

# Regenerative Medicine: A brief overview of key concepts



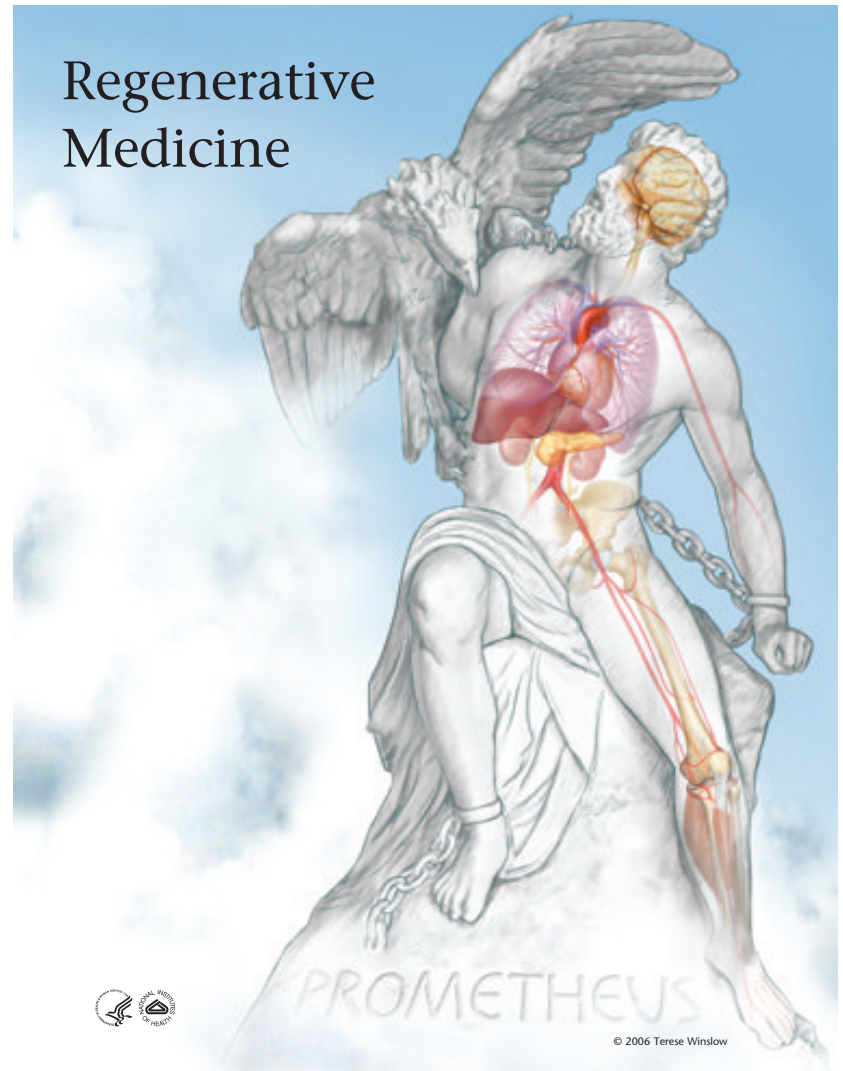
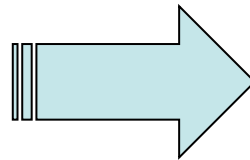
Feb 18th 2010 | The Economist

Matthias Lutolf, Institute of Bioengineering, EPFL

# 'Optimal and sub-optimal regenerators'



<http://regeneration.bio.uci.edu/content.html>

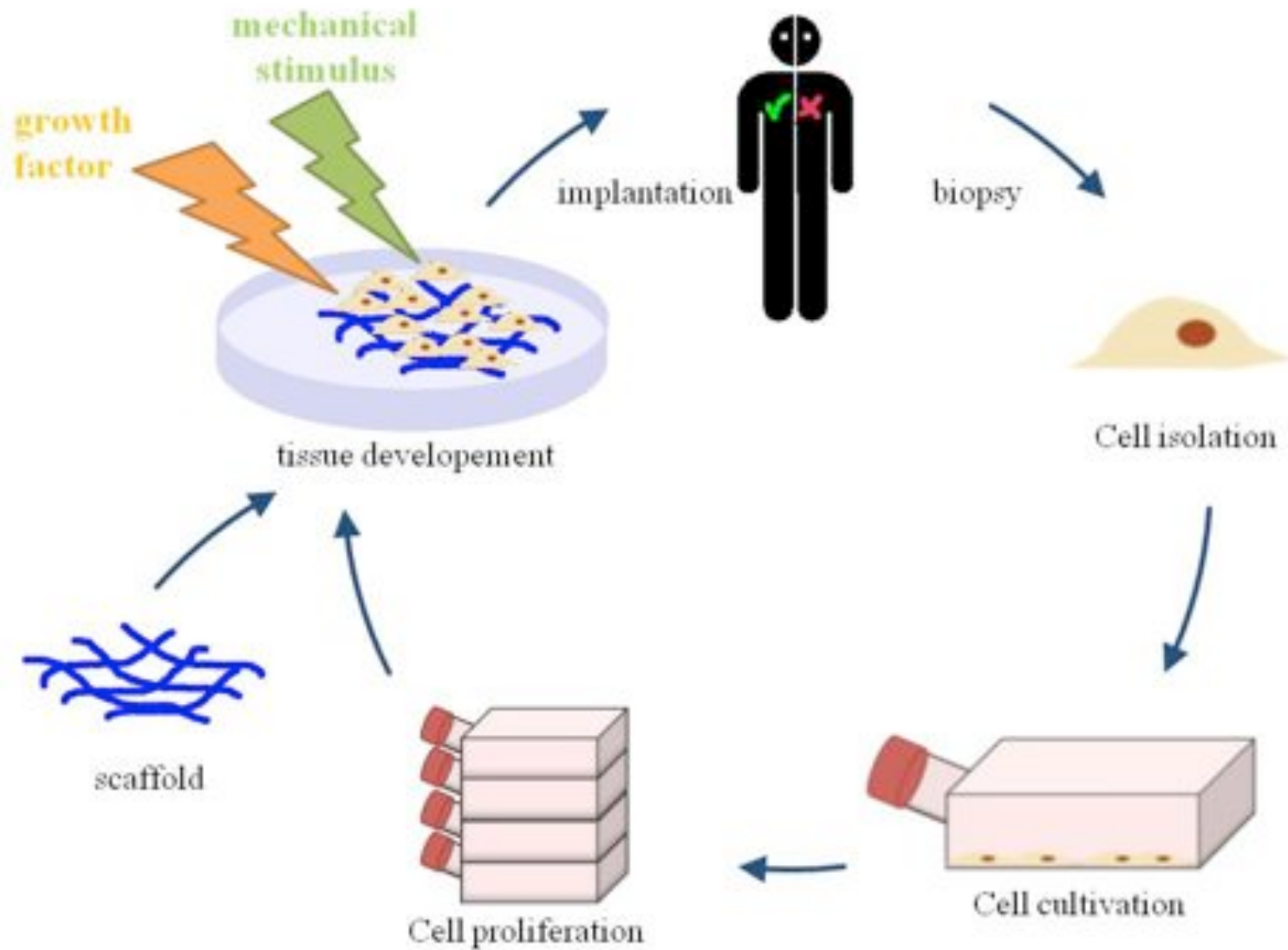


**Cells outperform devices!**

# Overview

1. Tissue Engineering 1.0: the beginning
2. *Ex situ* versus *in situ* tissue engineering
3. Stem cell-based organogenesis and its applications
4. Bioengineering tricks to guide and exploit organogenesis
5. Bioprinting and vascularization

# Tissue Engineering v1.0





WO 1988003785 A1  
Chimeric neomorphogenesis of organs by controlled cellular implantation using artificial matrices  
Filed 20 Nov 1987



Cao, Y.; Vacanti, J. P.; Paige, K. T.; Upton, J.; Vacanti, C. A. (1997). "Transplantation of chondrocytes utilizing a polymer-cell construct to produce tissue-engineered cartilage in the shape of a human ear". *Plastic and reconstructive surgery* 100 (2): 297-302

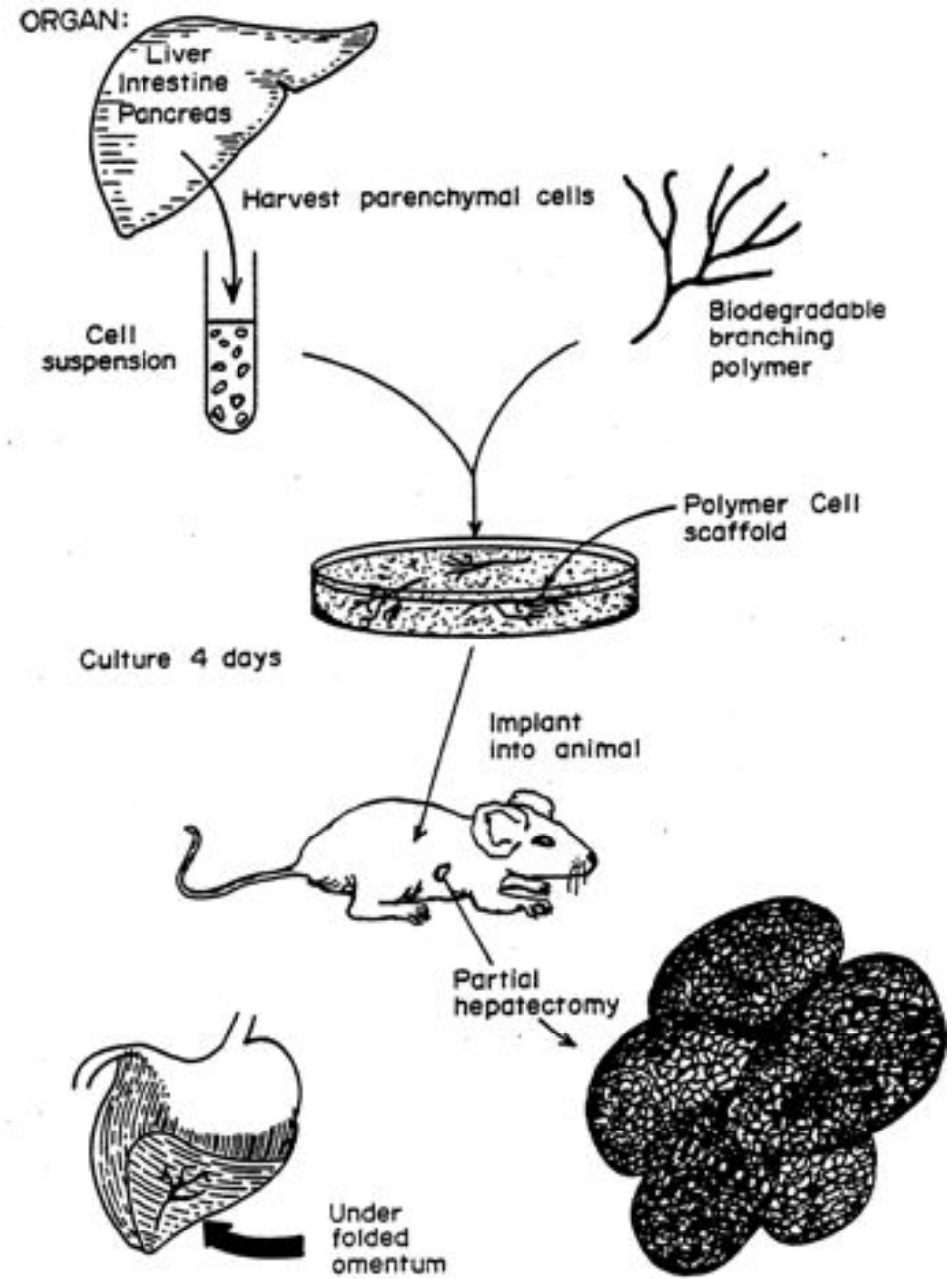
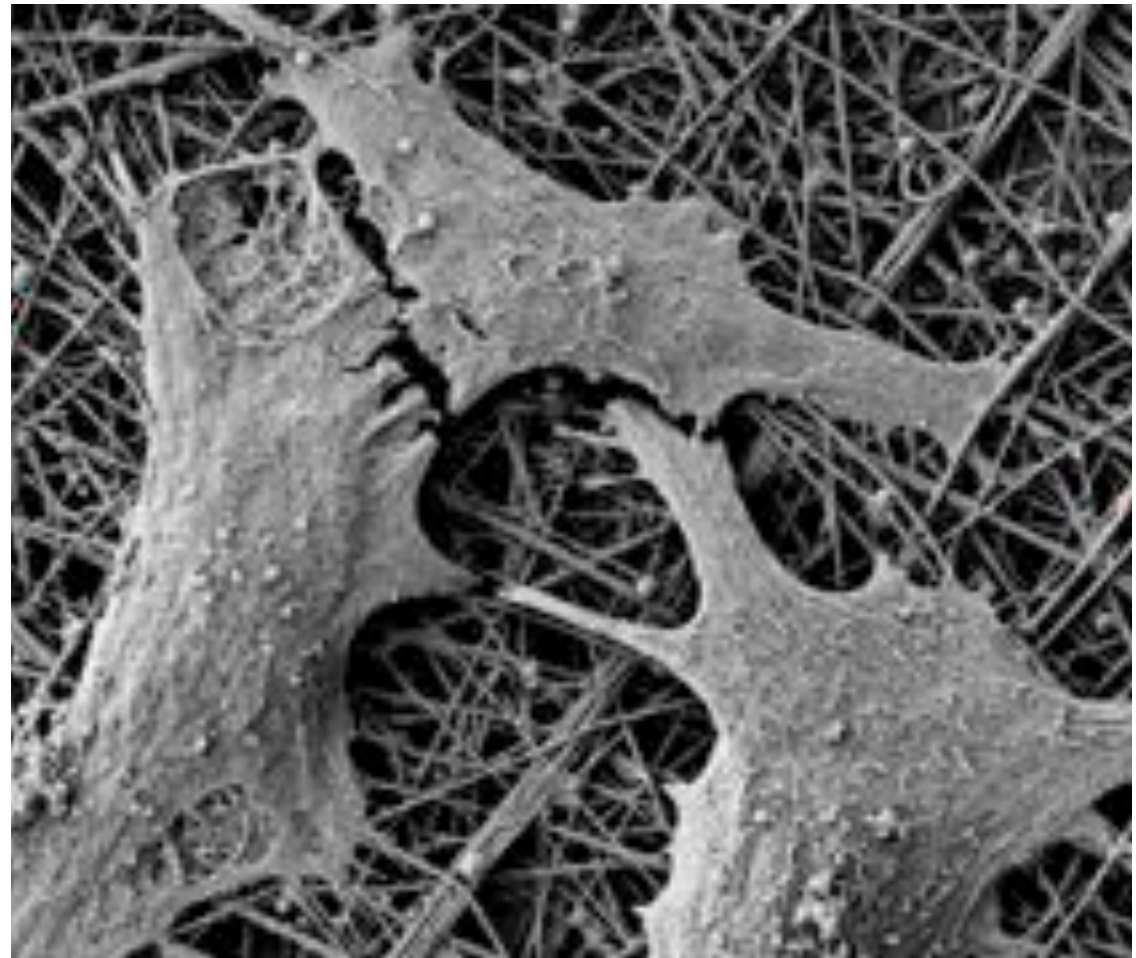
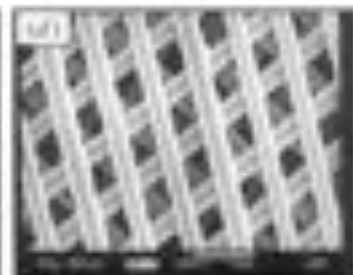
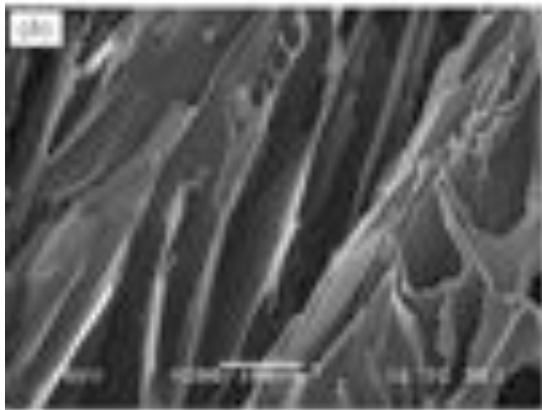
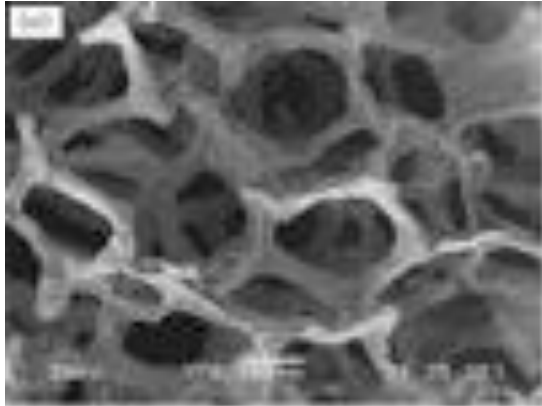
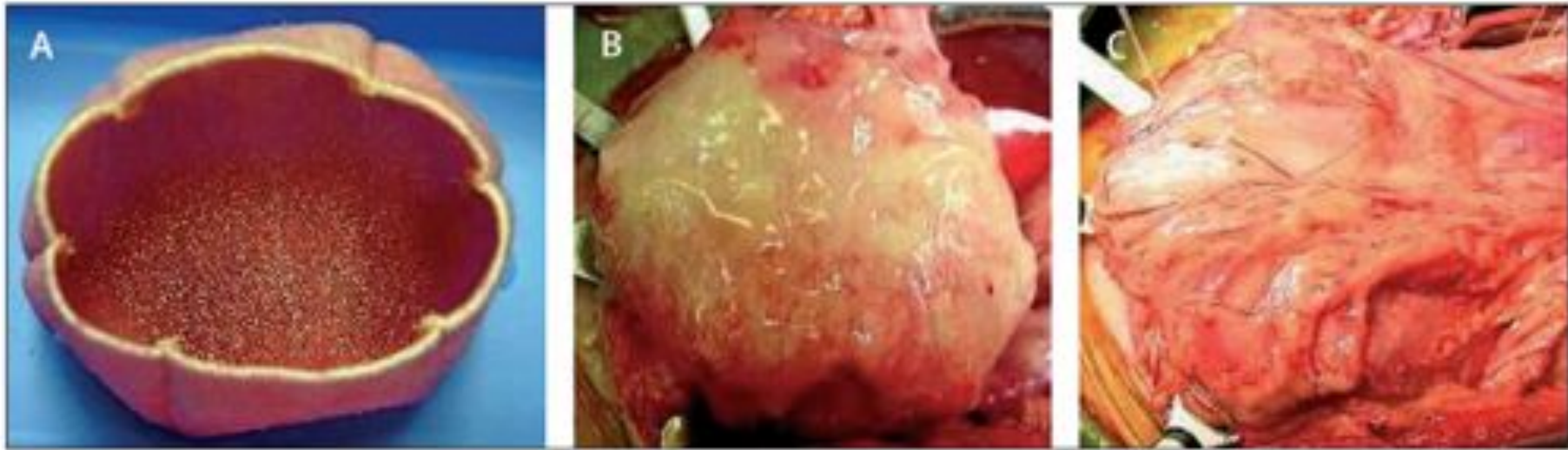


FIG.1

The scaffolds: not quite like native extracellular matrix...

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**Figure 1: Construction of engineered bladder**

Scaffold seeded with cells (A) and engineered bladder anastomosed to native bladder with running 4-0 polyglycolic sutures (B). Implant covered with fibrin glue and omentum (C).

## Tissue-engineered autologous bladders for patients needing cystoplasty



Anthony Atala, Stuart B Bauer, Shay Sokor, James J Yoo, Alan B Retik

### Summary

**Background** Patients with end-stage bladder disease can be treated with cystoplasty using gastrointestinal segments. The presence of such segments in the urinary tract has been associated with many complications. We explored an alternative approach using autologous engineered bladder tissues for reconstruction.

**Methods** Seven patients with myelomeningocele, aged 4–19 years, with high-pressure or poorly compliant bladders, were identified as candidates for cystoplasty. A bladder biopsy was obtained from each patient. Urothelial and muscle cells

Lancet 2006; 367: 1241–46

Published Online

April 4, 2006

DOI:10.1016/S0140-

6736(06)6843B-9

See Comment page 1215

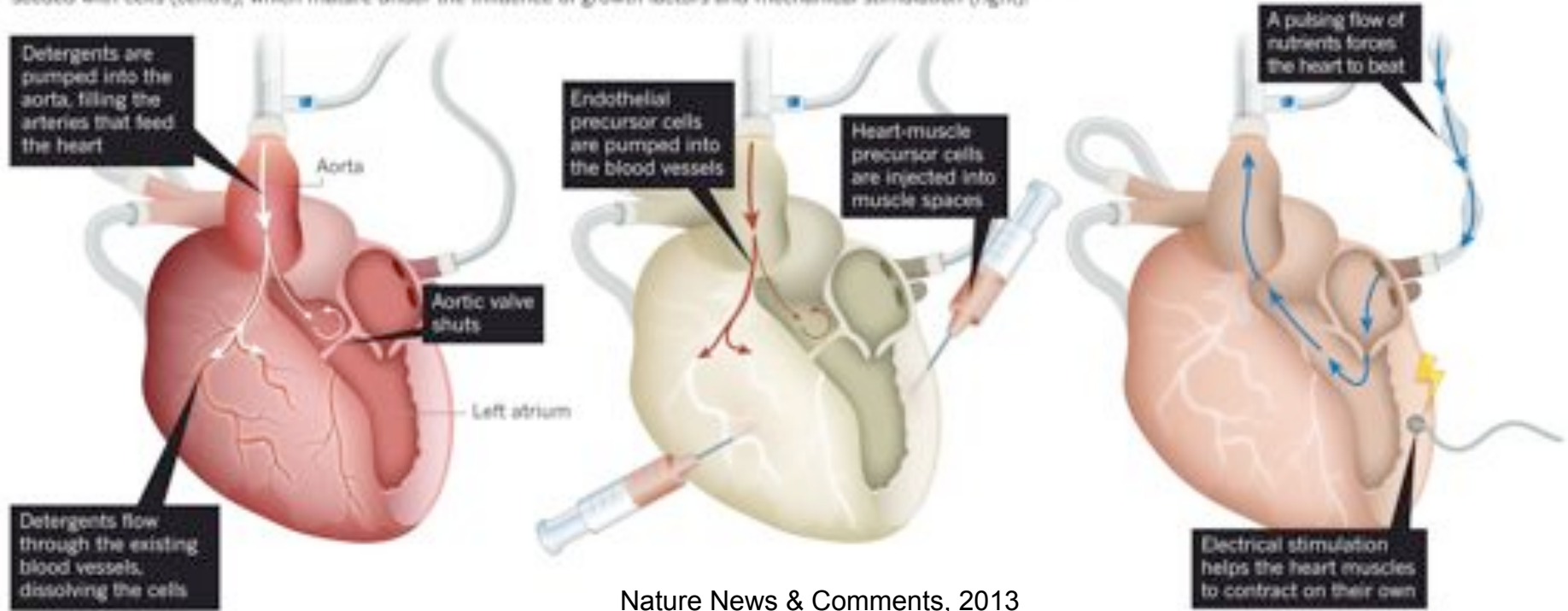


- \* very complicated & expensive
- \* scaffold degradation products cause inflammation & necrosis



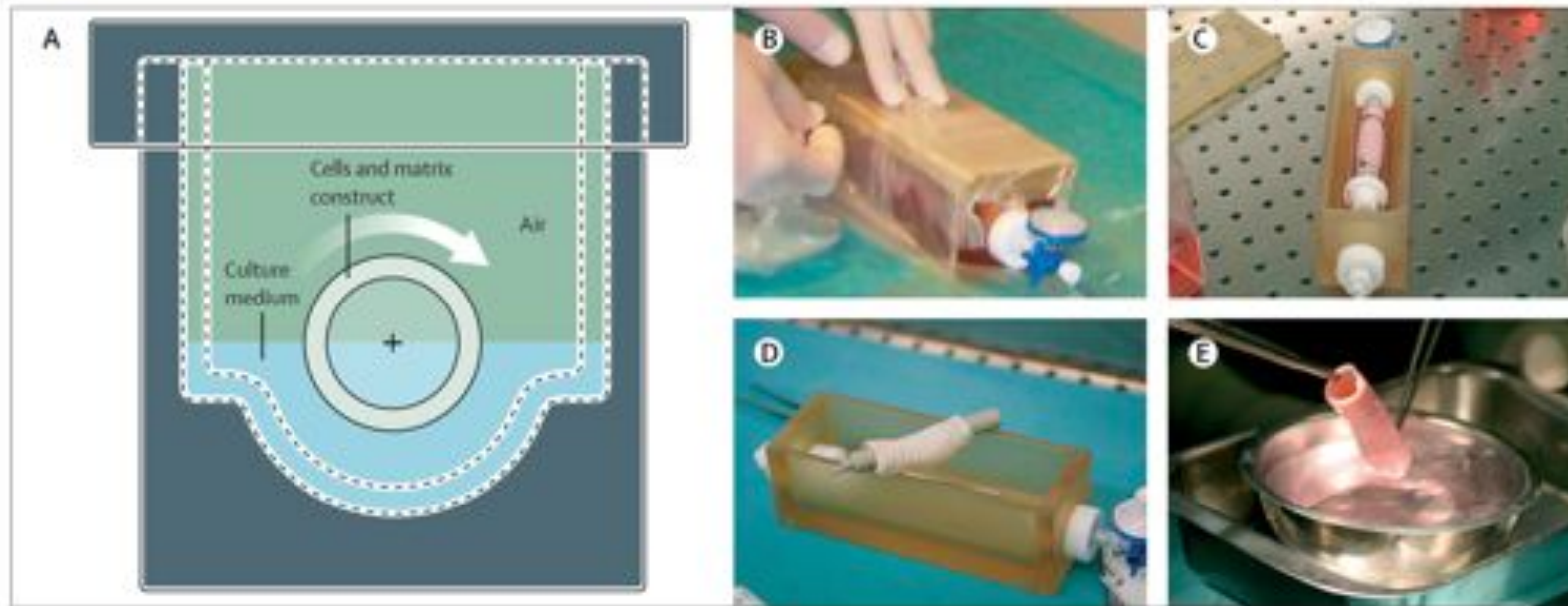
# CUSTOMIZED ORGANS

To construct a new heart, researchers first remove all cells from a donor organ (left), leaving a protein scaffold. That is seeded with cells (centre), which mature under the influence of growth factors and mechanical stimulation (right).



Nature News & Comments, 2013





**Figure 2: Bioreactor developed for airway tissue engineering**

(A) Schematic lateral view, highlighting the rotation of the matrix around its longitudinal axis. The design has separate compartments for lumen and outer surface, and is regularly rotated through a motor to apply the shear stress needed for growth, distribute nutrients and waste, and ensure even exposure to applied cells. (B) The sealed device. (C) Bioreactor with the graft in situ. (D) Bioreactor after removal of the graft. (E) The final graft immediately before surgical implantation.

## Clinical transplantation of a tissue-engineered airway



Paolo Macchiarelli, Philipp Jungebluth, Tetsuhiko Go, M Adelaide Asnaghi, Luvisa E Rees, Tristan A Cogan, Amanda Dodson, Jaume Martorell, Silvia Bellini, Pier Paolo Parnigotto, Sally C Dickinson, Anthony P Hollandet, Sara Mantero, Maria Teresa Conconi, Martin A Birchall

### Summary

**Background** The loss of a normal airway is devastating. Attempts to replace large airways have met with serious problems. Prerequisites for a tissue-engineered replacement are a suitable matrix, cells, ideal mechanical properties, and the absence of antigenicity. We aimed to bioengineer tubular tracheal matrices, using a tissue-engineering protocol, and to assess the application of this technology in a patient with end-stage airway disease.

*Lancet* 2008; 372: 2023–30

Published Online  
November 19, 2008  
DOI:10.1016/S0140-6736(08)62598-6

**\* Still complicated & expensive**

# Overview

1. Tissue Engineering 1.0: the beginning

2. *Ex situ* versus *in situ* tissue engineering

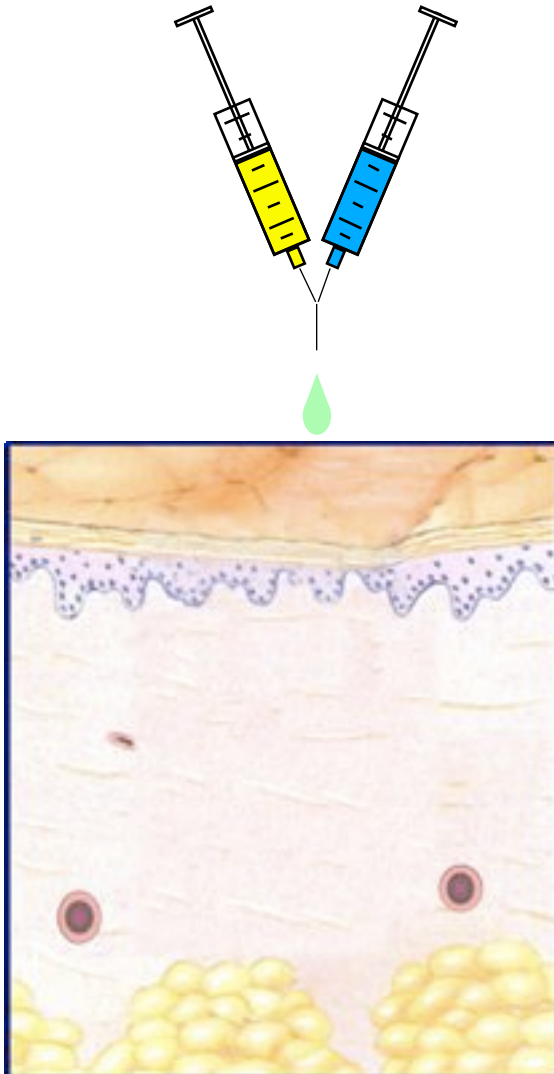
3. Stem cell-based organogenesis and its applications

4. Bioengineering tricks to guide and exploit organogenesis

5. Bioprinting and vascularization

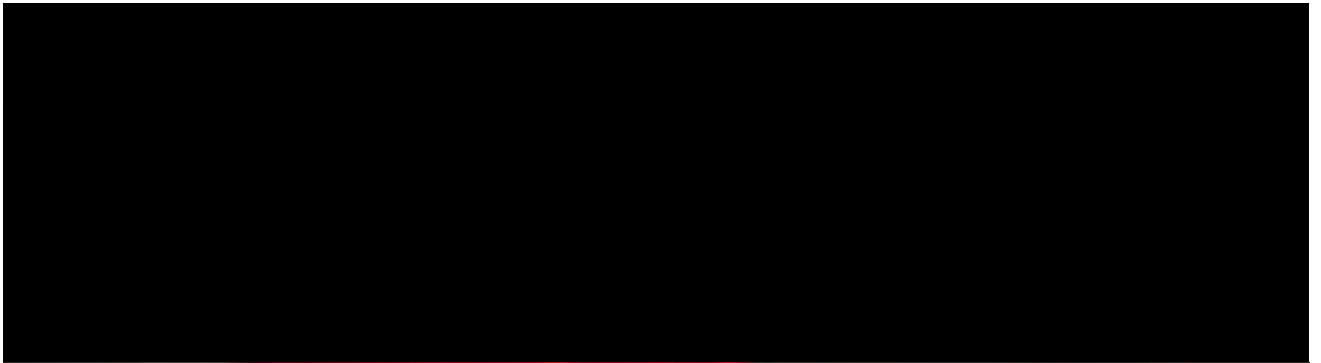
# *In situ* tissue engineering: smart drug delivery

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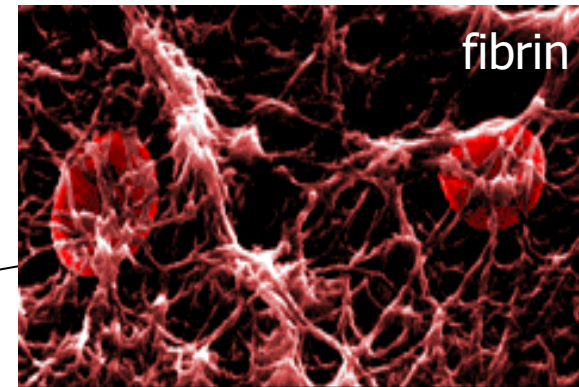
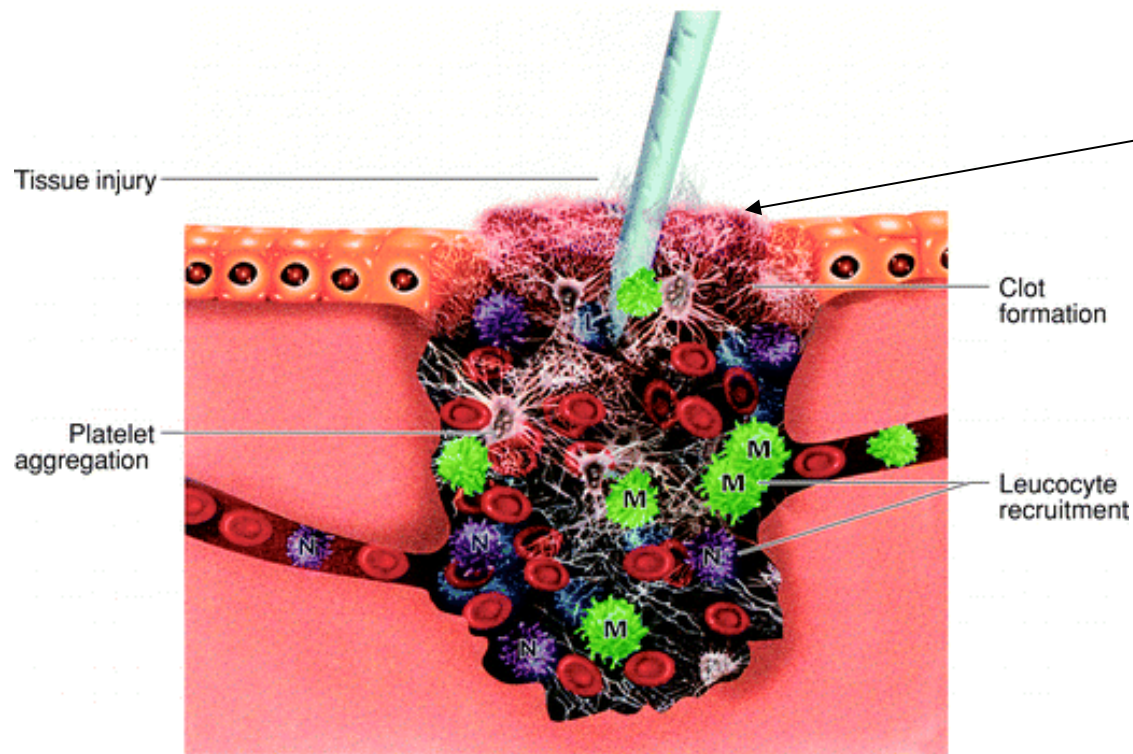


## Stimulating self-repair

- In situ formation of bioactive matrix
- Attraction of regeneration-competent cells (stem/progenitor cells)
- Cell infiltration
- Controlled matrix degradation/remodeling
- Progenitor cell differentiation into tissue-specific cells; tissue regeneration



# Fibrin: Nature's regeneration matrix



A temporary viscoelastic gel as scaffold for invading cells that

- forms *in situ*
- is cell-adhesive
- is proteolytically degradable (mainly via matrix metalloprot.)
- stores and releases protein growth factors

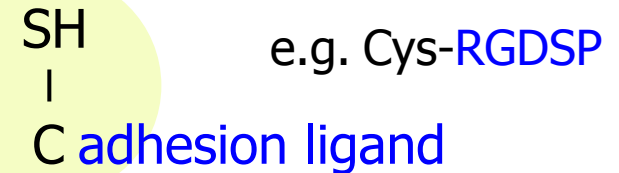
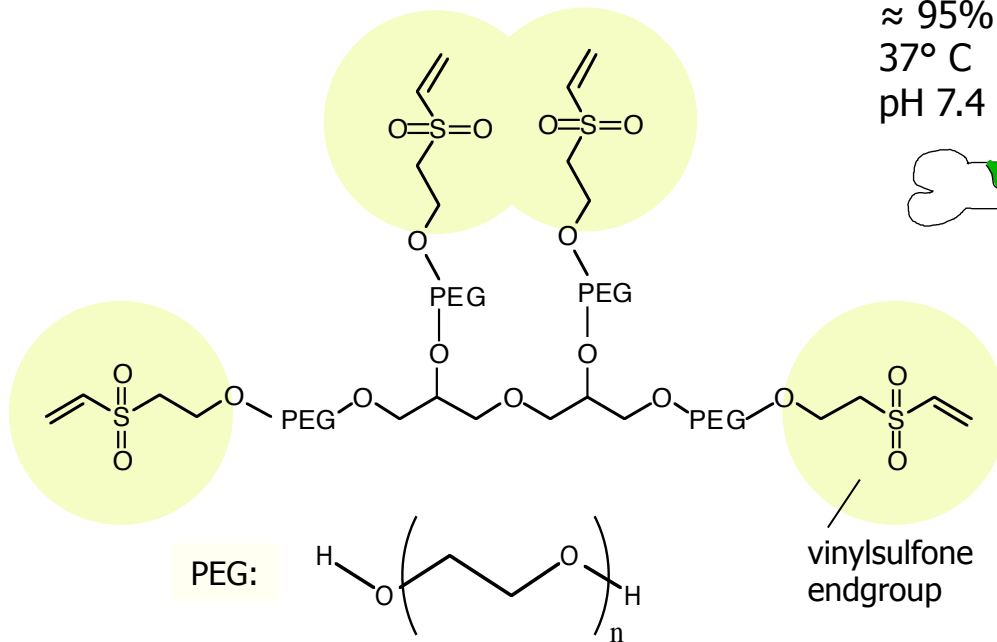
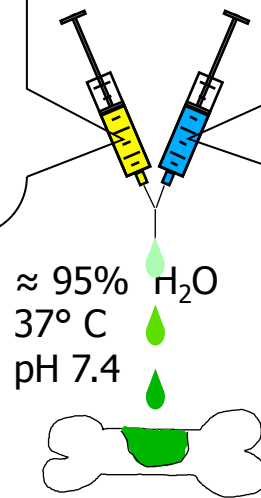
# 'Synthetic fibrin' for localized morphogen delivery

## A: Poly(ethylene glycol)

- hydrophilic, „biocompatible“ (inert)
- cross-linker (functionality > 2)
- structural properties

## B: Oligopeptides

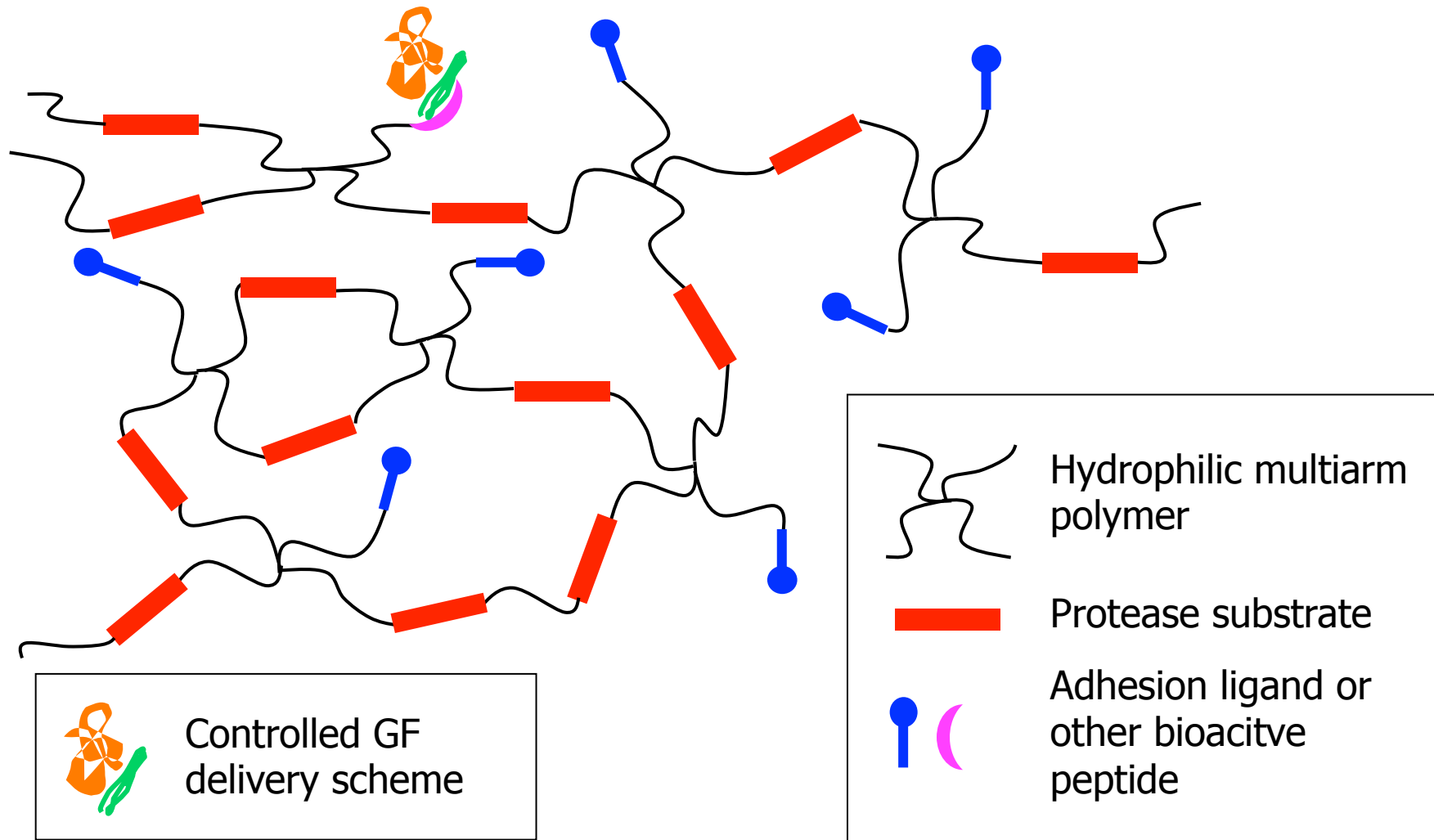
- „biological information“
- cell-responsiveness (protease sensitivity)



e.g. Cys-**GPQG**↓**IWGQ**-Cys

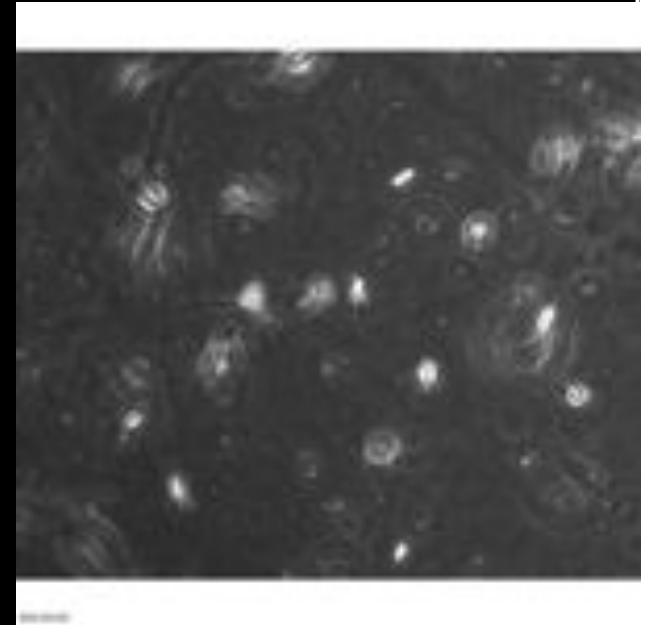
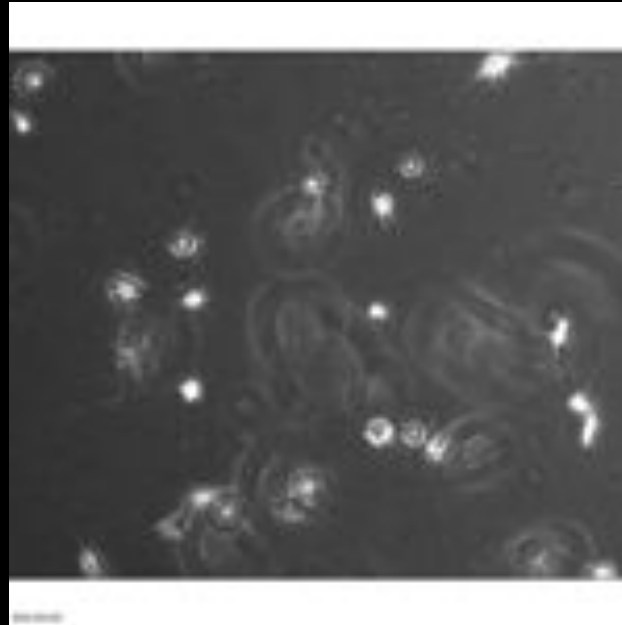
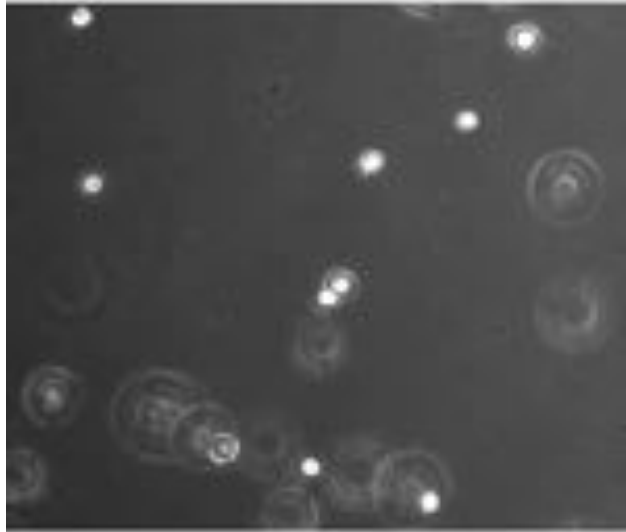


# Schematic of synthetic hydrogels mimicking the biological key functions of native ECMs





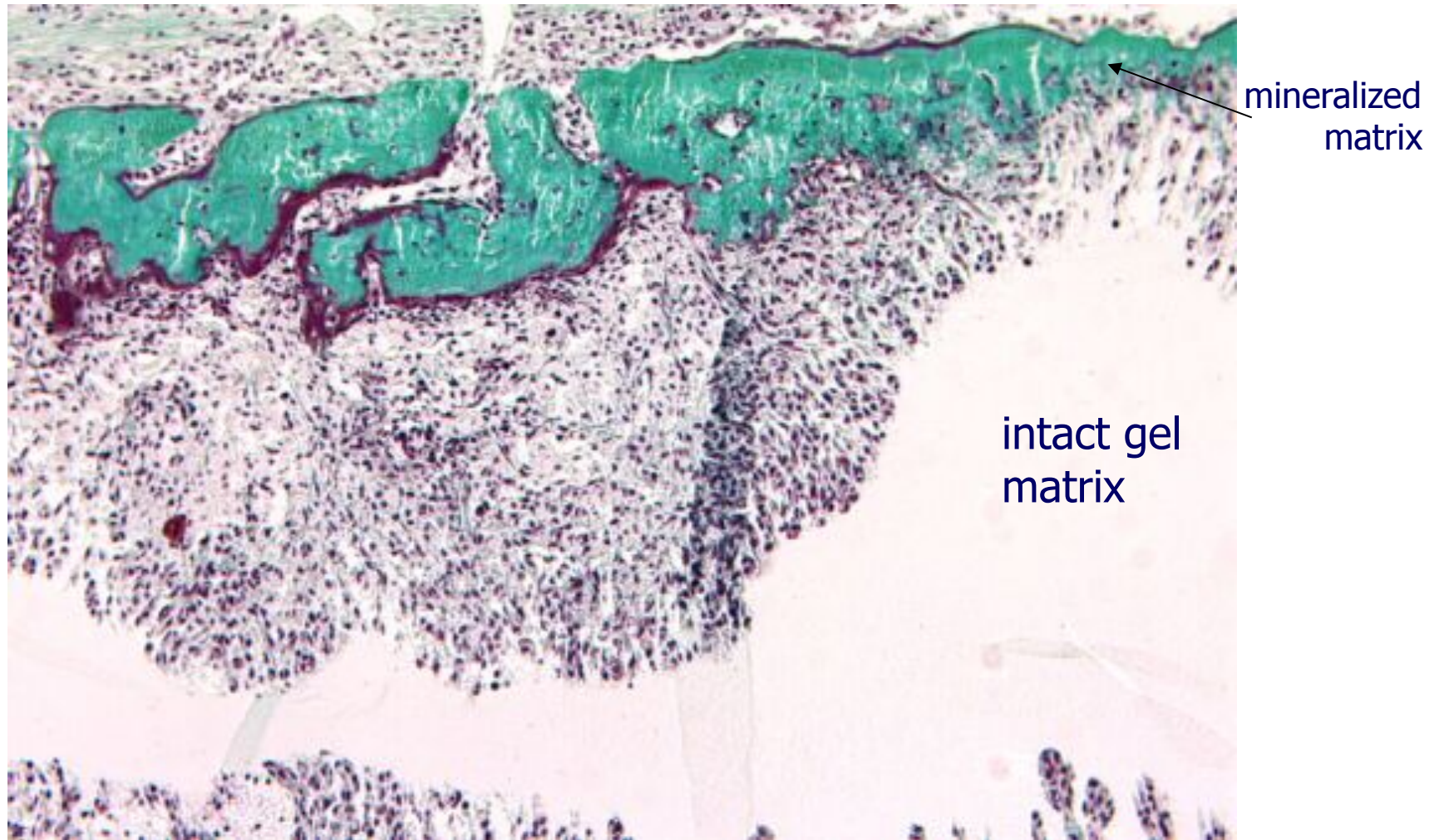
# 3D cell migration within synthetic ECMs can be controlled by tuning gel degradation kinetics (via $k_{cat}$ )



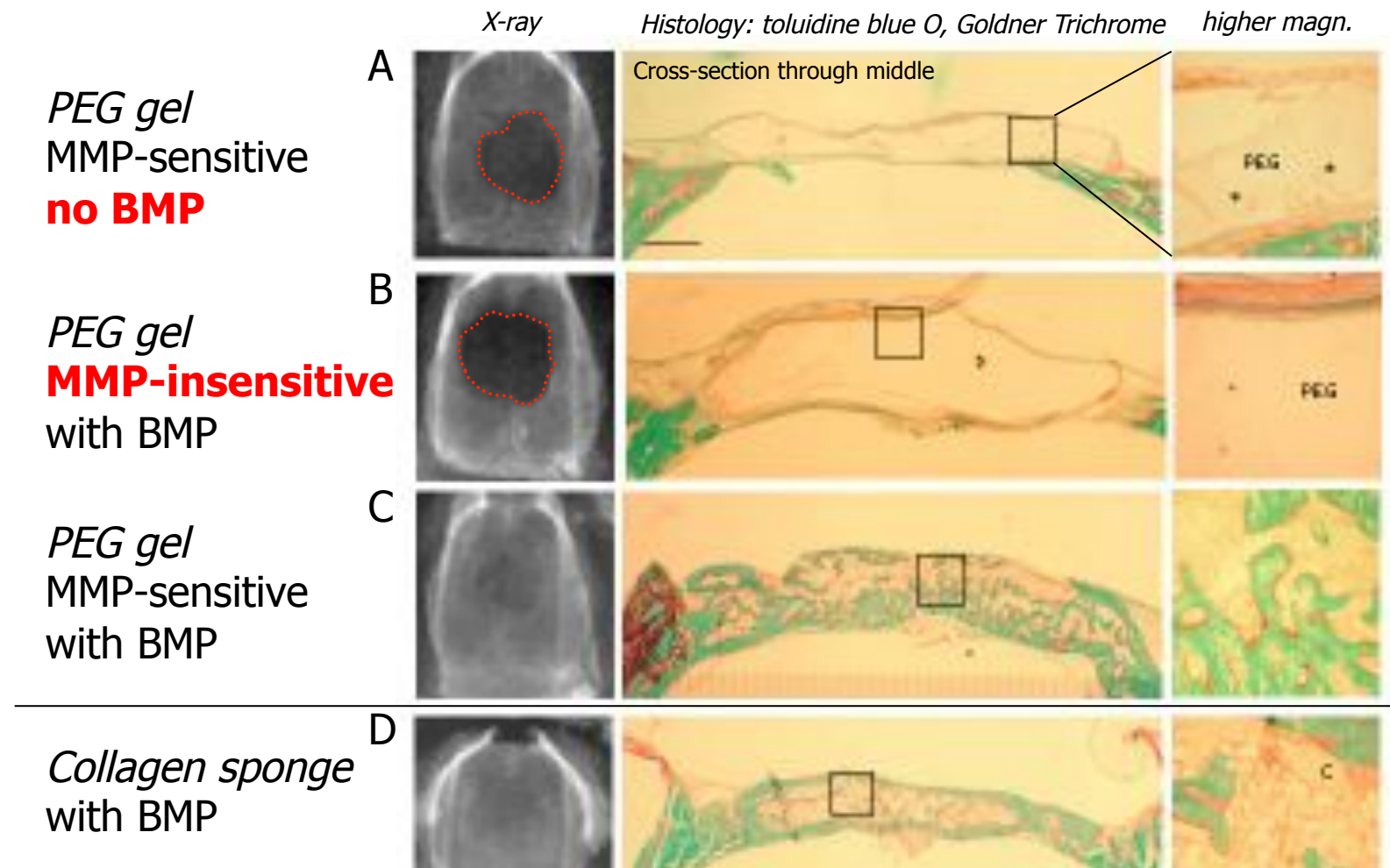
**E.g.: Single mesenchymal progenitor cells embedded in gels bearing cell-adhesive and matrix metalloprotease-sensitive building blocks**

# Endogenous (stem/progenitor) cell invasion and bone regeneration upon gel remodeling after 3 weeks

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# Complete gel remodeling and regeneration after 5 weeks



**\* limited to some tissues and relatively small defects**

**By and large, 'classical' tissue engineering strategies have not fulfilled the huge expectations (scientifically and economically)**

**The paradigm shift:**

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# Carnegie Stages of Human Development

Dr Mark Hill, Cell Biology Lab, School of Medical Sciences (Anatomy), UNSW

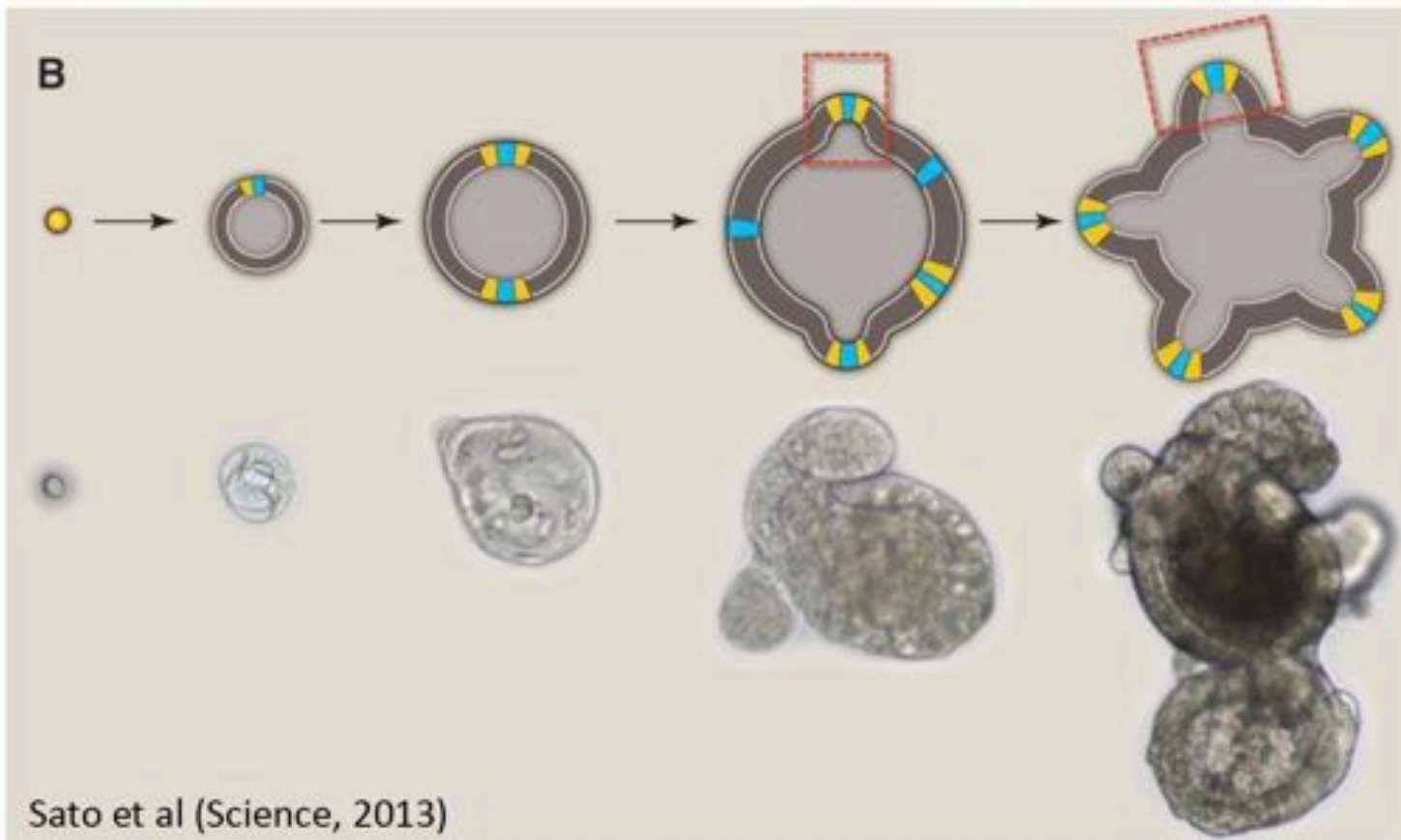
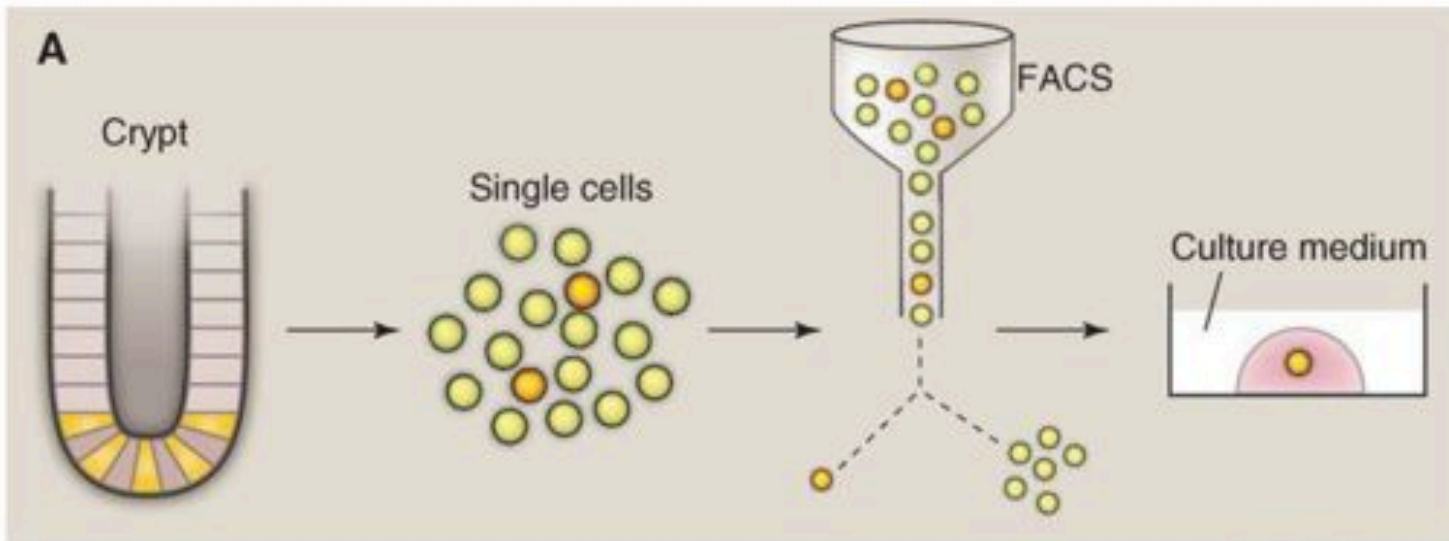


## Acknowledgements

Special thanks to Dr S. J. DiMarzo and Prof. Kohai Shiota for allowing reproduction of their research images and material from the Kyoto Collection and Ms B. Hill for image preparation.

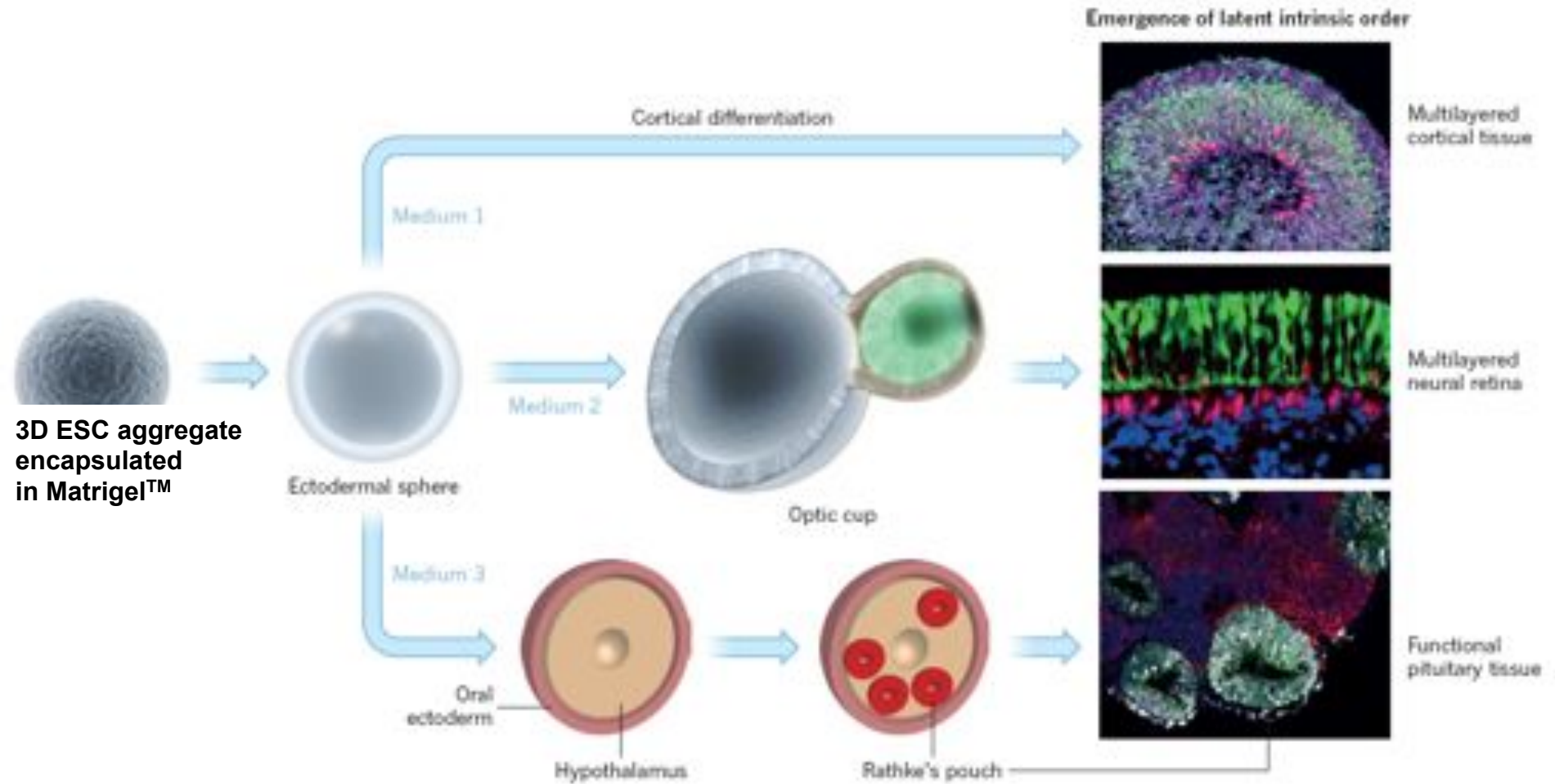
© M.A. Hill, 2004



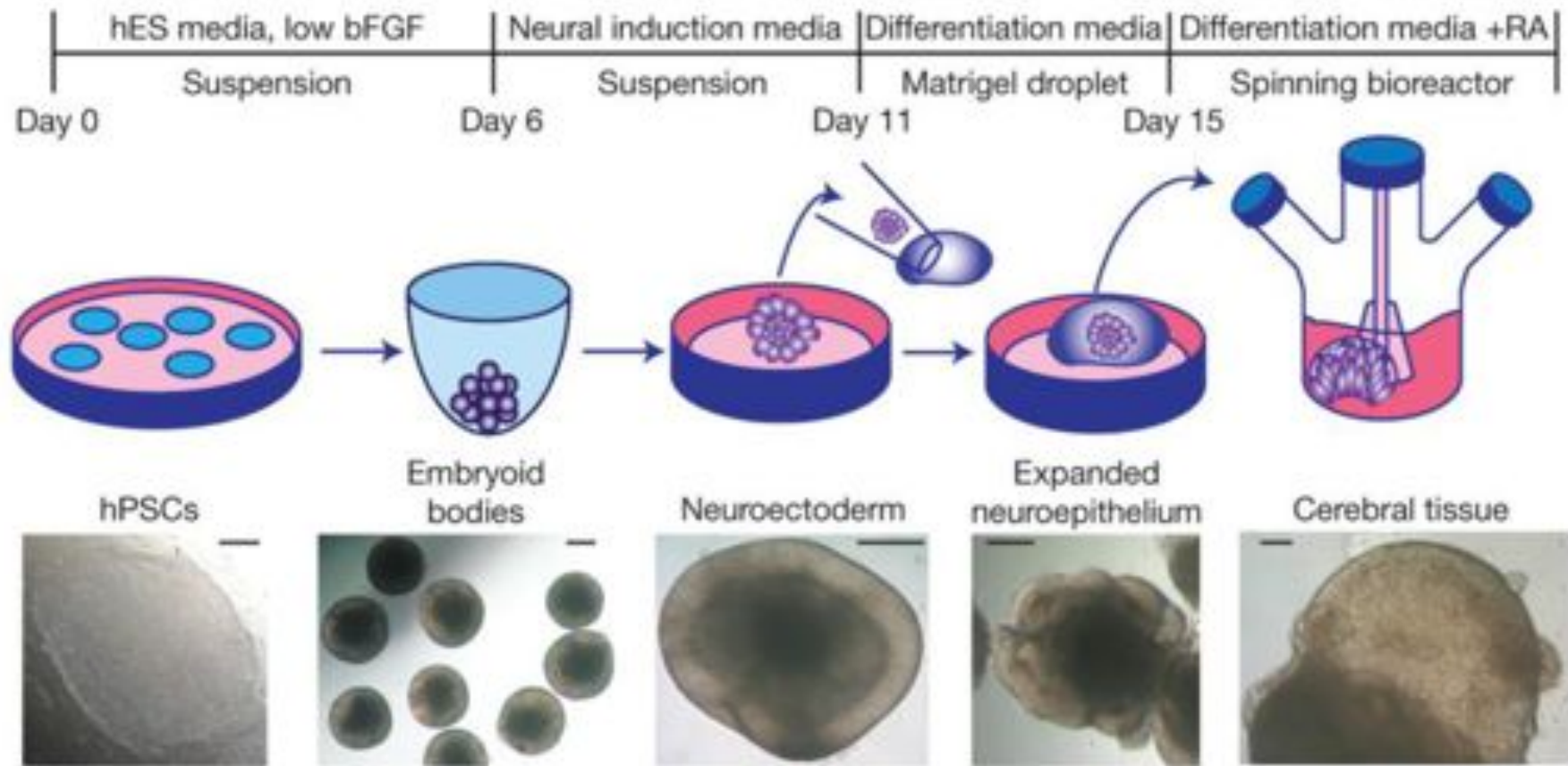




# Tissue formation by pluripotent stem cell self-organization



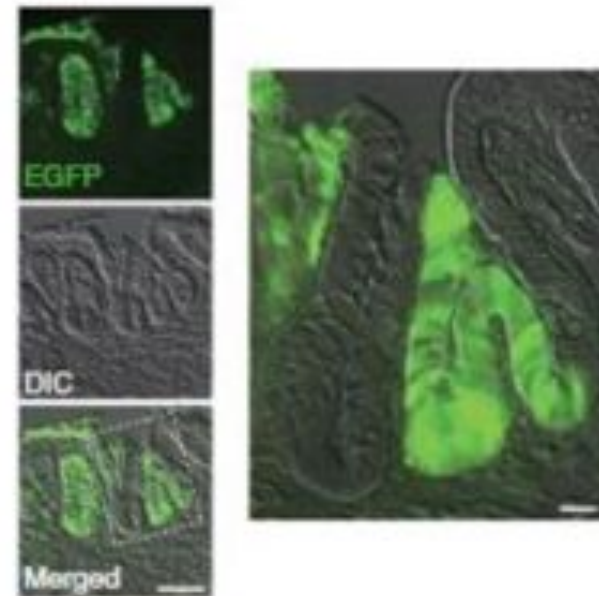
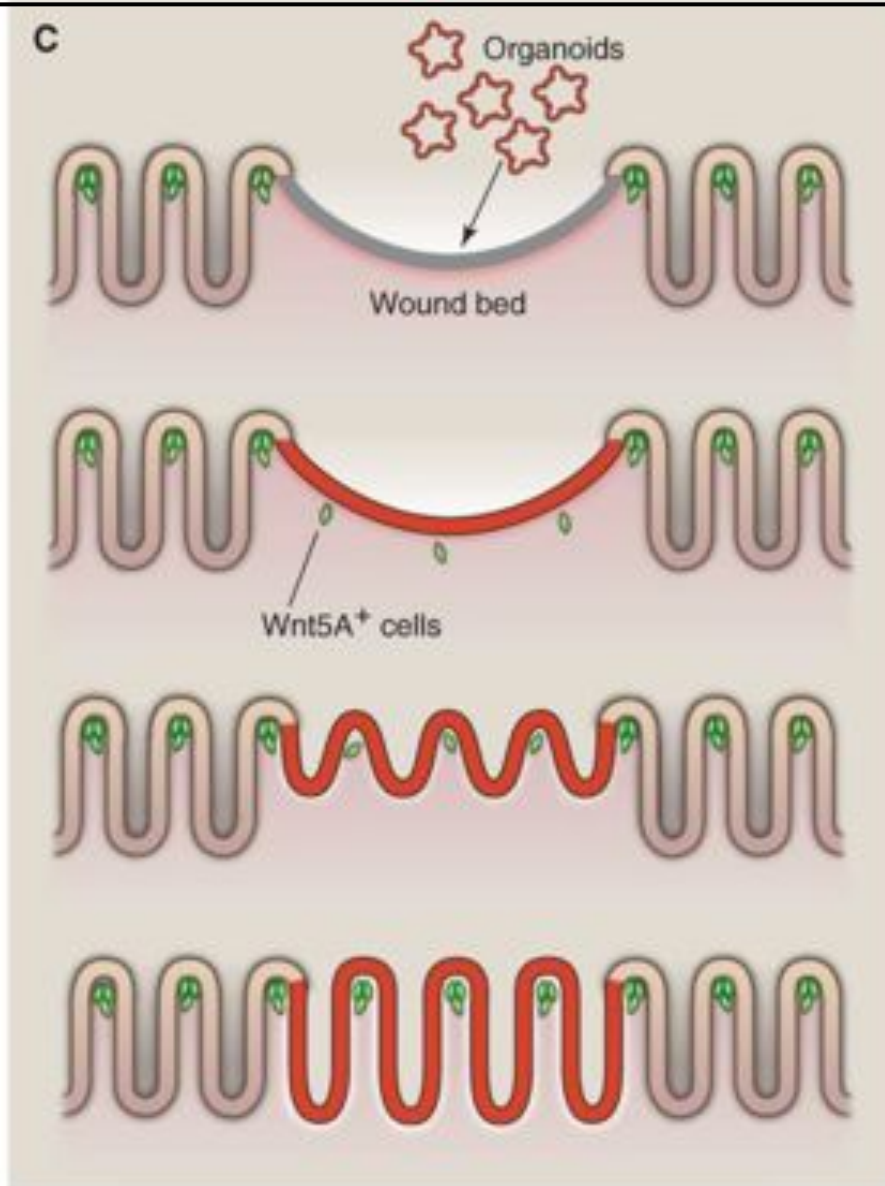
# A human brain in a dish...?!



Lancaster et al (Nature, 2013)

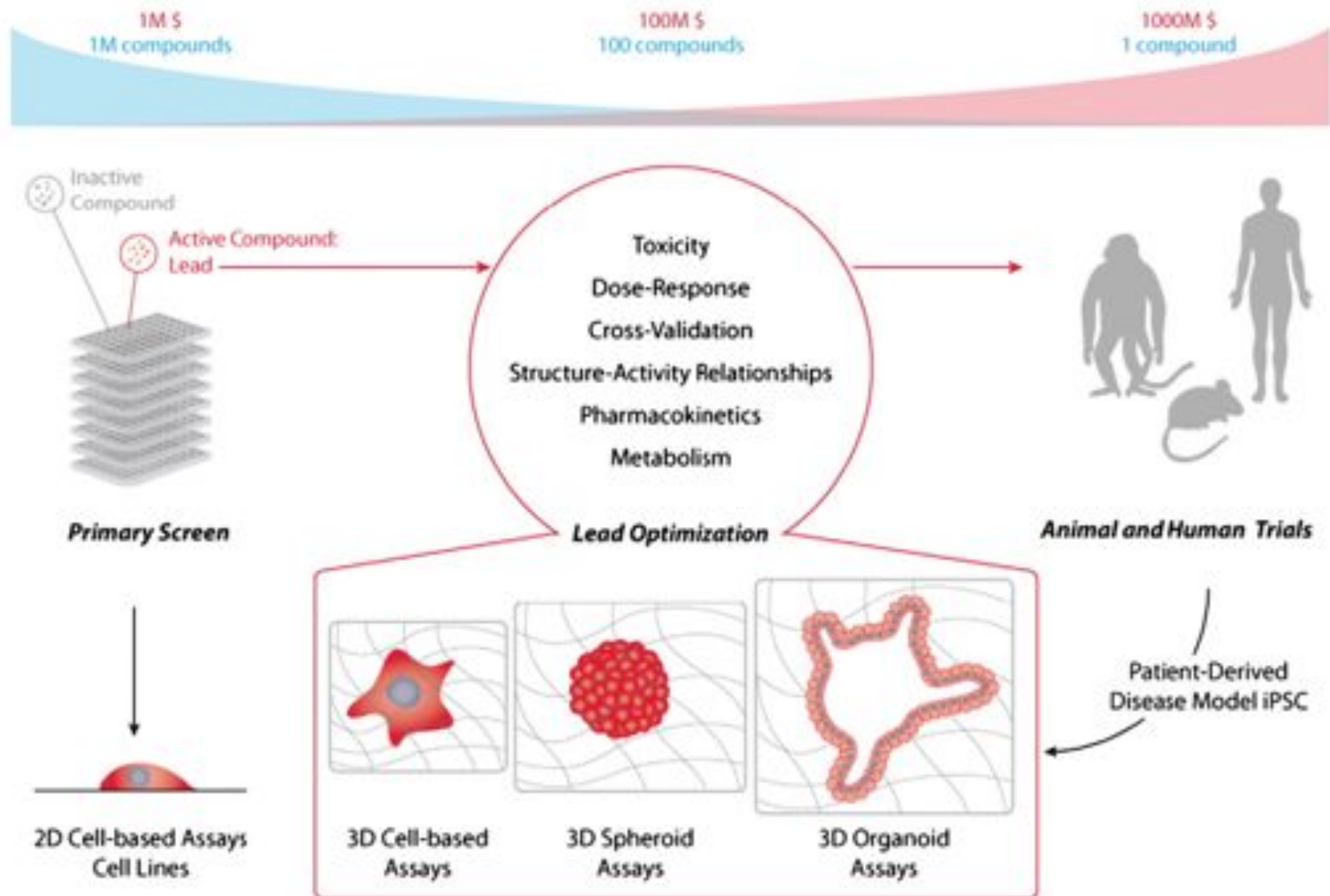
**What is the relevance?**

# Organoid-based therapy

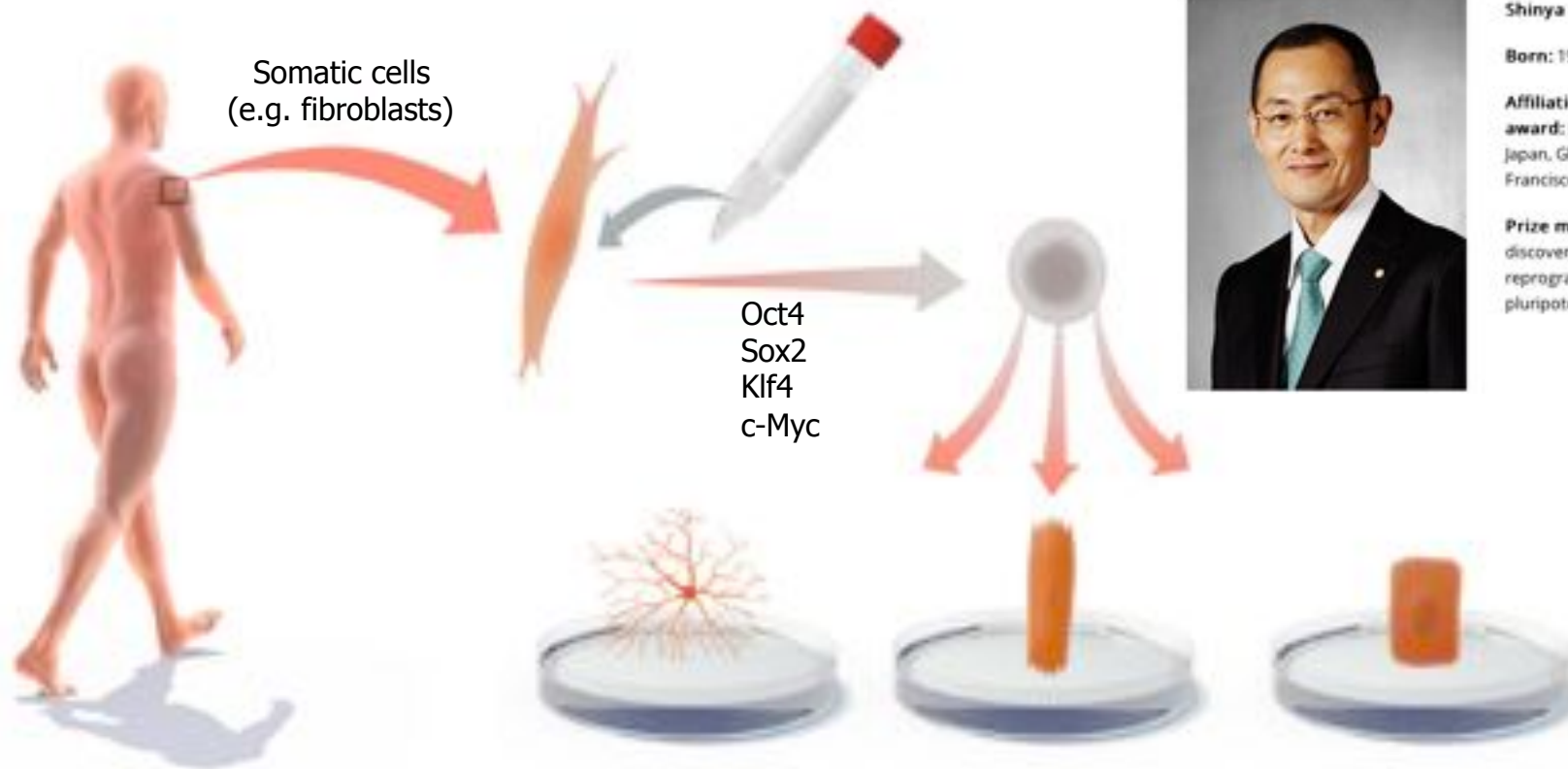



Yui et al (Nat Med, 2012)

# Drug discovery



# Induced pluripotent stem (iPS) cells



 The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2012  
Sir John B. Gurdon, Shinya Yamanaka

## Shinya Yamanaka - Facts



**Shinya Yamanaka**

**Born:** 1962, Osaka, Japan

**Affiliation at the time of the award:** Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan, Gladstone Institutes, San Francisco, CA, USA

**Prize motivation:** "for the discovery that mature cells can be reprogrammed to become pluripotent"

**patient**

**biopsy**

**induced pluripotent stem cells (iPS)**



**↑**  
**reprogramming**

**↓**  
**differentiation**

**disease-affected cell type**



**cellular therapy**

**research, drug development**



# Overview

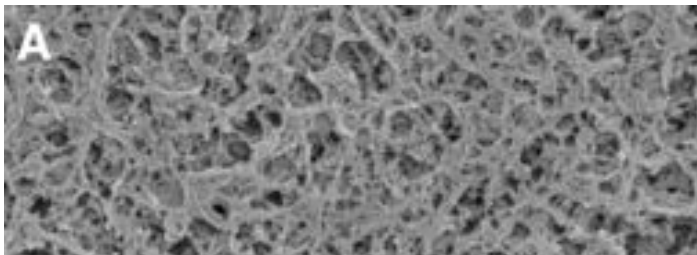
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## **Bioengineering challenges**

1. 3D matrix engineering to optimize stem cell-based organogenesis
2. Patterning organ formation
3. Organ-on-a-chip => probing function

# 3D culture: more sophisticated, but undefined



ECM Composition of BD Matrigel Matrix vs. GFR

BD Matrigel Matrix Component	Percent in BD Matrigel Matrix	Percent in BD Matrigel Matrix GFR
Laminin	56%	61%
Collagen IV	31%	30%
Entactin	8%	7%

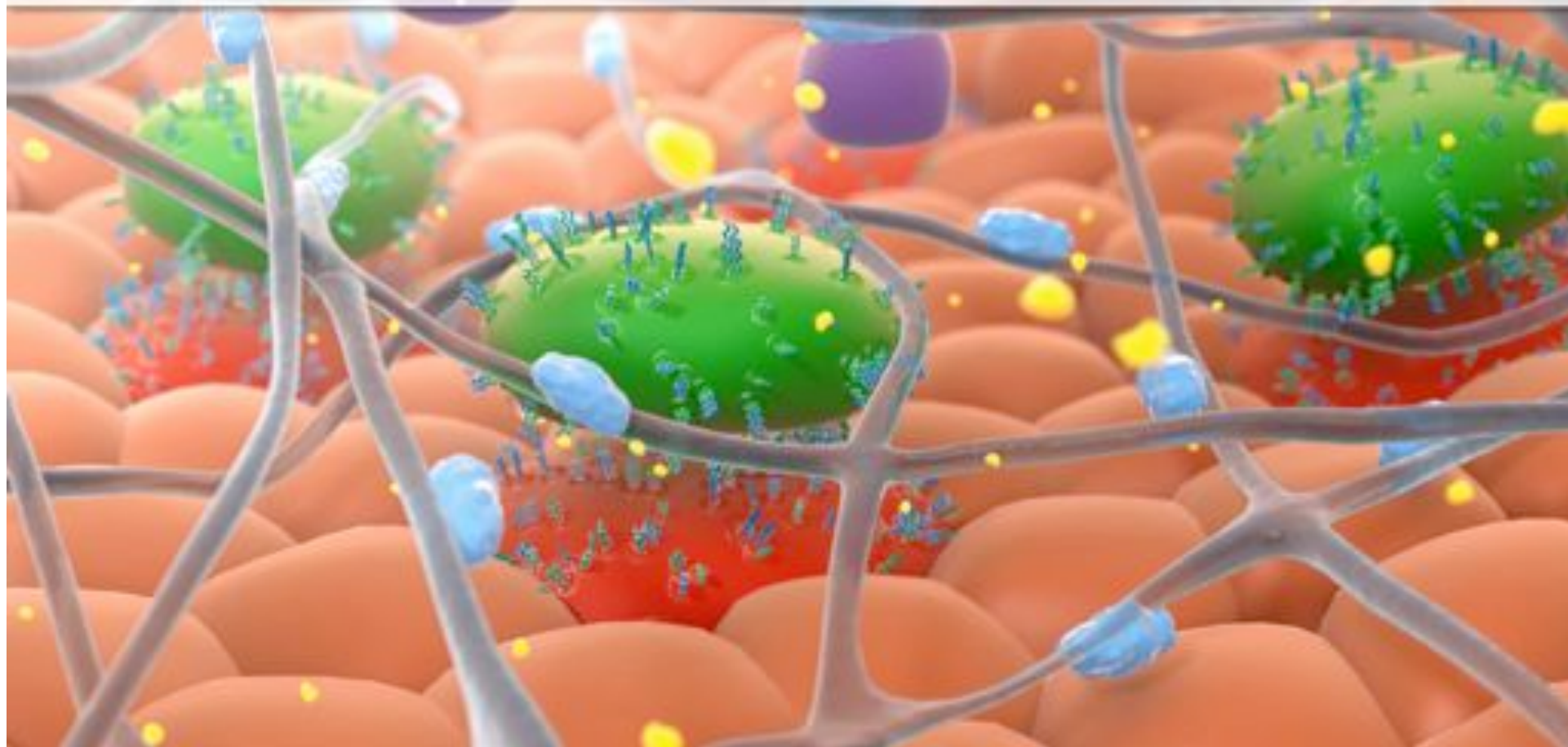
Average Growth Factor Concentrations in BD Matrigel Matrix

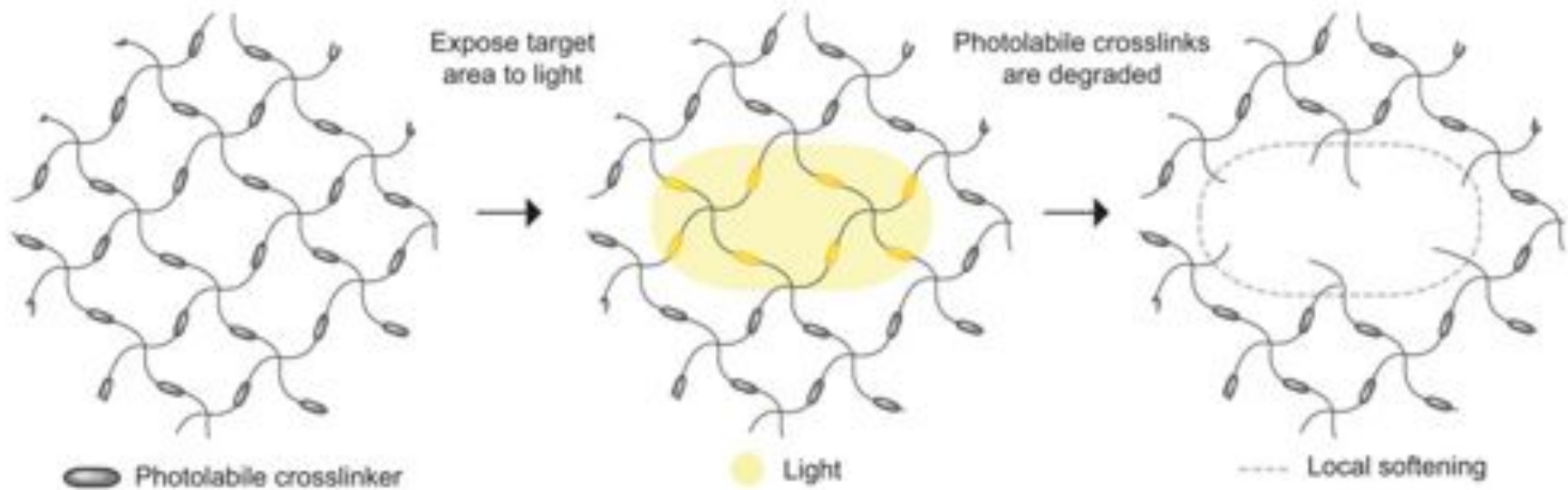
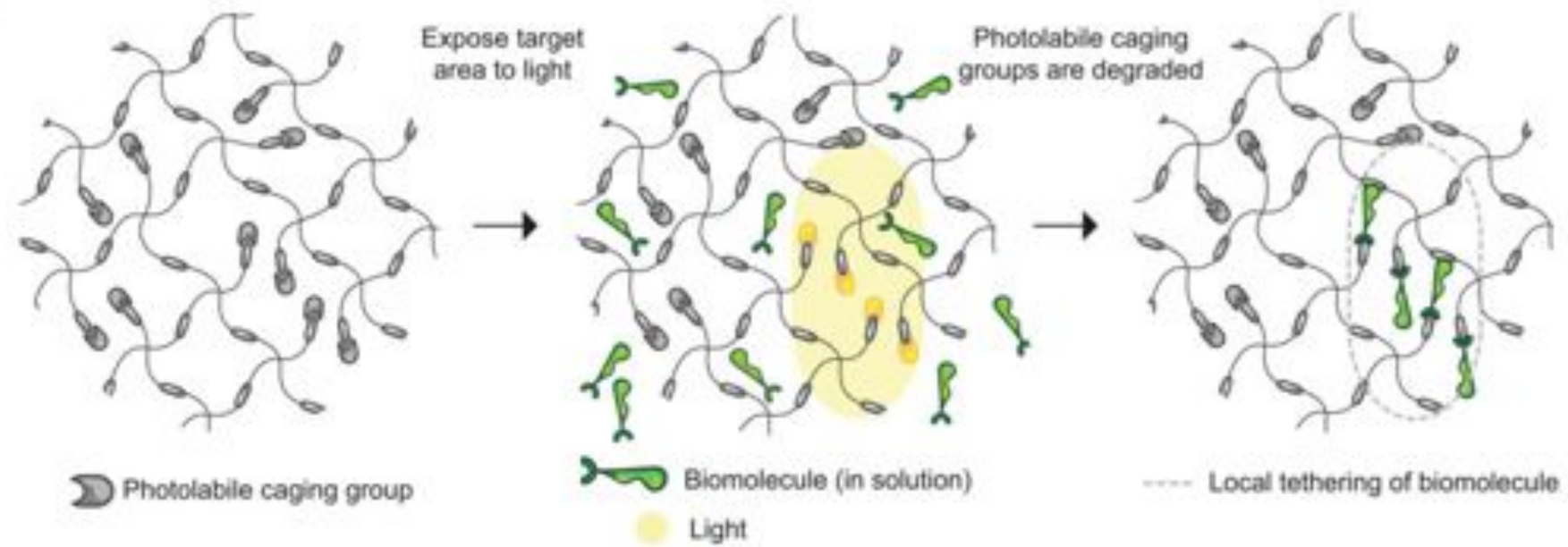
Parameter	BD Matrigel Matrix	BD Matrigel Matrix GFR
bFGF (pg/ml)	0 - 0.1	n.d.
EGF (ng/ml)	0.5 - 1.3	< 0.5
IGF-1 (ng/ml)	15.6	5
PDGF (pg/ml)	12	< 5

## Limitations:

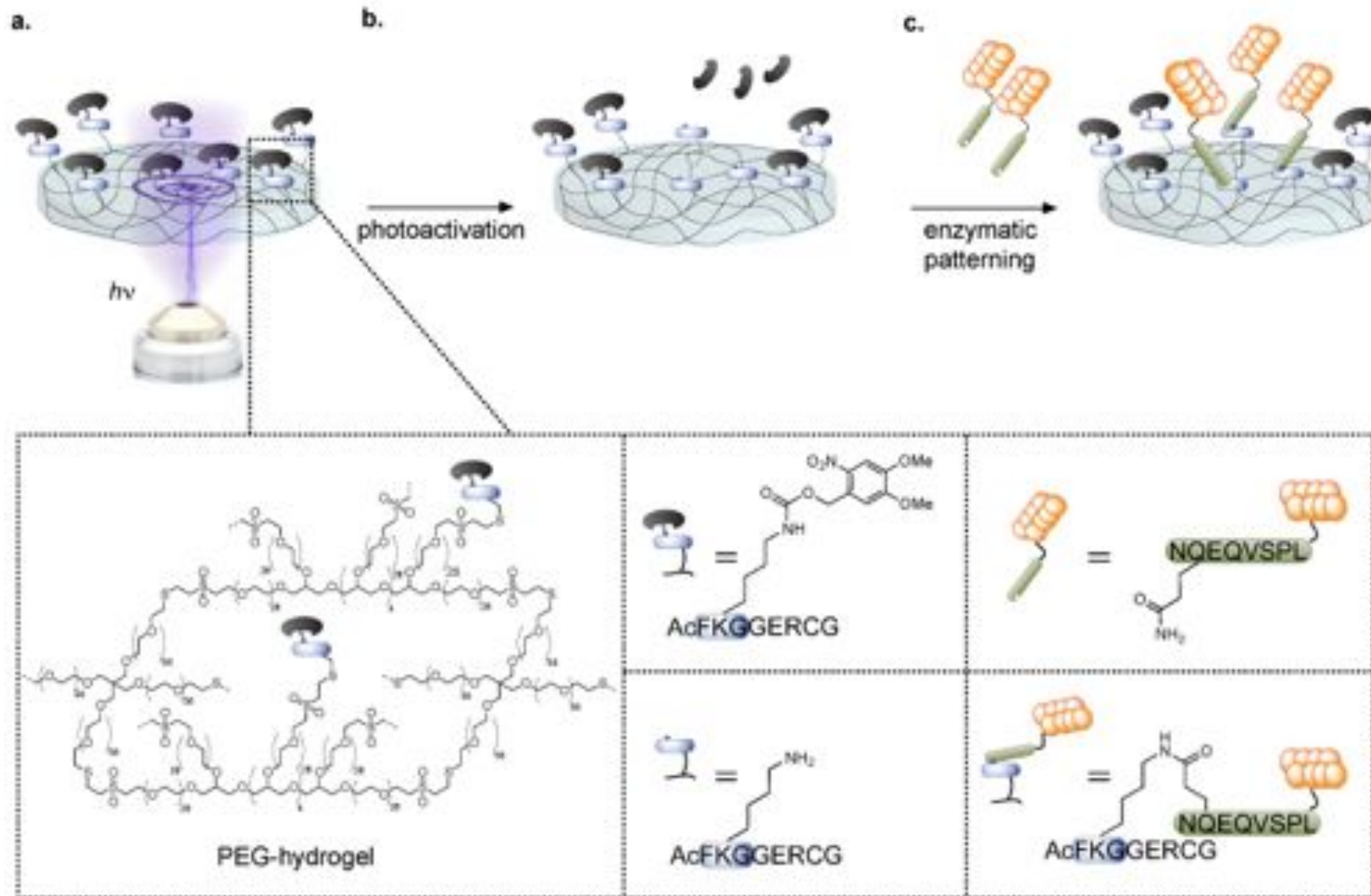
- \* Fixed composition => cell-, tissue- and cell fate-specificity?
- \* Batch-to-batch variability => reproducibility?
- \* Poor handling properties => automation? miniaturization?
- \* Animal ECM-derived => clinical relevance?

## 3D Screening for Artificial Niche

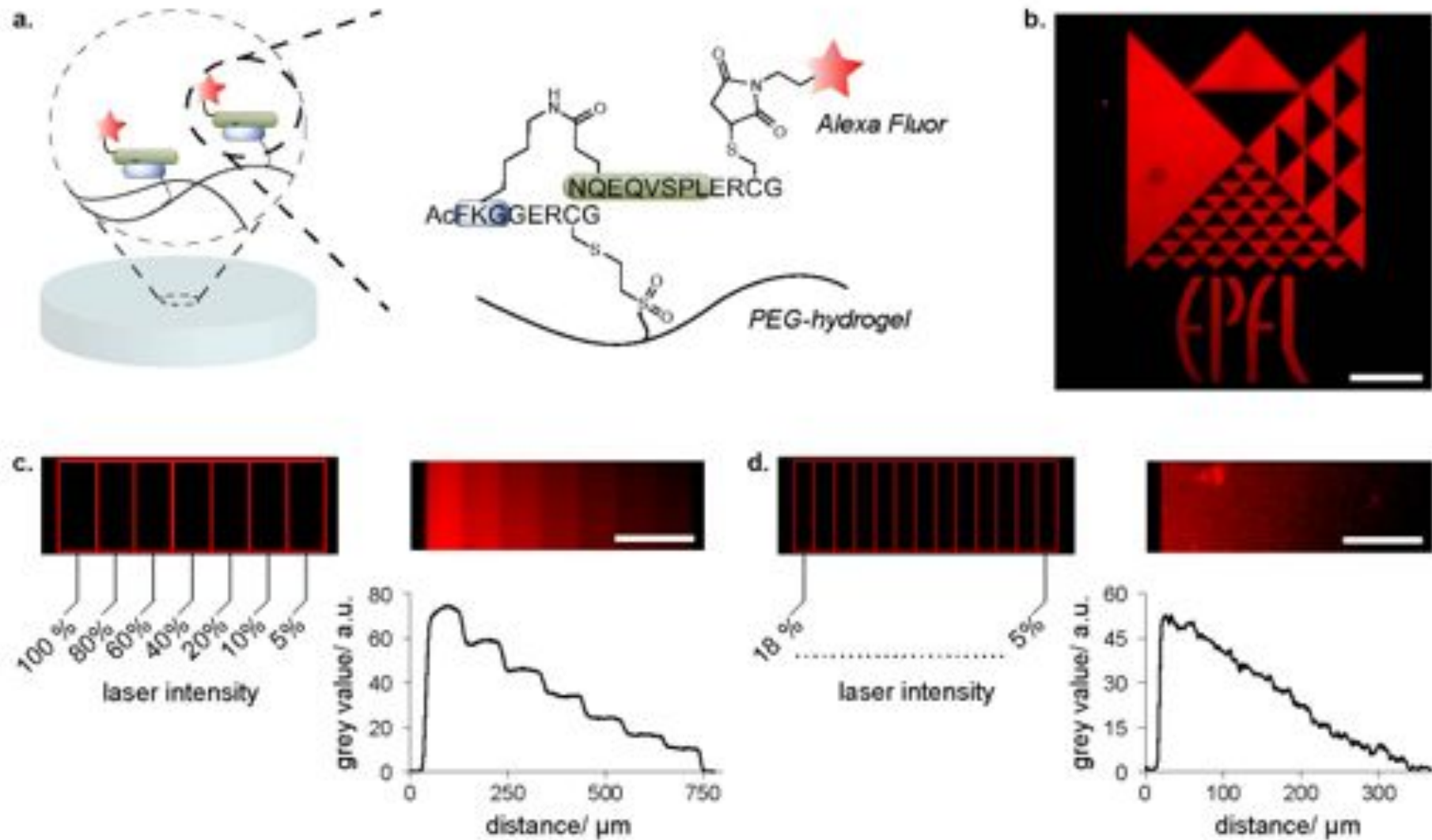


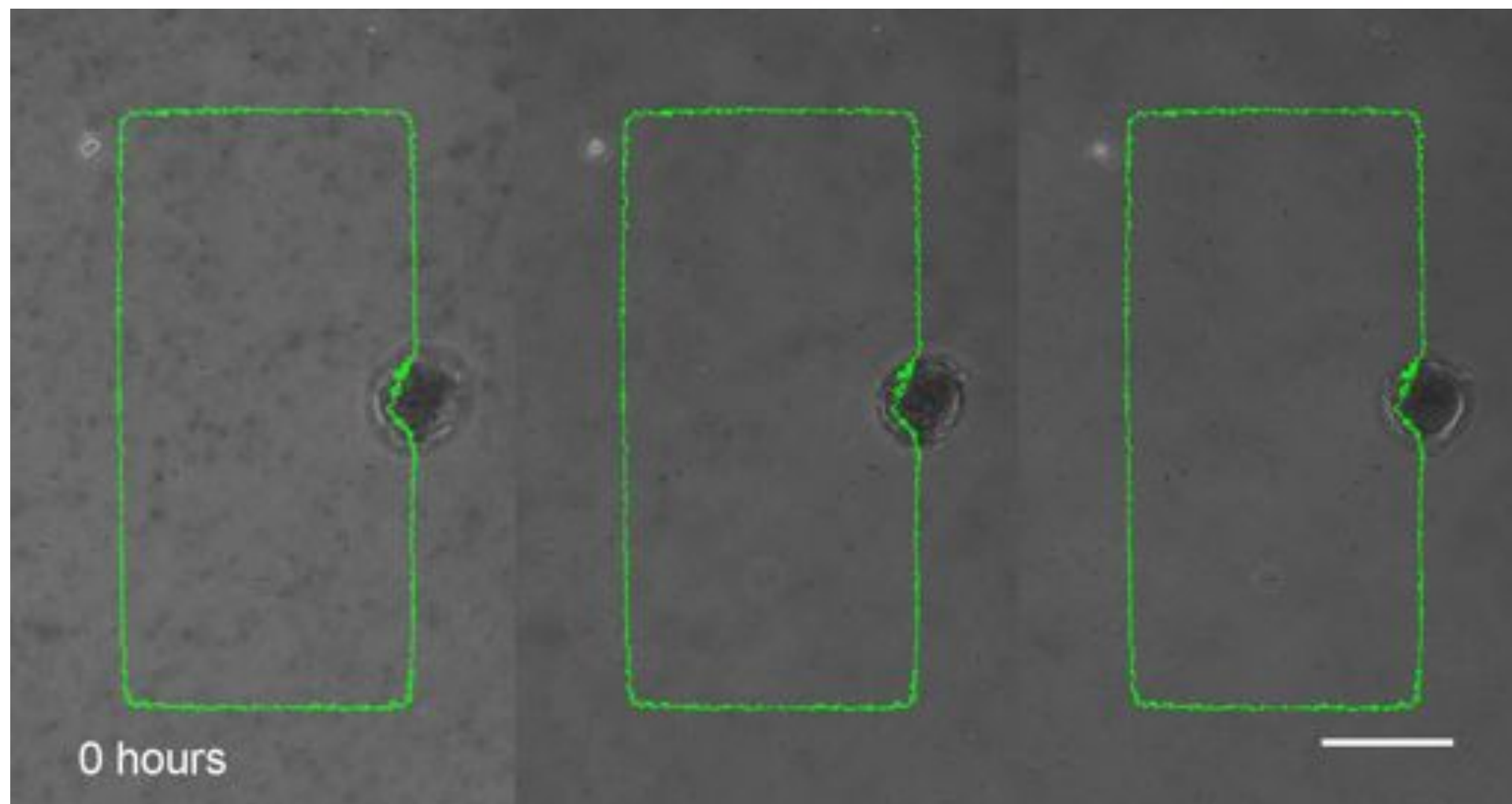
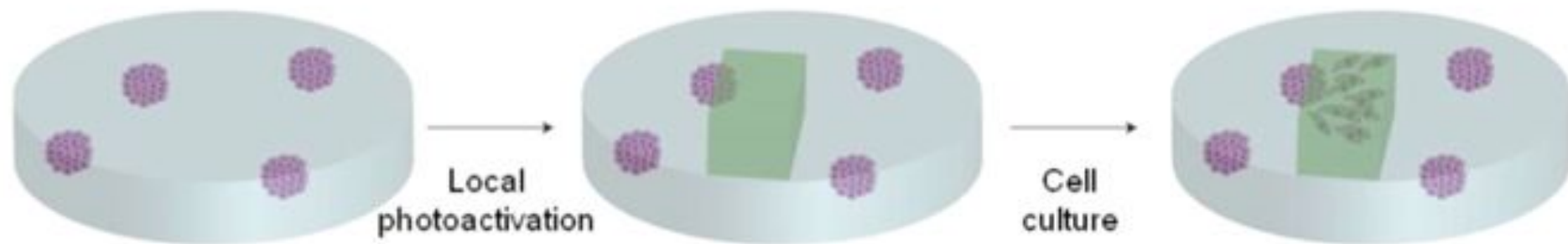
**A****B**

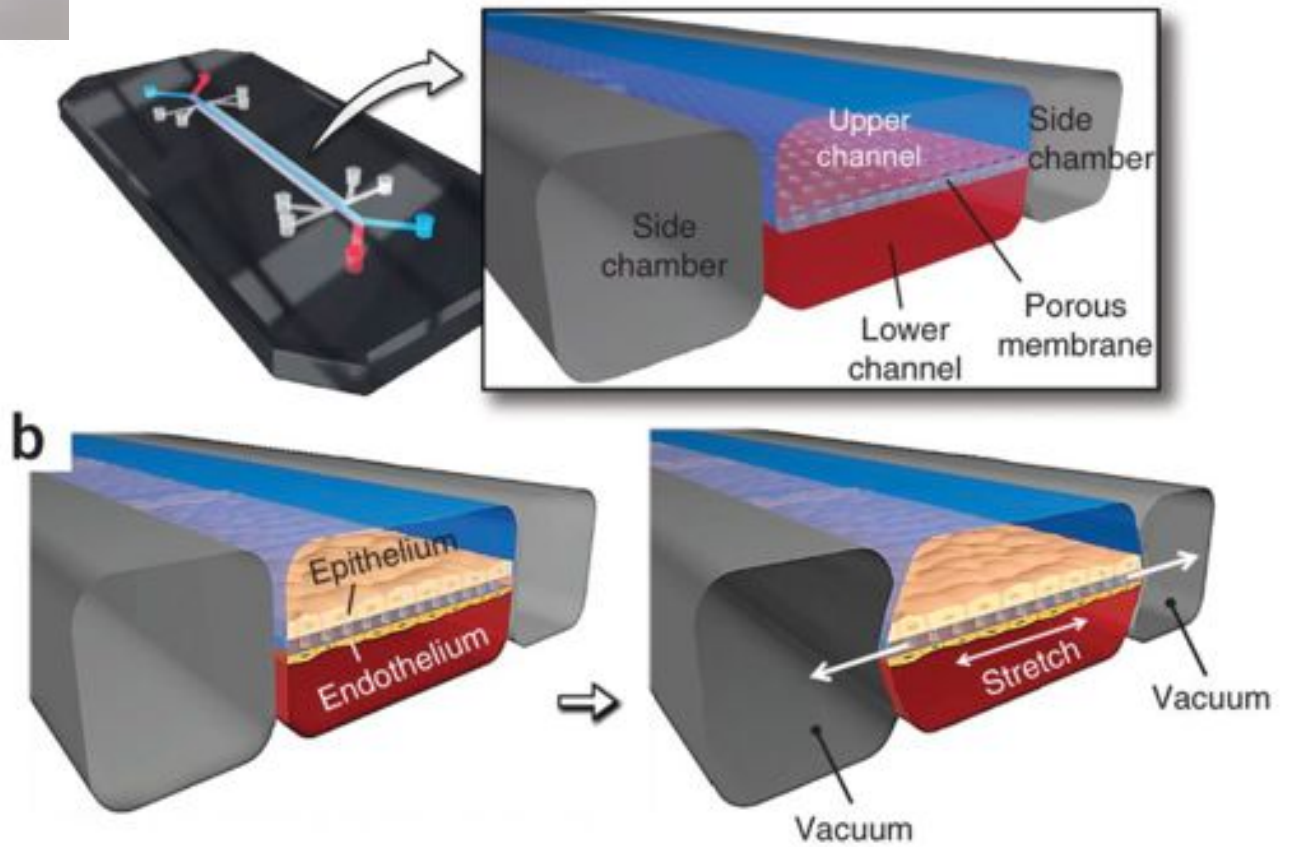
# 'Photocaged' hydrogel matrices: Light-controlled localized patterning of biomolecules



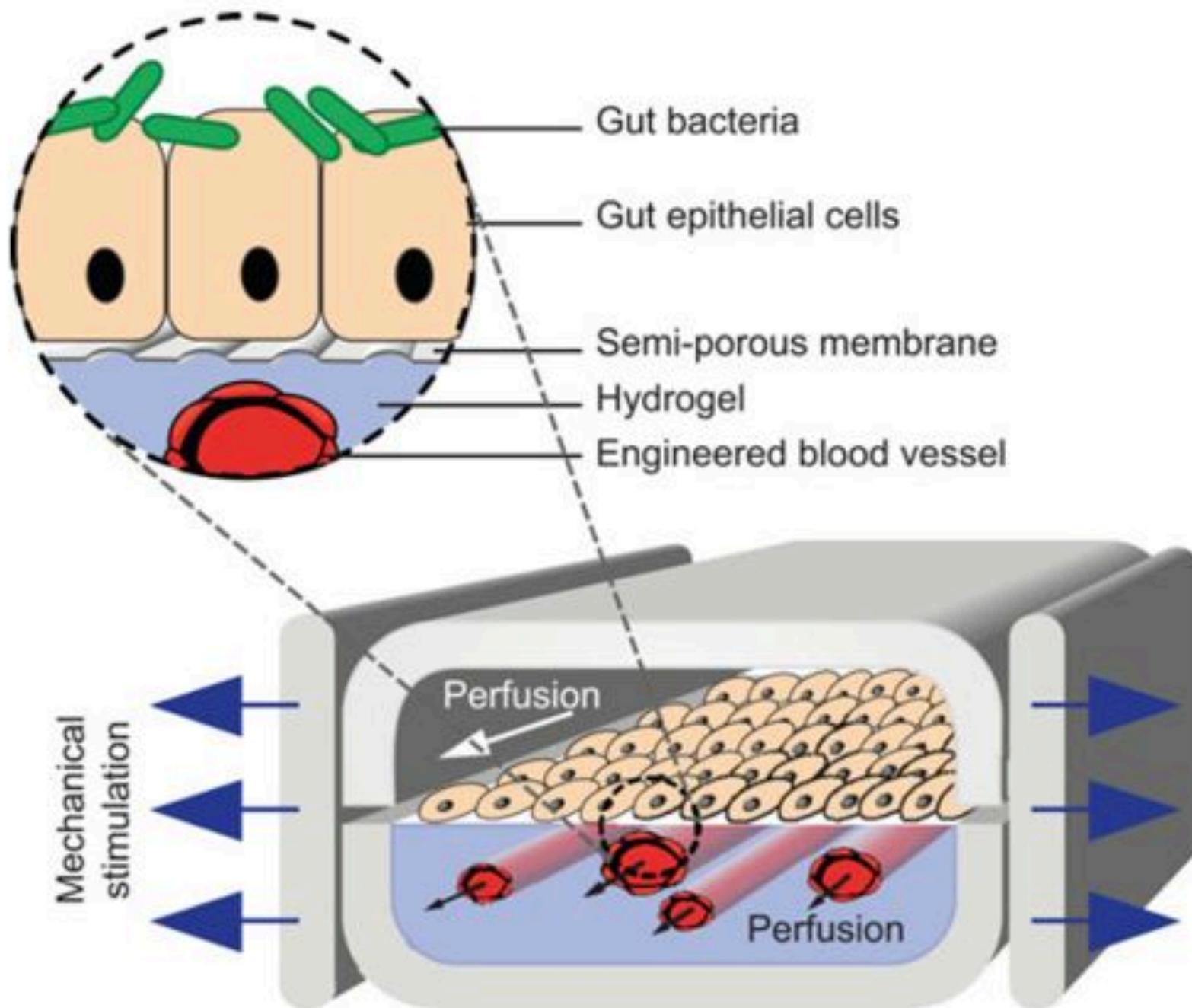
# Virtually any pattern and any signal possible





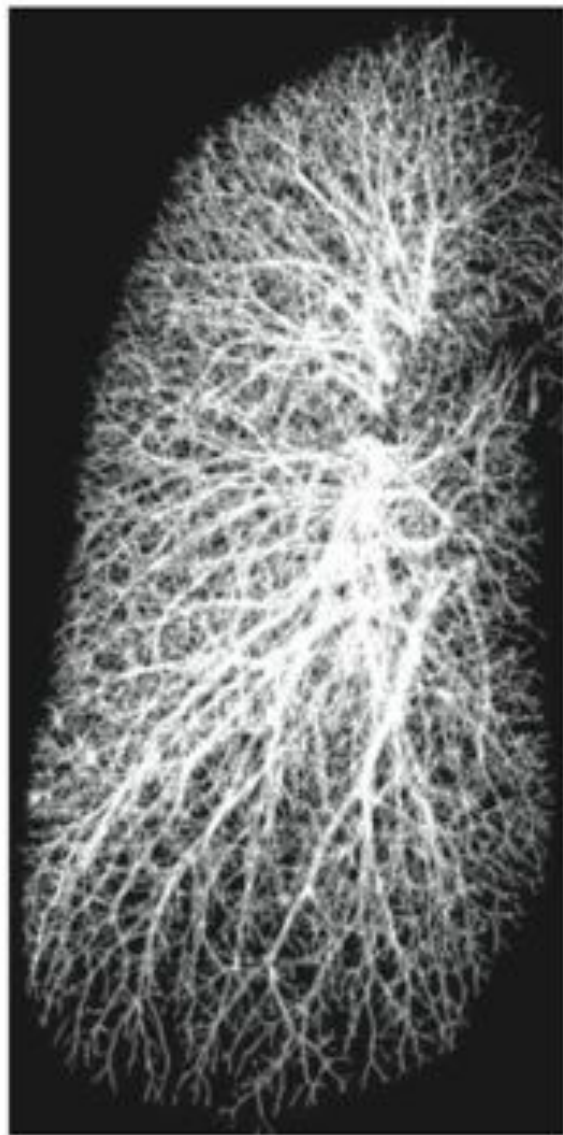
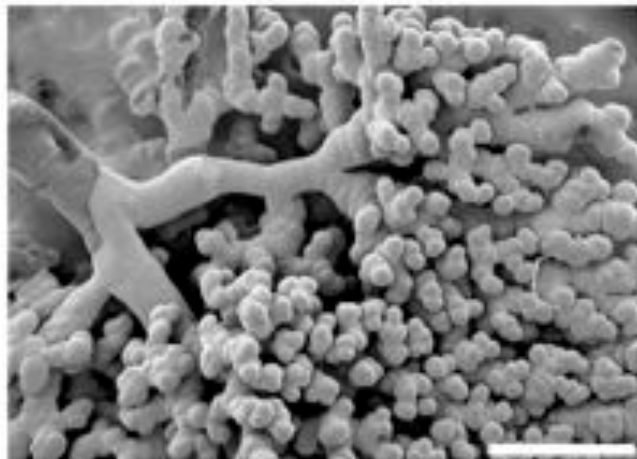
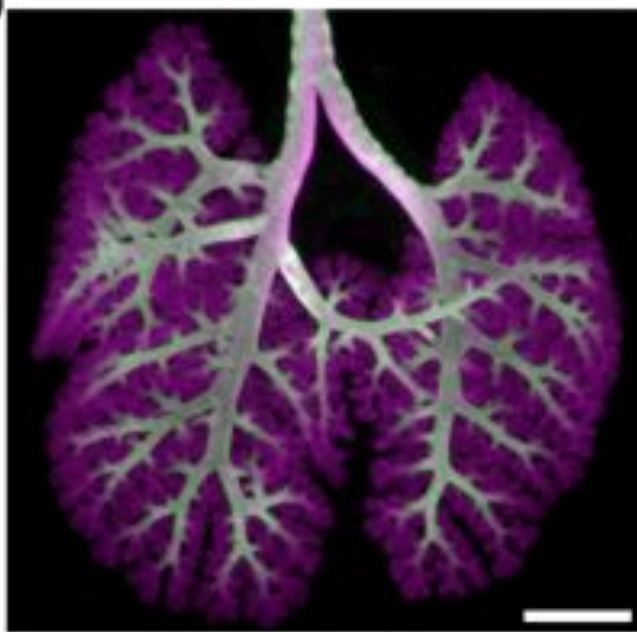


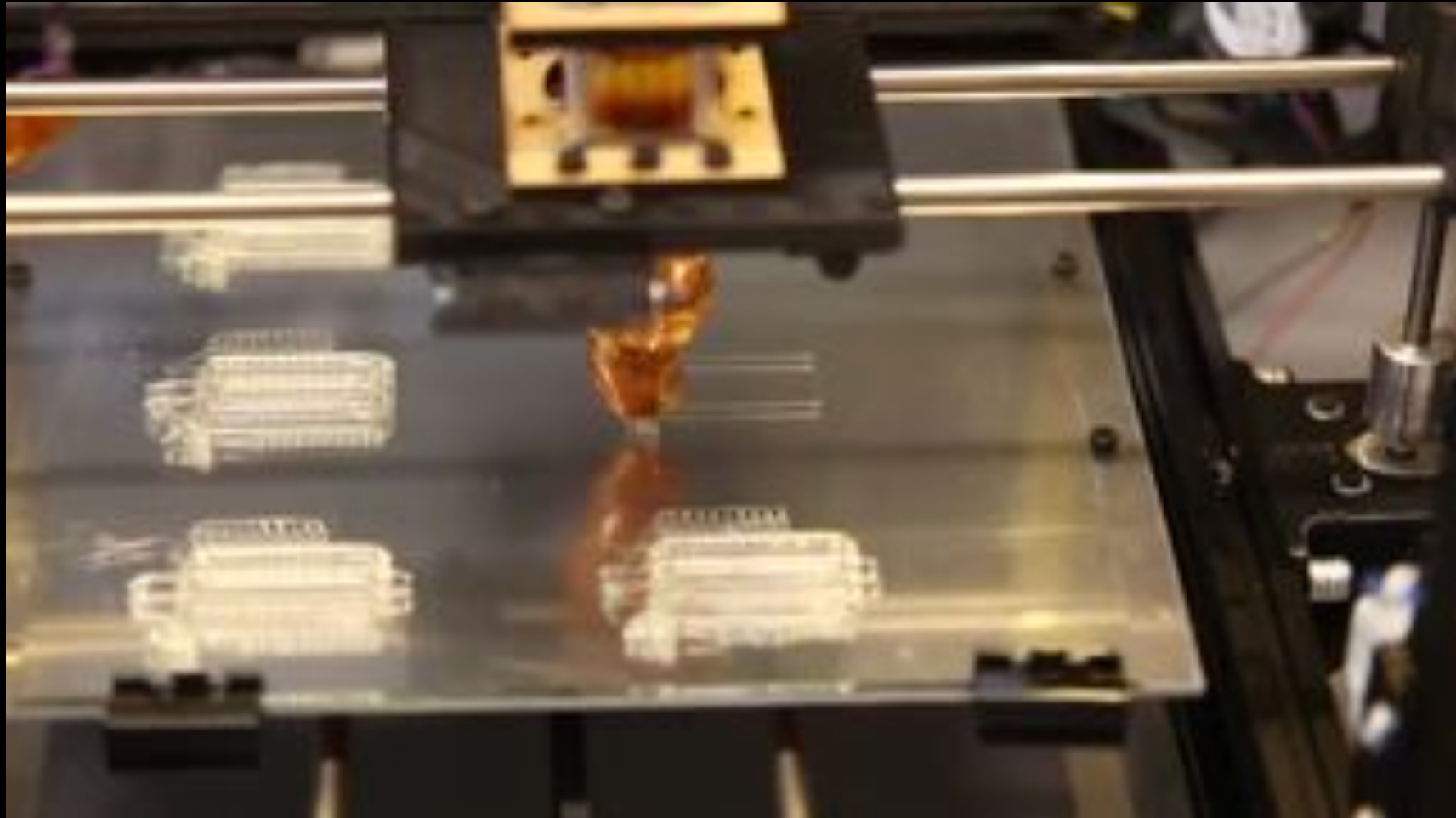




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**A****B****C****D**





Not quite there yet...

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**Questions?**