozygotic (MZ) twins were used to estimate population attributable fractions (PAFs) for 28 chronic diseases. Genetic PAFs ranged from 3.4% for leukemia to 48.6% for asthma with a median value of 18.5%. Cancers had the lowest PAFs (median = 8.26%) while neurological (median = 26.1%) and lung (median = 33.6%) diseases had the highest PAFs. These PAFs were then linked with Western European mortality statistics to estimate deaths attributable to G for heart disease and nine cancer types. Of 1.53 million Western European deaths in 2000 0.25 million (16.4%) could be attributed to genetics plus shared exposures. Given the modest influences of G-related factors on the risks of chronic diseases in MZ twins, the disparity in coverage of G and E in etiological research is problematic. To discover causes of disease, GWAS should be complemented with exposome-wide association studies (EWAS) that profile chemicals in biospecimens from incident disease cases and matched controls



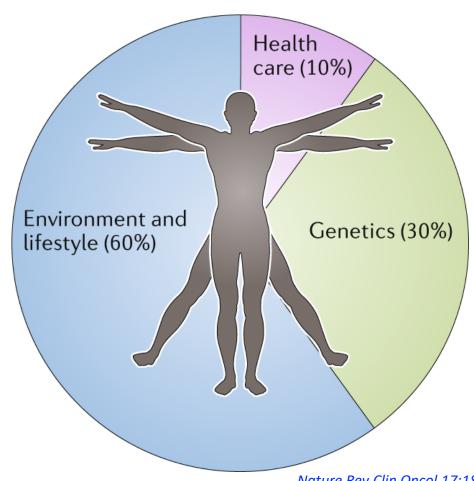


Citation: Rappaport SM (2016) Genetic Factors Are Not the Major Causes of Chronic Diseases. PLoS ONE 11(4): e0154387. doi:10.1371/journal. pone.0154387

Editor: Rodney John Scott, University of Newcastle, AUSTRALIA

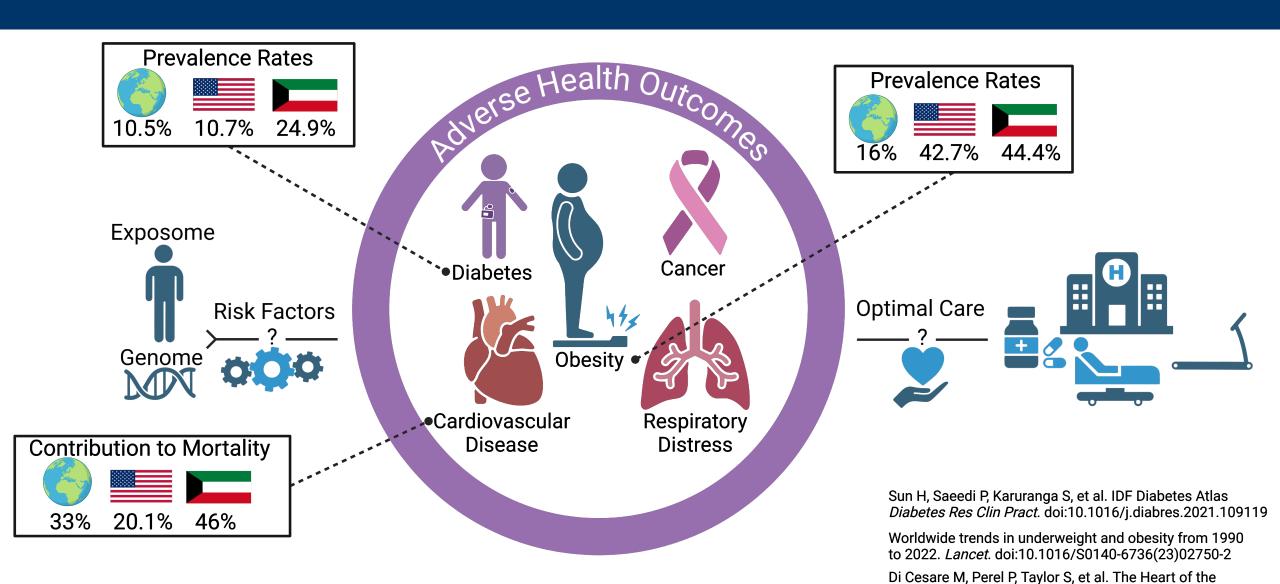
Received: February 26, 2016

Accepted: April 12, 2016



Nature Rev Clin Oncol 17:183–194, 2020

#### Disease Prevalence



World. Glob Heart. 2024;19(1):11. doi:10.5334/gh.1288

## Introduction to Exposome

- Introduced by Dr. Christopher Wild (International Agency for Research on Cancer) in 2005 to emphasize the critical role of environmental exposures in disease etiology.
- Evolved to incorporate advanced technologies and comprehensive methodologies for assessing exposures throughout an individual's lifetime.

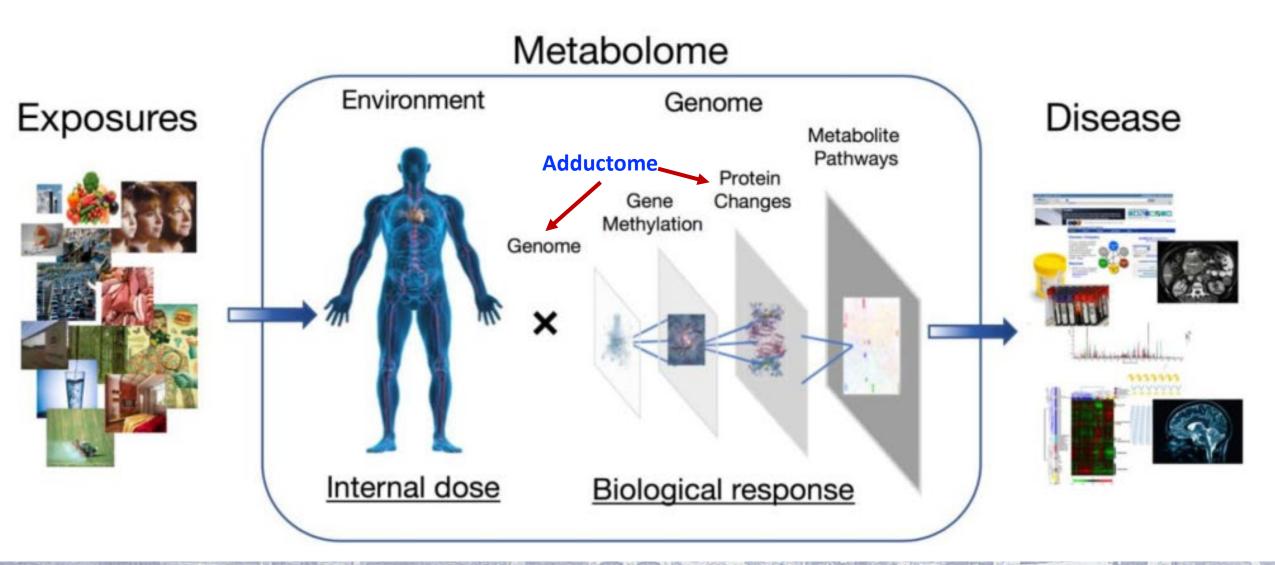


The human exposome encompasses exposures to environmental factors **throughout life**, starting from conception and pregnancy.



#### Exposome: nom Exposures to

#### Diegoeg



## The Exposome Concept

#### **ECOSYSTEMS**

- Food & alcohol outlets
- Built environment, urban land uses
- Population density
- Walkability

SOC

Green/Blue space

#### **LIFESTYLE**

- Physical activity
- Sleep behavior
- Diet
- Drug use
- Smoking
- Alcohol use

#### SOCIAL

- Household income
- Inequality
- Social capital
- Social networks
- Cultural norms
- Cultural capital
- Psychological & mental stress

#### PHYSICAL - CHEMICAL •

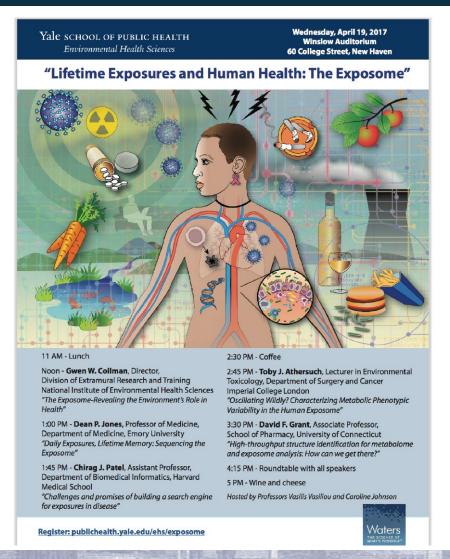
- Temperature/humidity
- Electromagnetic fields
- Ambient light
- Odor & noise
- Point, line sources
- Air pollution

- Agricultural activities, livestock
- Pollen/mold/fungus
- Pesticides
- Fragrance products
- Flame retardants
- POPs

- Plastics & plasticizers
- Food contaminants
- Soil contamination
- Drinking water contamination
- Groundwater contamination
- Surface water contamination
- Occupational exposures

Vermeulen et al., Science, 2020

# One of the First Exposome Conferences was Held at Yale in 2017



Johnson et al. Human Genomics (2017) 11:32 DOI 10.1186/s40246-017-0128-0

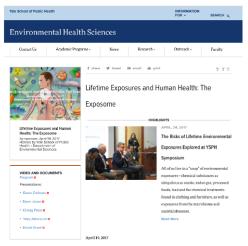
**Human Genomics** 

#### MEETING REPORT

Open Access

Yale school of public health symposium on lifetime exposures and human health: the exposome; summary and future reflections

Caroline H. Johnson<sup>1\*</sup>, Toby J. Athersuch<sup>2,3</sup>, Gwen W. Collman<sup>4</sup>, Suraj Dhungana<sup>5</sup>, David F. Grant<sup>6</sup>, Dean P. Jones<sup>7</sup>, Chirao J. Patel<sup>8</sup> and Vasilis Vasiliou<sup>1\*</sup>





#### Available at

http://publichealth.yale.edu/ehs/exposome/

## **Defining Exposomics**

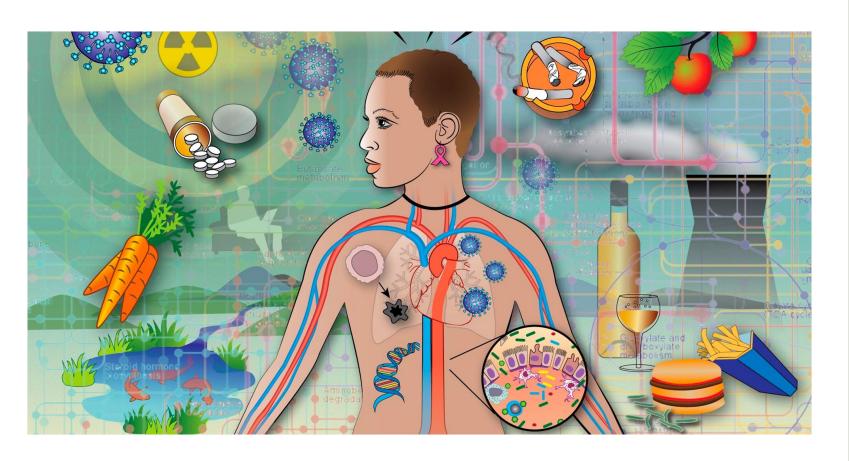


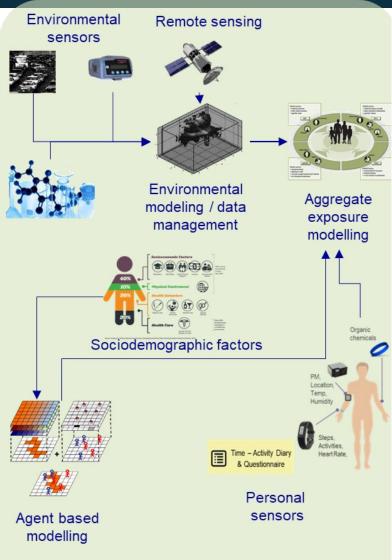
A multidisciplinary approach that combines advanced analytical techniques, bioinformatics, and epidemiological methods to comprehensively assess environmental exposures and their interactions with biological systems over time.



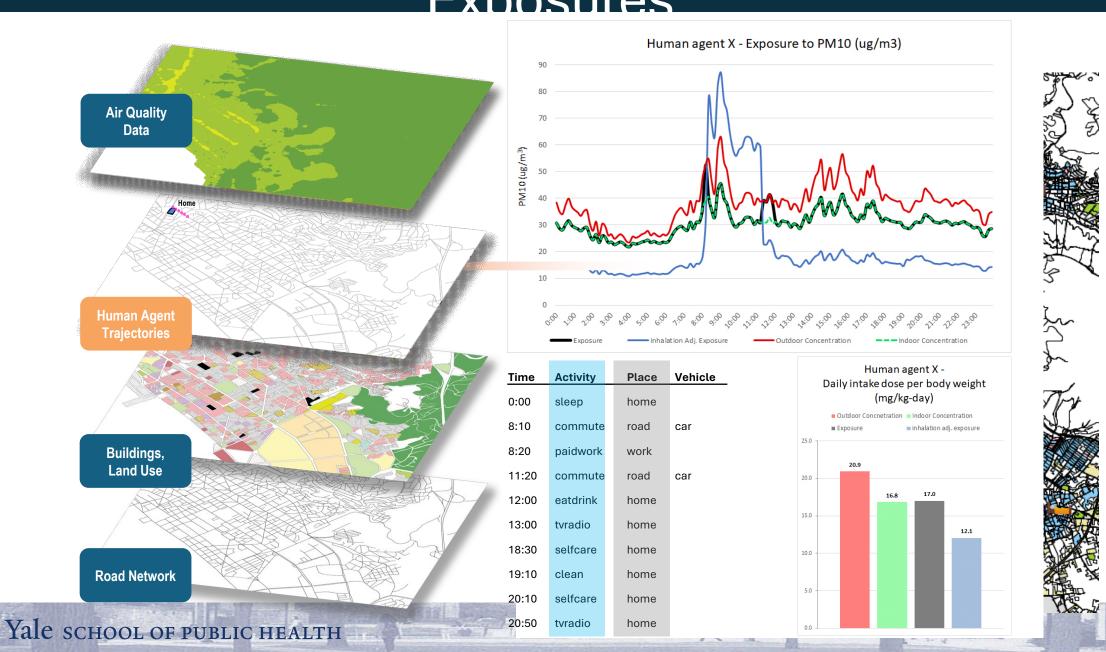
Omics technologies, including genomics, proteomics, and metabolomics, are pivotal in exposome research as they enable the detailed analysis of genes, proteins, and metabolites to understand how environmental exposures affect biological processes and health outcomes.

## **Environmental Data**

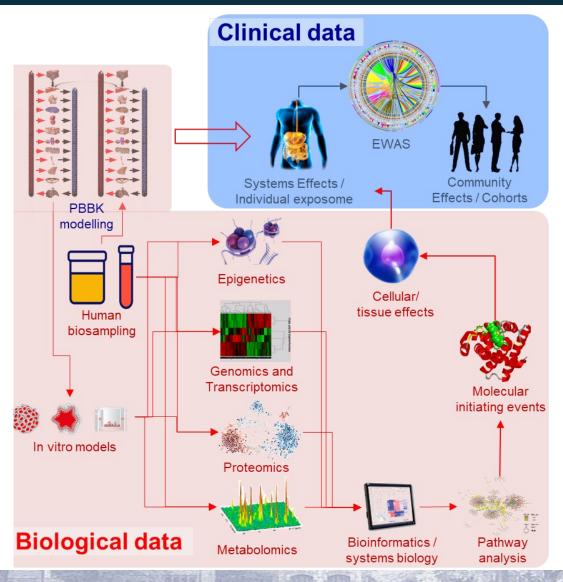




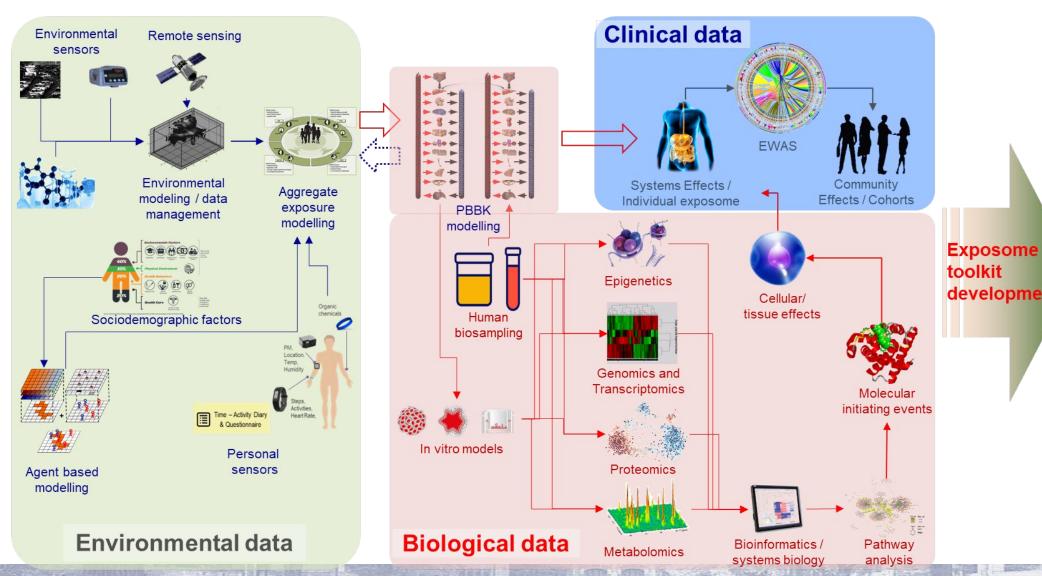
## Space-time Exposure and Mapping Exposures

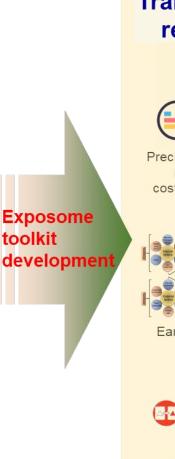


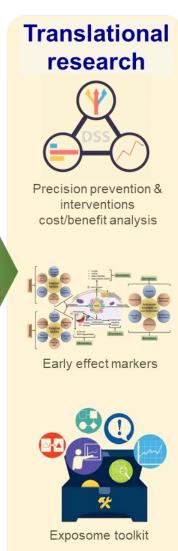
## Exposomics in Biological Samples



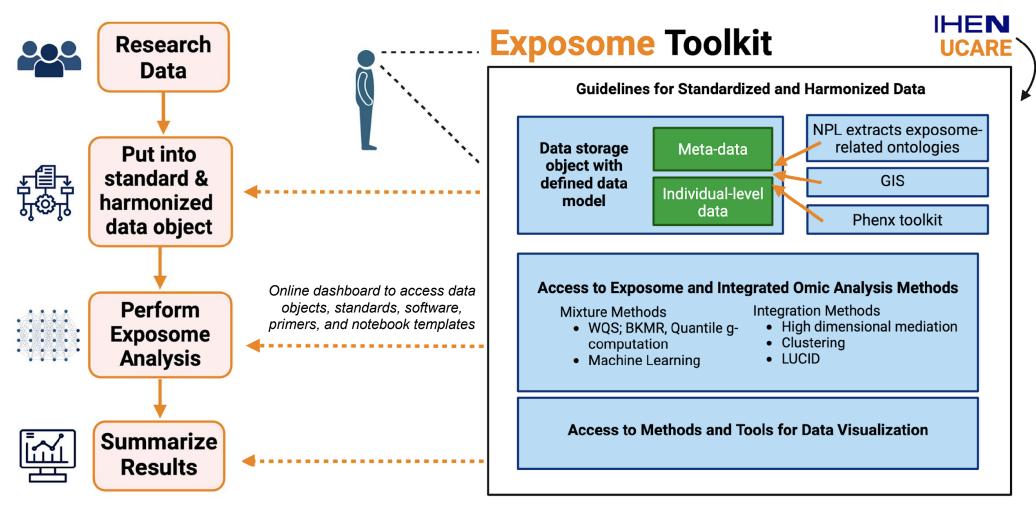
## Translational Exposomics







### Computational Approaches in Exposomics



FAIR: Findability, Accessibility, Interoperability, and Reusability

CARE: Collective Benefit, Authority to Control, Responsibility, and Ethics



## **UCARE** Coordinating Center

US Center for Accelerating Research in Exposome and Translational Precision Environmental Health







## Expertise of the UCARE Leadership

















Zeyan Liew

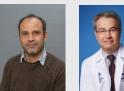
**Expertise:** environmental toxicology, exposome,

metabolomics, community engagement









**ISMMS:** Dania Valvi, Vishal Midya,

Youssef Oulhote, Bob Wright

**Expertise:** exposomics, environmental epidemiology, G\*E interactions, machine-

learning applications,

exposome research in LMIC

Connection with other Consortia: HHEAR, EHEN,

IHEN









USC: Lida Chatzi, David Conti, Jesse Goodrich, Max Aung

**Expertise:** translational exposome research,

environmental epidemiology, multi-omics approaches, community engagement

Connection with other consortia:

EHEN, IHEN, MOHD









**UNC:** Susan Sumner, Blake Rushing, Wimal Pathmasiri, Susan McRitchie

**Expertise:** precision nutrition, toxicology, exposomics, metabolomics, metabolite identification, proteomics, microbiome, biostatistics, software development

**Connection with other Consortia:** HHEAR, CHEAR, ECHO, CURE, NPH







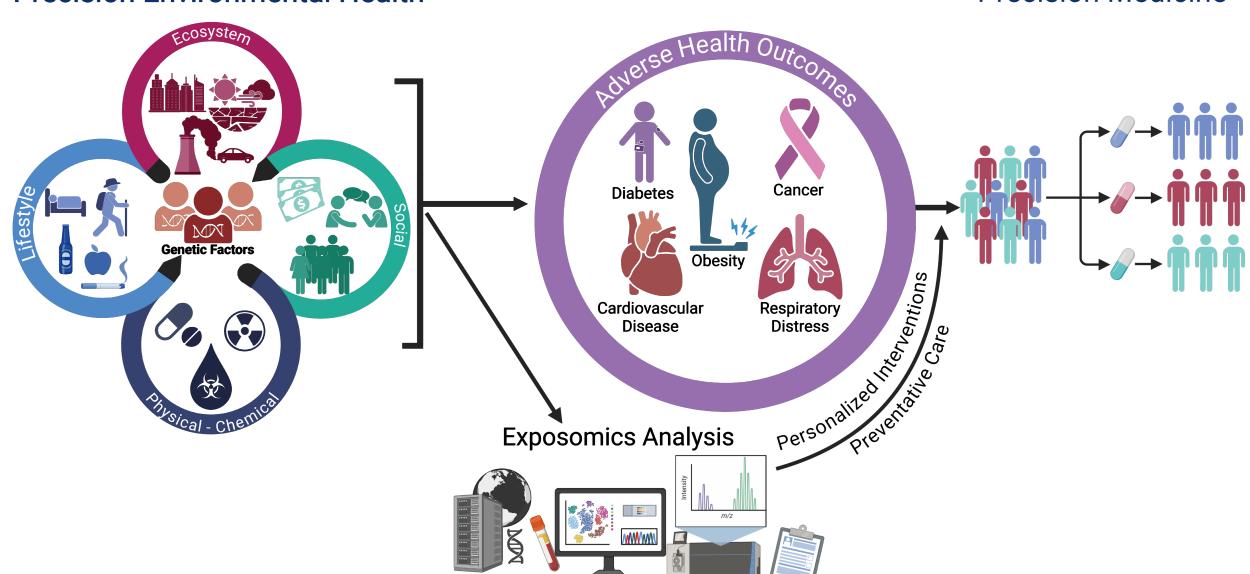
**Expertise:** functional genomics, GIS, personalized medicine, environmental

justice

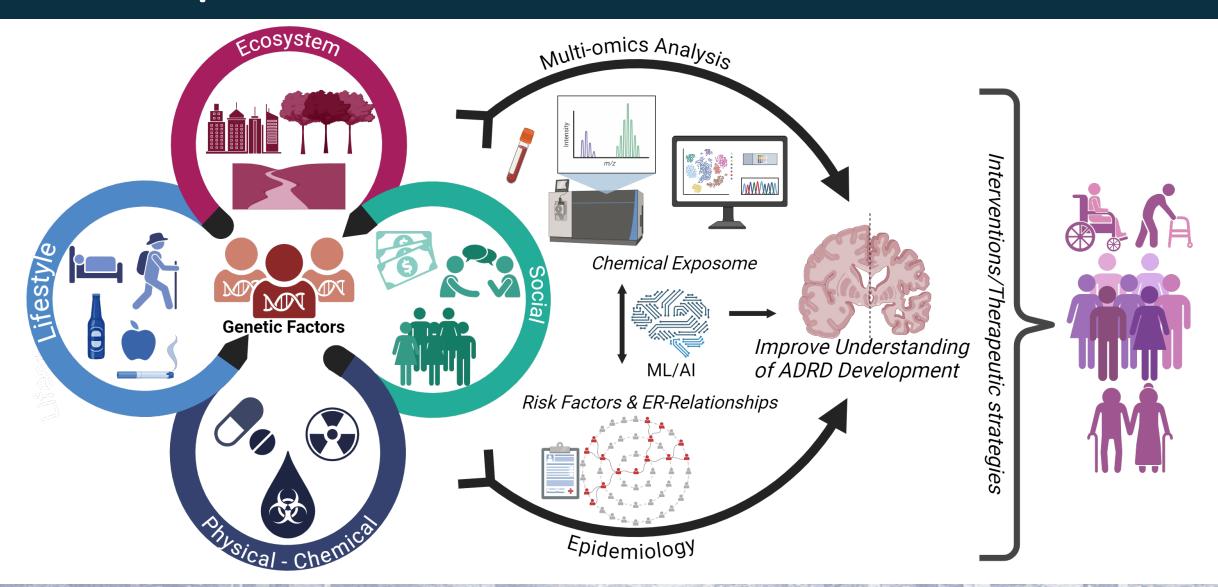


#### **Precision Environmental Health**

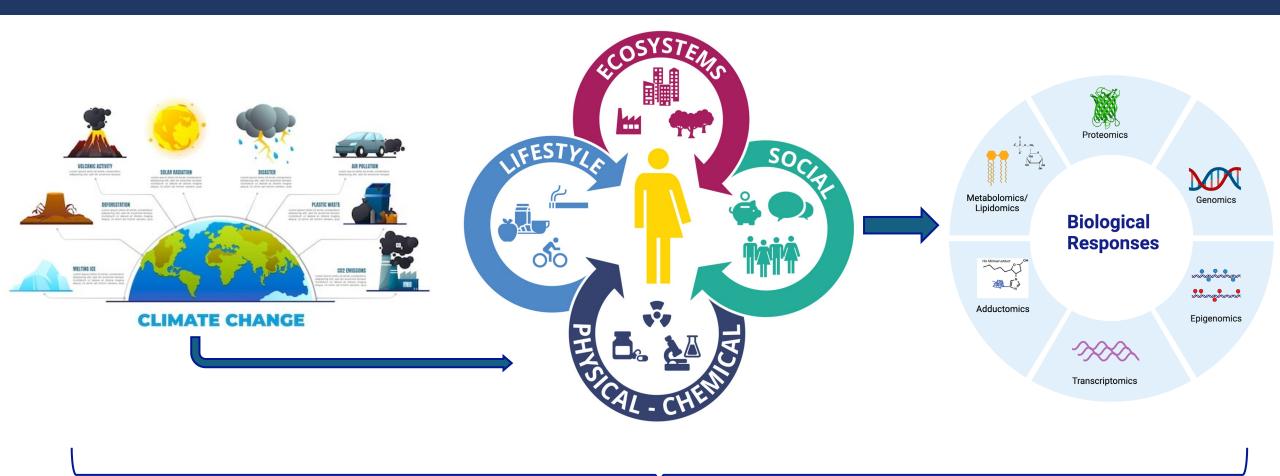
#### **Precision Medicine**



## Exposomics for Alzheimer's Disease



### Climate Change as a Global Exposome Factor



#### **Health outcomes**

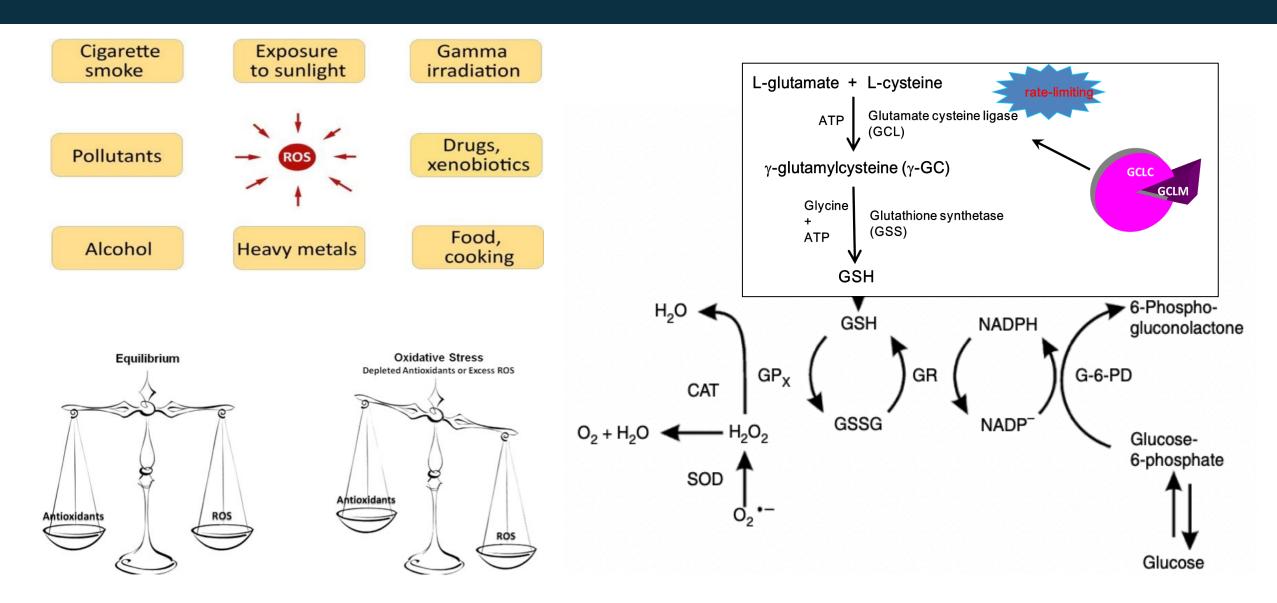
Cancer

Cardiorespiratory

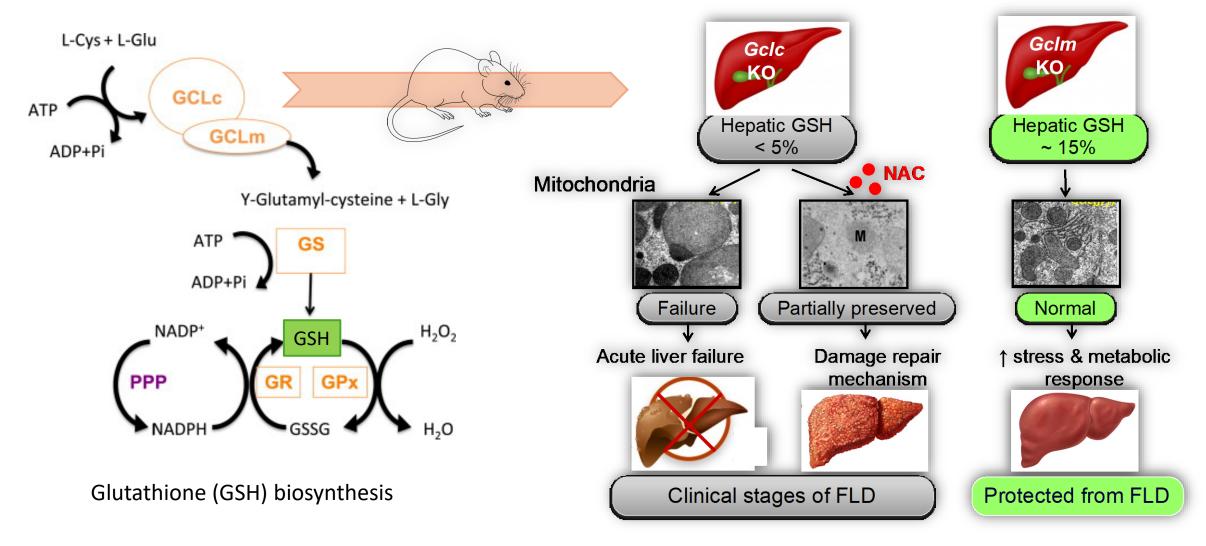
Mental health

disassas

#### Oxidative Stress and the Antioxidant System

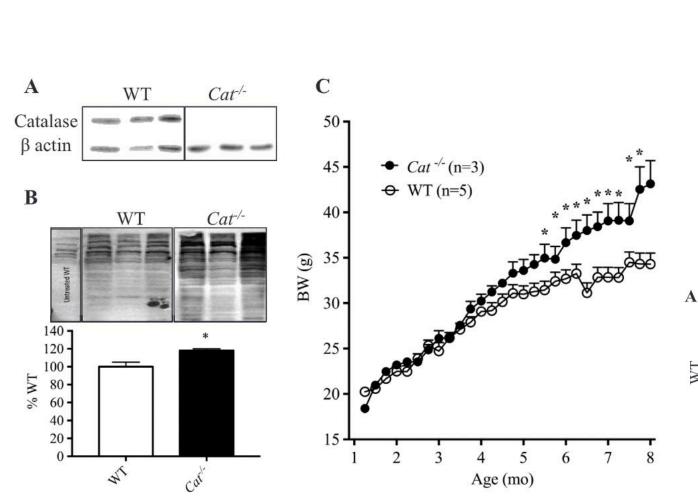


## Glutathione in the Pathogenesis of Fatty Liver Disease (FLD)



Chen et al. Food Chem Toxicol. 2013

# Catalase Gene Deletion Promotes Prediabetic and Obesity Phenotype



Free Radical Biology and Medicine 103 (2017) 48–56

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

#### Free Radical Biology and Medicine

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/freeradbiomed



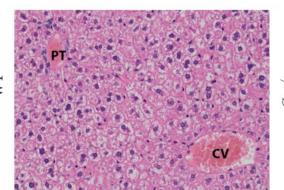
#### Catalase deletion promotes prediabetic phenotype in mice

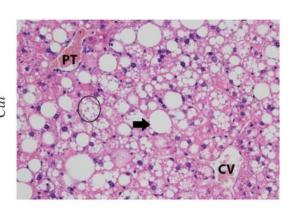
Claire Heit<sup>a</sup>, Stephanie Marshall<sup>b</sup>, Surrendra Singh<sup>b</sup>, Xiaoqing Yu<sup>c</sup>, Georgia Charkoftaki<sup>b</sup>, Hongyu Zhao<sup>c</sup>, David J. Orlicky<sup>d</sup>, Kristofer S. Fritz<sup>a</sup>, David C. Thompson<sup>e</sup>, Vasilis Vasiliou<sup>b, e</sup>



- 50043, USA

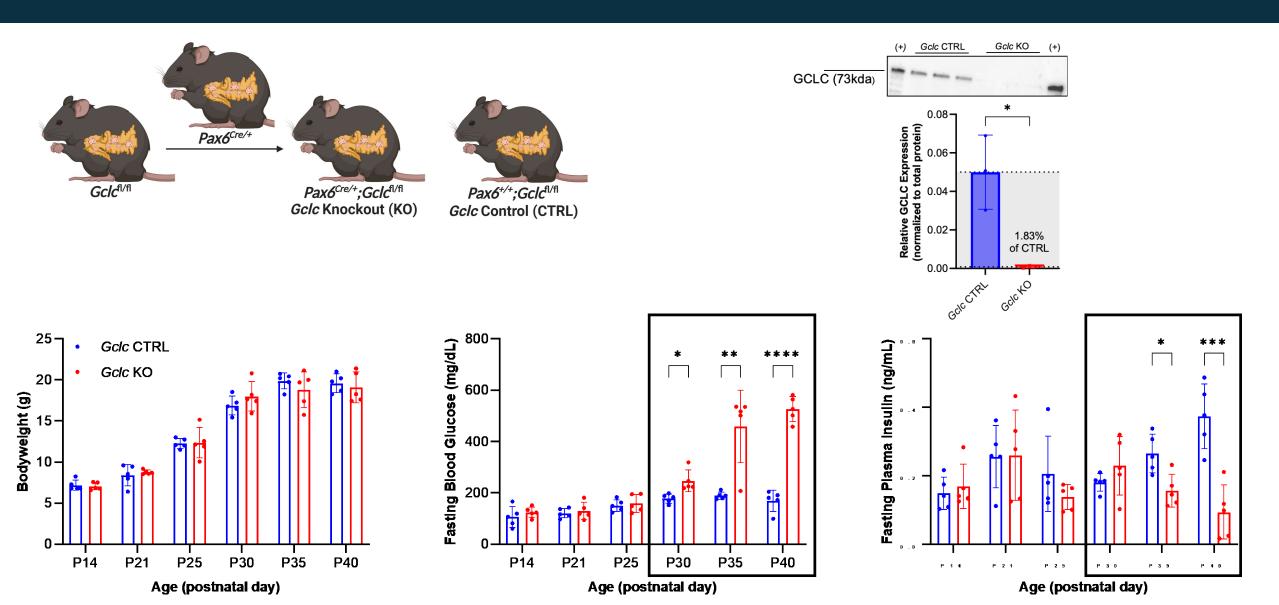
  b Department of Environmental Health Services. Yale School of Public Health, Yale University, 60 College St. New Haven CT 06520-8034, USA
- <sup>c</sup> Department of Biostatistics, Yale School of Public Health, Yale University, New Haven CT 06520, USA
- d Department of Pathology, School of Medicine University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, CO, USA
- <sup>e</sup> Department of Clinical Pharmacy, School of Pharmacy, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, 12850 East Montview Boulevard, Aurora, CO 80045, USA



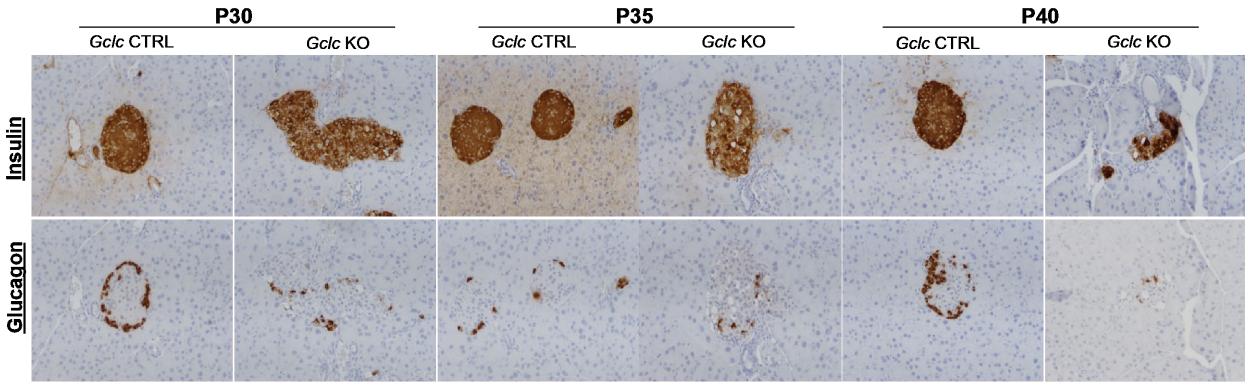




## Pancreas *Gclc* Deletion Causes a Severe Diabetes

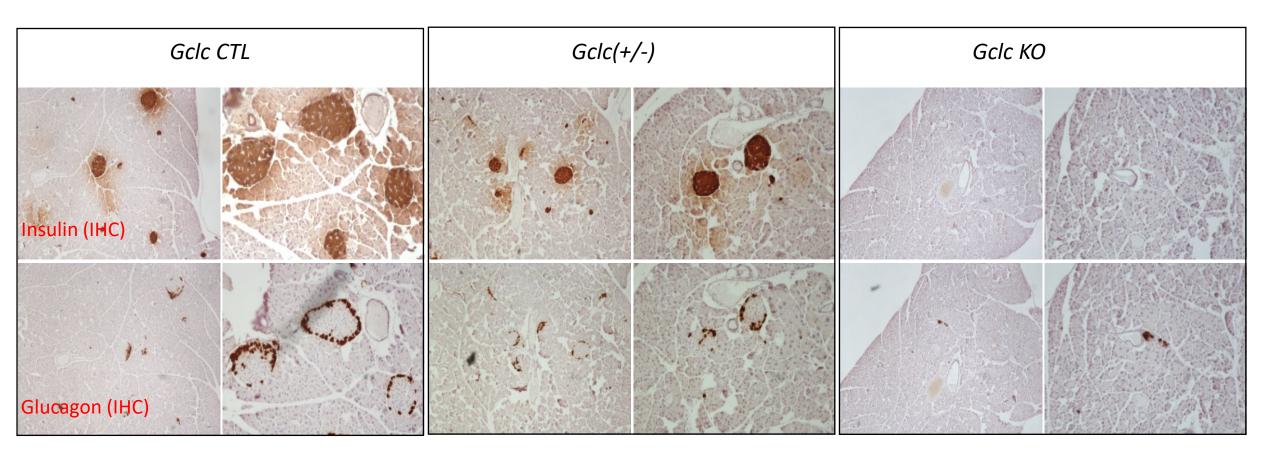


## Islet-specific progressive vacuolation

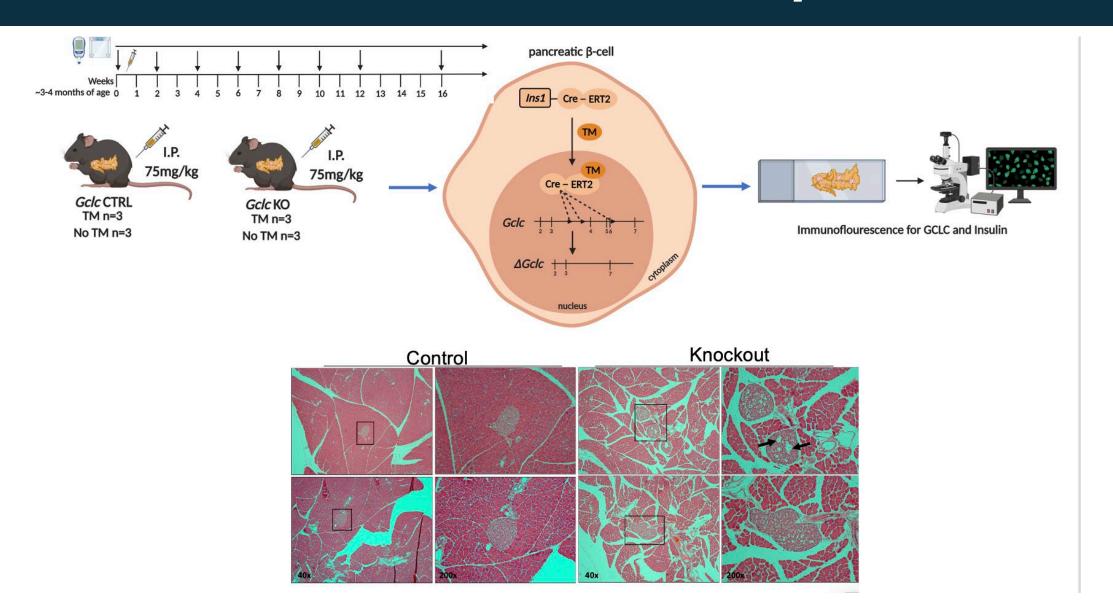


Representative Images, 200x

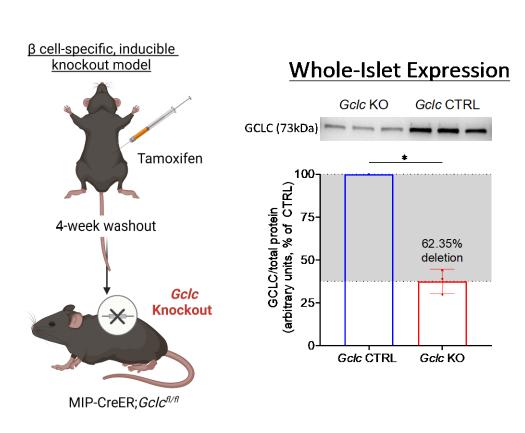
## No Islets after PND 45

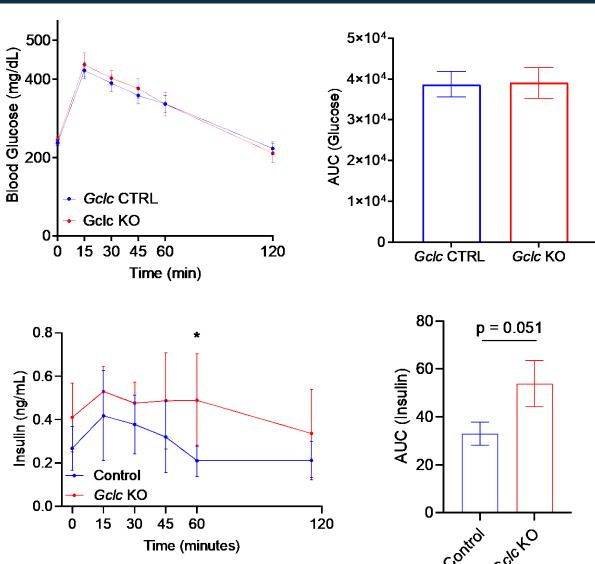


## Gclc Gene Deletion in B cells



# β cell-specific deletion of Gclc in adult mice causes mild hyperinsulinemia





## Thank you!









P42ES033815 (VV)

R24ES036135 (KC)

R01ES032712 (VV)

R25ES029052 (VV)



