Anna Han

Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition, Jeonbuk National University

Educational Background & Professional Experience

2021-Present	Assistant Professor, Science in Food Science and Human
	Nutrition, Jeonbuk National University, Jeonju, Korea
2017-2021	Postdoc Fellow, Cancer Biology, Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, USA
2013-2017	Ph.D., Cellular and Molecular Nutrition, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN,
	USA
2011-2013	Research Assistant, Korea Food Research Institute (KFRI), Republic of Korea
2009-2011	M.S., Science in Food and Nutrition, Seoul National University, Seoul, Republic of
	Korea
2005-2009	B.S, Science in Food Science and Human Nutrition, Jeonbuk National University,
	Jeonju, Republic of Korea

Research Interests

I received my PhD at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville where my research investigated unique metabolism of butyrate, a microbiota derived metabolite by colorectal cancer cells. I commenced postdoctoral training at the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia. During my postdoc period, my research interests included: 1) understanding of specific metabolic characteristics of uveal melanoma (UM), a rare eye cancer, and 2) investigating the metabolic functions of BRCA1associated protein 1 (BAP1) in UM to broaden therapeutic options and rationale for novel treatment options for advanced UM. I also worked on targeting mechanisms of intrinsic resistance to targeted therapies and understanding the correlation between metabolism and dormancy in UM.

Based on my interests in cancer metabolism, now I aim to investigate the anti-cancer effects of bioactive compounds, especially coming from Korea traditional foods in gastrointestinal (GI) tract cancers, including pancreatic, gastric, and colorectal cancer. My major questions are 1) Does bioactive compounds and/or Korea traditional foods elicit anti-cancer effects? 2) If it does, do they alter cancer cell metabolism? And 3) What are the underlying molecular mechanisms of these changes? Additionally, I have interests in the nutritional translational studies, including diabetes, obesity and osteoporosis along with both pre-clinical and clinical aspects.

Publications

1. Han A, Chua V, Baqai U, Purwin TJ, Bechtel N, Hunter E, Tiago M, Seifert E, Sato T, Speicher DW, Schug ZT, William Harbour J, Aplin AE. Pyruvate dehydrogenase inactivation causes glycolytic phenotype in BAP1 mutant uveal melanoma. Oncogene. 2022. Feb

Curriculum Vitae