

Poster Abstracts

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A. Wright, H. Tulk, A. Duncan, *Human Nutraceutical Research Unit: Advancing Foods & Natural Health Products*

The Human Nutraceutical Research Unit (HNRU) is a research & educational unit in the Department of Human Health & Nutritional Sciences, College of Biological Sciences. Its vision is to support the University's rich and intensive activities in the areas of food and health, through human testing of foods and natural health products (NHP). To do so, the HNRU pursues contract and collaborative projects with industry, government and academic partner. Human nutrition studies in the HNRU provide value chain enhancements to research conducted across the University of Guelph campus, particularly in the food and agricultural sciences. Partnerships with the HNRU enable clients to leverage government funding opportunities and access to leading expertise and analytical capabilities in the health sciences, including in the areas of cardiovascular disease, diabetes, obesity, gastrointestinal health, and nutrigenomics.

HNRU activities also permit unique and hands on development opportunities for the development of undergraduate and graduate students, through their inclusion at various stages of the research. 3 M.Sc. students are presently engaged in an HNRU OMAFRA-funded human study, the purpose of which is to investigate the benefits of daily consumption of a high rosmarinic acid spearmint tea, developed by the University of Guelph, on measures of disease activity, cartilage degradation, inflammation and physical function in adults with osteoarthritis (OA).