

Zebrafish and Disease Research

Fish can be used to study human diseases including cancer, genetic conditions including *Fanconi anaemia* and infectious agents such as bacteria and parasites. Zebrafish are a particularly useful model species, as they breed well, grow rapidly, and are easy to keep in the laboratory.



Dr Jan Spitsbergen (OSU Microbiology) and collaborators study both diseases that specifically affect zebrafish and human diseases that can be modelled in a zebrafish host. They have developed genetically modified zebrafish that are more susceptible to a range of cancers, for use in human cancer studies.