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Toxicity Evaluation of Carbon Nanotubes in J774 Mouse Macrophages Utilizing a Proteomic Approach

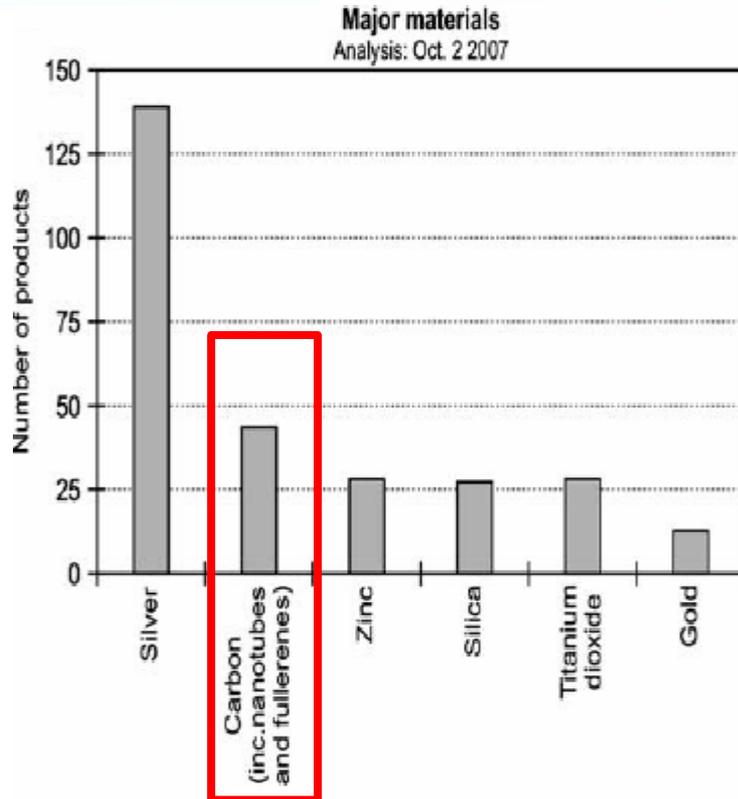
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Date: 6th August 2014

Why CNTs?



Number of consumer products with CNTs:
580 consumer products
4 Therapeutic products (FDA Approved)

Health Risks of CNTs

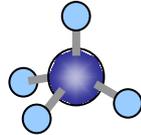
- Increased use of CNTs into consumer products
- Potential hazards to humans during product **lifecycle**

From Hansen et al., *Ecotoxicology*, (2008) 17(5):438-47 2008

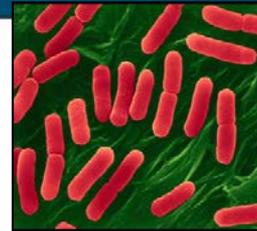


Introduction

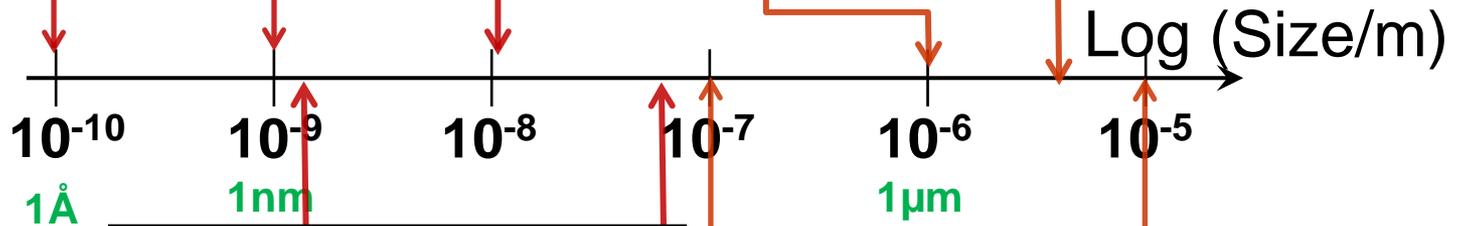
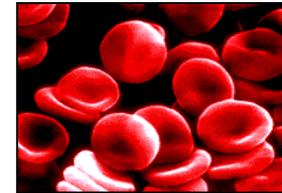
Simple molecules/
Amino Acids; <1nm



DNA/proteins
~10nm



Red blood cell
~5 μm (SEM)



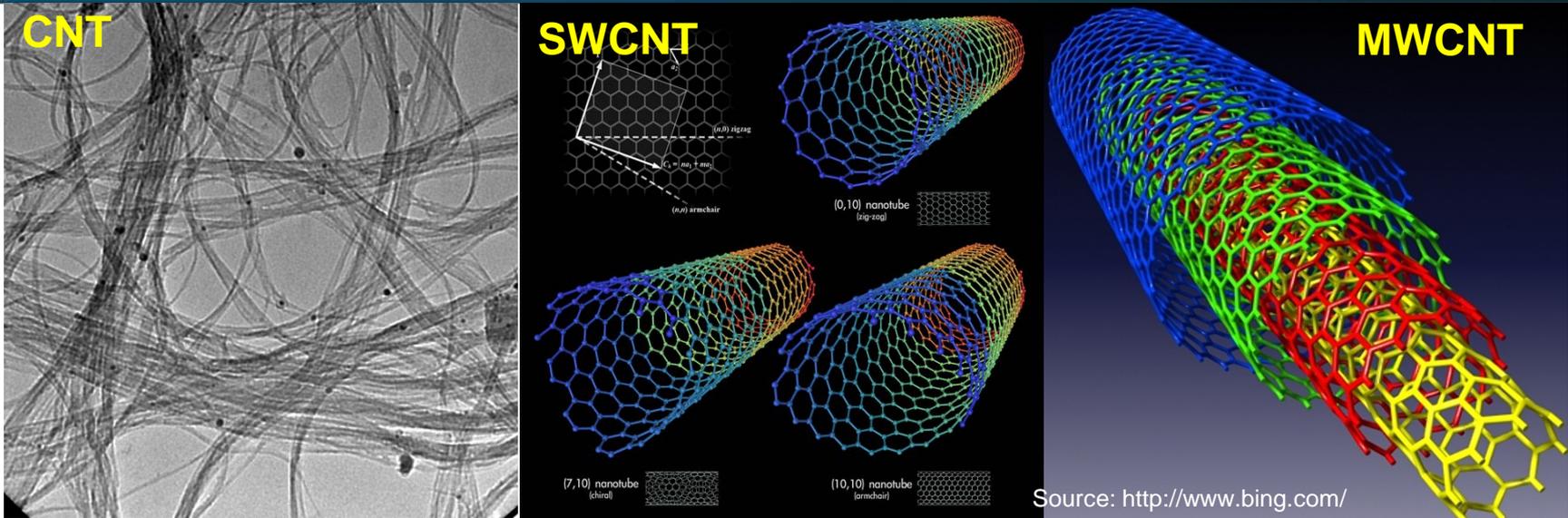
Gold Nanorods Metal NPs

Engineered NMs

Cellular Debris



CNT Structures



- Long fibre like structures with diameters <10 nm and μm in length
- Natural (in DEPs, natural gas combustions) and Engineered
- Synthesized mainly in two forms: single walled (SWCNT) and multi-walled (MWCNT)

- Unique nano-specific properties
Varies with:
 - Size
 - Shape
 - Surface functionality



Biological milieu

Surface modification

Medium pH

Metallic/
Semiconductor

Surface Defects

Purification

Impurity
Metals, Am. C--

Size/
length

Synthesis parameters

Type
MWCNT/SWCNT--

Oxidative potential

Cell type effect

Medium Content:
Protein enzyme

Assay effect

~50,000 different surface modifiers

Agglomeration/
aggregation

Care must be taken in analyzing and interpreting in vitro results

(Breznan et al., *Tox. In vitro*, under review;
Kumarathasan et al., *Nanotoxicol.* 2014)



Does exposure to CNTs pose a threat to human health?

- Exposure to CNTs causes inflammatory and fibrotic reactions (Literature Overview)
- Hazardous fibre characteristics: High aspect ratio (long, thin and biopersistent)
 - May generate **asbestos-like effect**
- The concern about adverse human health effects upon exposure is **REAL!!!**



Knowledge gap

- ❑ The CNTs toxicity results are sometimes contradictory

(For example, some *in vitro* experiments showed cytotoxicity of CNTs when exposed to lung epithelial cells, keratinocytes and macrophages *Monteiro-Reviere et al., 2005, Kagan et al., 2006, Sarkar et al., 2007; Hirano et al., 2008; Jacobsen et al., 2008; Herzog et al., 2009; Yang et al., 2009*. On contrary, some results show no toxicological responses upon exposure to cells or test animals *Flahaut et al., 2006; De Nicola et al., 2007; Pulskamp et al., 2007; Yang et al., 2008*).

- ❑ Often **inadequate characterization** data; thus comparison between studies are impossible

- ❑ In vitro toxicity is **cell type** and **assay** dependent

- Cellular toxicity results does not reveal enough information on **toxicological pathways**

- ❑ In vivo studies are expensive and can not be used to test so many varieties of (same) materials

- ❑ Often In vitro results are not consistent with in vivo finding; thus **in vitro to in vivo extrapolation** is impossible at this stage



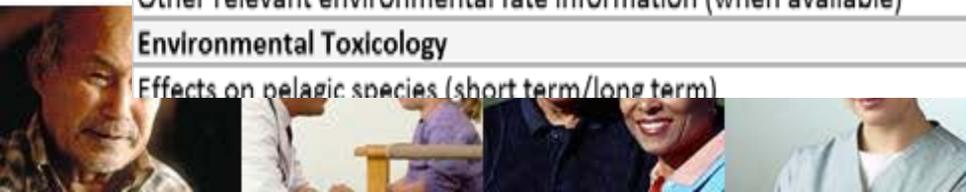
OECD endpoints according to the Guidance Manual for Sponsors (GMS)

GMS- data requirements

OECD endpoints according to the Guidance Manual for Sponsors (GMS)	GMS- data requirements
NM name	must be completed
CAS No	if available
structural formula/molecular structure	must be provided
composition of NM being tested including purity, known impurities or additives	must be provided
basic morphology	must be provided
description of surface chemistry	if feasible
major commercial uses	as completely as possible
known catalytic activity	should be described
method of production	must be described
Identification, source, logistics of distribution (Guidance manual for Sponsors §41 and 42)	
known aspects: manufacturer, facility location, lot number, other, see above	must be completed
records on distribution, shipment, storage	must be completed
quality of material: homogeneity within bottle/ between bottles	must be completed
quality of material: stability, short-term and long-term	must be completed
quality of material: stability, monitoring	must be completed
Physical-chemical Properties and Material Characterization	
Agglomeration/aggregation	must be addressed
Water Solubility/Dispersibility	must be completed
Crystalline phase	must be completed
Dustiness	must be addressed
Crystallite size	must be addressed



Representative Electron Microscopy (TEM) picture(s)	must be addressed
Particle size distribution – dry and in relevant media	must be completed
Specific surface area	must be completed
Zeta potential (surface charge)	must be completed
Surface chemistry	must be completed
Photocatalytic activity	must be addressed
Pour density	must be addressed
Porosity	must be addressed
Octanol-water partition coefficient	must be addressed
Redox potential	must be addressed
Radical formation potential	must be addressed
Other relevant Physical-Chemical Properties and Material Characterization information (where available)	must be addressed
Environmental Fate	
Dispersion stability in water	must be addressed
Biotic degradability	must be addressed
Identification of degradation product(s)	must be addressed
Further testing of degradation product(s) as required	must be addressed
Abiotic Degradability and Fate	must be addressed
Adsorption-Desorption	must be addressed
Adsorption to soil or sediment	must be addressed
Bioaccumulation potential	must be addressed
Other relevant environmental fate information (when available)	must be addressed
Environmental Toxicology	
Effects on pelagic species (short term/long term)	



Knowledge gaps for risk assessment of CNTs

Occupational and environmental exposure-related effects

Hazard X Exposure = Risk

- Environmental and workplace **exposure data** are required, and more **precise measurement methods** are needed. Such exposure data would guide long-term animal studies to determine the time course and dose response for possible development of fibrosis, lung cancer, or mesothelioma
- Some NPs are sometime non-cytotoxic even when the cells are loaded with them (TEM)
- Elucidation of **mechanisms of action** through **biomarkers analysis** would be useful in surveillance
- Identification of relationships between **physico-chemical properties** and **bioactivity** would assist in progress toward “**Safety by Design**”



Proteomic analysis is one such approach that has a great potential to reveal mechanistic pathways of CNT toxicity and can also identify better biological descriptors of potencies



Objectives

- ❑ Study the protein profile changes in lysates of J774 cells pertaining to exposure to CNT variants (unmodified and surface functionalized)
- ❑ Identify the candidate biomarker(s) and possible mechanistic pathway of toxicity
- ❑ Study the association between physico-chemical and surface properties on toxicity



Materials and Techniques

CNTs

Pristine SWCNT (NRC, Ottawa)

Pristine MWCNT (Sun Nanotech)

Oxidized SWCNT & MWCNT ($\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4/\text{HNO}_3$)

Cell line

J774, murine macrophages

4 Cytotoxicity Assays

Biomarker Analysis

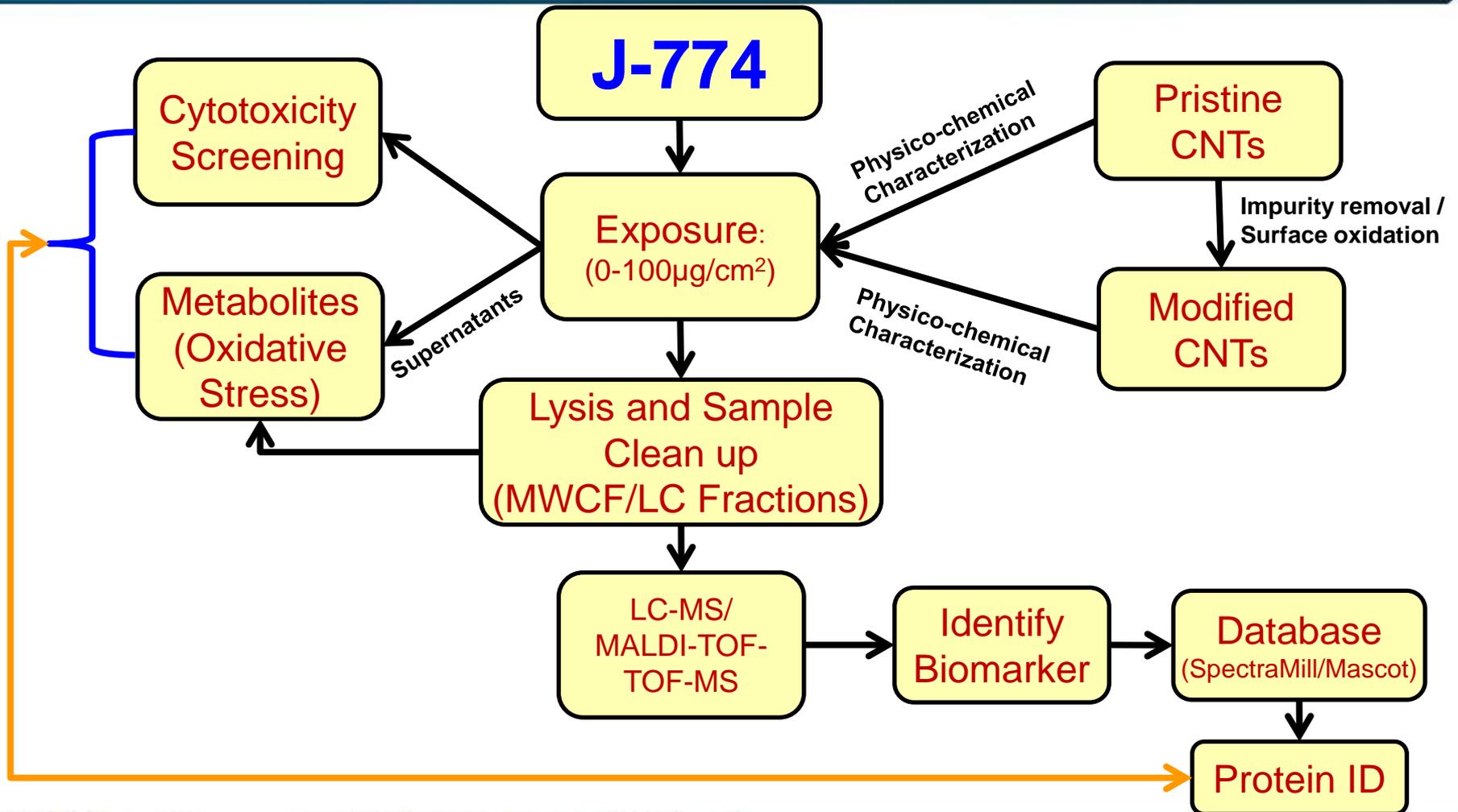
Shot-gun proteomics (2D-LC-MS; MALDI-TOF-TOF-MS)

Clinpro Tools

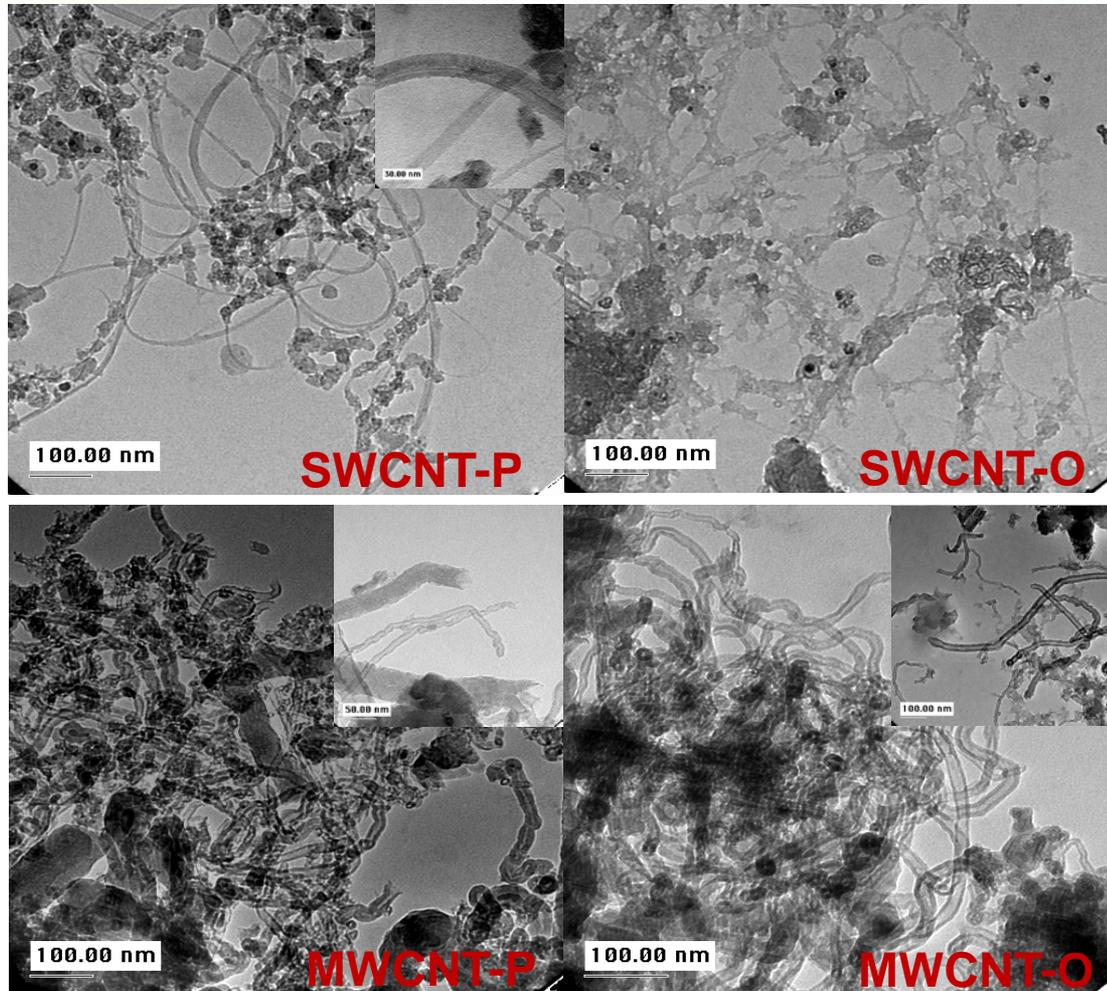
Oxidative stress metabolites (HPLC-CoulArray)



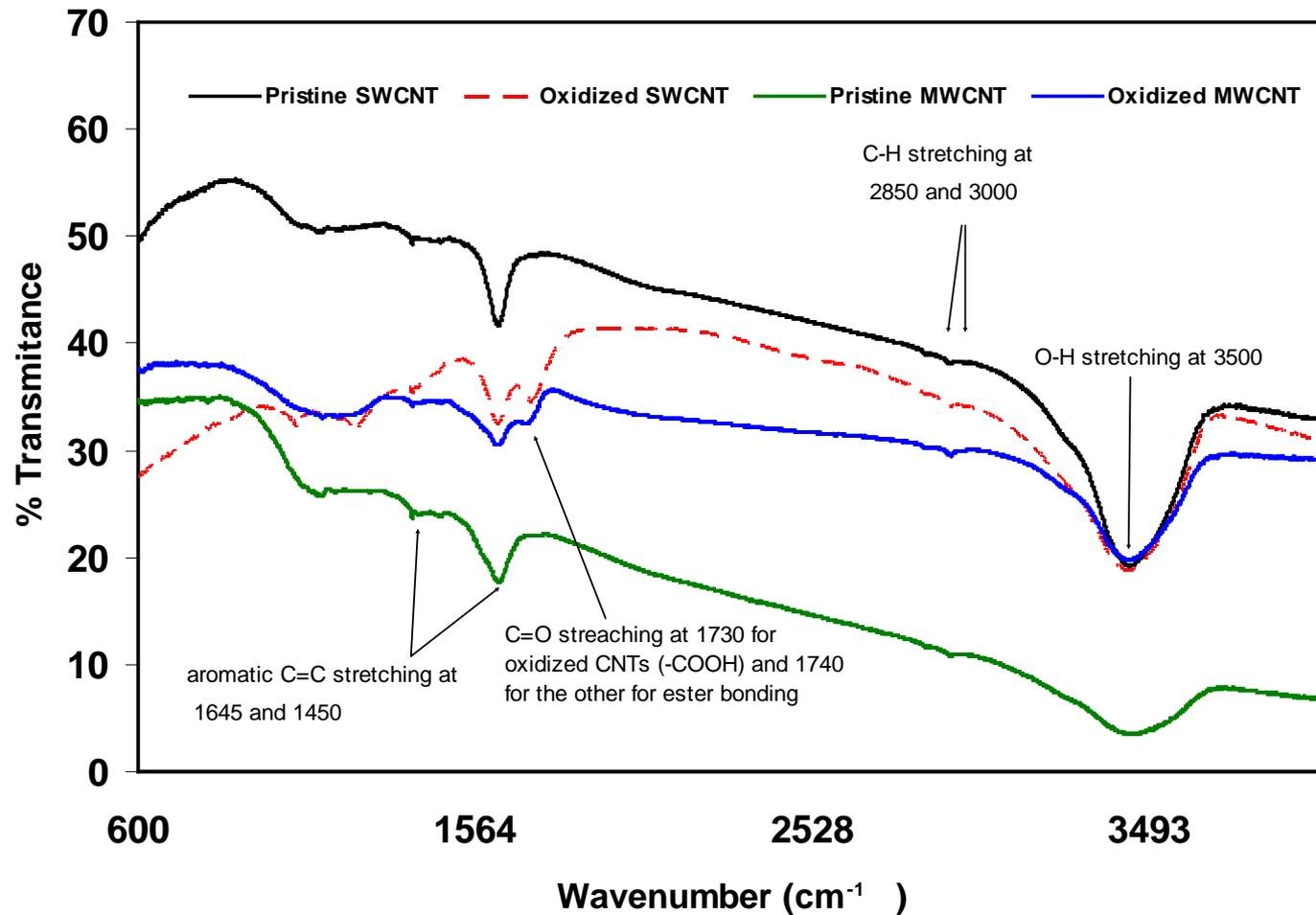
Workflow



Morphology before/after surface oxidation



Fourier Transformed Infrared Spectroscopy



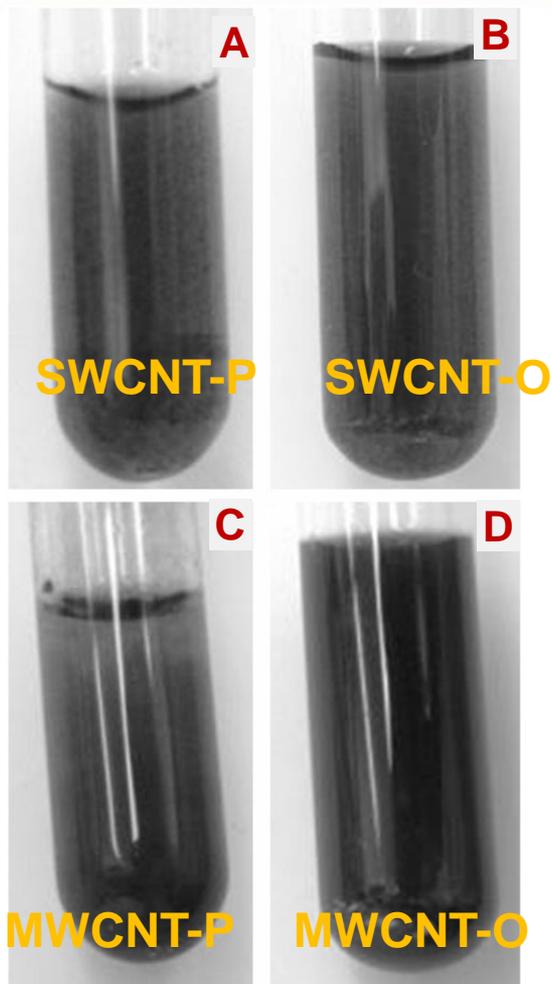
Surface properties of CNTs

Sample	Surface Area, m ² /g	%Co	%Fe	%Ni	%Mo
SWCNT-P	89	1.24	0.32	1.16	0.28
SWCNT-O	21	0.21	0.1	0.188	0.04
MWCNT-P	106	BDL	1.08	0.62	BDL
MWCNT-O	23	BDL	0.52	0.44	BDL

- Surface area and metal impurities decrease with oxidation



Dispersion of CNTs in particle buffer (25 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ Tween-80, 0.19% NaCl in water)

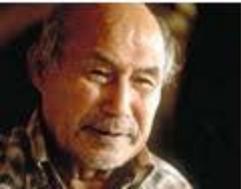
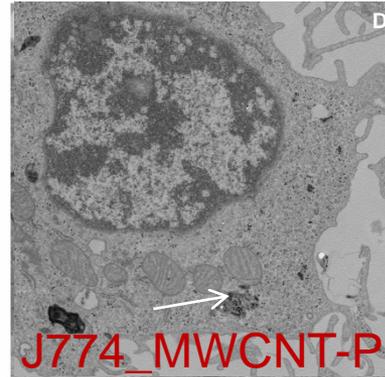
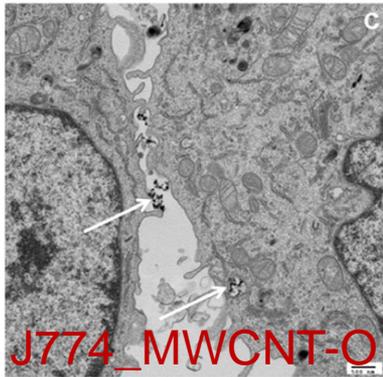
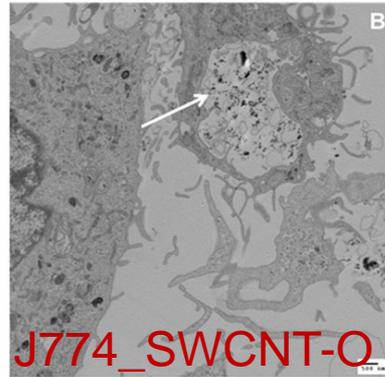
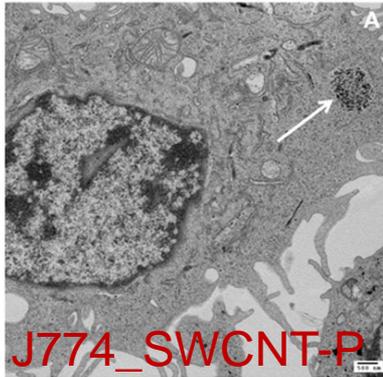


DLS measurement of CNTs suspended in DMEM + 5% FBS

CNTs [0.05 mg/ml]	Diameter (nm)	PDI
SWCNT-P	7778	1
SWCNT-O	1511	1
MWCNT-P	2918	0.85
MWCNT-O	188.3	0.35



Intracellular localization of CNTs

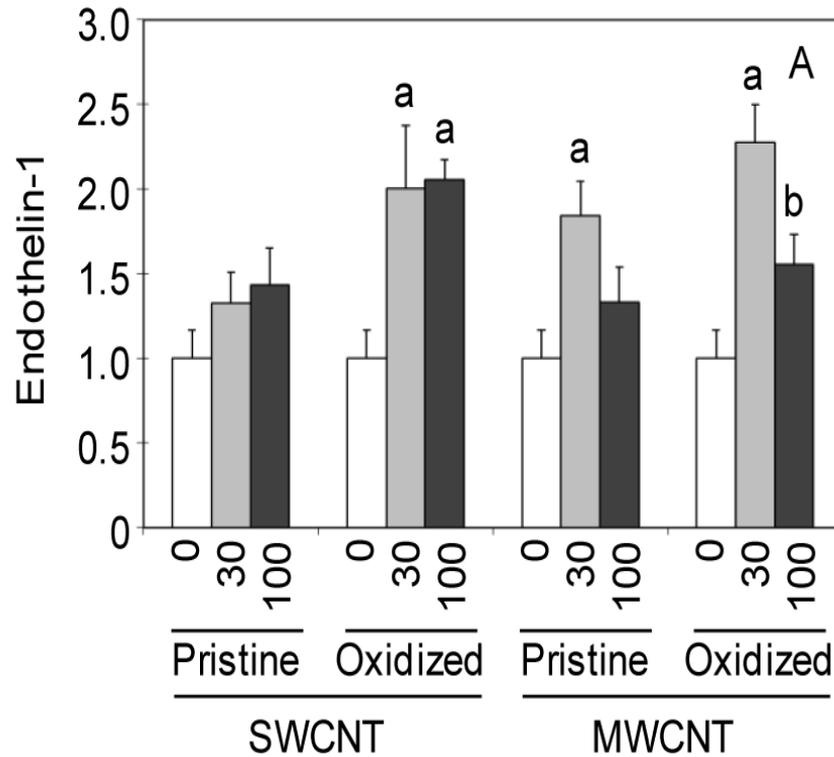


Candidate biomarker expressions with CNT exposures

Highly potent
vasoconstrictor

Proteins	Expressions	Cellular Functions
Endothelin-1	↑	Inflammatory and mitogenic peptide
Lactate dehydrogenase	↓	Metabolic process / membrane permeability
Immunoglobulin kappa chain	↑	Antigen binding and effector function
Immunoglobulin heavy chain	↑	Antigen binding and effector function
T-cell receptor β -chain	↑	Antigen presentation
MHC II bound peptide fragment	↑	Antigen presentation
α -Endosulfine	↑	Protein phosphatase inhibitor, interferes with mitosis
β -Actin	↓	Cytoskeletal rearrangement
Tropomodulin	↓	Cytoskeletal rearrangement
T-cell receptor α V region	↓	Antigen presentation
T-cell receptor delta chain	↓	Antigen presentation
Homeobox protein 4.2	↓	Transcription factor, cell survival, proliferation
65-kDa macrophage protein	↑	-
Gamma actin	↑	Cytoskeletal rearrangement, adhesion, intracellular trafficking and signal transduction
Brain abundant, membrane attached signal protein 1	↑	-
Prothymosin alpha	↑	Cell proliferation and immune regulation
Heat shock 70kDa protein 8 isoform 1 variant	↑	Heat shock response is highly conserved defence mechanism of cells against conditions of environmental stress, such as heat and oxidative shock
YWHAZ protein	↓	
Glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase	↓	Glycolytic pathway and energy production, Other functions such as membrane fusion, microtubule bundling, phosphotransferase activity, nucleic acids binding, etc.

CNT exposure increased endothelin-1 Expression



Mass spectral peak area profiles of endothelin-1



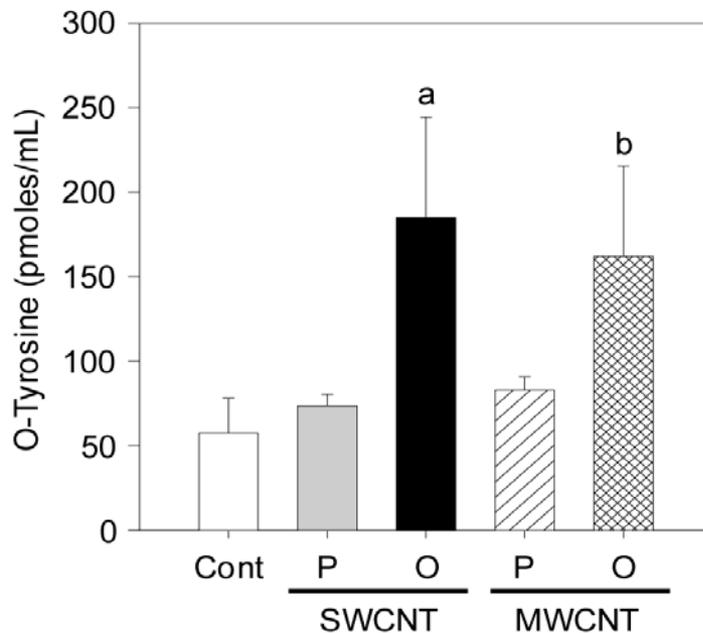
Differentially Expressed Proteins

SWCNT-P	SWCNT-O	MWCNT-P	MWCNT-O
	mCG17543, isoform CRA_a CAP, adenylate cyclase-associated protein 1, isoform CRA_b		
Enolase 1 variant	Enolase 1 variant	Enolase 1 variant	Enolase 1 variant
M2-type pyruvate kinase	M2-type pyruvate kinase	M2-type pyruvate kinase	M2-type pyruvate kinase
Rho, GDP dissociation inhibitor (GDI) beta, Isoform CRA-a	Rho, GDP dissociation inhibitor (GDI) beta, isoform CRA_a	Rho, GDP dissociation inhibitor (GDI) beta, isoform CRA_a	Rho GDP dissociation inhibitor (GDI) beta, isoform CRA_a
TMSB4X protein	mCG22383, isoform CRA_e Cofilin 1, non-muscle	mCG22383, isoform CRA_e Cofilin 1, non-muscle	mCG22383, isoform CRA_e Profilin 1, isoform CRA_b
Heat shock protein HSP 90-beta	Heat shock protein HSP 90-beta	Heat shock protein HSP 90-beta	
	Heat shock protein 1-b		Heat shock protein 1-b
	Heat shock protein 8		Heat shock protein 8
	Filamin, alpha	Filamin, alpha	actr2 protein
			Brain creatine kinase
			mCG134299, isoform CRA_a
			mCG17007
			Phosphoglycerate kinase 1
			Tyrosine 3-monooxygenase, isoform CRA_d



Analysis of the reactive oxygen species marker o-tyrosine

- Engineered NMs perturb the oxidative balance of cells, resulting in very large concentrations of intracellular reactive oxygen species (**ROS**) and reactive nitrogen species (**RNS**) (Marquis et al., 2009, Kumarathasan and Das et al., 2012); Or, **RONS?**
- **ROS** can cause damage to cellular macromolecules (proteins, lipids or nucleic acids), resulting in abnormal cellular function.



Oxidized > Pristine



Potencies of Carbon Nanotubes

CELL	PM	β			β		
		LDH	ATP	LDH/ATP	CTB	BrdU	CTB/BrdU
J774	SW-P	-0.054	-0.119	-0.087	-0.017	-0.104	-0.061
	SW-O	-0.017	-0.053	-0.035	-0.042	-0.124	-0.083
	MW-P	-0.053	-0.084	-0.069	-0.028	-0.047	-0.038
	MW-O	-0.017	-0.066	-0.042	-0.060	-0.117	-0.089
	TiO ₂	-0.005	-0.015	-0.010	-0.004	-0.013	-0.009
	SiO ₂	-0.018	-0.028	-0.023	-0.019	-0.037	-0.028

Fold-effect = (Dose + 1) ^{β} ; Kumarathasan et al, Nanotoxicology, 2014

- **Distinct results** were observed with multiple cell line and multiple endpoints; which highlight the **difficulty** in drawing generalized conclusions

Possible solution:

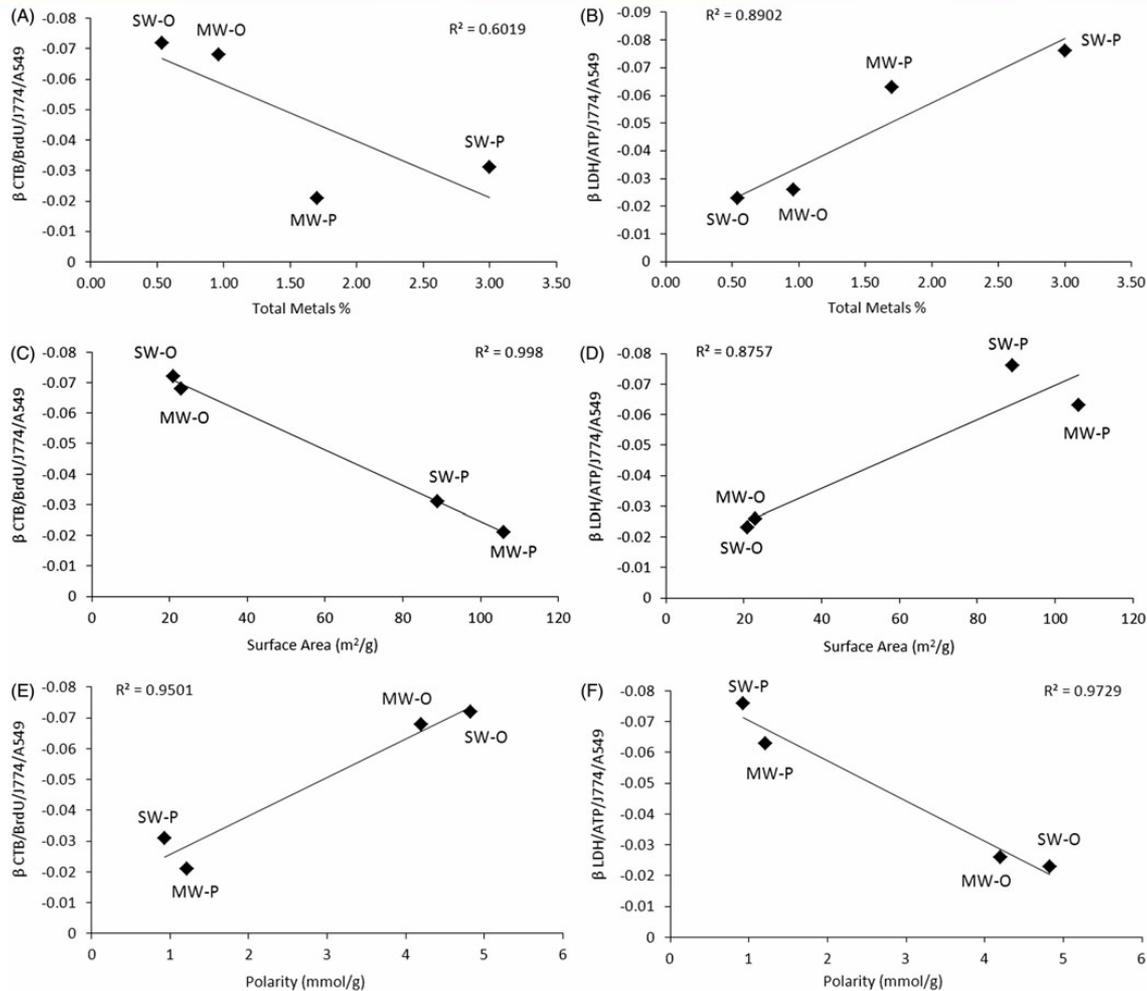
multiple cell lines and multiple end point

Relative potency ranking (2 cell lines and 4 assays)

SWCNT-O > MWCNT-O > SWCNT-P > MWCNT-P



Correlation of cytotoxic potency of CNT variants with physico-chemical characteristics.



Kumarathasan et al, *Nanotoxicology*, 2014



Conclusions

- ❑ More proteins were expressed in oxidized CNTs than their pristine counterparts
- ❑ Expression of several Heat Shock Proteins in CNT-exposed cells indicates oxidative stress under the exposure conditions
- ❑ Higher levels of *o*-Tyrosine in oxidized CNTs than their pristine counterparts indicate oxidative stress as one of the pathways of CNT toxicity
 - supports the above hypothesis
- ❑ Relative potency ranking from cytotoxicity assays follows the order: SWCNT-O > MWCNT-O > SWCNT-P > MWCNT-P
 - Higher potency of oxidized CNTs was attributed to surface polarity
- ❑ The proteomic/metabolomic data support the cytotoxicity results obtained using multiple cell lines and assays



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THANKS!!!

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