Speaker's Biosketch ICoLA 2024

Qi Sun (Harvard Medical School, USA)

Dr. Qi Sun is Associate Professor at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School. Dr. Sun's primary research interests are to identify and examine biomedical risk factors, particularly dietary biomarkers, in relation to type 2 diabetes, obesity, and cardiovascular disease through epidemiological investigations. His research is primarily based on several large-scale cohort studies, including the Nurses' Health Studies and the Health Professionals Follow-up Study. Dr. Sun is also interested in understanding the role of environmental pollutants, such as per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs) and legacy persistent organic pollutants, in the etiology of weight change and type 2 diabetes. His primary approach is to, through integrating the state-of-the-art of omics technologies and chronic disease epidemiologic approaches, elucidate novel exposure-disease associations and underlying mechanisms relevant to human beings. Overall, his innovative research on multiple important topics has enhanced the understanding of biological mechanisms underlying nutrition and metabolic health and contributed to the US dietary guidelines for chronic disease prevention. His research thus far has led to more than 300 peerreviewed publications. Dr. Sun is currently leading a few US NIH-funded projects that focus on food biomarker discovery and validation, microbial predictors of diabetes, and environmental pollutants in relation to weight change or cardiovascular disease in human populations.