PI- Dr. Tina Reponen: The University of Cincinnati, Department of Environmental Health will be awarded up to $785,148 in Healthy Homes Technical Studies funds to conduct a study to identify a method that is most predictive for the adverse health effects caused by residential mold exposure, especially the development of asthma and allergic rhinitis. The study will test two newly developed concepts for the evaluation of moldy buildings: 1) the Relative Moldiness Index (RMI) based on data analyzed by the Mold Specific Quantitative Polymerase Chain Reaction (MQPCR) assay, and 2) the fungal fragment sampling (in combination of two newly-developed assay methods). These methods will be tested in a population-based study using the existing birth cohort of the NIEHS-funded Cincinnati Childhood Allergy and Air Pollution Study.

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