

Toxicology Testing: Perspective on How We Got Here (NTP Centric View)

John R. Bucher, Ph.D.

Scientific Advisory Committee on Alternative Toxicological Methods
Sept 27, 2016



- An historical perspective
 - Rodent cancer bioassay
 - Attempts to replace
- ICCVAM
 - 3Rs for many endpoints
- NTP Roadmap/ NRC Tox in 21st Century
 - Mechanism-based approaches
- Next steps- today's discussion
 - Scientific and technical
 - Social, political, regulatory, other





The Rodent Cancer Bioassay- A highly abridged history

- Original Intent

- Screening assay
- Confirm results by epidemiology

- Expansion for Risk Assessment

- 2 doses plus control- high and low, to assure survival
- 3 or more doses - provide a shape to the dose response curve

- Significant change in predictive expectation

- From yes/no (dynamics) to,
- yes/no and kinetics, meaning-
- assumption of comparable sensitivity





The Rodent Cancer Bioassay- Attempted replacement

- Four widely used in vitro assays for genetic toxicity
 - Mutagenesis in Salmonella and mouse lymphoma cells
 - Chromosomal aberrations and sister chromatid exchange in Chinese hamster ovary cells
- Compared to cancer bioassay findings from 83 studies
 - One test better than others, or combinations improve performance?
- Concordance of each assay ~ 60%,
 - No evidence of complementarity
 - Missed opportunity to recognize value
 - *Tennant et al. (1987) Prediction of chemical carcinogenicity in rodents from in vitro genetic toxicity assays, Science, 236:933-941.*





The Rodent Cancer Bioassay- A highly abridged history

- Transgenic mouse models
 - Shorten studies and use fewer animals
 - Used rudimentary mechanistic information, p53, Hras
 - Yes/no, but hopes for comparable sensitivity
 - Genetic background affected response
 - Missed known human carcinogens
 - *Pritchard et al (2003) The role of transgenic mouse models in carcinogen identification Environ. Health Perspect. 111:444-454.*





The Diversity Outbred mouse - reality check

- Diversity outbred (J:DO) male mice
- Exposure levels: 0, 1, 10, 100 ppm benzene, 28 days, 6 hr/day
- 600 mice total: 2 separate cohorts to assess reproducibility
- Endpoints for hematotoxicity and genetic damage
 - % reticulocytes and micronucleated reticulocytes in bone marrow and blood
- Variation in response was 9 fold greater than in isogenic B6C3Fi hybrid mice
- Calculated BMD was an ~ order of magnitude lower
- Associated with variable expression of sulfotransferase detoxification enzymes
- Who are we protecting?



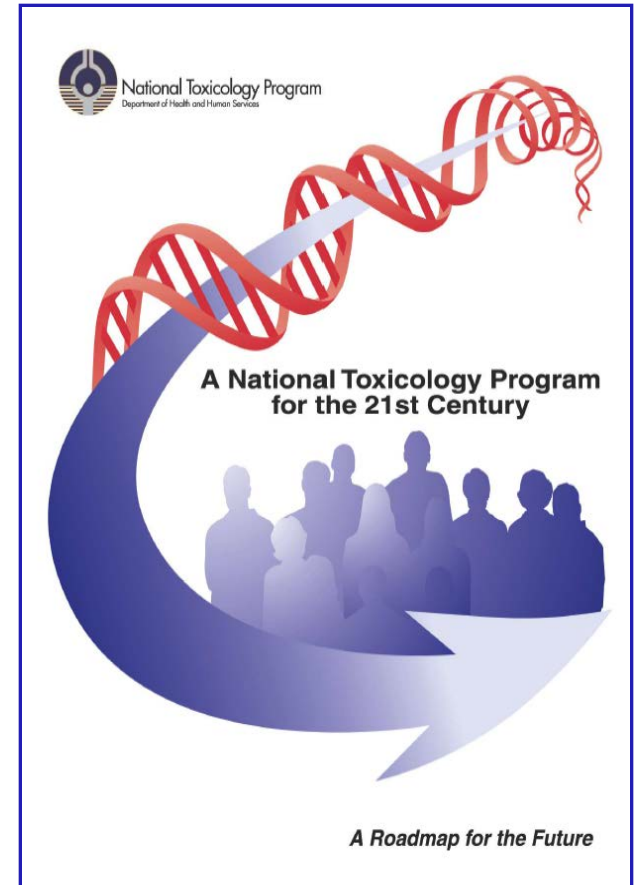


- 1997- 2000 authorization- 2016
- Acute Dermal Systemic Toxicity
- Acute Oral Systemic Toxicity
- Acute Inhalation Toxicity
- Biologics Testing
- Dermal Corrosivity and Irritation
- Dermal Phototoxicity
- Ecotoxicity
- Endocrine Disruptors
- Genetic Toxicity
- Immunotoxicity: Allergic Contact Dermatitis
- Ocular Corrosivity and Irritation
- Pyrogen Testing
- Reproductive and Developmental Toxicity





- Review and refine traditional toxicology assays
- Develop rapid, mechanism-based screens for environmentally induced toxicity and disease
- Improve the utility of NTP products for public health decisions

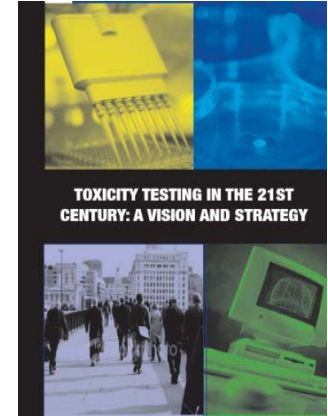




The Tox21 Community - Origins.....



This 2007 National Academy of Science report envisions a not-so-distant future in which virtually all routine toxicity testing would be conducted *in vitro* in human cells or cell lines by evaluating perturbations of cellular responses in a suite of toxicity pathway assays using high throughput robotic assisted methodologies.



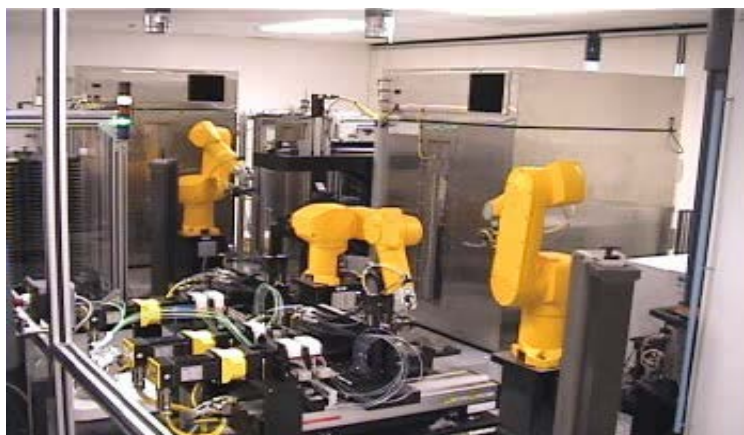
Memorandum of Understanding: “High-Throughput Screening, Toxicity Pathway Profiling and Biological Interpretation of Findings”

- Signed February 14, 2008, as an agreement between:
 - National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences/National Toxicology Program
 - NIH National Human Genome Research Institute/ Chemical Genomics Center (now NCATS)
 - US Environmental Protection Agency/ Office of Research and Development



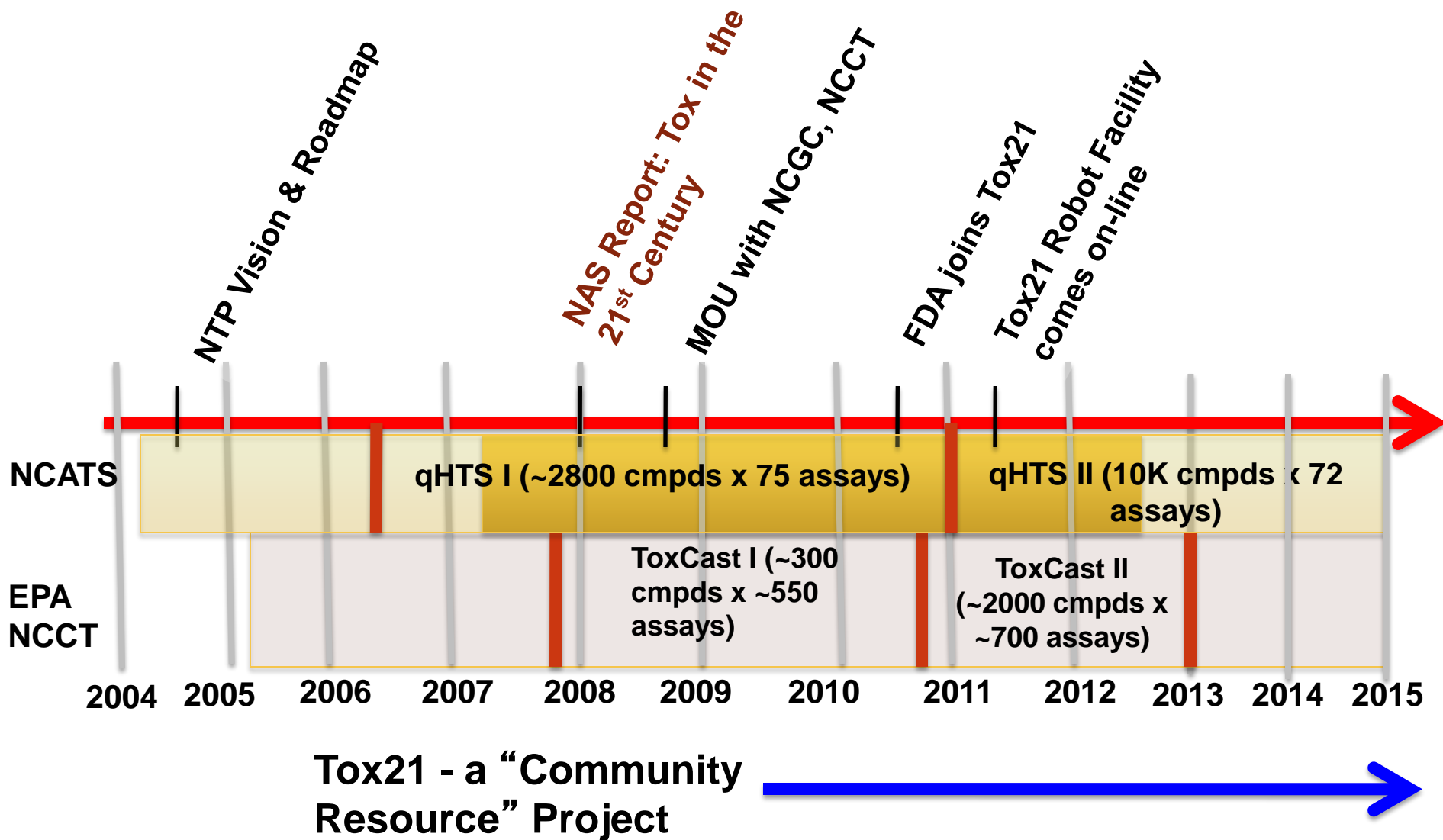


The Tox21 Community





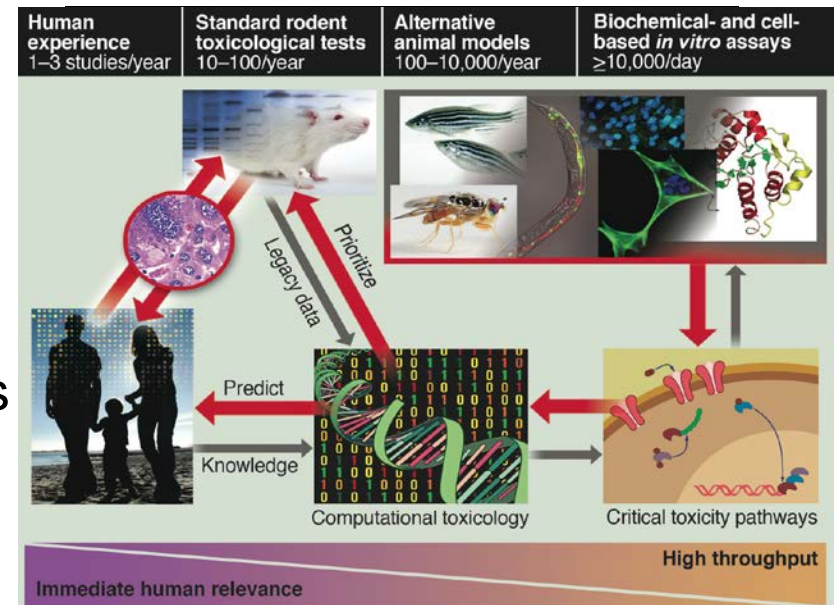
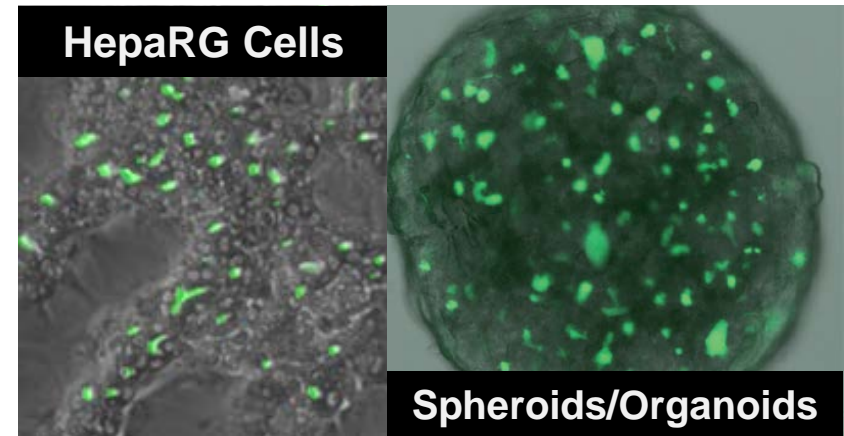
The Tox21 timeline





Tox21 Phase III – Improving biological coverage

- Develop more physiologically-relevant in vitro models and assays
- Incorporate xenobiotic metabolism & longer-term exposures
- Increase use of in silico models (e.g. xenobiotic metabolism, toxicity)
- Integrate data-rich transcriptomic assessments into routine screening
- Assess Adverse Outcome Pathways as an organizing principle
- Develop in vivo/in vitro kinetic models
- Expand collaborations and interactions
- Identify technical *and other obstacles* to greater use and utility





Questions?