



**Name:** Christian S Wright  
**City:** Indianapolis  
**Email:** wrighch@iu.edu  
**Twitter:** @CSWrightPhD  
**Studies:** Nutrition Science & Musculoskeletal Health  
**Specialization:** Nutrition & lifestyle regulation of osteocyte & muscle metabolism

### **Short bio:**

I received my PhD in 2017 from Purdue University in Nutritional Science, where my dissertation addressed the effects of dietary protein and dietary patterning on bone morphology and metabolism during energy restriction in both older adults and animal models. Wanting to compliment my PhD training in clinical nutrition with basic molecular training in biomechanics, I sought out a postdoctoral fellowship with Dr. William Thompson at Indiana University School of Medicine who is the Molecular Biomechanics Core Director and studies the effects of mechanical loading on a variety of bone cell types. While working with Dr. Thompson, my work has focused on the contribution of the voltage-sensitive calcium channel auxiliary subunit  $\alpha_2\delta_1$  on skeletal development, bone marrow mesenchymal stem cell differentiation, and mechanotransduction. My long-term goal is to utilize this training in molecular techniques, transgenic mouse models, and both *in vivo* and *in vitro* mechanical loading to conduct clinical and translational animal research that examines the impact of both nutrition and mechanical signaling on bone.

### **What do you expect from this training?**

Continued education in bone physiology and pathology, as well as exposure to different clinical and translational experimental designs.

### **Bonus question: What motivates you to get out of bed in the morning?**

My Work! And the Unknown. I am genuinely fascinated with my area of research, and love pursuing unanswered questions and taking the next experiment. I get out of bed because there's so much fun to do every day.