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What amount and type of scientific data are needed to arrive at environmental exposure limits? How are these data best communicated to lay audiences? How does one work with one's elected representatives to translate research findings into protective public policy measures? These were some of the questions addressed during the CEG's 2023 Research Symposium, held on November 8. The CEG was pleased to welcome to the day's discussions **Alex Scharfetter**, District Director, Office of U.S. Representative Brad Wenstrup, MD (at left in the photo above), who served on a morning panel with keynote speaker **Christine Whittaker, PhD**, Director of the NIOSH Office of Scientific Integration (2nd from right above); **Nick Newman, DO, MS, FAAP**, leader of the CEG Community Engagement Core; and **Susan M. Pinney, PhD, FACE**, CEG Director. We were also joined by City of Cincinnati Council member Meeka Owens and Cincinnati Health Commissioner Grant Mussman, MD. Dr. Whittaker's seminar may be viewed [online here](https://med.uc.edu/depart/eh/academics/graduate-office/departmental-seminars) (URL <https://med.uc.edu/depart/eh/academics/graduate-office/departmental-seminars>).

ITS Funding Available  **YouTube**

Center members and CEG Pilot award recipients may apply for **matching funds** from the Integrative Technologies Support (ITS) Core to cover costs for utilization of any of ten University cores up to 50% of costs (capped at \$10K per application/year/PI). See list of cores and services by clicking [here](#).

If I have NIH R01 funding for my study, can I still get a Core subsidy for work to be done in the Core under the R01? Yes! For the ITS Subsidy application form and instructions visit the ITS page by clicking [here](#) (i.e., <https://med.uc.edu/depart/eh/centers/ceg/its/overview>)

CEG Pilot Funding Brings Returns

CEGPilotawardee(2021)**Debajyoti Ghosh, PhD**, has received an R21 award from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease for his study, *Early life dysbiosis, and skin barrier function* (R21AI176276). Dr. Ghosh is an Assistant Professor in the Division of Internal Medicine and a Fellow of the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology.

Maria Czyzyk-Krzeska, PhD, has received a five-year R01 award from the National Cancer Institute for her study of *Metabolic effects of copper in renal cancer* (NCI R01 R01CA287260). Dr. Czyzyk-Krzeska received a 2018 CEG Affinity Group award for her pilot study, *Role of heavy metals speciation in clear cell renal cell carcinoma*.

Mendy A, Merianos AL, Mersha TB, Mahabee-Gittens EM. Blood volatile organic compounds associated with non-reversible and reversible airflow obstruction in US adults. *Eur Respir J.* 2022 Nov 17;60(5):2201185. [PMCID: PMC10191183](#).

Ghosh D, Mersha TB. Atopic dermatitis and ocular allergy: common mechanisms and uncommon questions. *Curr Opin Allergy Clin Immunol.* 2023 Oct 1;23(5):383-89. [PMID: 37527055](#). Dr. Debajyoti Ghosh and Dr. Tesfaye Mersha are CEG members. Dr. Ghosh received a \$30,000 CEG Innovator award in 2023 for the pilot project, *Elucidating the mechanism of Atopic Dermatitis induced by maternal exposure to phthalate compounds*.

Pinney SM, Fassler CS, Windham GC, Herrick RL, Xie C, Kushi LH, Biro FM. Exposure to perfluoroalkyl substances and associations with pubertal onset and serum reproductive hormones in a longitudinal study of young girls in Greater Cincinnati and the San Francisco Bay Area. *Environ Health Perspect.* 2023 Sep;131(9):97009. [PMID: 37751325](#). [PMCID: PMC10521](#).

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