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ACS Scholar Adunoluwa Obisesan

BS, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, June 2021 (Chemical-biological Engineering, Computer Science & Molecular Biology)



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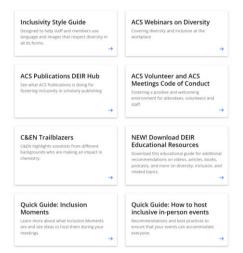


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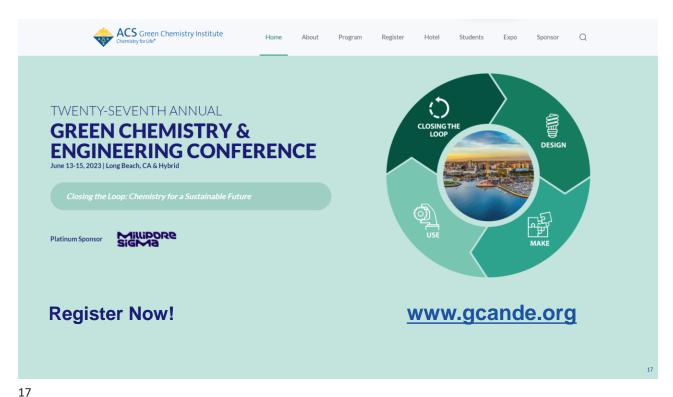
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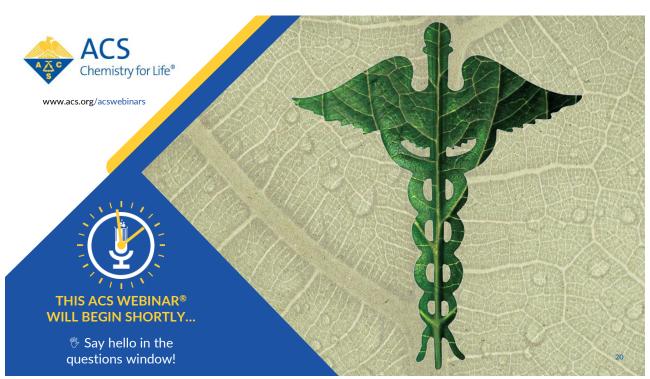
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Plant Cell Based Drug Delivery:

Enhancing Affordability and Access to Healthcare



Dr. Henry Daniell

W. D. Miller Professor Director of Translational Research Vice Chair, Department of Basic and Translational Sciences

School of Dental Medicine University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, USA

Founding Editor, Editor in Chief, Editor Emeritus Plant Biotechnology Journal, Oxford, UK

hdaniell@upenn.edu

www.dental.upenn.edu/hdaniell http://scholar.google.com/citations?user=7sow4jwAAAAJ&hl=en

FDA approves \$3.5 million treatment for hemophilia, now the most expensive drug in the world

By Deldre McPhillips, CNN
Published 4:26 PM EST, Wed November 23, 2022



New \$2.9 Million Gene Therapy Promises to Remake Hemophilia Treatment BioMarin's gene therapy is the first to win FDA approval for adults with the most common form of the bleeding disorder

By <u>Jared S. Hopkins</u> - June 29, 2023 5:31 pm ET Wall Street Journal

Single gene therapy treatment for Hemophilia A is \$2.9 million; for hemophilia B is \$3.5 million

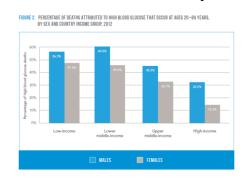


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Diabetes is a Silent Epidemic, but Treatment is Expensive





- > 536 million adults live with diagnosed diabetes many not diagnosed
- ▶ Diabetes caused 6.7 million deaths in 2021 (COVID 1.1 million 2020-2023, US)
- ▶ Insulin pump costs \$6000-\$12,000; 1/3rd of global population earn \$2/day
- Insulin market size is \$20.35 billon in 2021
- Insulin cost doubled in the US in five years
- Annual sales of top ten protein drugs (\$200 billion), exceeds 3/4th global GDP
- ➤ Medicare beneficiaries out of pocket costs for insulin was >\$1 billion in 2020 but was \$236 million in 2007.
- So, American diabetics risk their lives by reducing their insulin dose !!



Current protein drug delivery systems - >90% invasive







Oral or topical protein drug delivery systems - noninvasive



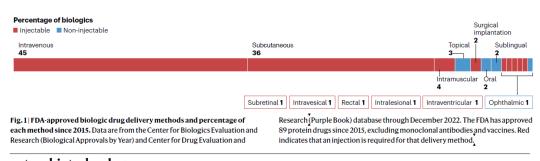






FDA approved protein drugs: Oral Arah bioencapsulated in peanut cells to treat allergy; Topical ACE2 bioencapsulated in lettuce to debulk SARS-CoV-2 infection/transmission in phase I/II human clinical trial

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nature biotechnology

https://doi.org/10.1038/s41587-023-01899-1

Plant cell-based drug delivery enhances affordability of biologics

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Why are Biopharmaceuticals Expensive?

Current system

vs New system











Fermentation

Purification

- \$500-900 million cost of fermenters
- Prohibitively expensive purification
- Invasive delivery injections/implantation
- · Refrigeration/freezing required
- Short shelf-life
- Average development cost \$2.6 billion
- New protein drugs cost 18,861- \$288,759

Oral Delivery of plant cells with protein drugs

No need for fermenters – produced in greenhouses

FDA approved drugs without purification

Oral/topical delivery - non-invasive

No need for cold chain

Stable at ambient temp for many years

Much less (\$10 M topical -\$25 million oral drug)

Oral Palforzia \$2,500 (<3% of new biologic drug)

*VaxGen Published Information

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It is the drug delivery technology - stupid

- When I moved to the US 40 years ago, my first operated assisted phone call cost \$75 (10% of my salary) 45 days to get a response to mailed letters
- Today, WhatsApp, Zoom, Skype instant and cheap
- Insulin was delivered by injections fifty years ago and still today
- >95% of drugs approved by FDA are injected.
- Injections are not suitable for drug delivery, especially for diabetes
- Injections rapidly decrease sugar levels leading to hypoglycemia
- Insulin delivery to the peripheral circulation by injections is a major reason for hypoglycemia – natural insulin in secreted by the pancreas



Large Scale Protein Drug Production Facilities

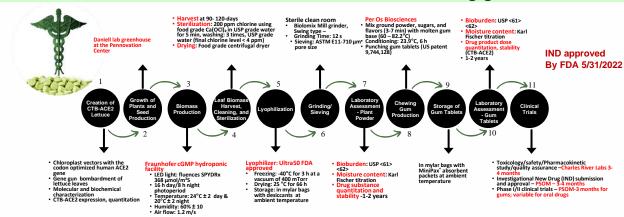
University of Pennsylvania – Daniell lab greenhouse





Although indoor hydroponic facility has been used in the past, Greenhouse produced leaf biomass meets FDA requirements for drug dose, stability, uniformity and bioburden.

From Lab to the Clinic - CTB-ACE2 chewing gum



Products ready for advancing to clinical trials - in step 11:

- ACE2 gum to reduce SARS-CoV-2 infection/transmission IND approved by FDA Phase I/II studies in progress Phase III in 2023
- FRIL gum to reduce SARS-CoV-2, Influenza, HSV, RSV infection/transmission IND to be filed for Phase I/II studies in 2023
- Dextranase/mutanase/lipase gum to kill bacteria/fungi in dental plaque IND to be filed for Phase I/II studies in 2023
- Oral ACE2/Ang1-7 for cardiopulmonary diseases Rat/dog efficacy/tox done Revised IND to be filed for Phase I/II studies in 2023
- Oral insulin animal studies completed- canine insulin trial initiated IND to be filed for Phase I/II studies in 2023
- Oral insulin like growth factor acceleration of diabetic fracture healing animal studies completed IND to be filed in 2023
- Oral COVID-19 booster vaccine animal studies not yet completed IND to be filed in 2023

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FDA approval of ACE2 chewing Gum to prevent SARS-CoV-2 Infection/transmission

- > First engineered clinical product (human protein) made in plant cells via the chloroplast genome
- ➤ First clinical product without need for purification or cold chain – ACE2 stability at ambient temperature for many years
- Scale up a million ACE2 gum tablets made from one kilogram of dry leaf powder
- CTB approved with ACEs –
 Enables oral drug delivery including CTB-insulin

From: Do, Ngoc-Linh < Ngoc-Linh.Do@fda.hhs.gov >

Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2022 3:03 PM

To: Blatcher, David < <u>David.Blatcher@pennmedicine.upenn.edu</u>>

Subject: [External] IND 154807 ACE2 Chewing Gum

Dear David,

We have completed our review of IND 154807 and have concluded that you may proceed with your proposed study. We will issue a study may proceed letter within 30 days with non-hold comments for your considerations.

Thank you,

Linh

Ngoc-Linh Do, PharmD

Regulatory Health Project Manager

Division of Pulmonology, Allergy, and Critical Care Office of Immunology and Inflammation Center for Drug Evaluation and Research U.S. Food and Drug Administration

Tel: 301-348-1896 Fax: 301-796-9728

Ngoc-Linh.Do@fda.hhs.gov

Test	Specification	4 weeks (±7 days) Estimated	12 weeks (±7 days)	26 weeks (±14 days)	52 weeks (±14 days)
Date:	Estimated	12-May- 2022	7-July- 2022	13-Oct- 2022	14-Apr- 2023
	Actual	25-May- 2022	28-July- 2022	10-Oct- 2022	
Description	light to dark green tablets: Diameter: 0.65" (16.4mm) Thickness: 0.33" (8.3mm)	Pass	Pass	Pass	
Microbial Limits (Bioburden)	Total aerobic microbial count 10 ³ cfu/g	0	0	0	
	Total yeast 103 cfu/g	0	0	0	
	Total molds 10 ⁴ cfu/g	0	0	0	
	Absence of Salmonella	Absent	Absent	Absent	
	Absence of Escherichia coli	Absent	Absent	Absent	
Drug dosage	250-1,000 μg ACE2	752.6 ±3.4	755 ± 3.1	755.9 ±	
	per 2g dry weight of gum tablet	μg	μg	2.3 μg	
Potency	80% - 110% virus serum neutralization	100%*	NA	100%	

ACE2 gum FDA evaluation criteria before and after IND approval

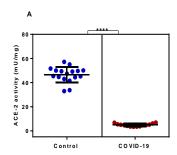
- > All pipettes, equipment, should be calibrated and certified
- > All reagent safety data and batch record should be filed
- > All assays should be calibrated and certified
- All data should be performed by more than one investigator and supervisor certified
- > FDA should have access for verification of data
- All project personnel should be certified for performing cGMP investigations and documentation.
- No data should be discarded, including failed or incomplete experiments

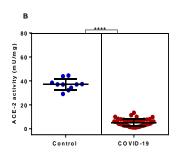
Daniell lab facilities at the University of Pennsylvania and investigators meet FDA requirements for cGMP product development, characterization and documentation – equipment calibration, training certification, etc.

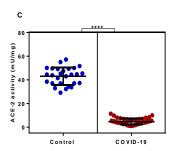
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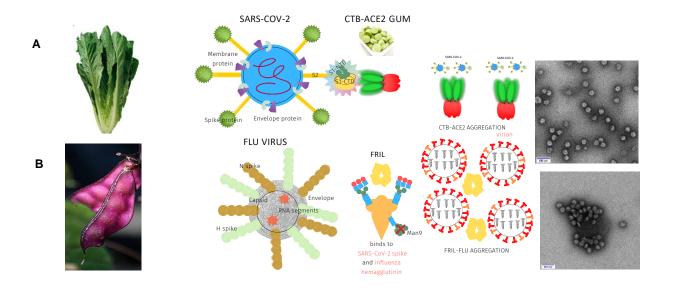
What happens to COVID-19 patients after SARS-CoV-2 infection Plasma ACE2 enzyme activity in control and COVID-19 patients





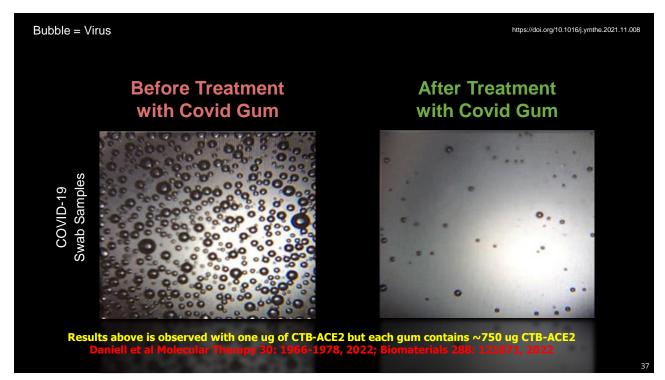


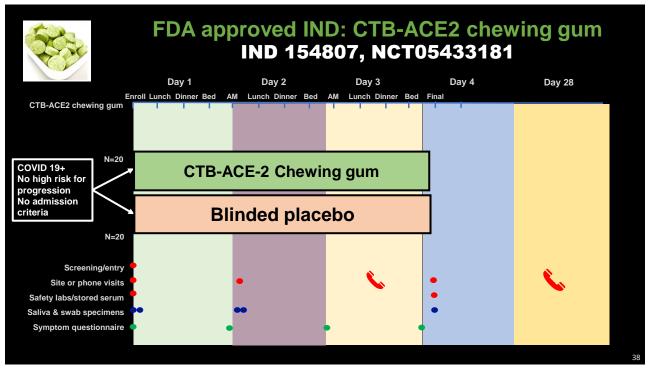
ACE2 activity determined by cleavage of fluorogenic McaAPK (Dnp) substrate. ACE2 enzyme activity units (mU/mg) calculated in Control and COVID-19 patients. (A) In EDTA treated 17 control (blue) and 16 COVID-19 (red) samples (B) In Non-EDTA treated 10 control (blue) and 43 COVID-19 (red) samples. (C) Both EDTA and Non EDTA samples combined data. Data were analyzed using the Mann-Whitney U Test; ****: p< 0.0001. Daniell et al Molecular Therapy – Methods and Clinical Development 26: 266, September 2022

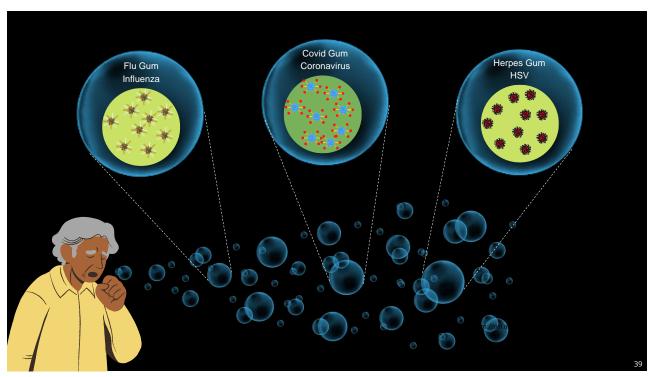


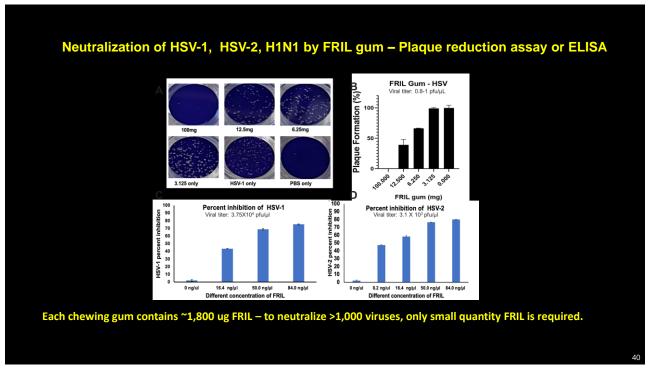
Blocking and neutralization mechanisms of plant-based SARS-CoV-2 viral trap proteins - CTB-ACE2 and FRIL



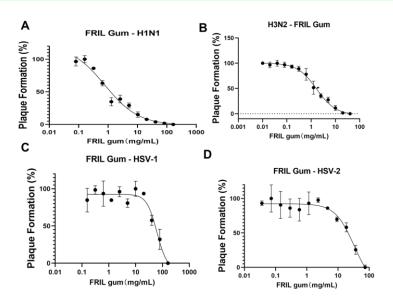








Virus neutralization by FRIL Gum



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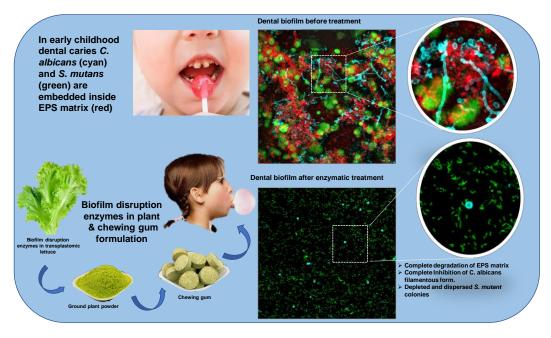
Plaque removal by chewing gums

Mechanical vs Biological

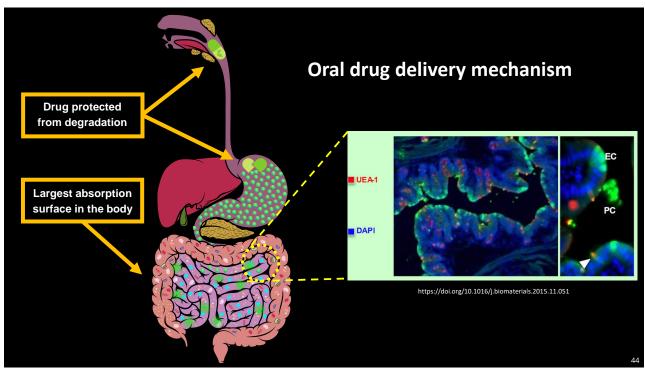


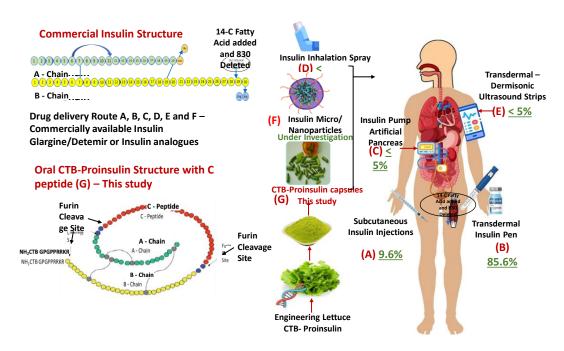
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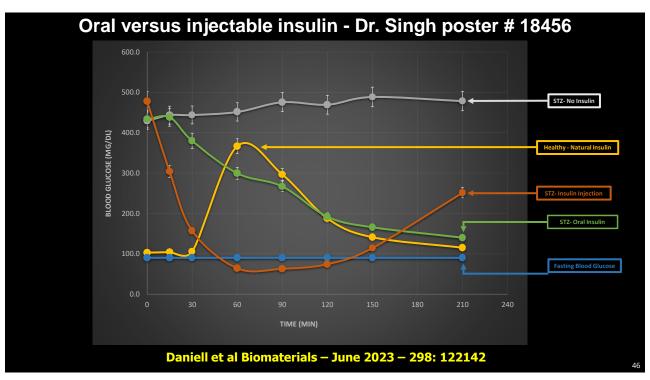


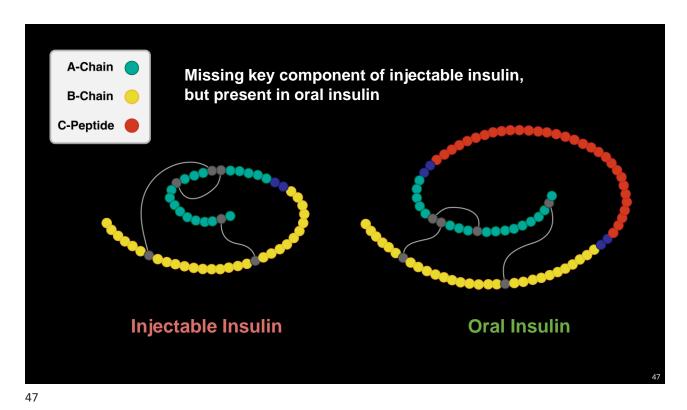
Singh et al., Plant Biotechnology Journal, 19, 2113-2125.



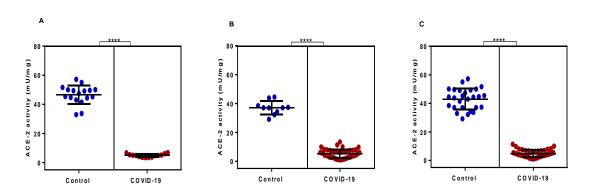


Daniell et al Biomaterials - June 2023 - 298: 122142

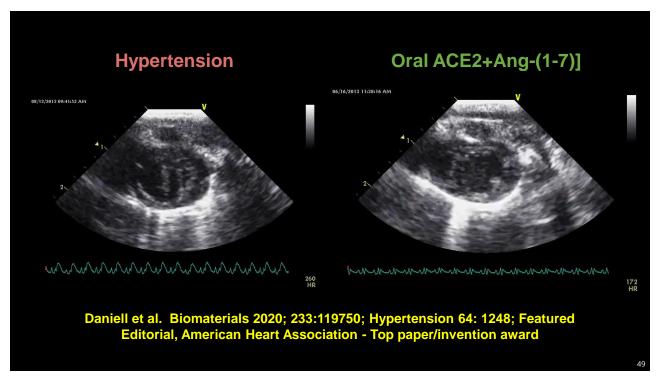




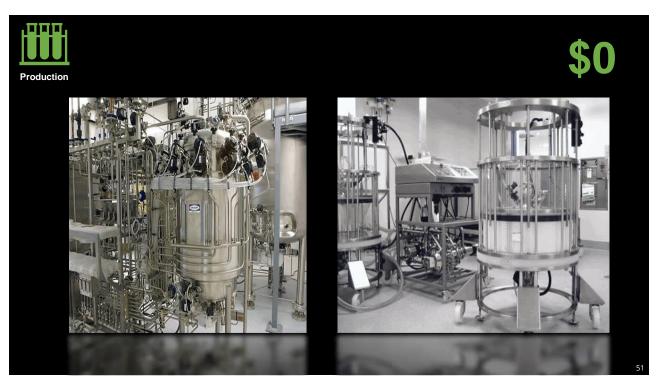
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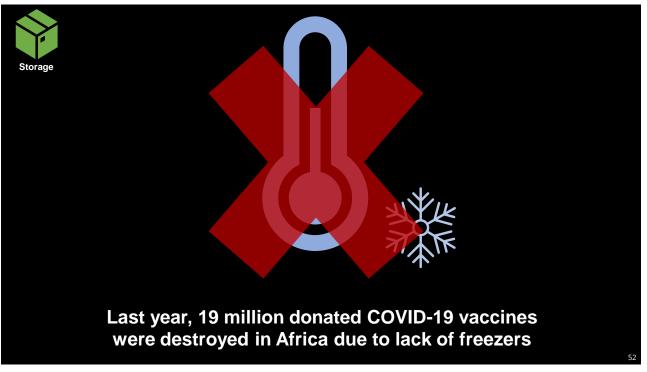


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10x - 50x cheaper

than traditional drugs

In order to enhance access to global health and affordability, technology revolution is needed.

Plant produced biopharmaceuticals offers such an opportunity.

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Research Funding

NIH – GMS/HL: R01 – 2002-2025: Oral delivery of affordable protein drugs **NIH- HL: R01** 2011-2022: Oral therapy for hemophilia – tolerance induction

Pennsylvania Governors office - 2020 IND gap studies identified by FDA after filing regulatory documents

IDEA award - CiPD and Penn HealthTech

NIH - EY: R01- 2015-2020: Diabetic retinopathy - Oral ACE2/Ang1-7

NIH - SMARTT - 2016-2020: Hemophilia IND filing/phase I NIH - SMARTT - 2016-2020: Hypertension IND filing/phase I

DOE: 2012- 2020 PETRO plants, Synplastome

Takeda/Shire: 2019-2024: Hemophilia clinical launch

Gates Foundation: 2011-2017: Oral polio vaccine (FDA, CDC)

Johnson & Johnson 2016-2018: Topical drug delivery **Novo Nordisk:** 2014-2016: Hemophilia clinical Development

JDRF/ADA: 2011-2018 : Diabetes/retinopathy **Bayer**: 2010-2014: Hemophilia – global award

USDA: 2002-2014 Chloroplast genome & engineering

Successful mentees pursuing their passion at SIVB conference San Diego, July 2022, or lab group celebrations













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Ace2 Chewing Gum in the News: 2021-2022
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Guo, Shina Lin, Rachel
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Nataliya Balashova, Yao Shi
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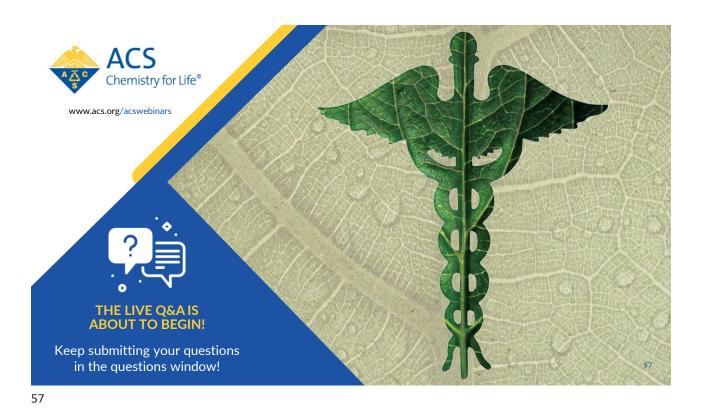
Wang Lab Wan Zhou Collman Lab Jevon Graham- Wooten Kenneth Margulies, William Short, Pablo Tebas

Funding: NIH grants R01 HL 107904, R01 HL 109442, R01 HL 133191, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and IDEA award to Henry Daniell



Pulmonary Hypertension
Feature, Clinical Implications –
American Heart Association award
NIH SMARTT Clinical Award

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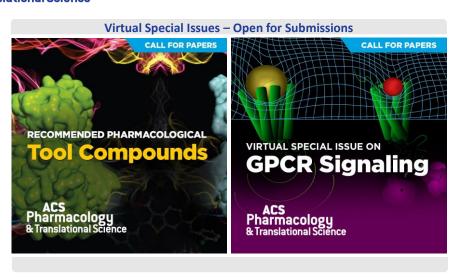
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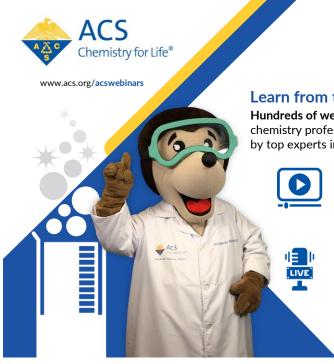
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