**Robert J. Handa, Ph.D.**

**Biographical Sketch**

Robert J. Handa received his Ph.D. degree from the University of California, Los Angeles, where he worked in the laboratory of Roger A. Gorski, a pioneer in the field of sexual differentiation of the morphology and function the brain. From there, he moved to the Oregon Regional Primate Research Center in Beaverton OR and the Oregon Health Sciences Univ. in Portland OR for a postdoctoral fellowship in the laboratory of John A. Resko. His postdoctoral research examined steroid hormone biochemistry and steroid hormone receptor signaling in the brain of rodents and non human primates. In 1987 he joined the faculty of Loyola University, Chicago, Stritch School of Medicine as an assistant professor in the Department of Cell biology, Neurobiology and Anatomy. He rose through the ranks to attain full professor in 1998. During this time, he served as the Program Director of the Molecular Biology Graduate Program. In 1998 he moved his laboratory to the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at Colorado State University where he served as Associate Chair and Graduate Program Director of the Dept. of Basic Medical Sciences and the Director of the Molecular, Cellular and Integrative Neuroscience Program. In 2008, he moved to the University of Arizona, where he served as a founding faculty member of the new University of Arizona College of Medicine – Phoenix. In 2015, he returned to Colorado State University where he is currently a professor in the Dept. of Biomedical Sciences in the College of Veterinary Medicine and a member of the Animal Reproduction and Biotechnology Laboratories.

Dr. Handa’s research program has been continually funded by federal grants for over 25 years and has resulted in over 225 full length publications. His research examines the mechanisms of action of steroid hormone receptors and their regulation of neuroendocrine and behavioral responses to stress. In addition, his studies also explore the programming effects of perinatal steroid hormone exposures on adult behavior, metabolism and cardiovascular function. He is an inventor on 11 issued patents. During his career, he has mentored numerous graduate and undergraduate students and postdoctoral fellows, many who have gone on to successful research careers in academia and biotechnology. He currently serves on the editorial board of several journals and is a member of the programming committee of several international societies.

**Selected Publications**

Price Jr., R.H., Butler, C.A., Webb, P.C., Uht, R.A., Kushner, P.J., **Handa, R.J**. (2001) A splice variant of Estrogen Receptor Beta missing exon 3 displays altered nuclear localization and capacity for transcriptional activation. Endocrinology: 142(5): 2039-2049

Lund, TD., Hinds, LR, **Handa, RJ.** (2006) 5-dihydrotestosterone and its metabolite, 5-androstan-3, 17-diol inhibit the hypothalamo-pituitary adrenal response to stress by acting through estrogen receptor beta expressing neurons in the hypothalamus. J. Neurosci.ence 2006;26 1448-1456

Kudwa AE, Lopez FJ, McGivern RF, **Handa RJ**. (2010) A selective androgen receptor modulator enhances male-directed social preference in sexually experienced, but not sexually naive, female rats. Endocrinology 151(6):2659-2668. PID:20392832

Carbone, DL, Zuloaga, DG, Hiroi R, Foradori, CD, LeGare, ME, **Handa, RJ**. (2012) Prenatal dexamethasone exposure potentiates diet-induced hepatosteatosis and decreases plasma IGF-1 in a sex specific fashion. Endocrinology 153:295-306 PMID:22067322