
NATURAL HEALTH AND FOOD
PRODUCTS RESEARCH GROUP.
INNOVATION FOR A COMPLEX WORLD.



Ensuring the quality of natural health and food products

The British Columbia Institute of Technology Natural Health and Food Products Research Group (NRG) concentrates on issues related to product quality, process improvement, and human health. With its emphasis on quality assurance, the team has developed a reputation amongst industry stakeholders for providing innovative solutions to real-world applied research challenges.

NRG research and development is closely aligned with the priorities and policies created by industry and government regulators, both provincially and nationally. The team collaborates extensively with universities, health care facilities, and other research institutes around the world.

NRG's goal is to ensure that all Canadians can achieve the potential health and economic benefits offered by natural health products, medicinal plants, and food products.

Commercially relevant research solutions and services

NRG is comprised of researchers with the combined capabilities needed to solve processing, analytical, and preclinical challenges.

Product quality, safety, and global market access

Conducting evidence-based product development using relevant bioassays and innovative quality control systems

Product development and commercialization

Ensuring products meet health standards across regulatory boundaries

Quality control systems for traditional medicine

Using advanced chemometric tools for monitoring product quality

Clinical trial design and support

Ensuring well-characterized material is used to yield scientifically valid results

Expansion of viable agricultural and food alternatives

Enhancing economic development using environmentally sound and sustainable agricultural practices



“The BCIT Natural Health and Food Products Research Group provides the natural health products sector with an invaluable service, supporting continuous innovation and quality products.”

Helen Long
President, Canadian Health Food Association



The NRG Phytoanalytics Laboratory

The NRG suite of advanced analytical instrumentation is located within the BCIT Centre for Applied Research and Innovation in Burnaby, British Columbia. Along with the BCIT Food Process Resource Centre and Integrated Molecular Biology Lab, the Phytoanalytics Laboratory is fully equipped for research-oriented investigations. The Lab's integration of classical tools with leading-edge technology allows for innovative applications and approaches, and positions BCIT as a Canadian leader in supporting the agricultural and natural health product sectors.

The team's research and development platform is designed to advance laboratory testing of products, support development of novel therapeutics, improve agricultural management practices, and influence policy in the regulation of natural health products.

With funding from the Canada Foundation for Innovation, BC Knowledge Development Fund, and Western Economic Diversification, NRG has the equipment and expertise to expand its research capacity and establish new determinants of quality and standards development.

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NRG researchers use
Nuclear Magnetic Resonance
spectroscopic techniques

“Bruker BioSpin is delighted to partner with the BCIT Natural Health and Food Products Research Group, who are using innovative Nuclear Magnetic Resonance spectroscopic techniques to advance education, research, and development in natural health and food products.”

Dr. Henry J. Stronks
President, Bruker Corporation





Making a Difference

Dr. Paula Brown

Director

Natural Health and Food Products Research Group (NRG)

Canada Research Chair in Phytoanalytics

Dr. Brown and her team have actively supported the natural health product and food industries for almost 20 years through applied research activities, training and education, and volunteer board appointments. Supported by grant funding and industry contracts, the team focuses on projects related to health policy, regulatory affairs, product formulation, botanical authentication, analytical method development and validation, chemometrics, and therapeutic monitoring for preclinical and clinical studies.

Researchers

By working directly with industry, NRG researchers adapt and provide innovative science-based solutions to the challenges and opportunities that emerge in a changing market. Certifying that regulatory compliance is met with every project, NRG's multidisciplinary team ensures that companies using NRG's services are educated on the latest quality standards and technological advances.

Collaborate with NRG

Discover how the NRG team can help find a solution to your unique challenges.

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bcit.ca/appliedresearch/nrg



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