

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Professor Yang Xia Studies Cartilage Using MRI

CBR member **Yang Xia** and his post doc ShaoKuan Zheng are studying the structure of **cartilage** using **magnetic resonance imaging** performed at the Ronald B Bennett and Janet N Bennett **Nuclear Magnetic Resonance** Facility. In the June 2009 issue of the **Journal of Magnetic Resonance**, the introduction of their paper **Multi-Components of T-2 Relaxation in Ex Vivo Cartilage and Tendon** (Volume 198, Pages 188-196) makes clear what their goals are.

"The degradation of articular cartilage is a hallmark in musculoskeletal diseases, such as **osteoarthritis**, which affects the majority of the senior population. Due to the lack of specific and sensitive markers to detect subtle changes in the tissue, no routine procedure is currently available to assess non-destructively the functional, structural, and biochemical properties during the *early* stages of the tissue degradation. One major obstacle that has prevented any successful development of an early detection procedure is the complex molecular and morphological structures of the tissue."

Xia's research is supported by grants from the **National Institutes of Health**.

SUMMARY

CBR member Yang Xia and his post doc ShaoKuan Zheng are studying the structure of cartilage using magnetic resonance imaging performed at the Ronald B Bennett and Janet N Bennett Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Facility

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Modified by Brad Roth (roth@oakland.edu) on Friday, June 12, 2009

Article Start Date: Thursday, June 11, 2009