THE OBJECTIVES OF MY LONG-TERM RESEARCH:
To elucidate molecular mechanisms underlying hepatic fibrogenesis, and to search for natural anti-fibrotic agents for the prevention and treatment of this disease. The GOALS OF MY CURRENT RESEARCH are to elucidate the molecular mechanisms of curcumin in the inhibition of HSC activation and to evaluate the potential of the phytochemical in the protection of the liver from fibrogenesis caused by oxidative stress. THE OVERALL HYPOTHESIS for the current research is that curcumin inhibits HSC activation and protects the liver against fibrogenesis by attenuating oxidative stress, inhibiting HSC cell growth, reducing ECM gene expression and suppressing hepatic inflammation.


