

Intestinal and Systemic Health – Intersection of Diet, Microbiota and Metabolism

Nancy D. Turner, Derek V. Seidel, Erica A. Moraes, and Lauren E. Ritchie. Nutrition & Food Science Department, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX

Dr. Nancy D. Turner is a Research Professor in the Department of Nutrition & Food Science at Texas A&M University. Her research program is focused on characterizing the mechanisms whereby dietary chemoprotective compounds found in fiber-containing foods mitigate colon carcinogenesis and inflammatory bowel disease. The Turner lab is particularly interested in understanding how these bioactive compounds influence the intestinal environment, with special attention given to the interaction between colon microbiota and the colonocytes. In addition, her work attempts to define the responses of the colon environment to radiation exposures and weightlessness, such as is experienced by astronauts on long-duration missions. Her research has led to the publication of 70 peer-reviewed papers, 6 book chapters, and she was one of the editors of a book entitled “Potential Health Benefits of Citrus”. Her research program has been supported by grants from NASA, the National Space Biomedical Research Institute, USDA/ARS, USDA/IFAFS, NIH, the United Sorghum Checkoff Program, and the California Dried Plum Board. She currently serves on the editorial boards of *Advances in Nutrition*, *Journal of Carcinogenesis and Mutagenesis*, and *Experimental Biology and Medicine*. Dr. Turner has been a member of USDA/NRI review panels and an ad hoc member of the NCI Chemo/Dietary Prevention study section.