



# Characterization of Nanoparticles Intended for Cancer Therapeutics and Diagnostics

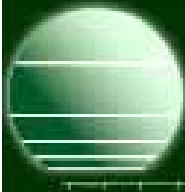
Scott McNeil, Ph.D.

Nanotech Characterization Laboratory

SAIC-Frederick

March 7, 2006

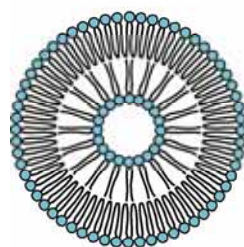
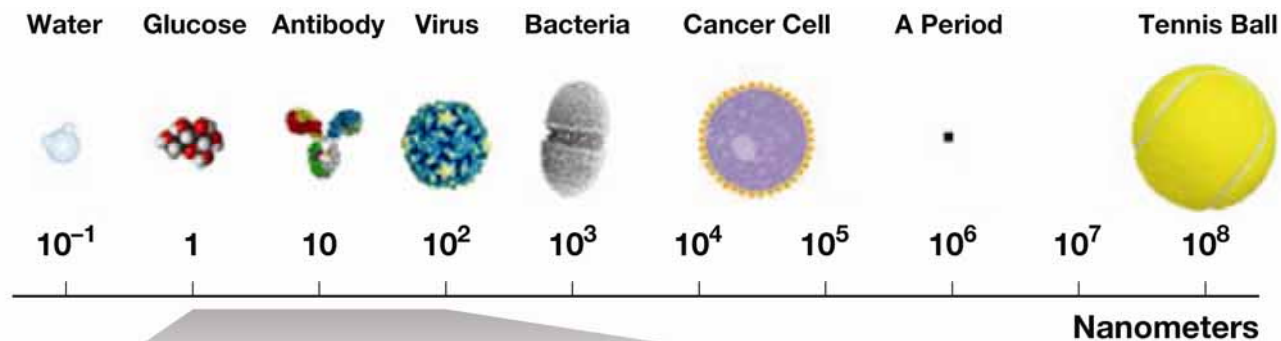




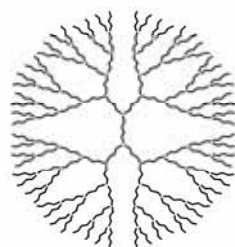
- Background on Nanotechnology
- NCI Efforts
- NCL Programmatic
- Characterization Data

# Definition

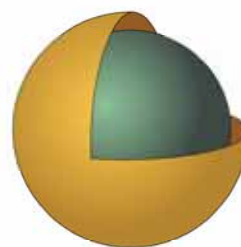
“Research and technology development at the atomic, molecular or macromolecular scale leading to the controlled creation and use of structures, devices and systems with a length scale of approximately 1 – 100 nanometers (nm).” (Source: National Nanotech Initiative)



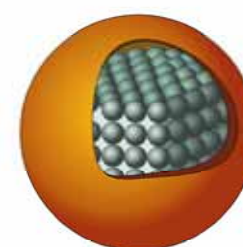
Liposome



Dendrimer



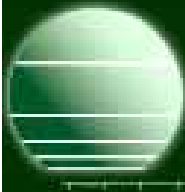
Gold Nanoshell



Quantum Dot



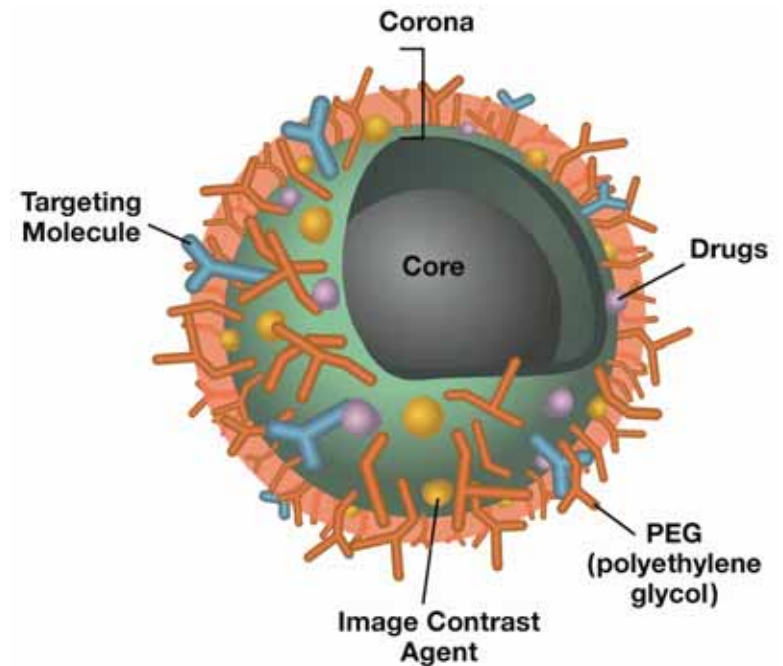
Fullerene



# Why Nano?

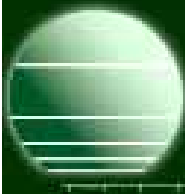
## Therapeutic Benefits

- Solubility
  - Carrier for hydrophobic entities
- Multifunctional capability
- Active and passive targeting
  - Ligands; size exclusion
- Reduced toxicity



*McNeil, (2005), J. Leuk. Biol., 78:585-594*

↑Solubility ↑Stability ↑Specificity = ↓Toxicity ↑Efficacy



NANOTECHNOLOGY  
CHARACTERIZATION  
LABORATORY

# Active Targeting



**Free MTX**

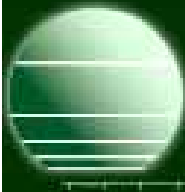
30 mg/kg total



**Nanodevice MTX**

3 mg/kg total MTX

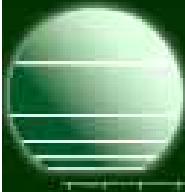
**Dr. James Baker, University of Michigan**



## Background

- NCI has funded exploratory work over the past 6 years on integrating nanotechnology into biomedical research
- Unconventional Innovations Program (UIP)
  - Diagnostics (Imaging)
  - Therapeutics
- Priority is to now transition that research into the clinical realm.

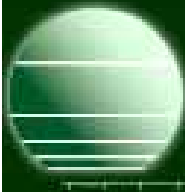
- Run by Office of Technology and Industrial Relations (OTIR)
  - Director: Dr. Greg Downing
  - Extramural Budget: \$144M over 5 years
  - Launched on Sept 13<sup>th</sup>, 2004
  - Website: <http://nano.cancer.gov/>
- Consensus among cancer researchers that significant obstacles must be overcome in order to transition 'nano' to clinical realm
  - Critical lack of available standards
  - 1st principles characterization
  - Regulatory uncertainty



# NCL Objectives

- Identify and characterize critical parameters related to nanomaterials' biocompatibility; structure-activity relationships.
- Establish and standardize an assay cascade for nanomaterial characterization.
- Examine the biological characteristics of multi-component/combinatorial platforms.
- Engage and facilitate academic and industrial-based education and knowledge sharing.

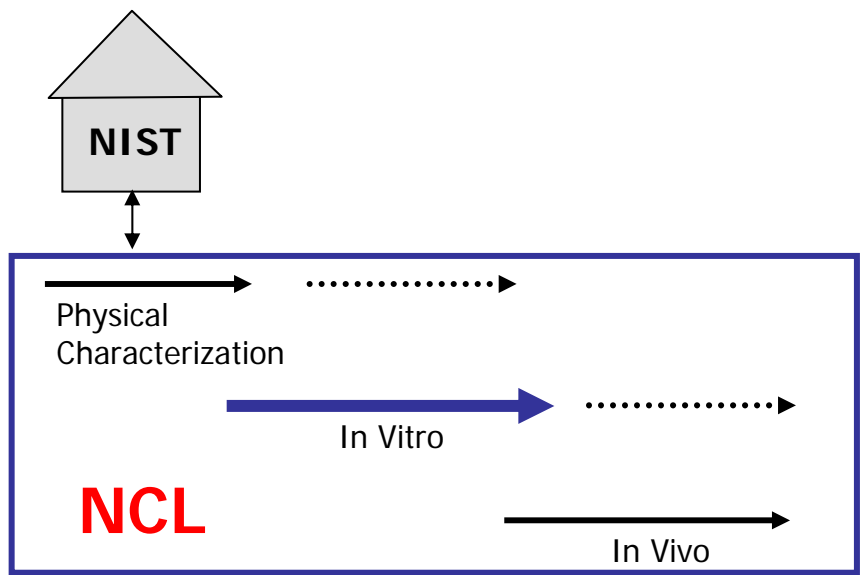




# NCL Concept of Operations

## Sources of Nanomaterials

- Cancer Centers of Nanotech Excellence (CCNEs)
- Academia
- Big Pharm
- Small Business
- NCI, NIH, NSF Grants
- DoD, DoE
- Unconventional Innovative Program (UIP)

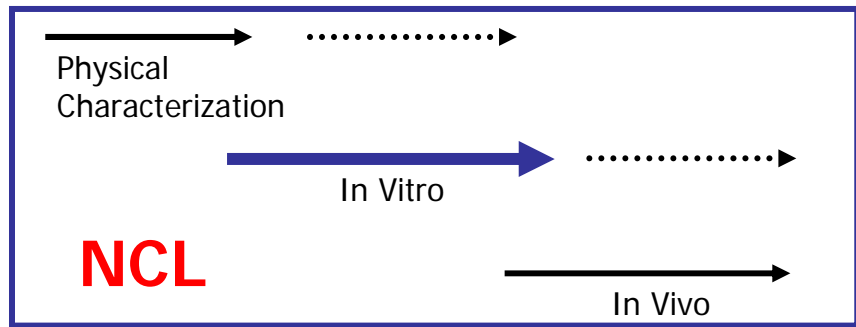
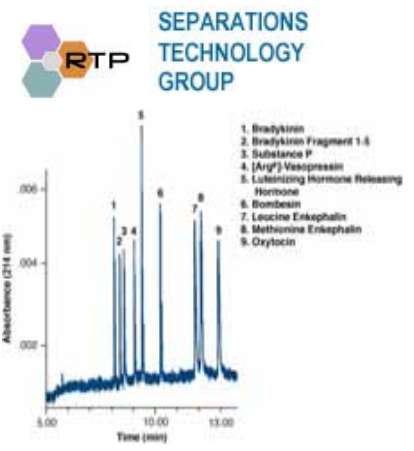


- Detection
- Diagnostics
- Therapeutics

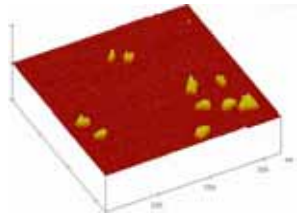
NCL conducts pre-clinical characterization in support of an Investigative New Drug (IND) submission to the FDA

# NANOTECHNOLOGY CHARACTERIZATION LABORATORY

# NCL Facilities

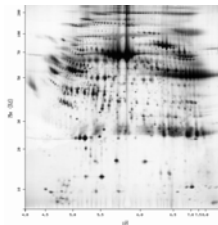


# NCL Assay Cascade



## Physical Characterization:

- Size
- Size distribution
- Molecular weight
- Morphology
- Surface area
- Porosity
- Solubility
- Surface charge density
- Purity
- Sterility
- Surface chemistry
- Stability



## In Vitro:

- Binding
- Pharmacology
- Blood contact properties
- Cellular uptake
- Cytotoxicity

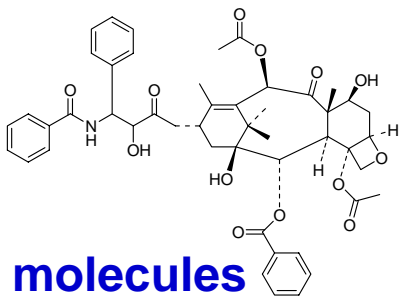


## In Vivo:

- Absorption
- Pharmacokinetics
- Serum half-life
- Protein binding
- Tissue distribution
- Metabolism
- Excretion
- Safety



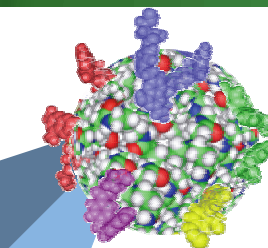
# Core parameters to define physicochemical property of material



- Elemental analysis
- Mass
- NMR
- UV-Vis
- IR
- HPLC
- GC
- Polarimetry



- **Composition**
- **Physical properties**
- **Chemical properties**
- **Identification**
- **Quality**
- **Purity**
- **Stability**

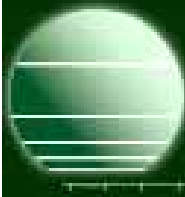


## Nanomaterial

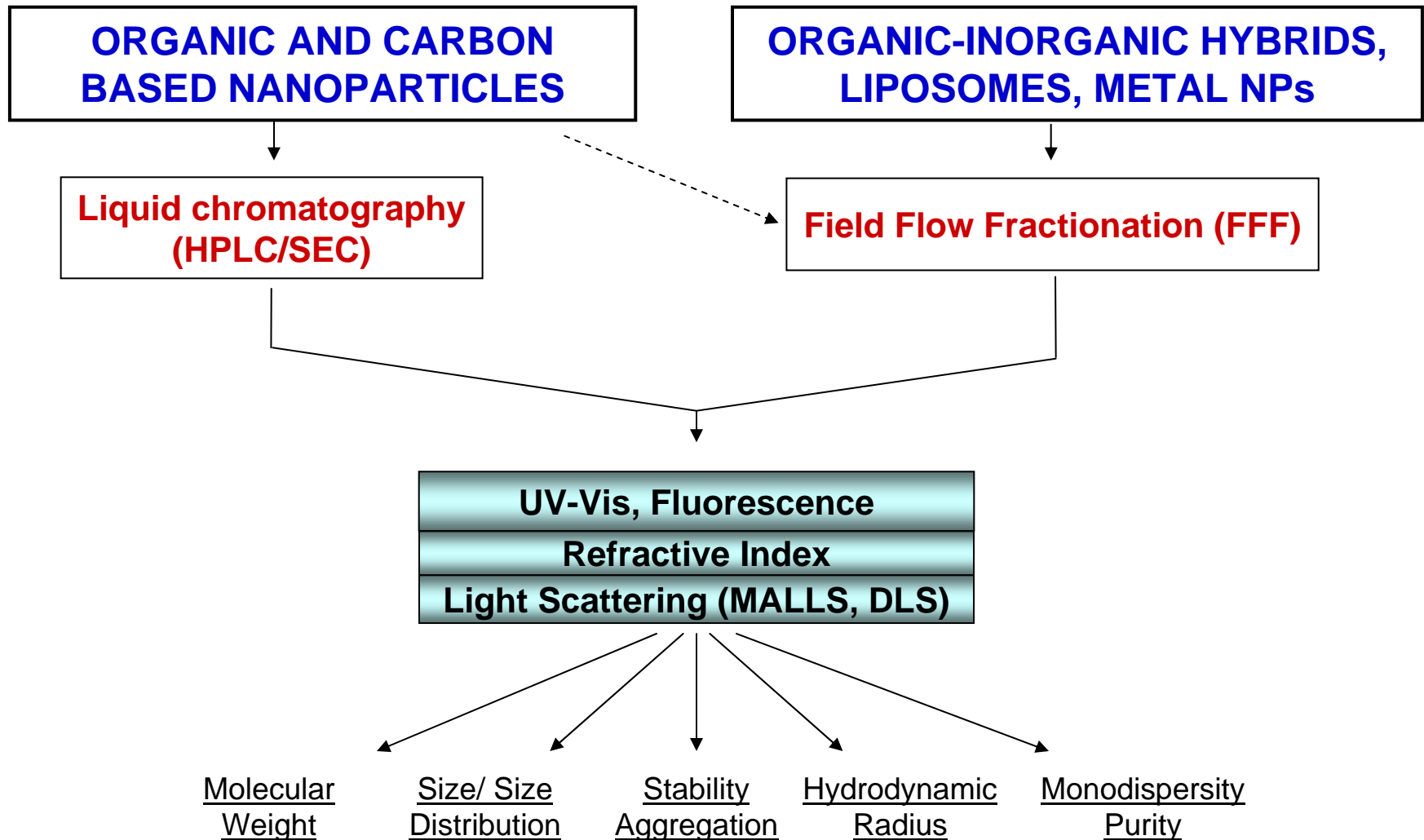
- Microscopy (AFM, TEM, SEM)
- Light scattering (Static, Dynamic)
- SEC, FFF
- Electrophoresis (CE, PAGE)
- Zeta sizer
- Fluorimetry

James Baker  
University of Michigan

**Same parameters – different/additional characterization methods**




# Flow mode analysis of Nanoparticles



## In Vitro

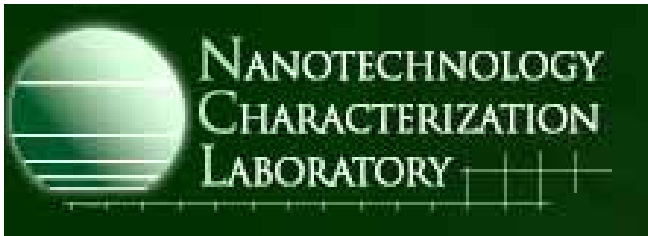
- Sterility
  - Bacterial/Viral/Mycoplasma
  - Endotoxin
- Targeting
  - Cell Binding/Internalization
- Blood Contact Properties
  - Plasma Protein Binding
  - Hemolysis →
  - Platelet Aggregation
  - Coagulation
  - Complement Activation
  - CFU-GM
  - Leukocyte Proliferation
  - Macrophage/Neutrophil Function
  - Cytotoxic Activity of NK Cells
- Toxicity
  - Phase I/II Enzyme Induction/Suppression
  - Oxidative Stress
  - Cytotoxicity (necrosis)
  - Cytotoxicity (apoptosis)
- Metabolic Stability



**NCL Method ITA-1**

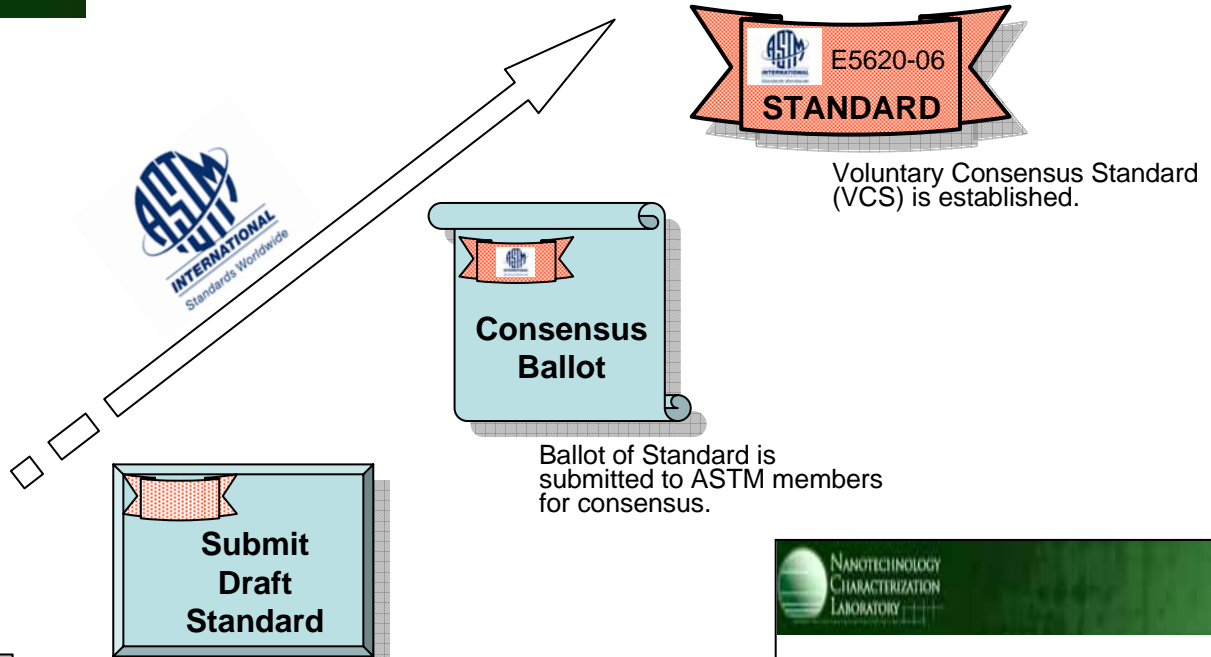
**Analysis of Hemolytic Properties  
of Nanoparticles**

Nanotechnology Characterization laboratory  
National Cancer Institute at Frederick  
SAIC-Frederick  
Frederick, MD 21702  
(301)-846-6939



VCS informs regulatory agencies and promotes commercialization of nanotechnology for medical applications

Industry, Academia, Government



Voluntary Consensus Standard (VCS) is established.

Ballot of Standard is submitted to ASTM members for consensus.

Draft of Standard is submitted to ASTM E-56.20 Subcommittee for comment and revision

NCI  
FDA  
NIST

Solicit  
Comments  
on  
Protocol

Protocols are submitted to partners and collaborators for comment and revision.

Develop  
Protocols

Protocols are developed and validated at the NCL. Intent is to leverage existing methods and/or Standards when possible.



### NCL Method ITA-1

#### Analysis of Hemolytic Properties of Nanoparticles

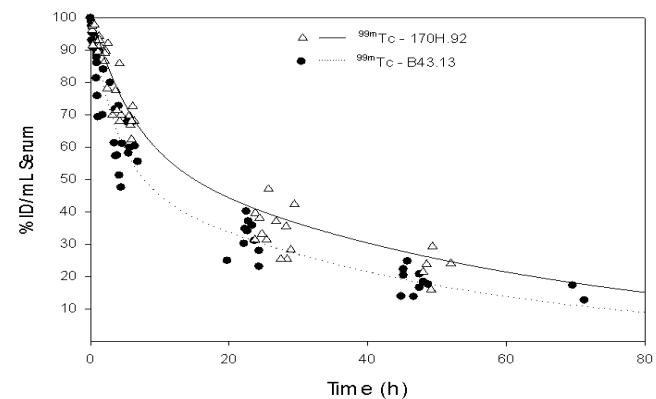
Nanotechnology Characterization laboratory  
National Cancer Institute at Frederick  
SAIC-Frederick  
Frederick, MD 21702  
(301)-846-6939

- **Single/repeat-dose PK/TK/tissue distribution**
- **Clinical Tx cycle**
  - Schedule
  - Duration
  - Route
  - Formulation
- **Quantitation method**
  - radiolabeled nanoparticle (Scintillation)
  - Imaging
  - ELISA
- **PK Parameters**
  - AUC, C<sub>max</sub>, CL, t<sup>1/2</sup>, t<sub>max</sub>

Based on FDA Pre-clinical Guidance



Purpose	Duration	Time Point's	Groups	Tests	Comments
Plasma PK profile/ Tissue distribution (Liver, lungs, kidney, heart, spleen brain)	24 hrs	8	1X, 10X (5 F SD Rats/Tx)	scintillation counting of plasma and tissue samples (NCL)	Dosing, blood draws by Jugular catheter, cardiac puncture (final tp)

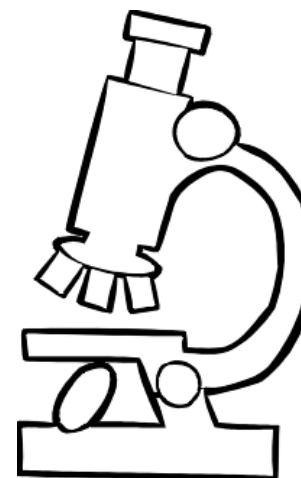


- **Single/Repeat-Dose Acute/Subacute Toxicity**
  - Rats (determine STD10/NOAEL/Lethal dose)
- **Clinical Tx Cycle**
  - Schedule
  - Duration
  - Route
  - Formulation
- **Endpoints monitored**
  - Hematology
  - Clinical chemistry
  - Gross pathology
  - Histopathology
  - Clinical signs

Based on NCI DTP toxicology protocols

## Dose Range-Finding Toxicity Study

Purpose	Duration	Groups	Tests	Comments
determine dose at which toxicity is observed	14 days	ctrl, 10X, 50X, 100X (5 M+F SD Rats/Tx)	Clinical chemistries, histopathology, hematology, gross pathology, clinical observation (PHL)	BW measured daily, euthanasia criteria (decrease in body weight $\geq$ 20%)



## Histopathology

Brain  
Lymph node  
Thyroid  
Pituitary  
Thymus  
Spleen  
Ileum  
Cecum  
Lymph node  
Prostate  
Urinary bladder  
Hardian gland  
Femur  
Mammary gland

Pancreas  
Esophagus  
Trachea  
Heart  
Gall Bladder  
Lung  
Rectum  
Colon  
Epididymis  
Seminal vesicle  
Uterus  
Nasal Sections  
Vertebra  
Skin/Subcutis

Salivary gland  
Parathyroid  
Adrenal  
Kidney  
Liver  
Duodenum  
Stomach  
Jejunum  
Ovary  
Testis  
Eye  
Femur  
Spinal cord  
Tongue

## Hematology

Erythrocyte count (RBC)

Hemoglobin (HGB)

Hematocrit (HCT)

Mean corpuscular volume (MCV)

Mean corpuscular hemoglobin (MCH)

Mean corpuscular hemoglobin concentration (MCHC)

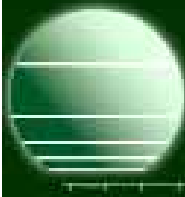
Platelet count (Plate)

Reticulocyte count (RETIC)

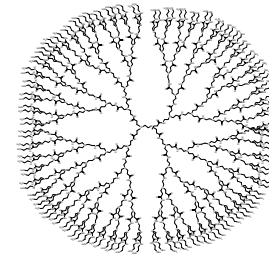
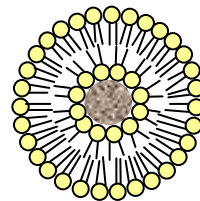
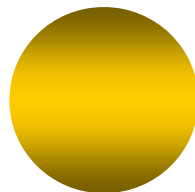
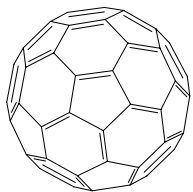
Total leukocyte count (WBC)

Differential leukocyte count

Nucleated red blood cell count



- **Organic Nanoparticles (e.g.: Polymers, Dendrimers)**
- **Inorganic Nanoparticles (e.g.: Iron oxide, gold nanoparticles)**
- **Organic/Inorganic hybrids (e.g.: Nanocomposites, core-shell type, Gd-chelates)**
- **Carbon based (e.g.: Functionalized fullerenes)**
- **Liposomes (e.g.: Functionalized, inclusion complexes)**
- **Biological nanoparticles (e.g.: Protein and peptide based nanoparticles with other biological components)**



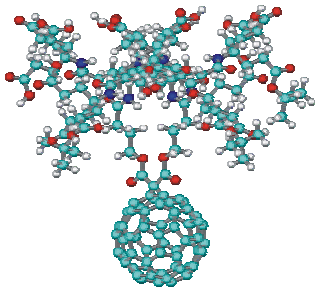
### Studies Applicable to Environmental Risk Assessment

- **General Cytotoxicity Assays**- determining concentration-response relationships.
- **Mechanistic Studies**- Identifying apoptosis, oxidative stress and cytochrome P450 induction/suppression as potential mechanisms
- ***In Vivo* Toxicology Studies**- Identification of target organs
- **General ADME**- define  $t_{1/2}$ , clearance mechanisms (i.e. metabolism, biliary excretion, renal clearance, etc.)

# NCL Data



## I. Surface hydrophobicity



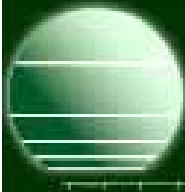
- Hydrophobic surface- taken up by RES system
- Hydrophilic surface- Increased systemic half-life, enhanced permeability and retention in tumors (EPR)

## II. Surface Charge

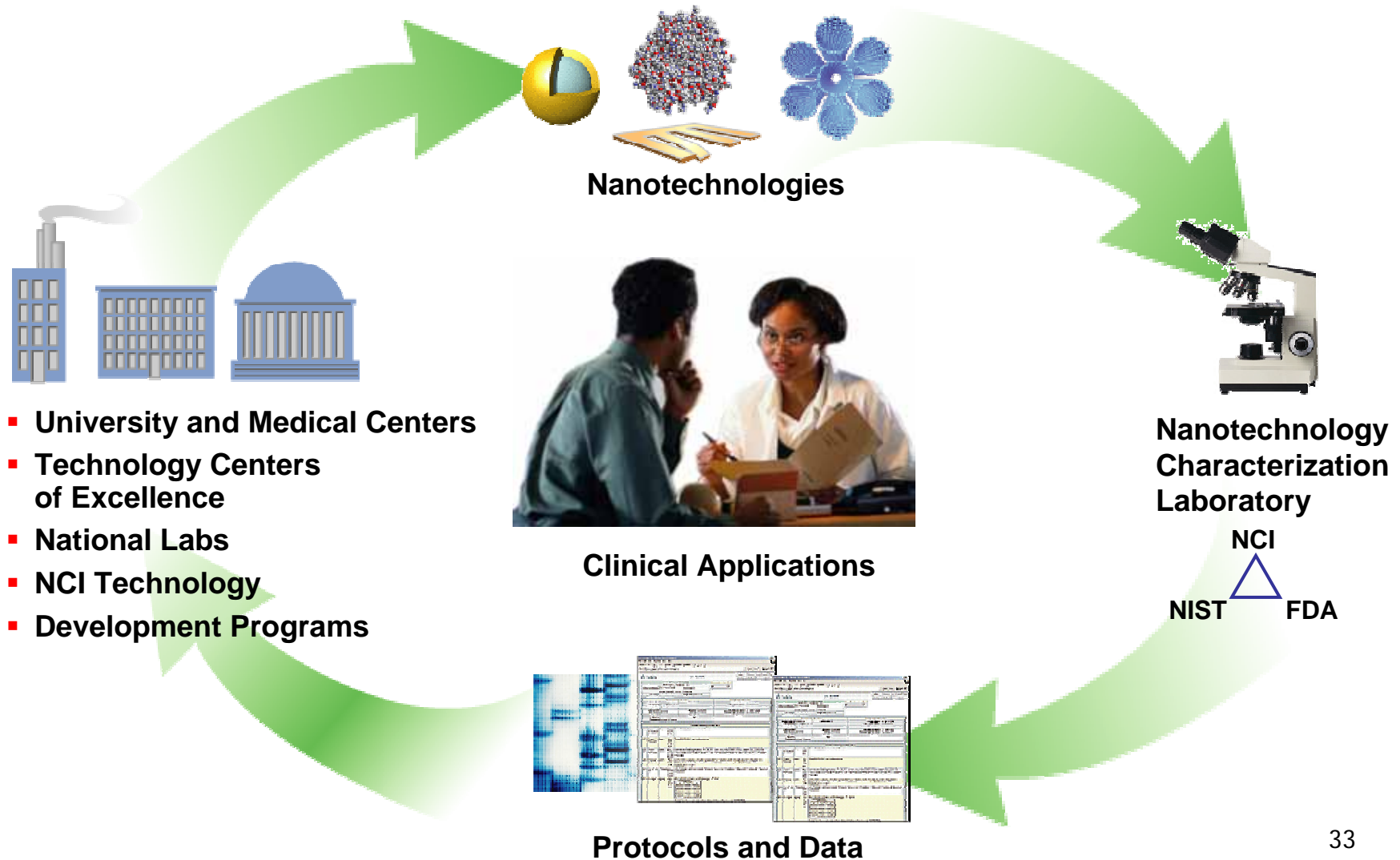
- Toxicity: cationic > anionic > neutral

## III. Surface reactivity

- More reactive ( $\uparrow$ ROS) =  $\uparrow$ Toxicity



# Summary



# Questions/Comments

<http://NCL.cancer.gov>

Contact Info:

Scott E. McNeil

(301) 846-6939

ncl@ncifcrf.gov