



**UNSW**  
SYDNEY

# Biomodulating Porous Nanomaterials for Oral Drug Delivery



**Dr. Tushar Kumeria, PhD**

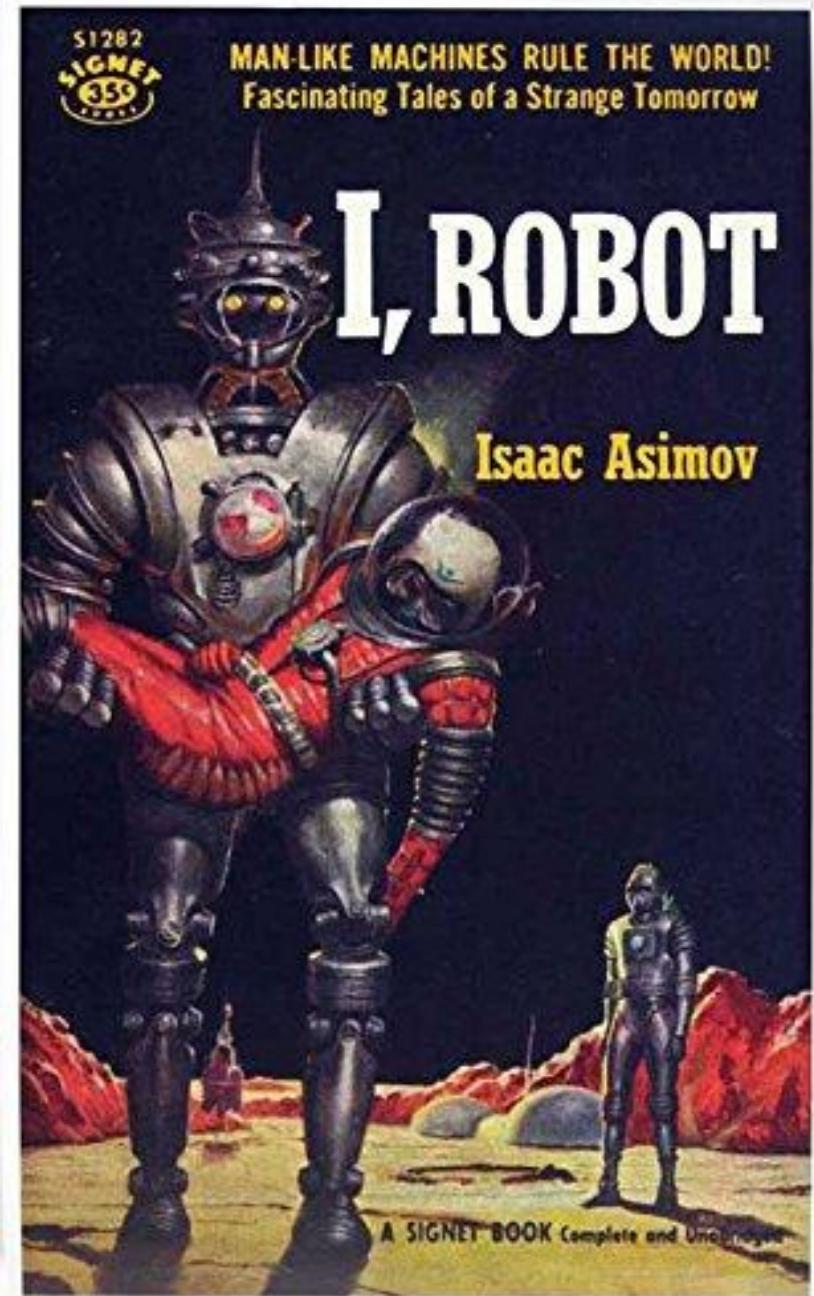
Scientia Senior Lecturer & Head of Porous Materials Lab

School of Materials Science and Engineering

Australian Centre for NanoMedicine

University of New South Wales-Sydney, Australia

# 3 Laws of Robotics

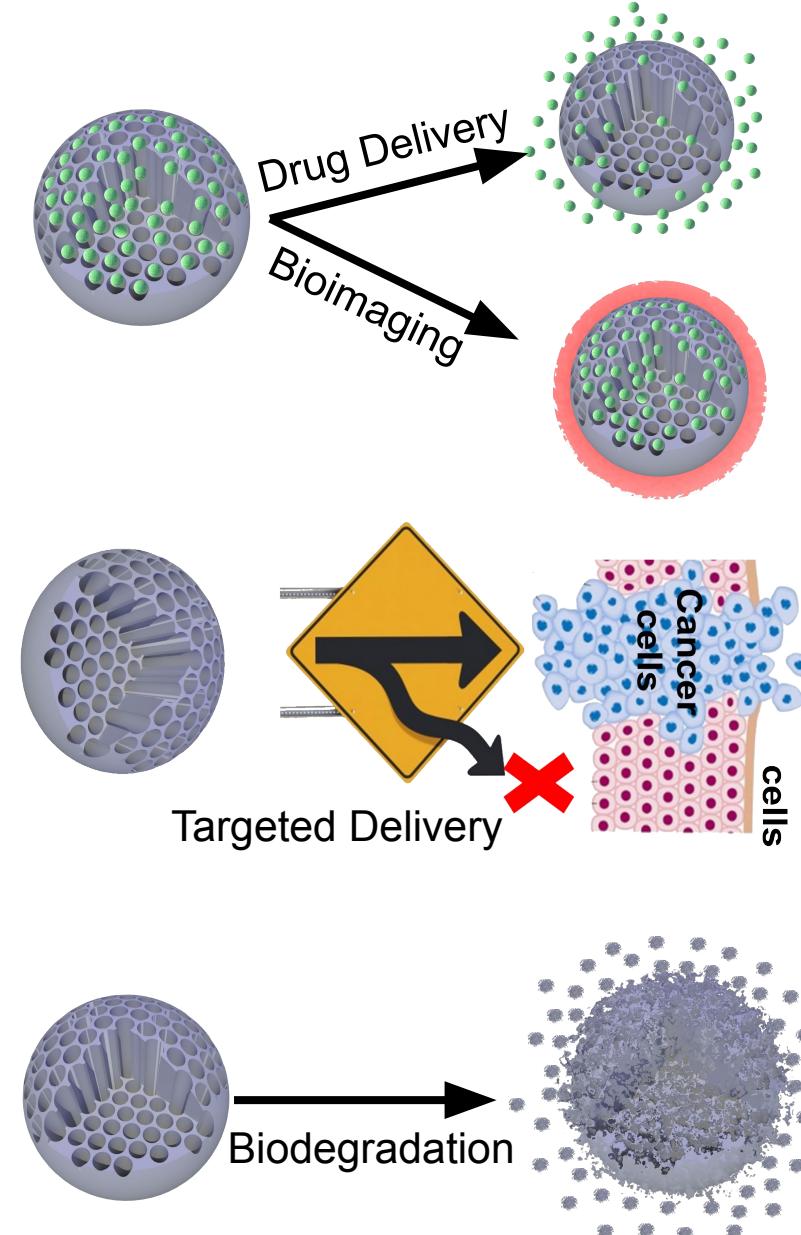


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# 3 Laws of Nanomedicine

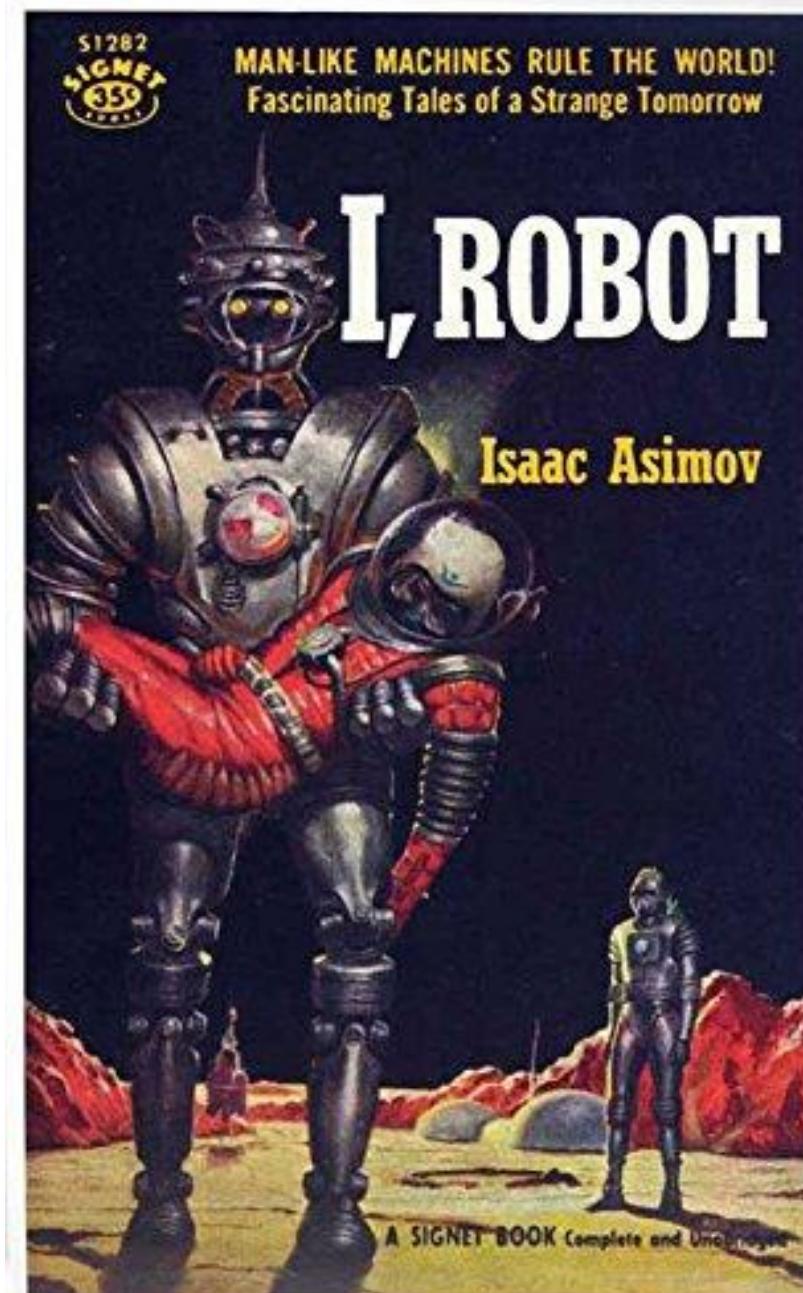


**Nanomedicine**, must achieve its intended function; i.e. diagnosis or therapeutic delivery or both.

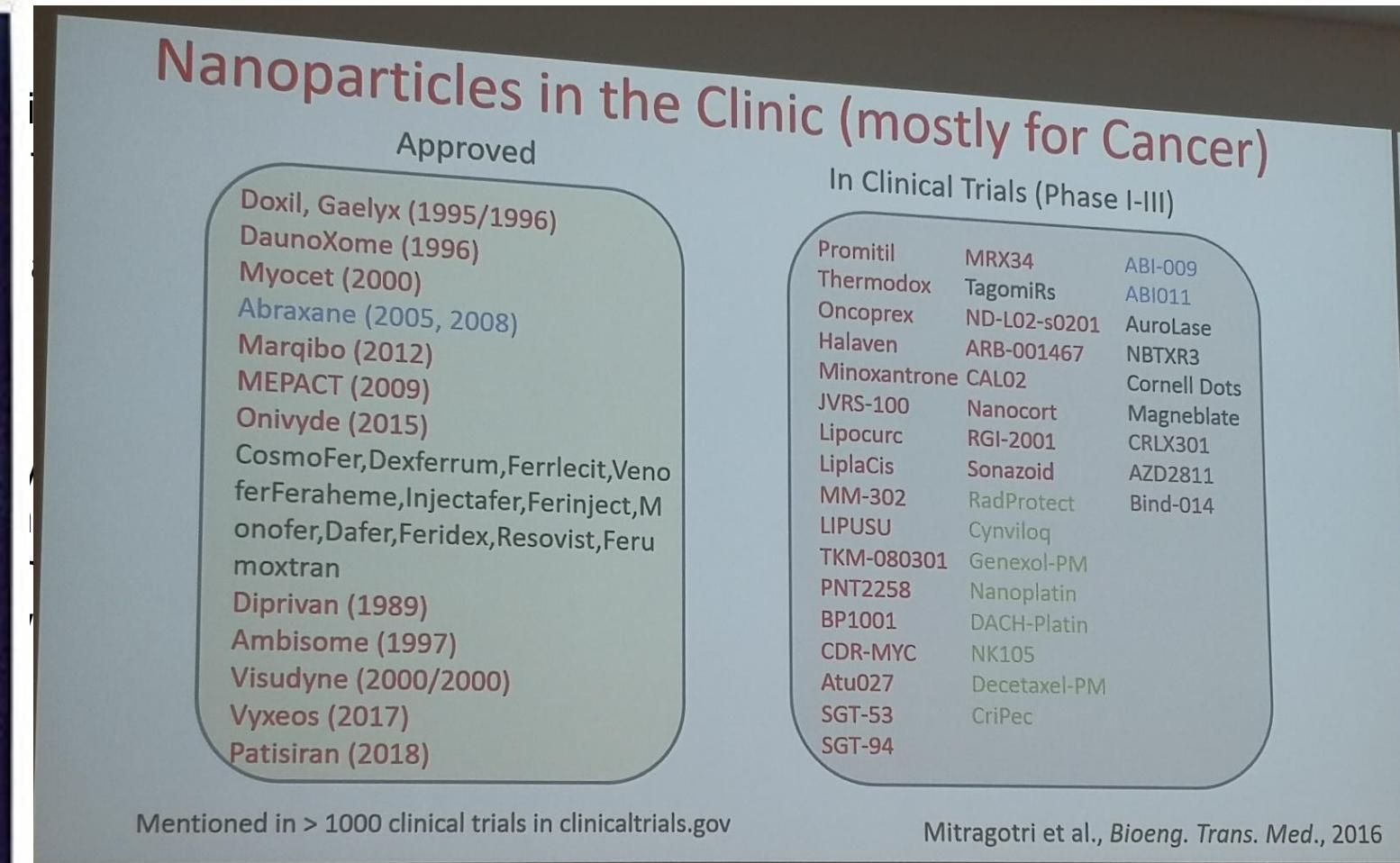
**Nanomedicine**, must only target the diseased/desired organ and not show any off-target effects.

**Nanomedicine**, must clear out after performing its intended function as non-toxic entities.

# 3 Laws of Robotics



# 3 Laws of Nanomedicine

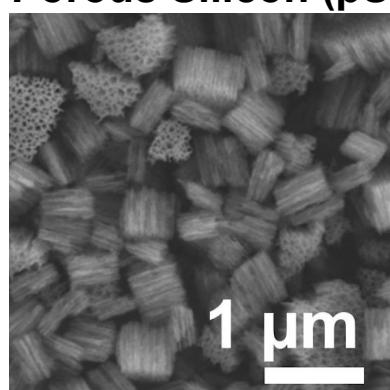


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Porous Silicon (pSi)



Kokil *et al* 2023

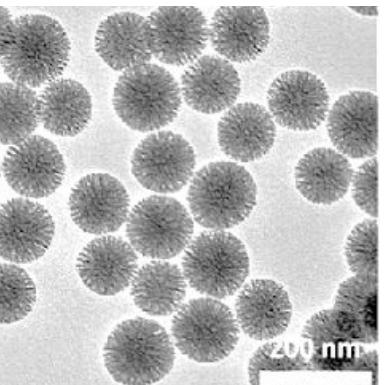
Raza *et al* Mater Today Adv 2022

Kumeria *et al* Sensors 2018 & 2022

Marini *et al* Adv Funct Mater 2020

Wang *et al* ACS APMI 2018

Mesoporous Silica (MSN)



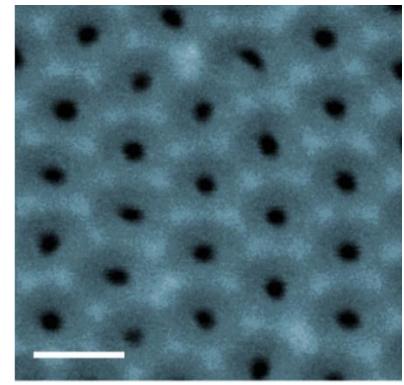
Cao *et al* Biomater Sci 2023

Raza *et al* Acta Biomater 2022

Altalhi *et al* Anal Chimica Acta 2021

Raza *et al* ACS Biomater Sci Eng 2021

Nanoporous Alumina (NAA)



Law *et al* Sens Actuate B 2022

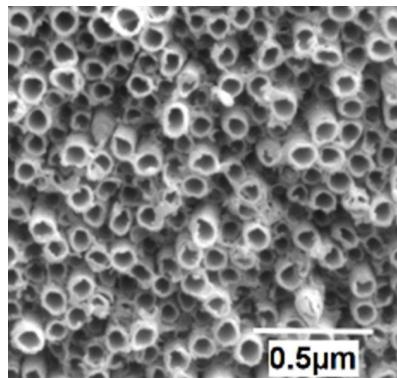
Kaur *et al* Anal Chem 2019

Eckstein *et al* JMC C 2019

Bindra *et al* Nanotechnology 2018

## Porous Nanomaterials in Kumeria Lab

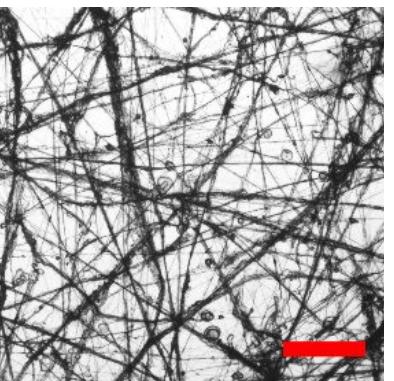
Titania Nanotubes (TiNTs)



Ali *et al* 2023 (under Revision)

Kumeria *et al* JMC B 2015

Composite Nanofibers

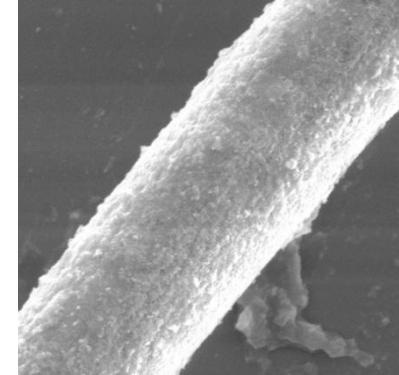


McKeena *et al* Biofab 2023

Bakshi *et al* Adv Funct Mater 2022

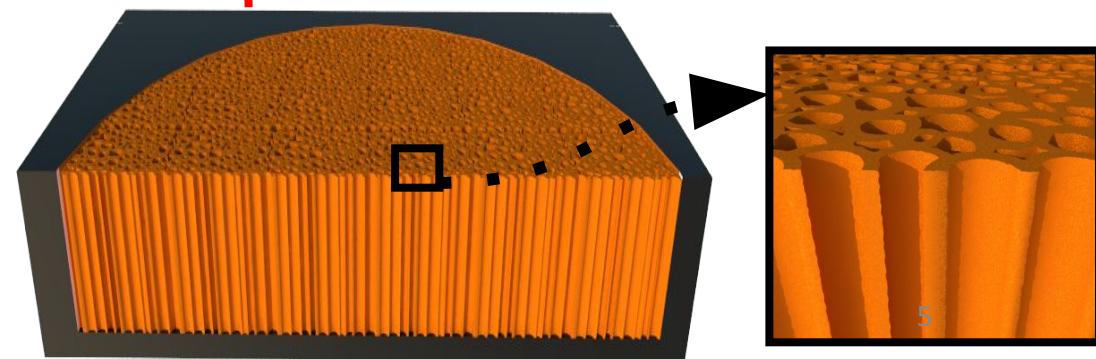
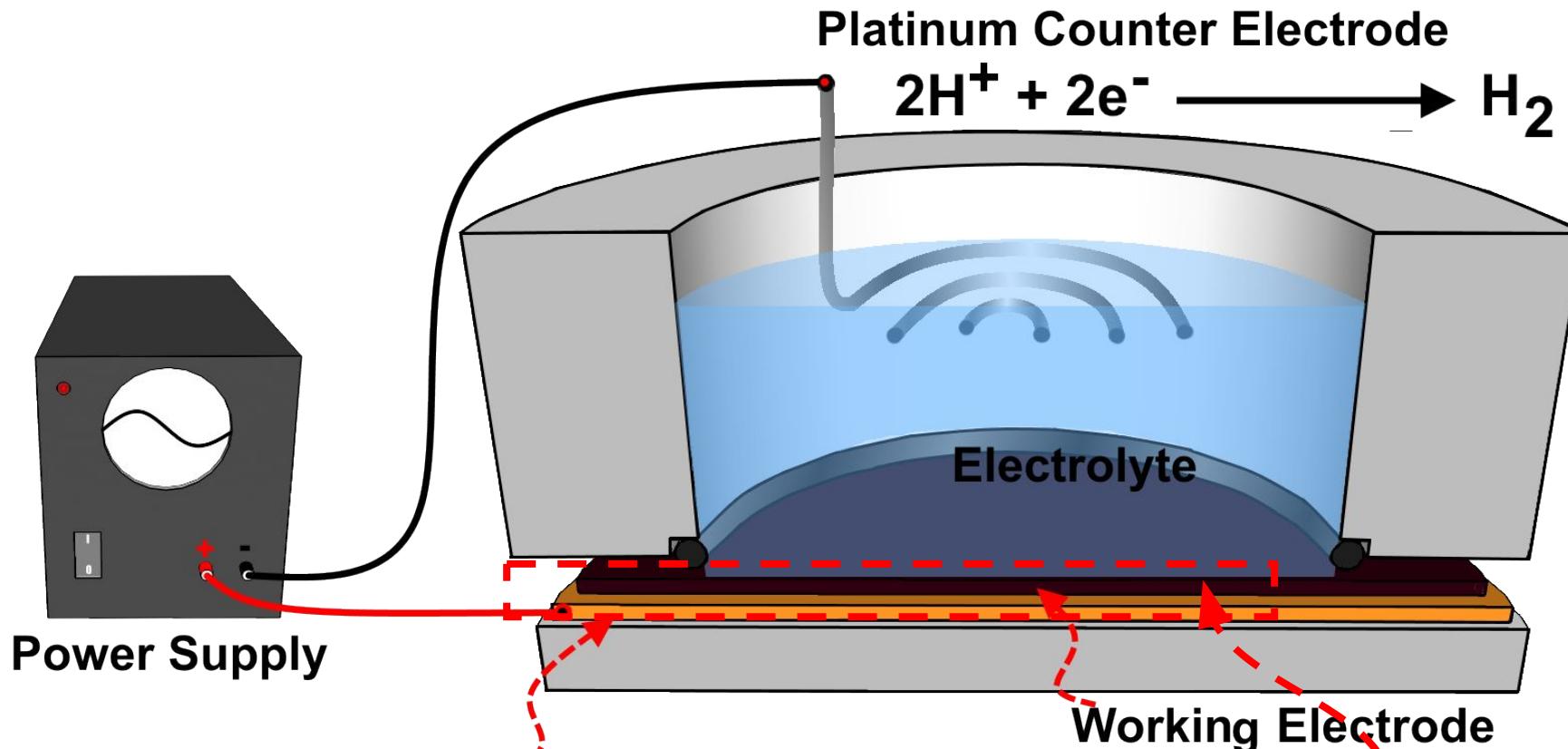
Zuidema *et al* Adv Mater 2018

Porous Silicon Microrods (pSi-MR)



Coming Soon...

# Fabrication: Electrochemical Anodization



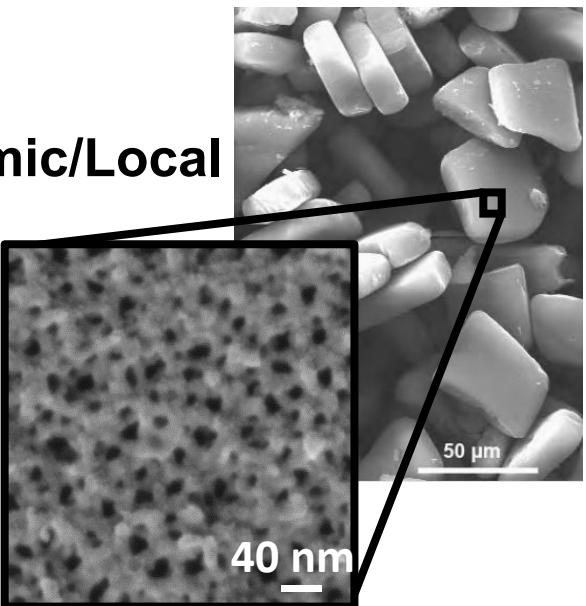
# Fabrication: Porous Silicon



# Porous Silicon

## Drug Delivery

- Oral Delivery/Systemic/Local Delivery
- Protein
- Small Molecules
- Genes

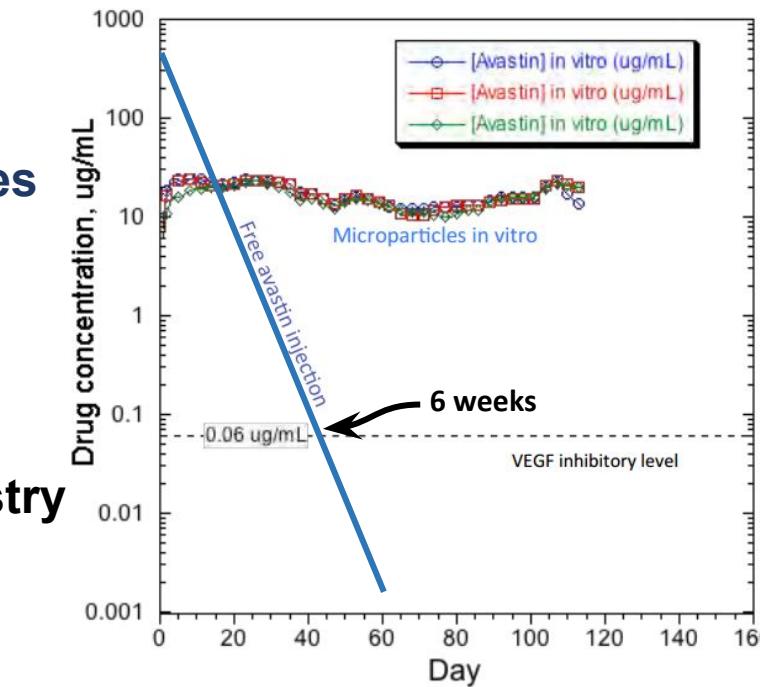


- Cytocompatibility
- High loading capacity
- Tunable release profiles
- Biodegradability
- Tunable pore structure
- Tunable surface chemistry

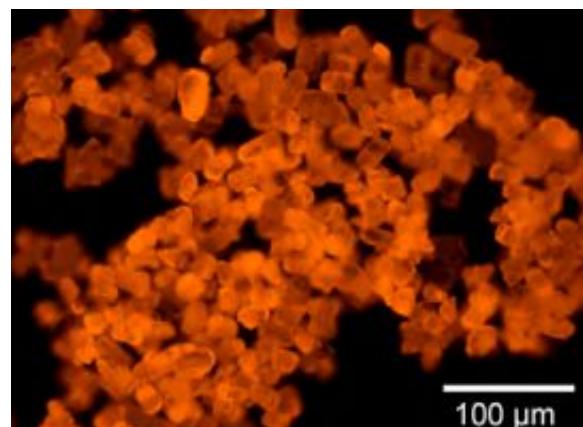
## Tissue Engineering

## Bioimaging

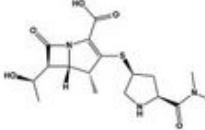
## Sensing



- Tunable photoluminescence



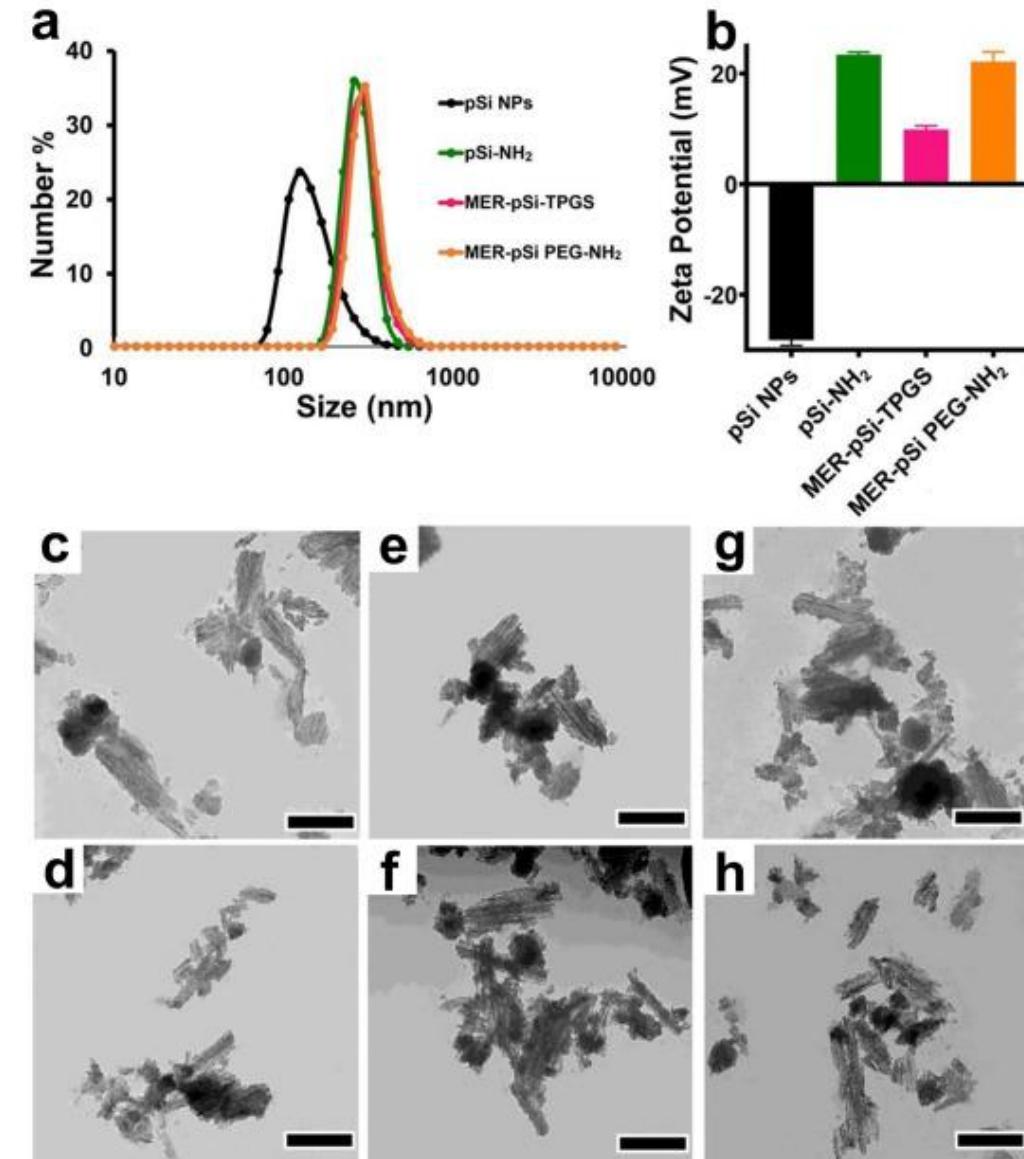
# 1. Oral Meropenem Delivery Using pSi-PEG

Name	Structure	Molecular formula	Production	Half-life (hour)	water solubility
Meropenem		C <sub>17</sub> -H <sub>25</sub> -N <sub>3</sub> -O <sub>5</sub> -S-H <sub>2</sub> -O	Synthetic	1.0	5.63 mg/mL

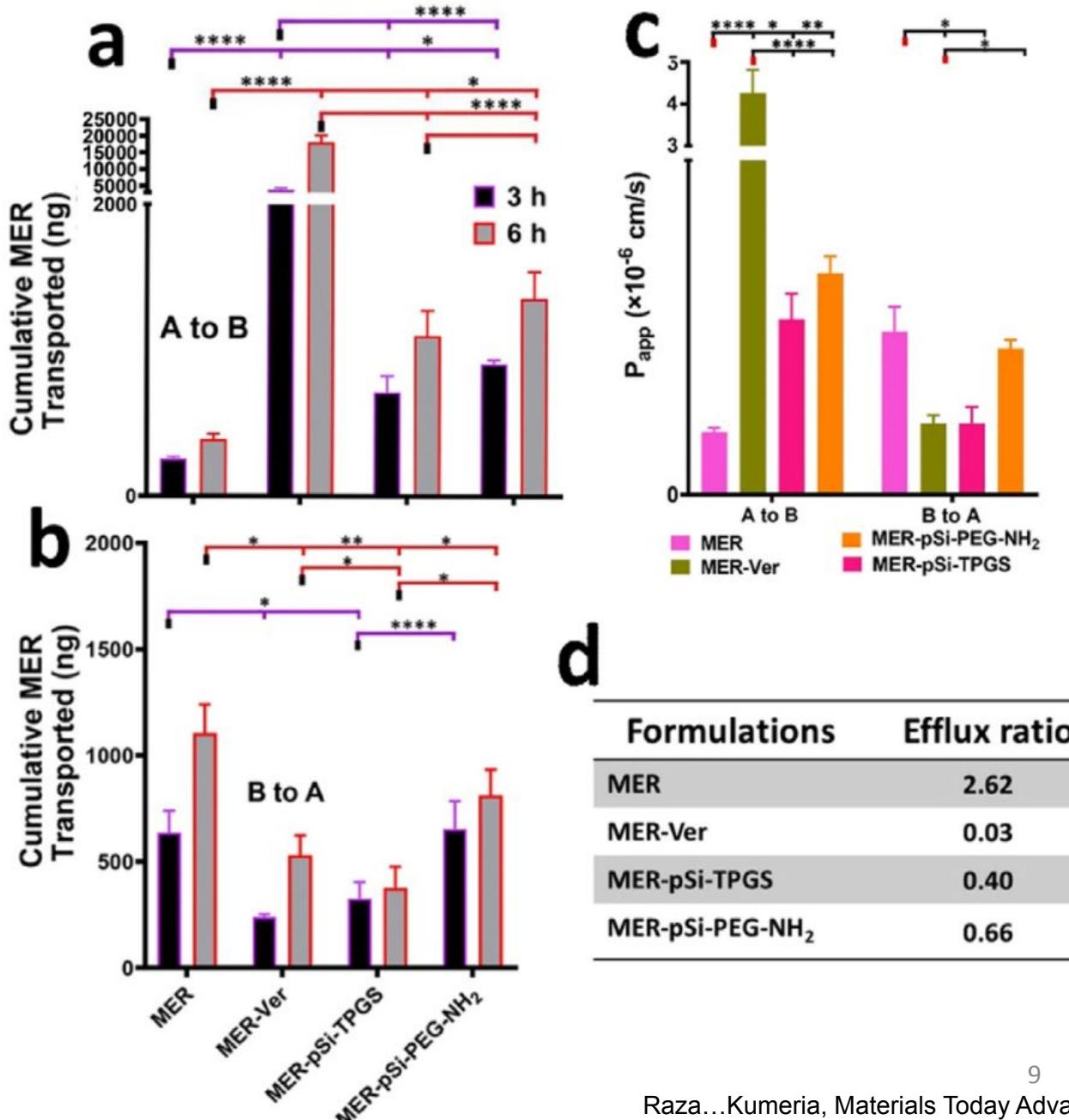
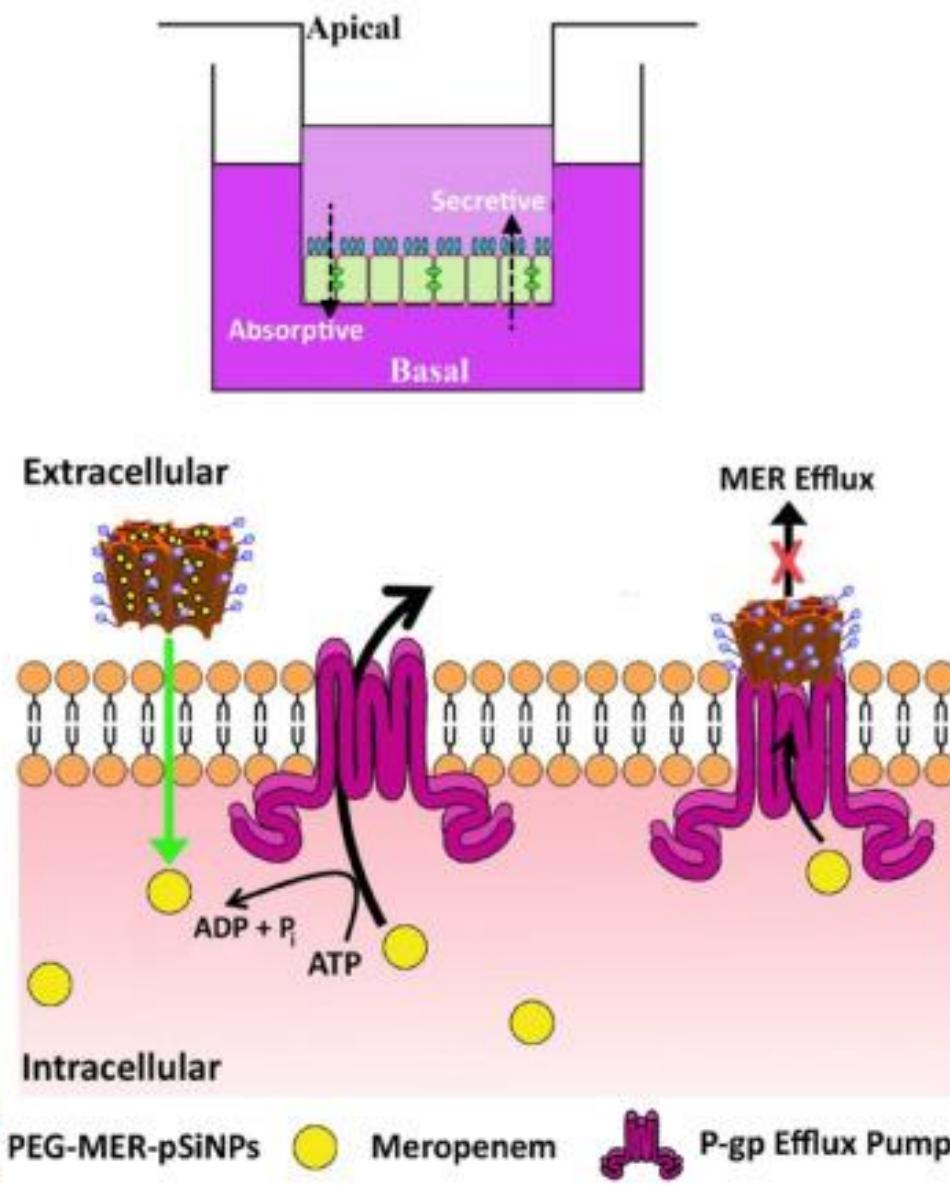
## Intestinal Efflux

## Degradation

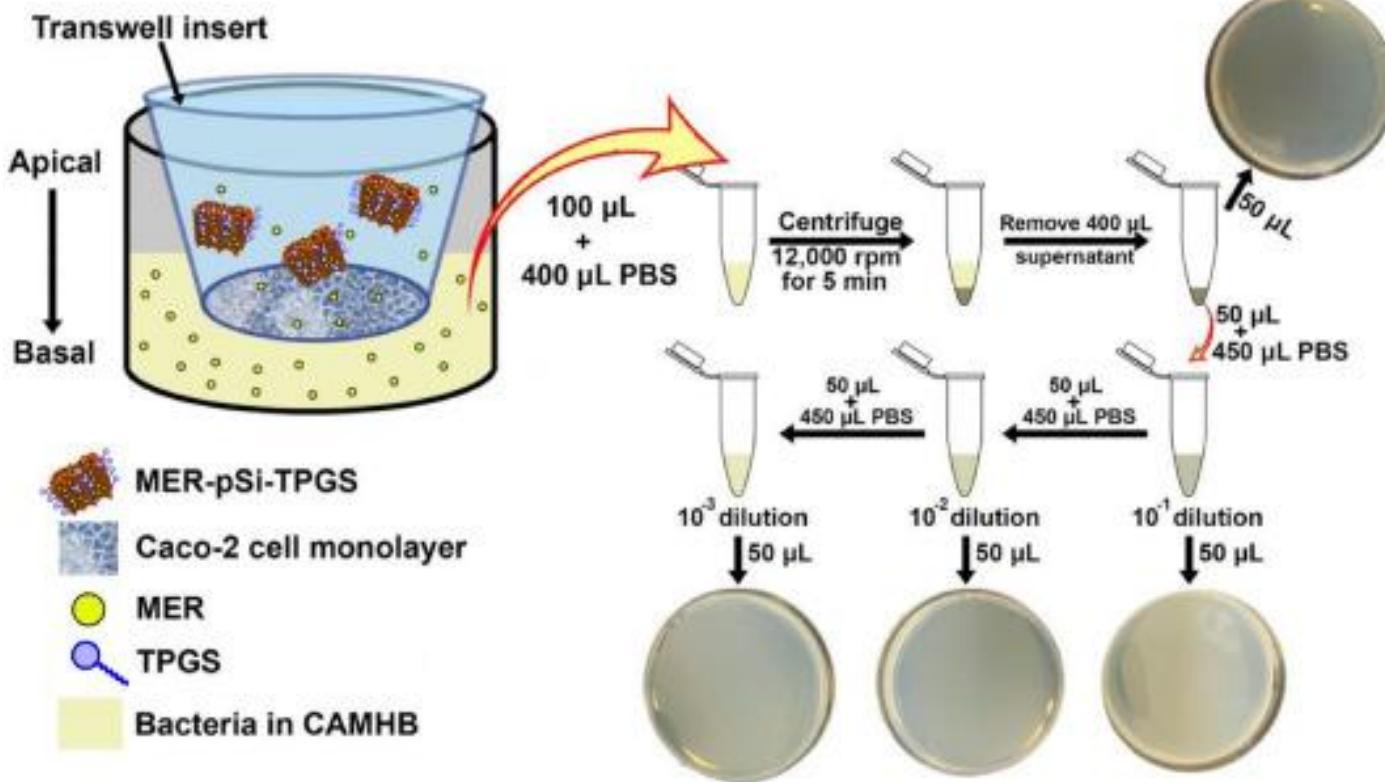
## Controlled release



# pSi-PEG for Efflux Regulation

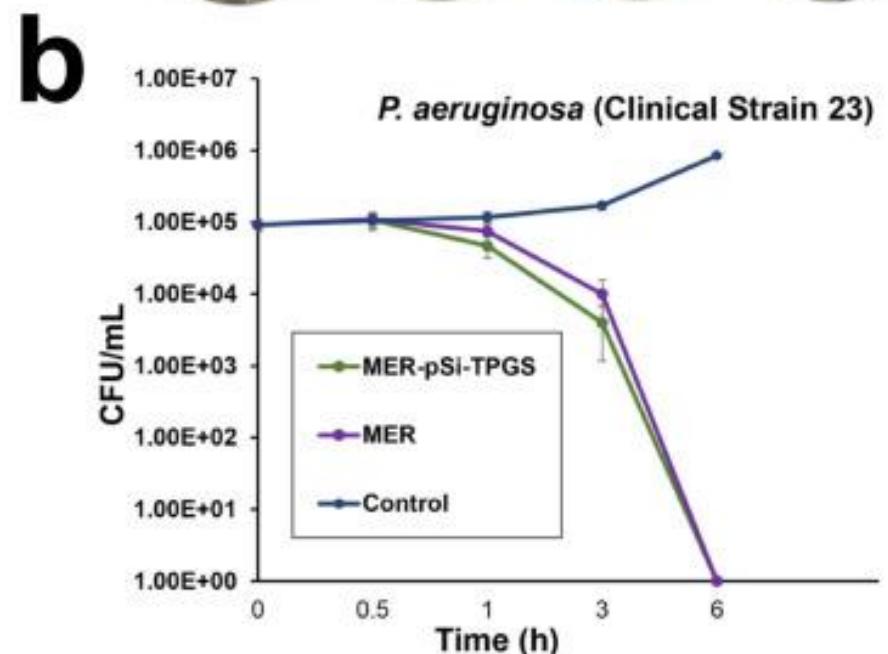
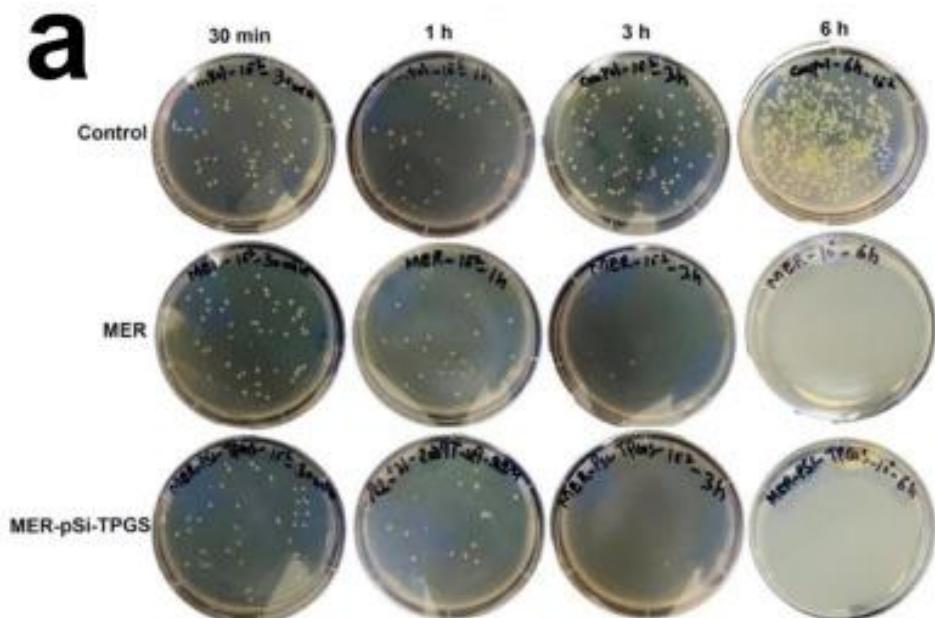


# MER activity retention



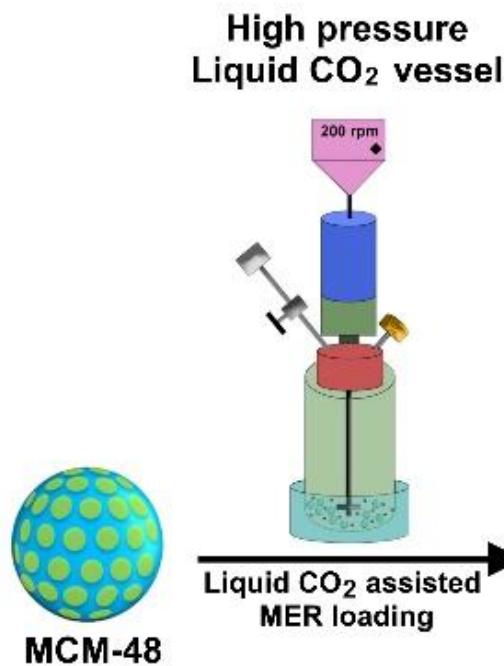
Intestinal Efflux ✓

Controlled release ✗



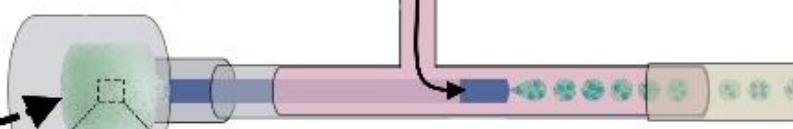
## 2. Biomodulating Microspheres for oral Meropenem

### a Drug loading in MCM



### b Pomegranate like Microsphere synthesis

Acidic aqueous PVA (2 wt %)

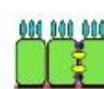


Eudragit<sup>®</sup> dispersed  
MER-MCM

MER

Intact Eudragit<sup>®</sup>  
-MER-MCM

Dissolved Eudragit<sup>®</sup>  
-MER-MCM



Caco2 monolayer

Eudragit<sup>®</sup>-MCM  
micro-pomegranate



Alive Bacteria



Dead Bacteria

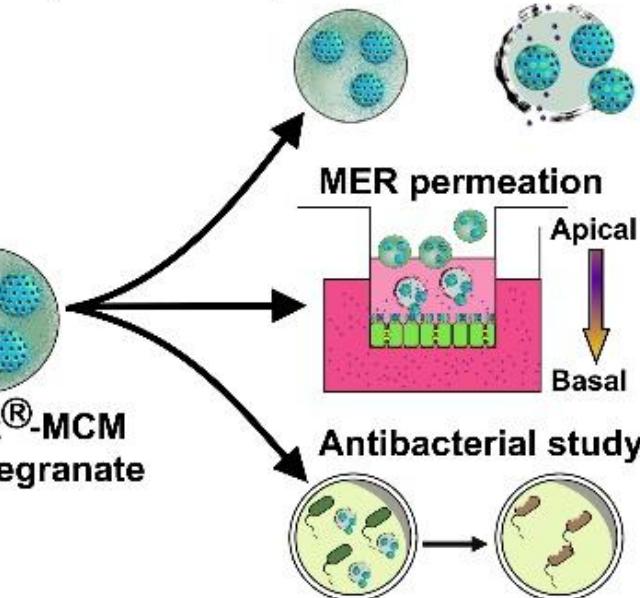
a

b

c

### Efficacy testing

Time dependent and pH responsive release



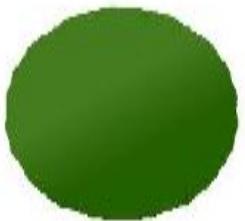
22G Needle (Dispersed phase)

18G Needle (Continuous phase)

Tubing to collection vial

Medium/buffer

# Mesoporous Silica Nanoparticles (MSN)



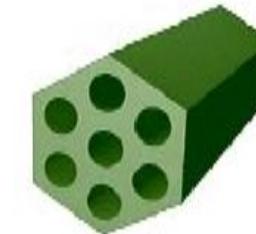
**Solids**  
(S)



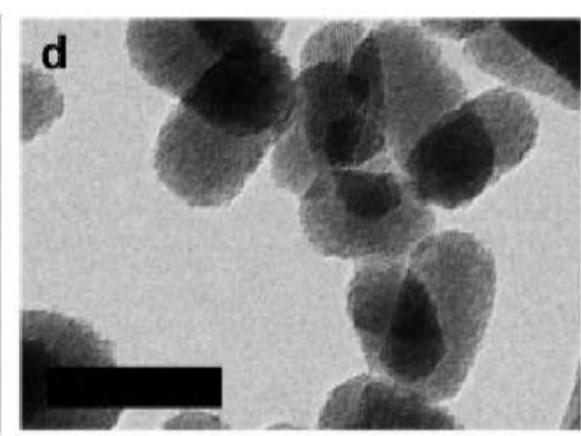
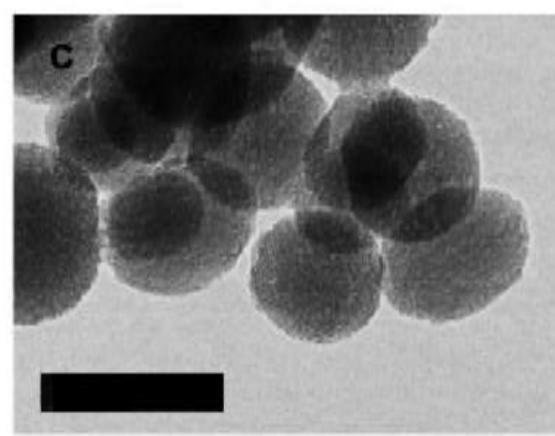
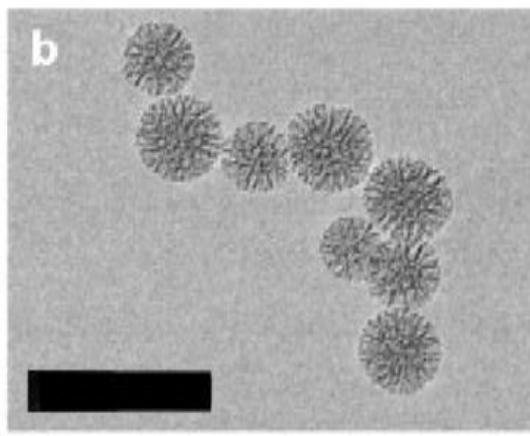
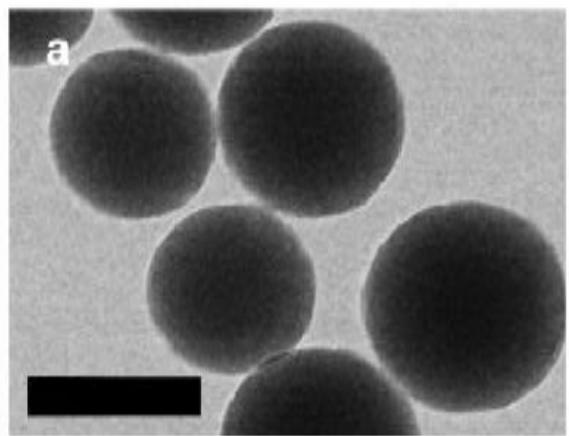
**Dendritics**  
(D)



**MCM-41**  
(M)



**Rods**  
(R)

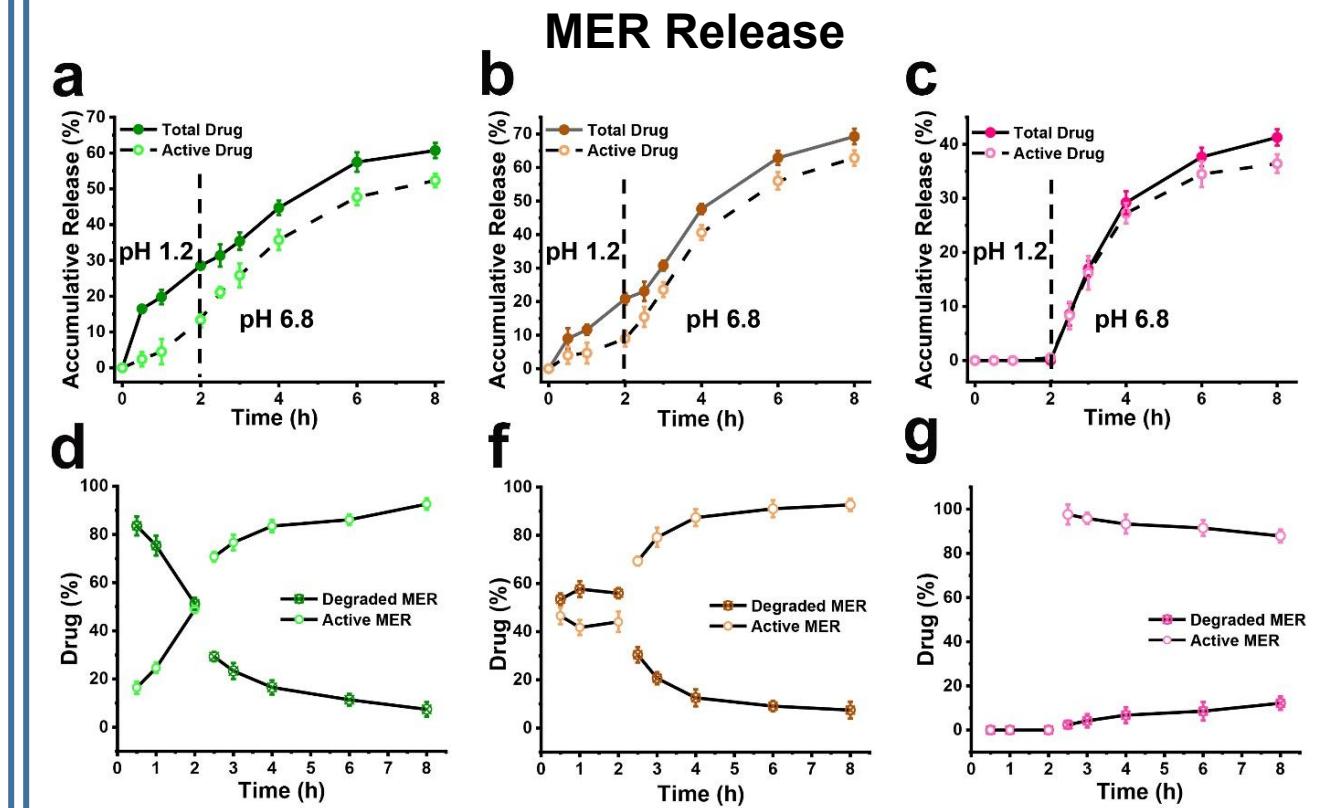
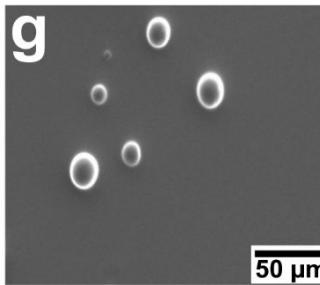
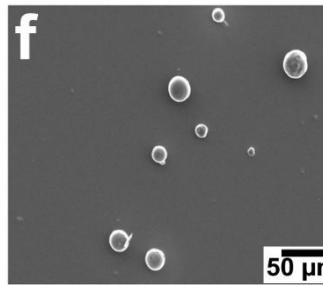
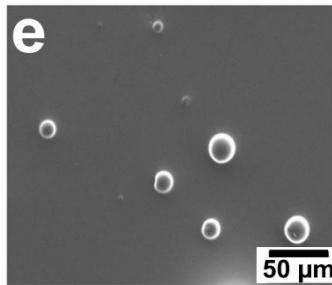
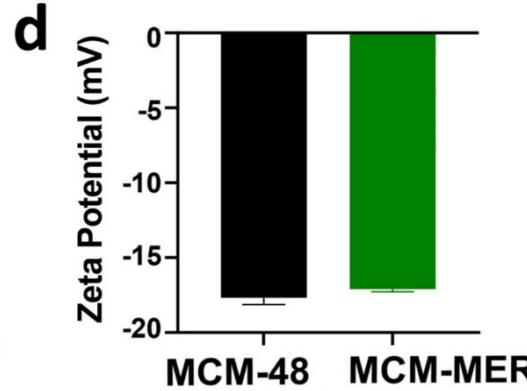
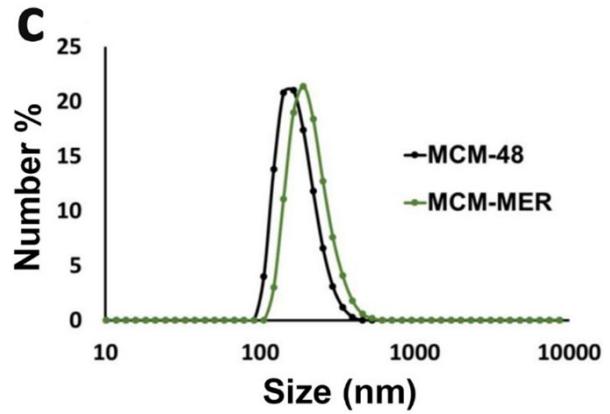
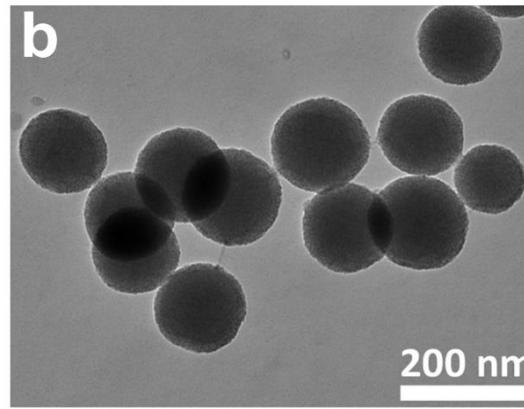
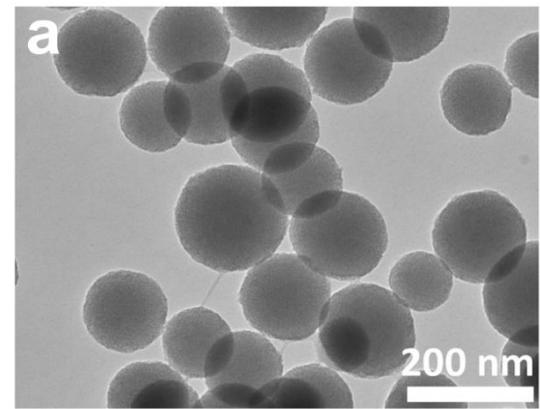


## Structure and Morphology

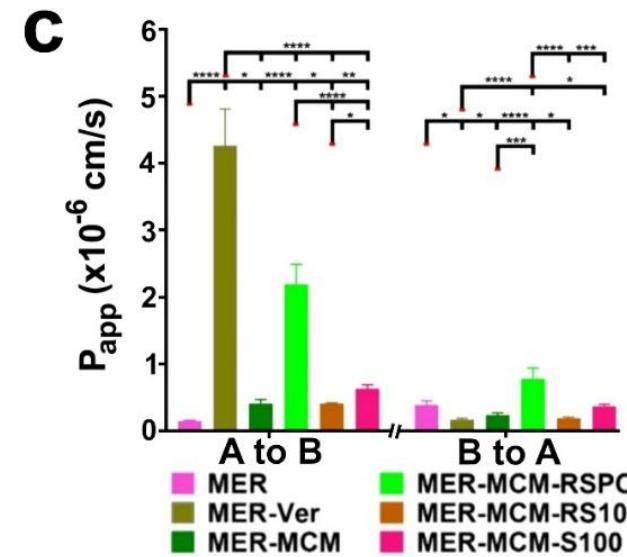
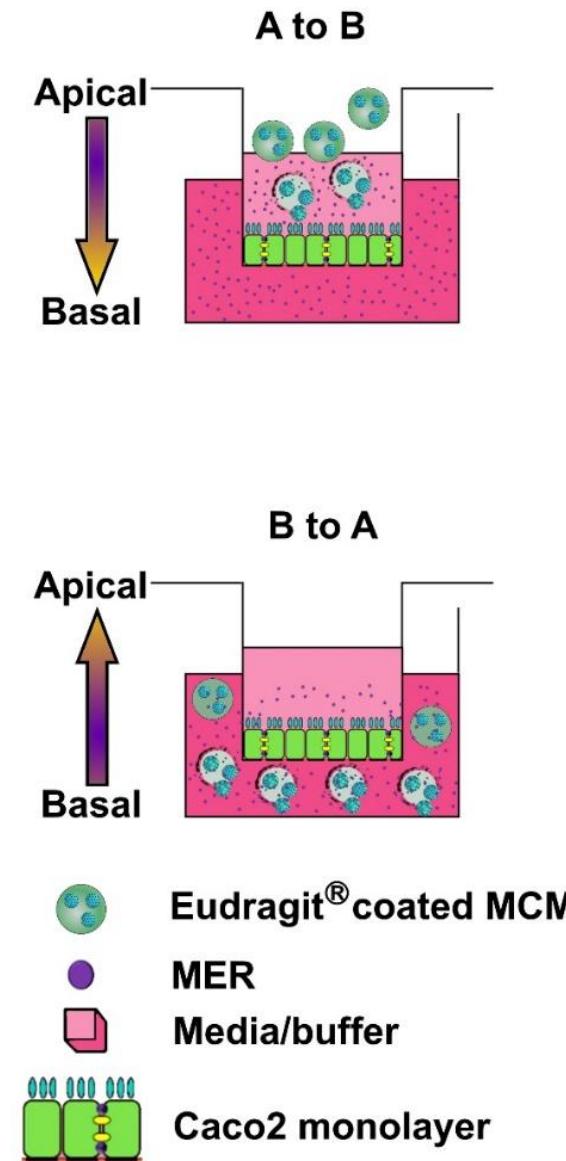
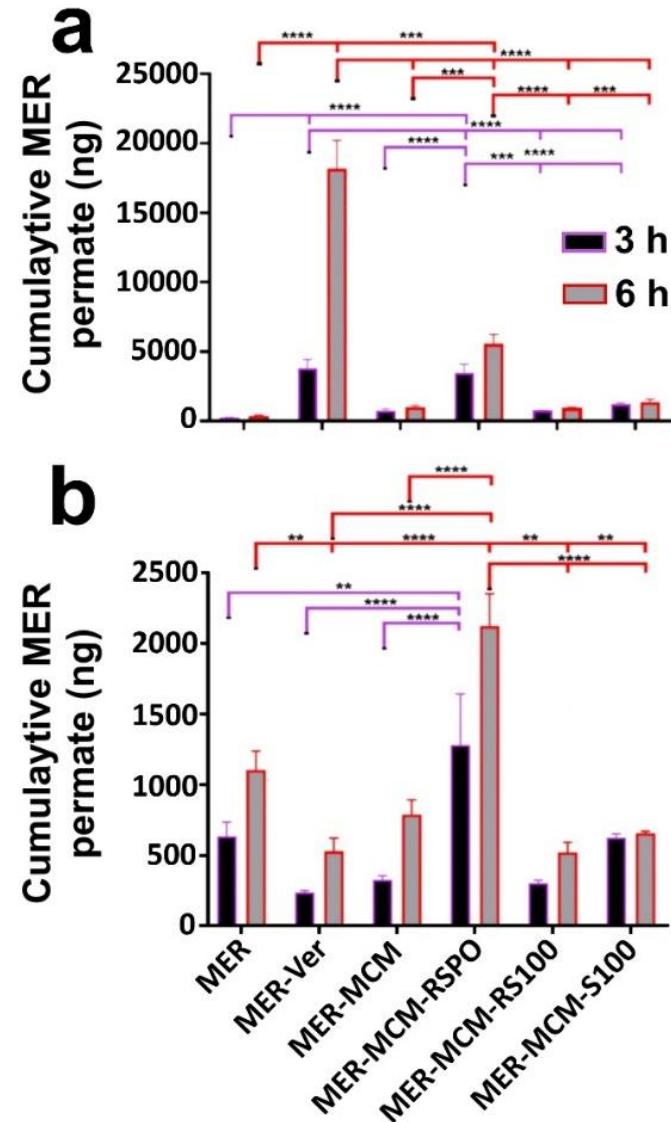
Large scale production

# MCM-48/Eudragit® Microspheres

## Particle size and surface charge



# MCM-48/Eudragit® Microspheres



**d**

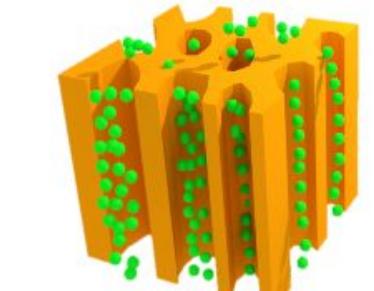
Formulations	Efflux ratio
MER	5.31
MER-Ver	0.09
MER-MCM	1.23
MER-RSPO	0.71
MER-RS100	0.96
MER-S100	0.99

Intestinal Efflux ✓  
Controlled release ✓

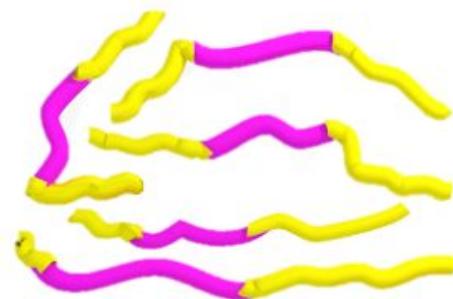
# pSi/Hydrogel Composite

**a**

Drug loaded pSi



+

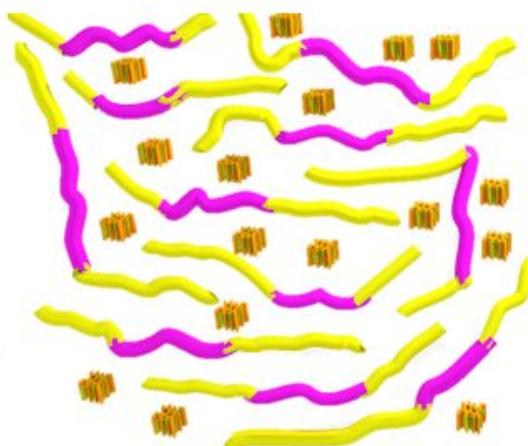


Poloxamer 407

Mixing

**b**

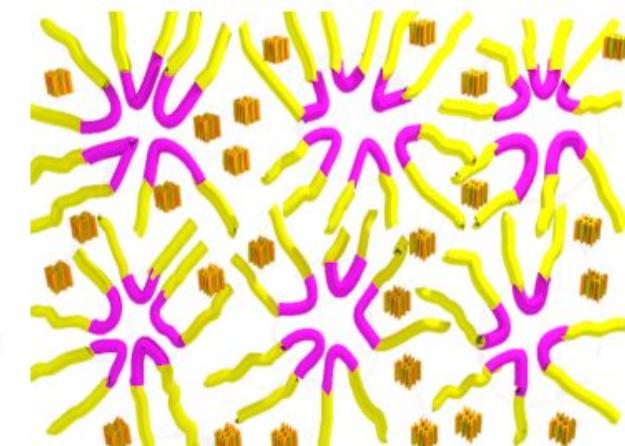
Storage at 4 - 8 °C



MF@pSi-HG (Liq-state)

Intra-nasal Spray (30-34 °C)

Spraying  
Δ



MF@pSi-HG (Gel state)

**c**



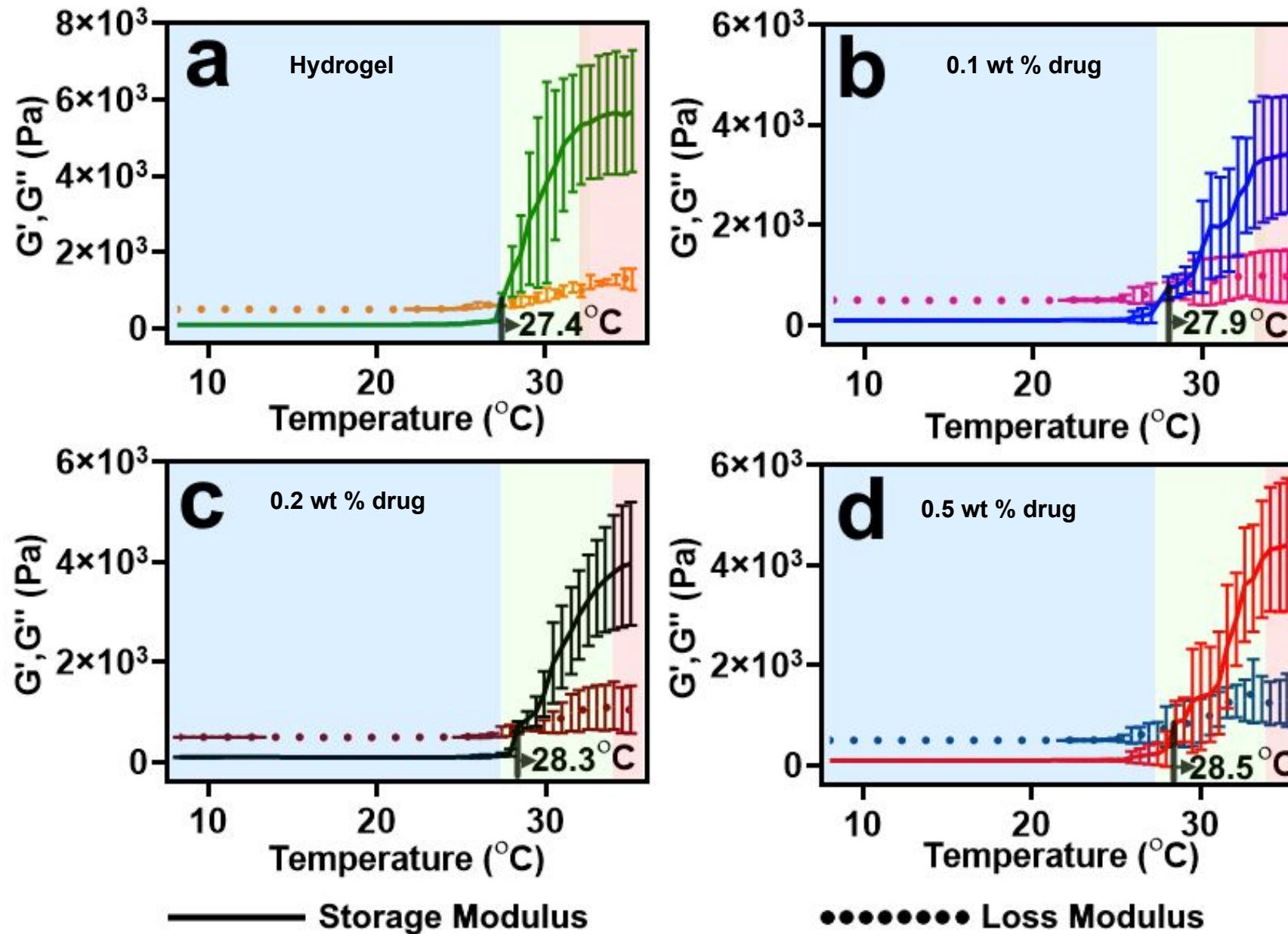
Liquid at 8 °C

Thermoresponsive  
Gelling of MF@pSi-HG

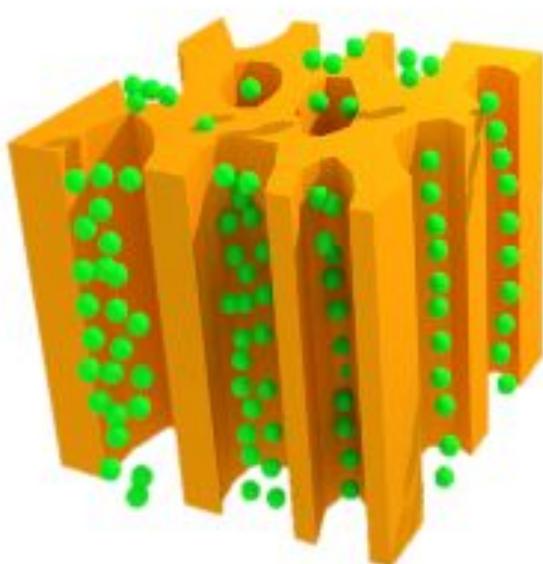
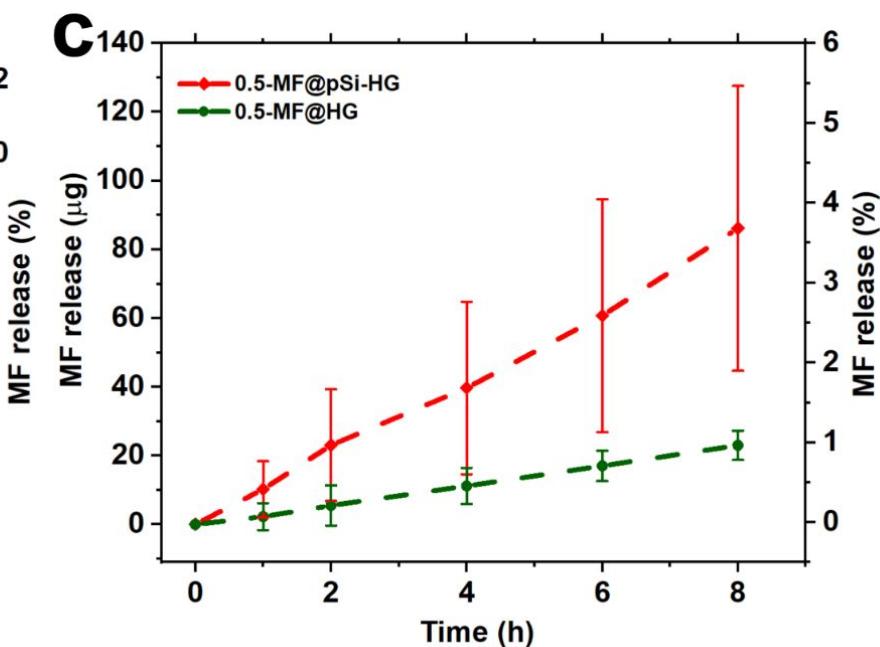
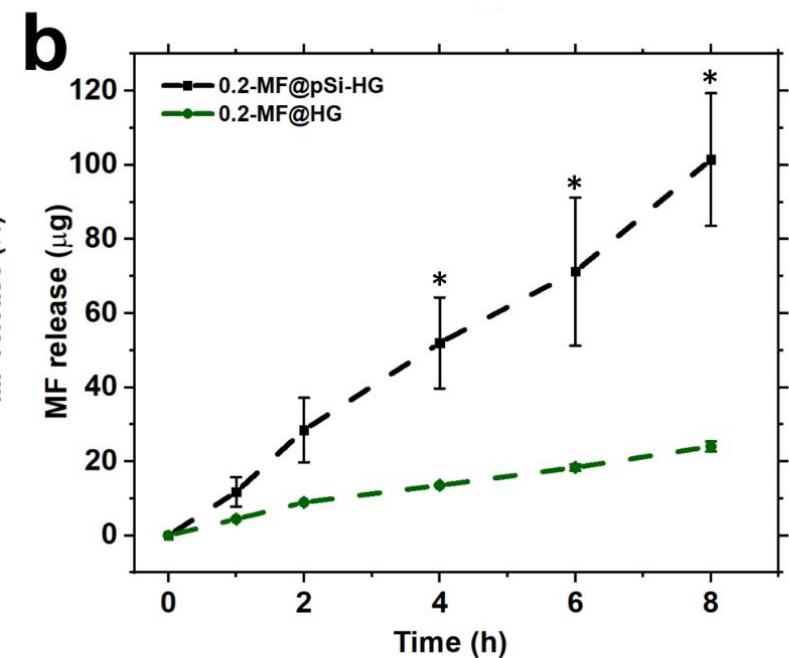
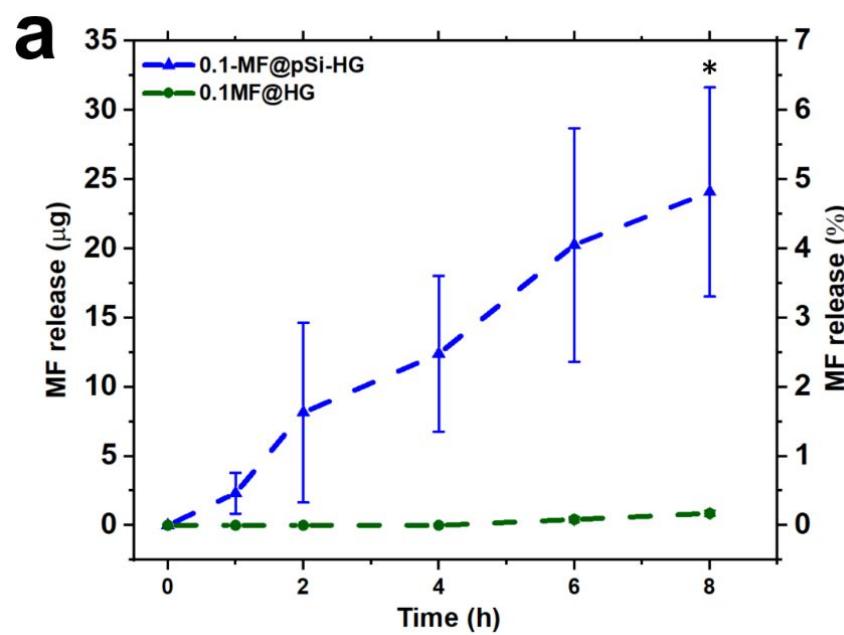


Gel at 32 °C

# pSi/hydrogel Composite

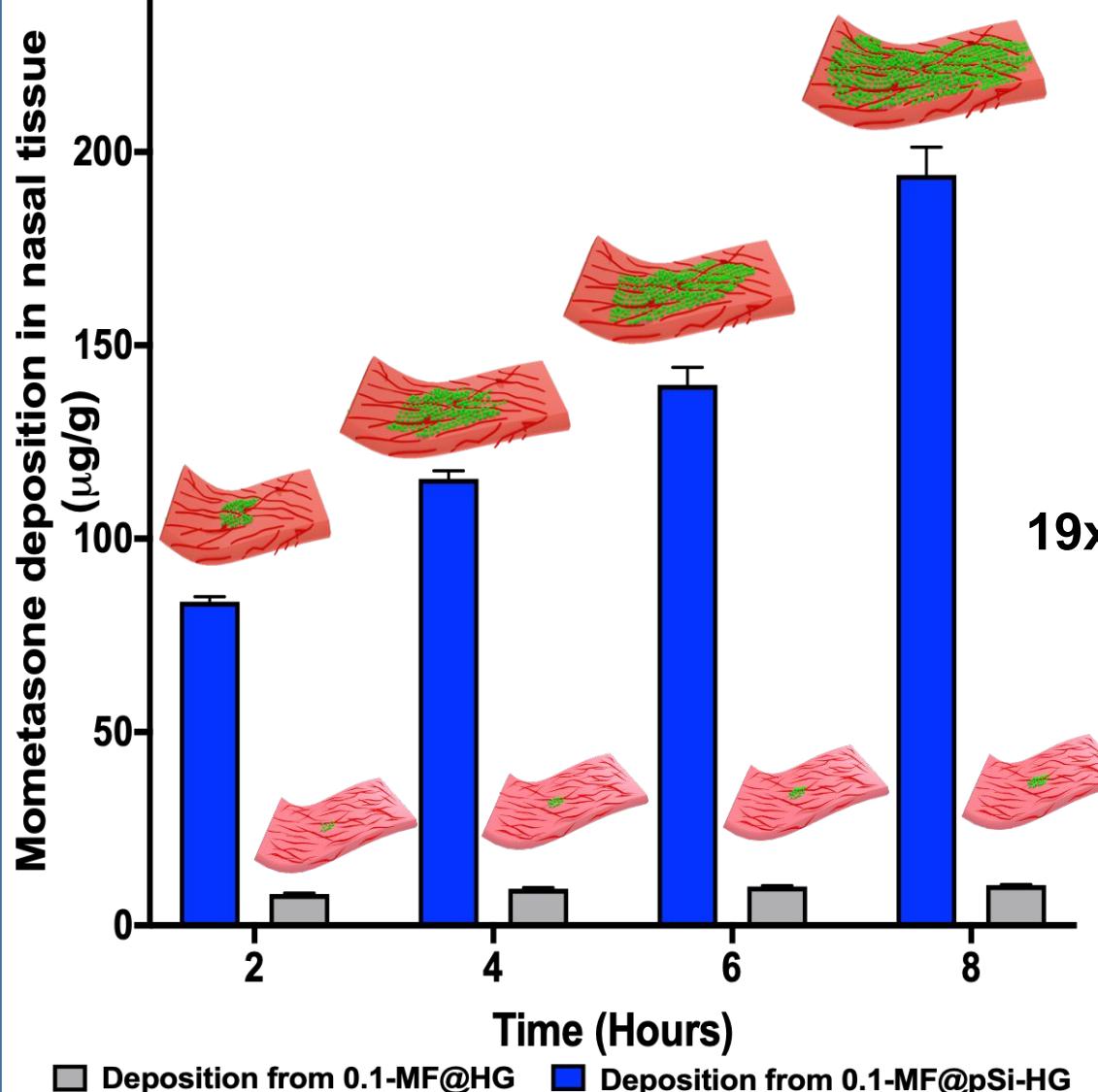


# MF release in SNF

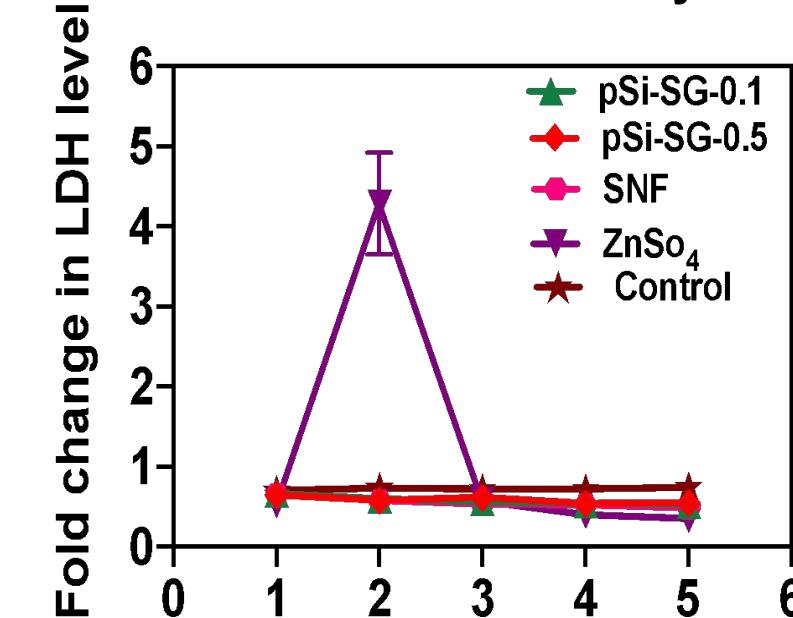


# pSi/Hydrogel Composite

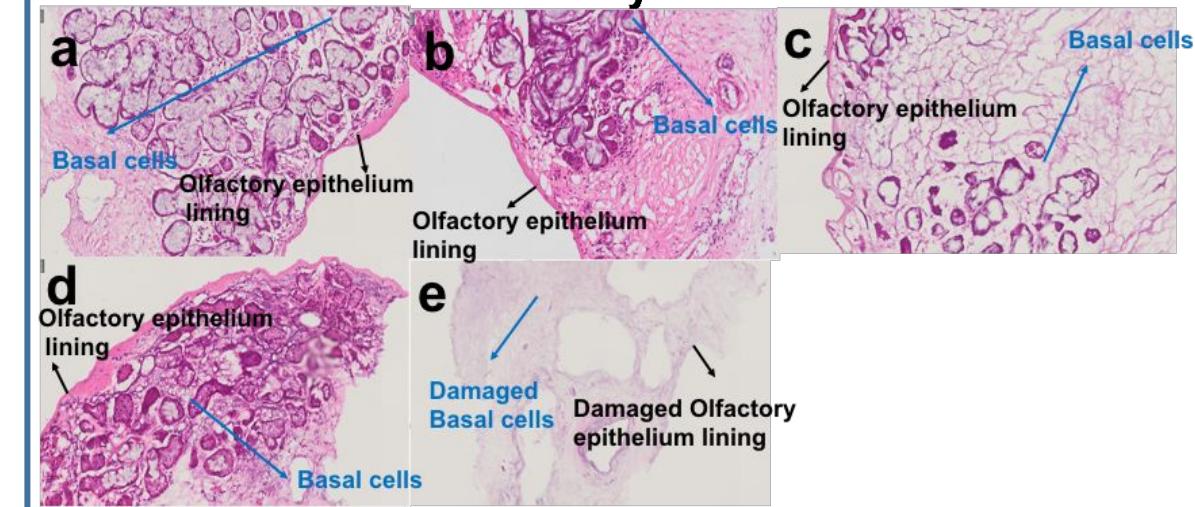
## MF Deposition in human Nasal Tissue



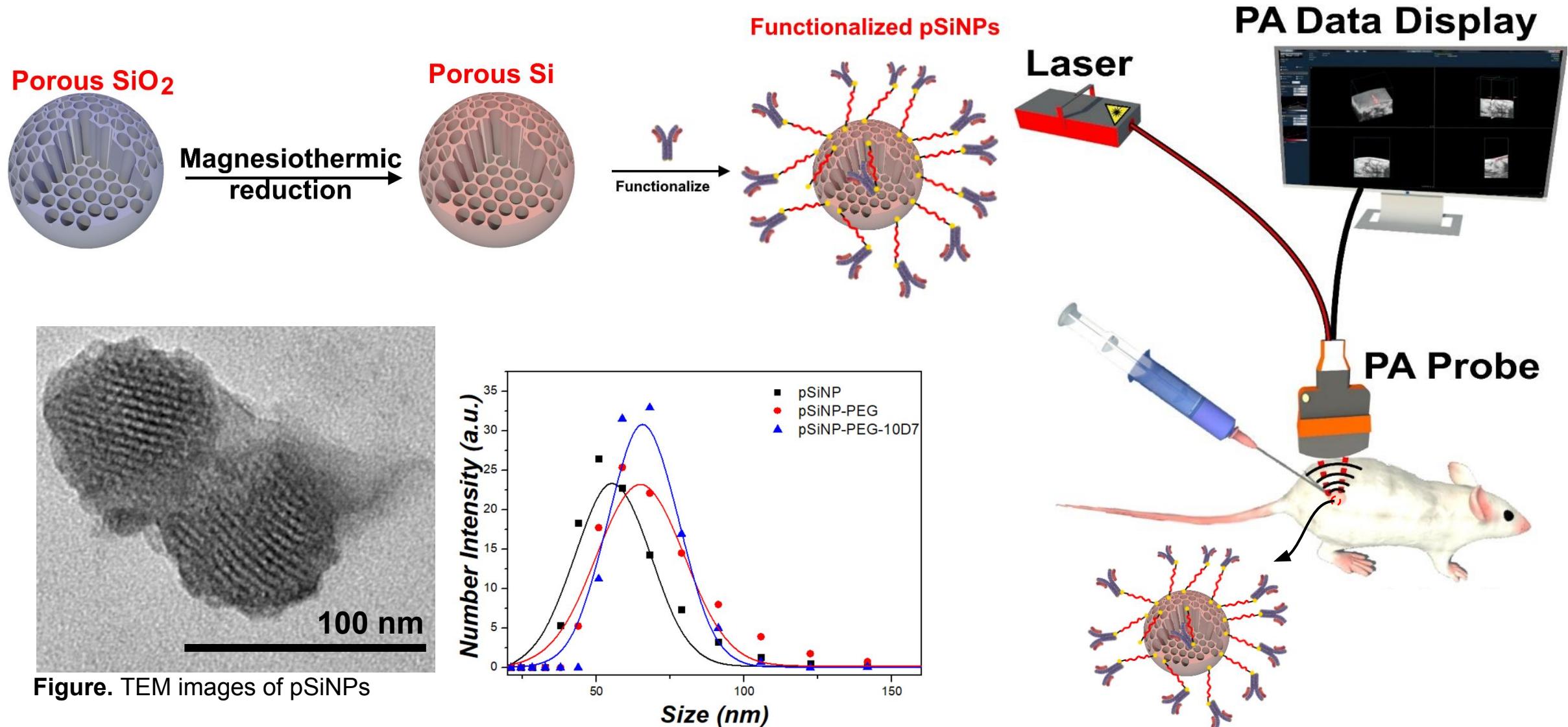
## Formulation toxicity



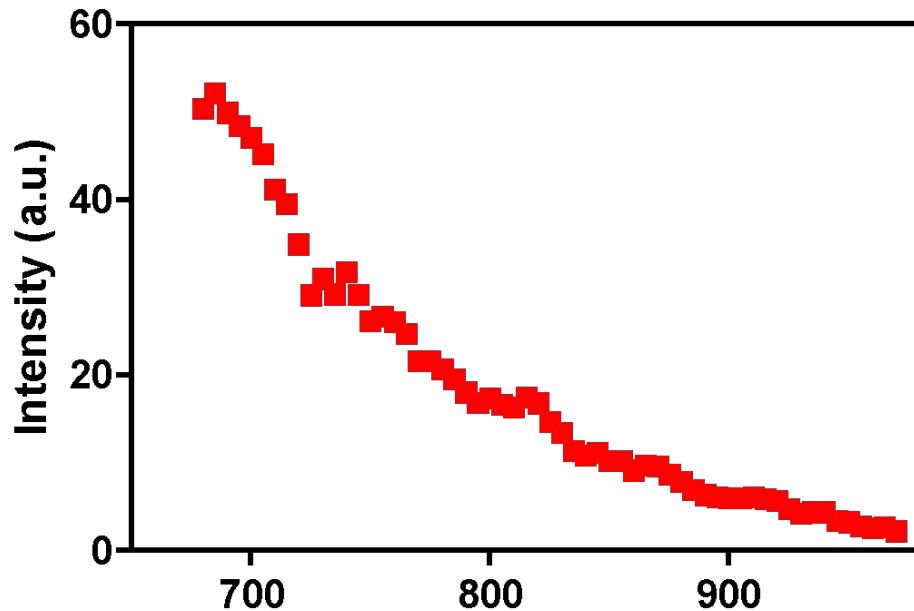
Days



# pSiNPs for Photoacoustic (PA) Bioimaging

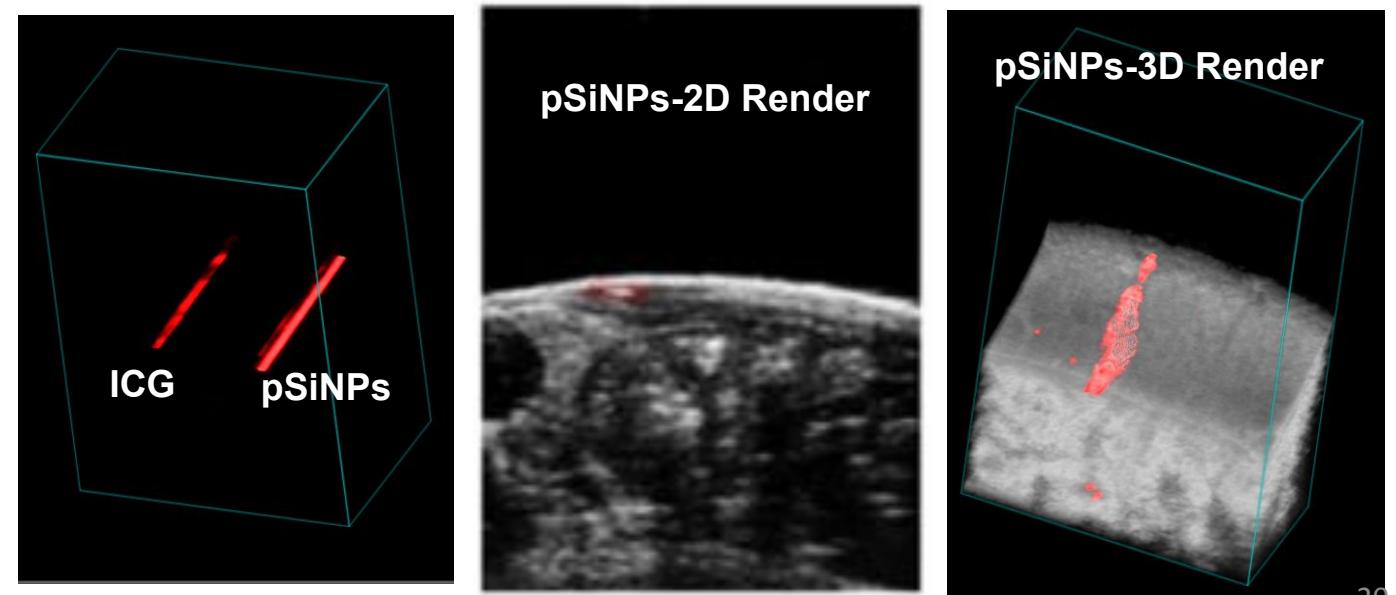
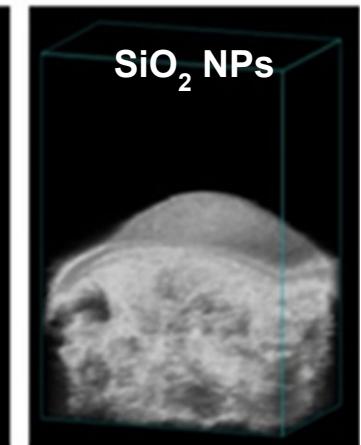
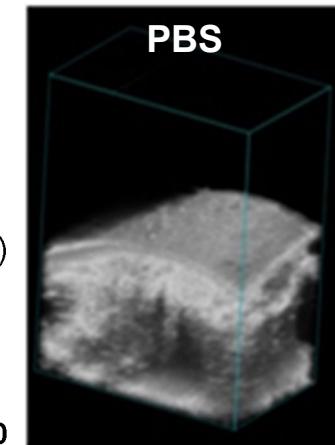
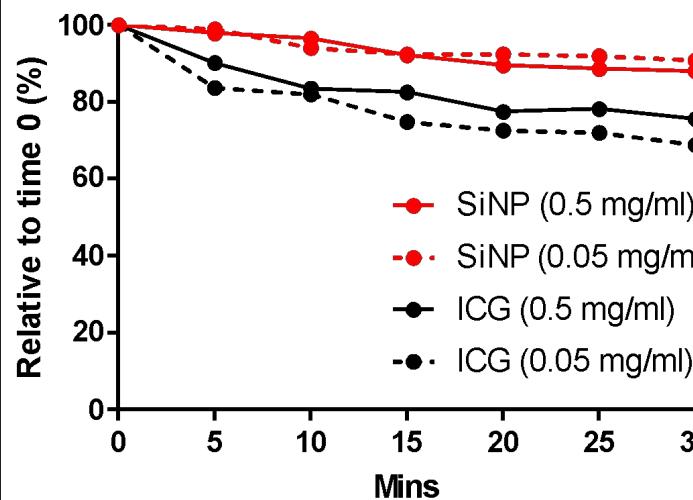


# pSiNPs for Photoacoustic (PA) Bioimaging



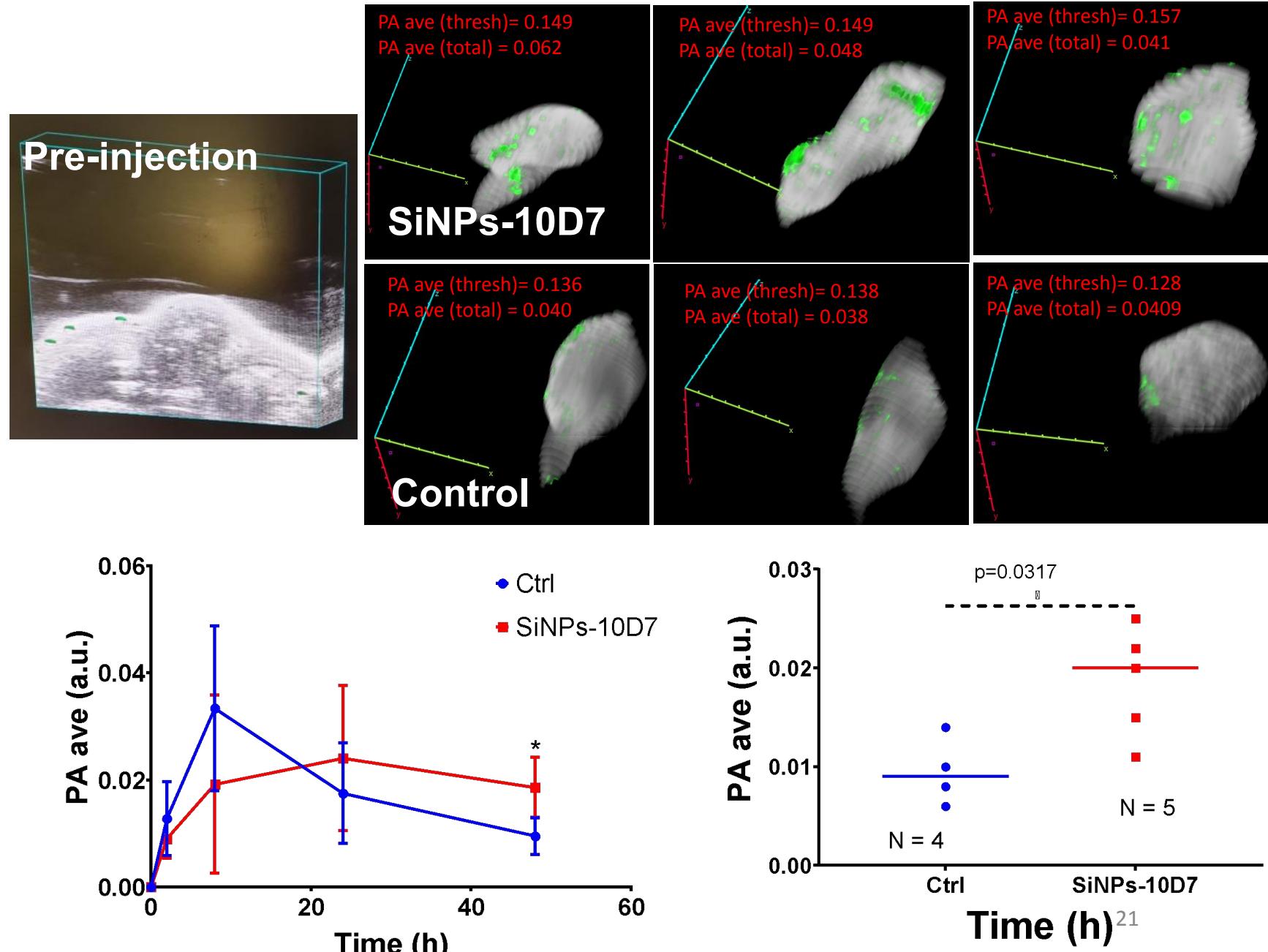
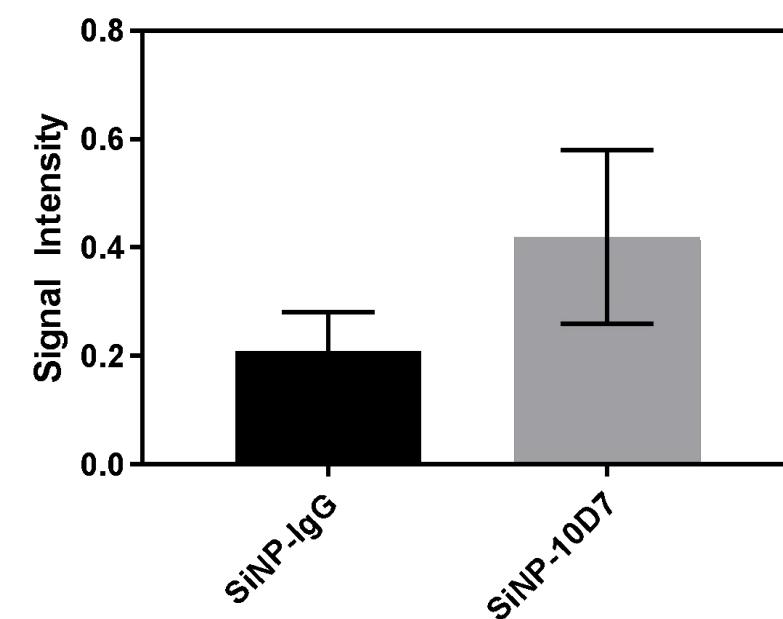
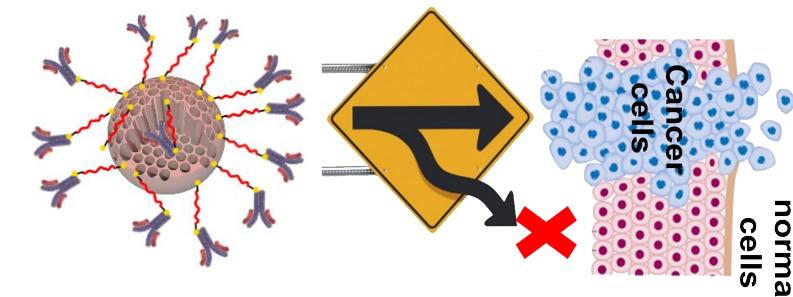
**Figure.** PA imaging intensity of SiNPs in-vitro

	SiO <sub>2</sub> NPs	ICG
PA Enhancement	81.2	6.2



**Figure.** In-vitro and Ex-vivo PA imaging using pSiNPs

# Targeting and Degradation of pSiNPs



# pSiNPs for Photoacoustic (PA) Bioimaging ---

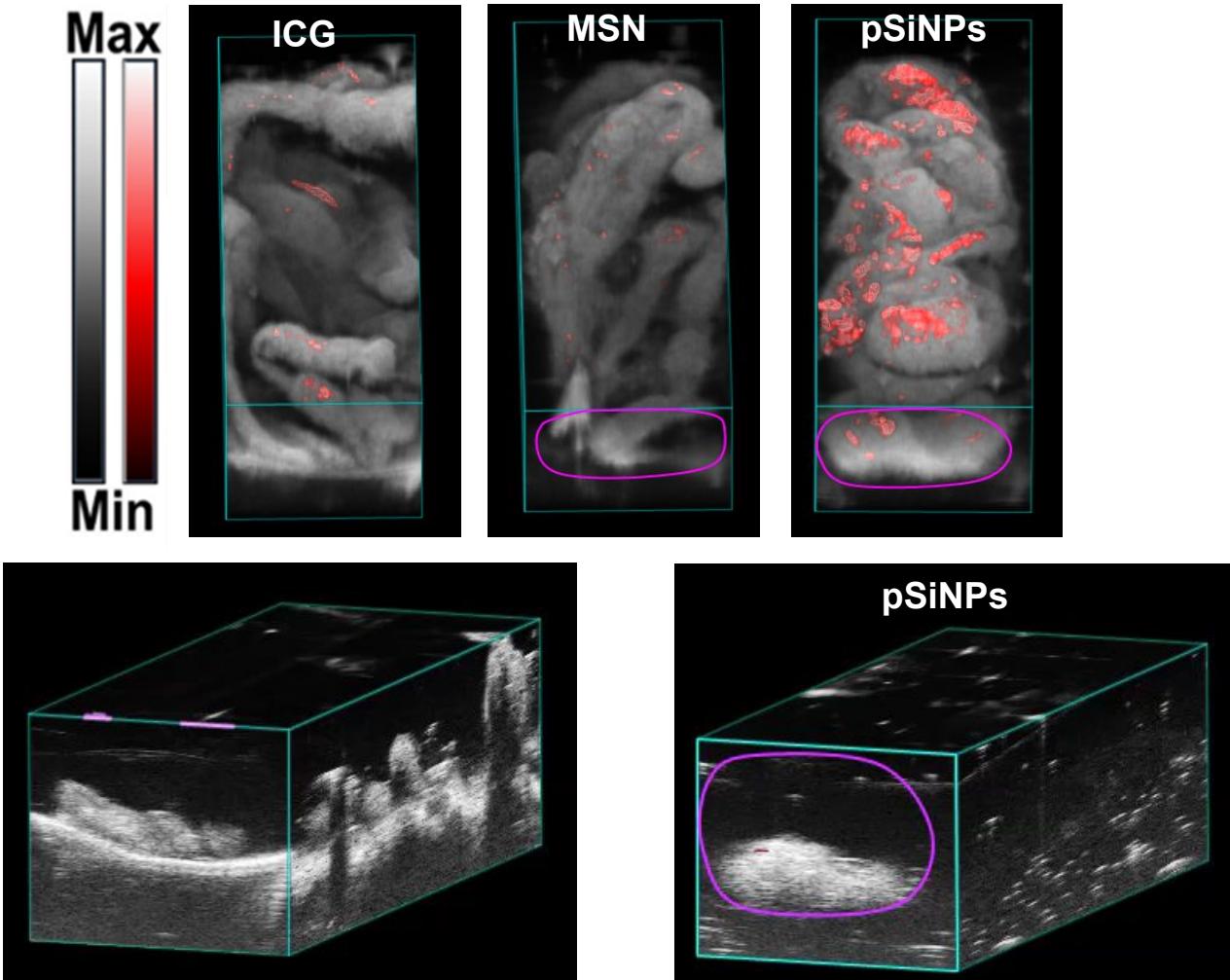


Figure. PA imaging using of orally injected ICG,  $\text{SiO}_2$ , and pSiNPs

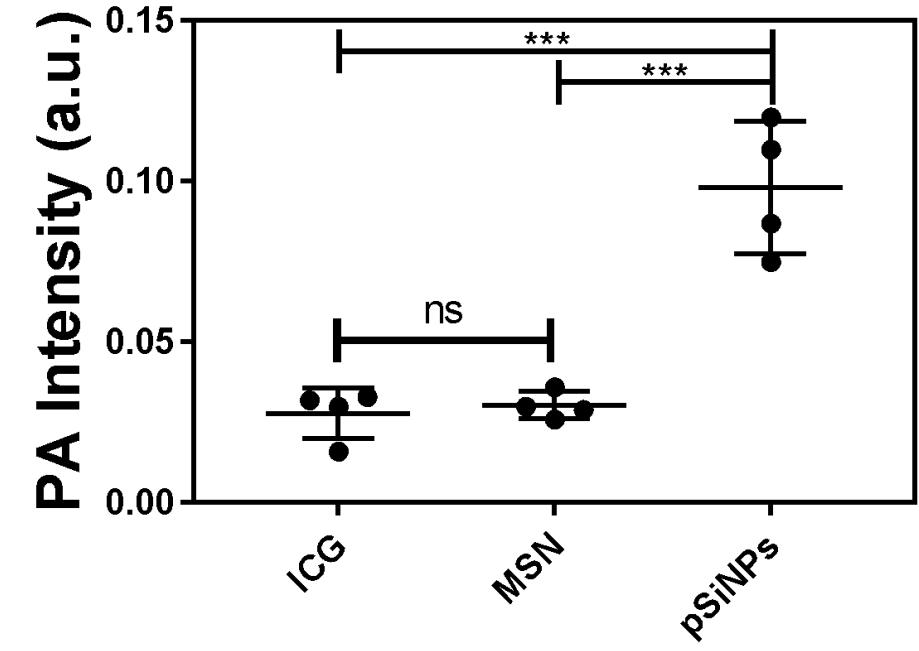


Figure. PA imaging intensity of pSiNPs in the GI Tract  
N = 4

	$\text{SiO}_2$ NPs	ICG
PA Enhancement	$3.2 \pm 0.35$	$3.7 \pm 0.76$

# Institutions



TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
AUSTRALIA

# Acknowledgements

## People

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- Dr. Yousuf Mohammed
- Dr. Kamil Sokolowski
- Dr. Yaowu He
- Dr. Thomas Kyrze
- A/Prof. Amirali Popat
- Dr. Ganesh Kokil
- Dr. Aun Raza
- Dr. Prarthana Rewatkar
- Dr. Harry Parekh
- Dr. Preeti Pandey
- Dr. Helen He
- Astha Sharma
- Prof. Adam Ye
- A/Prof. Abel Santos
- Prof. John Hooper
- Prof. Michael McGuckin
- Prof. Michael Sailor

## Funding



# Thank You!!



## Let's Connect



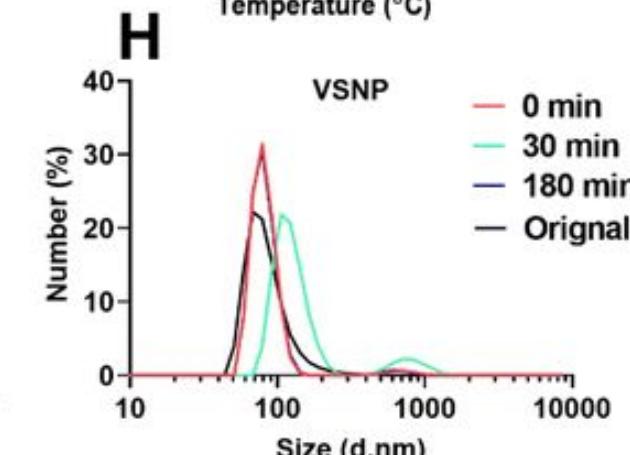
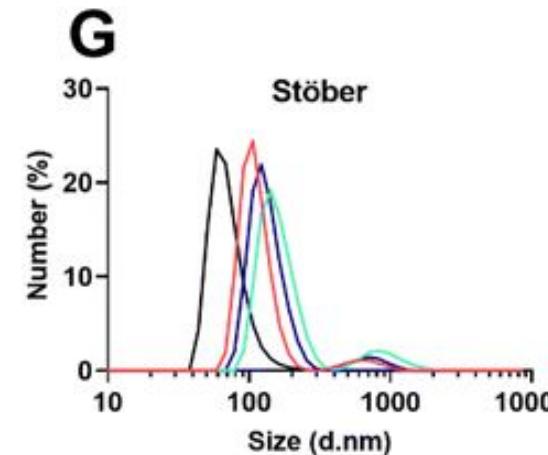
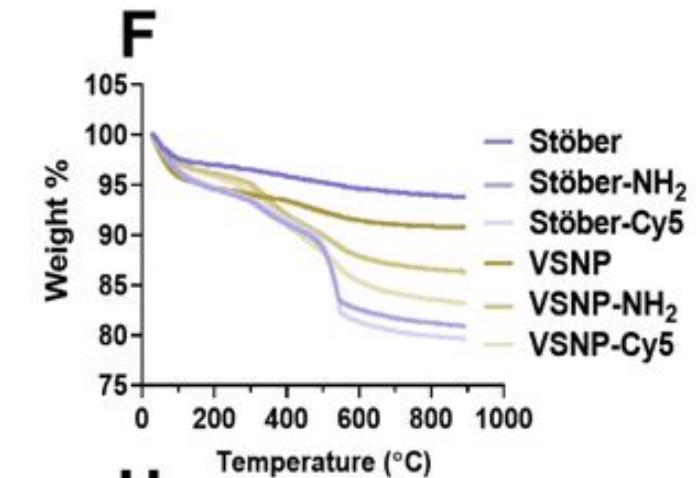
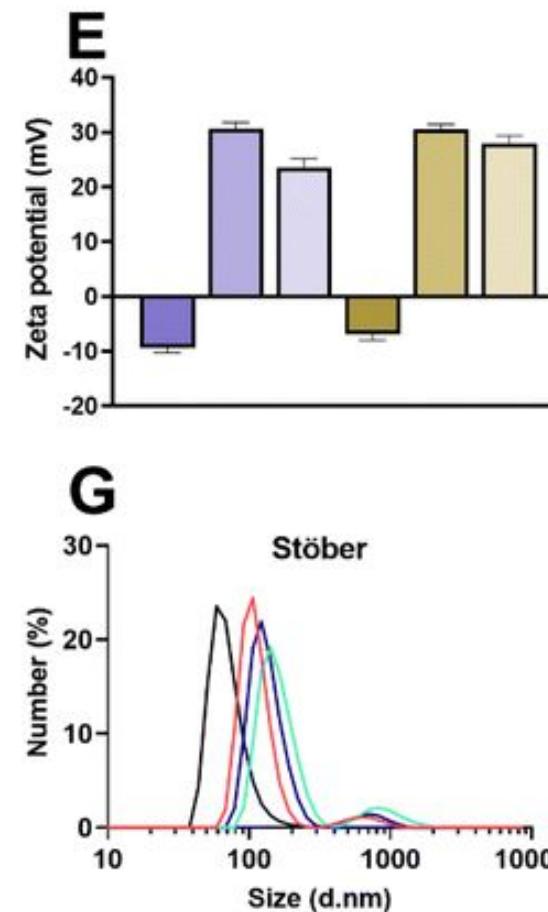
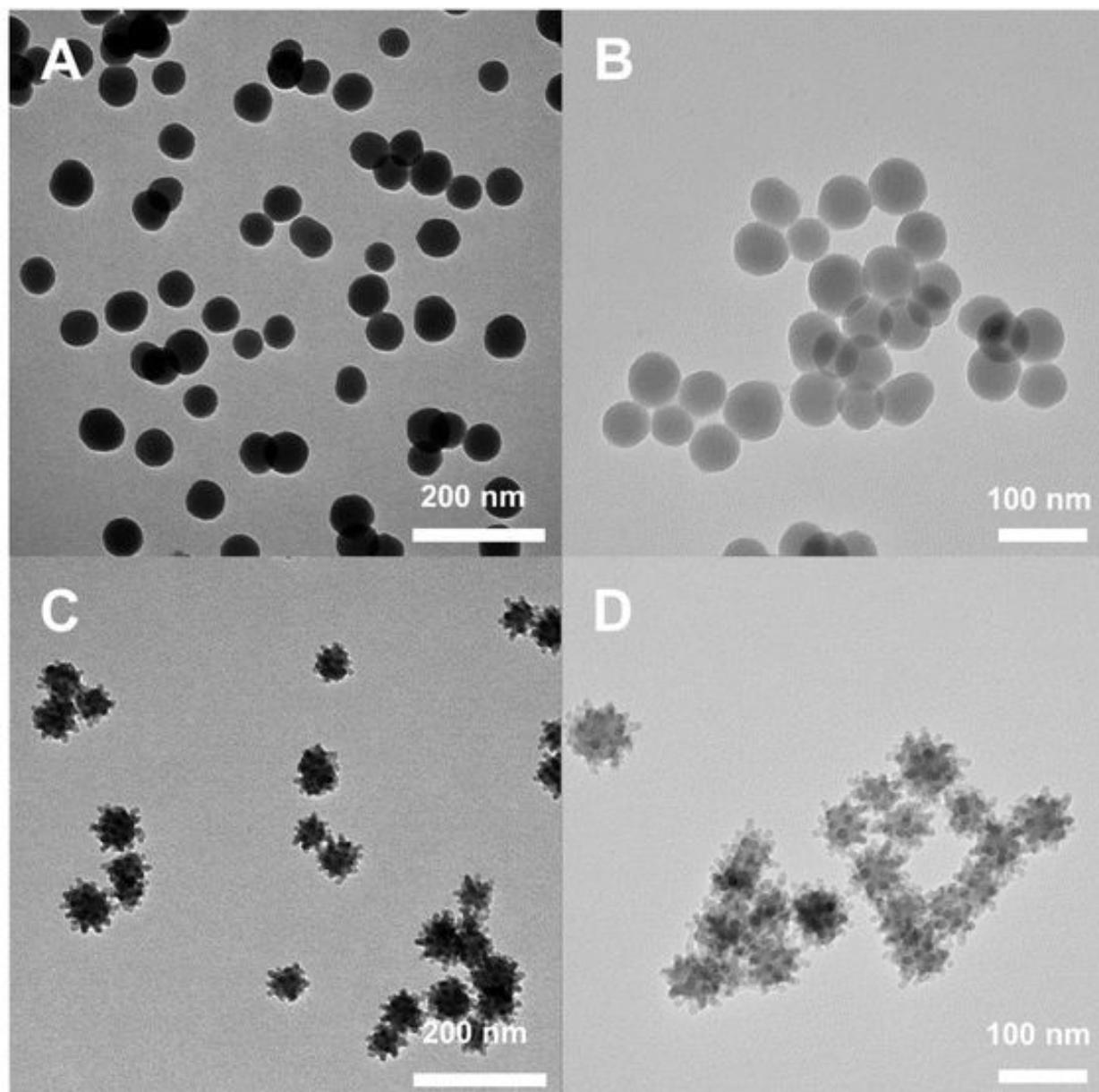
@TKumeria



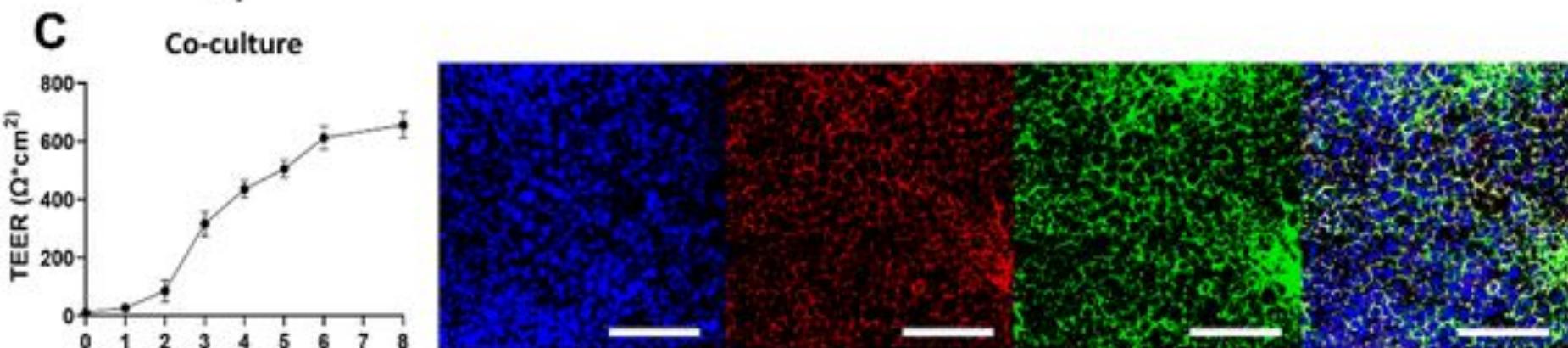
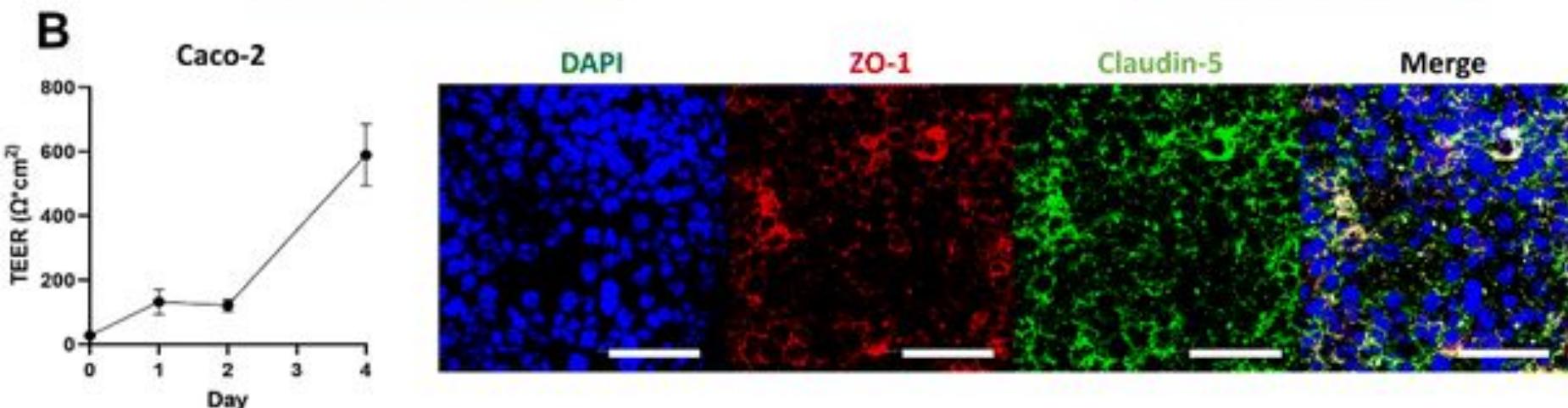
Tushar Kumeria

# Backup Charts!

### 3. Biomodulating Spikey Virus-like MSN

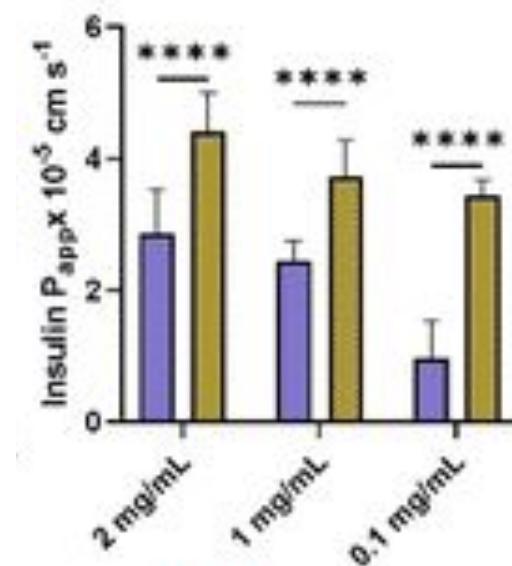
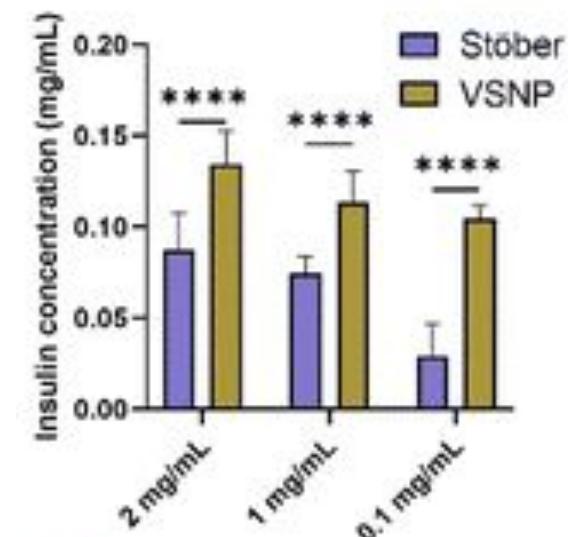
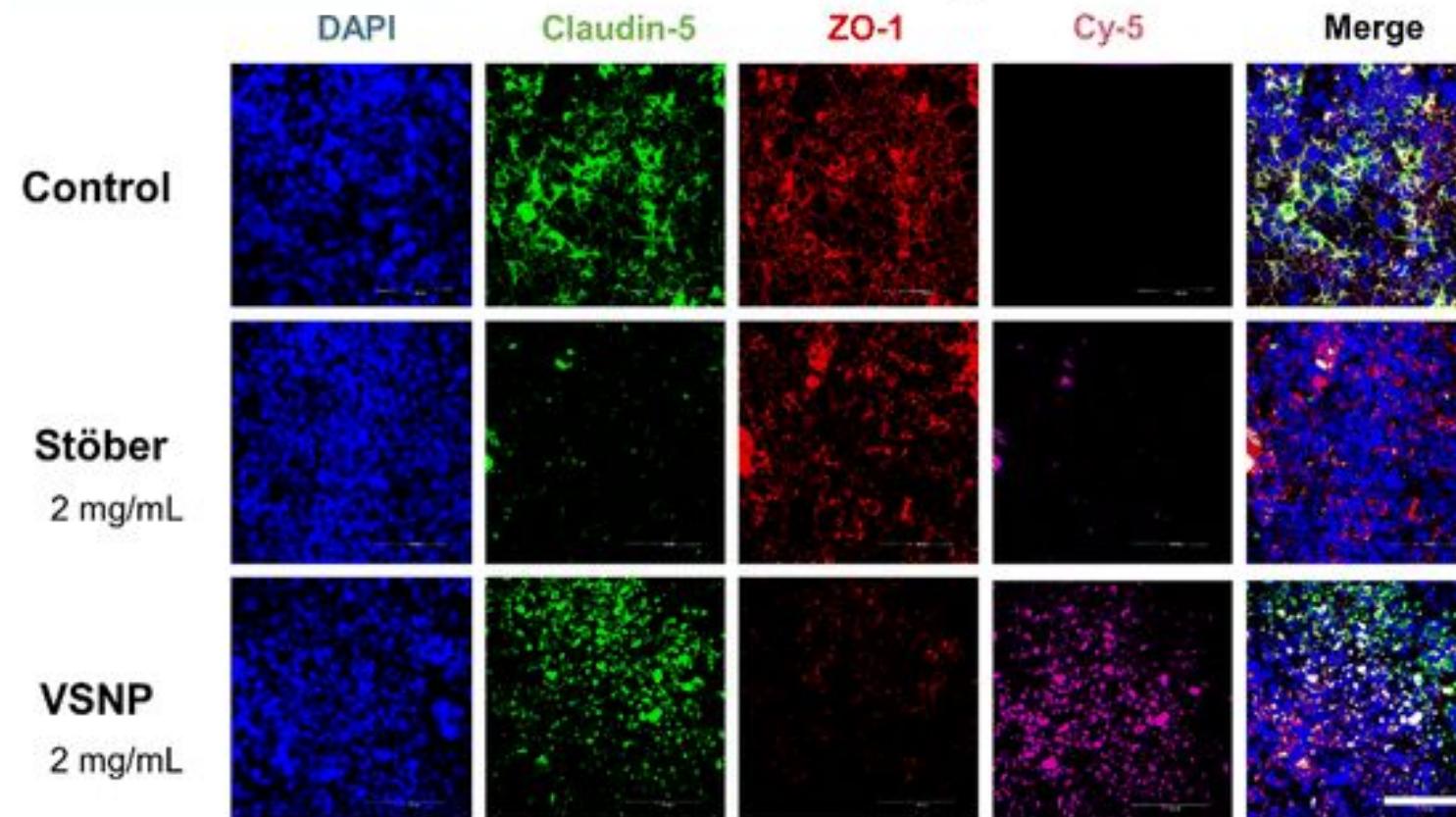
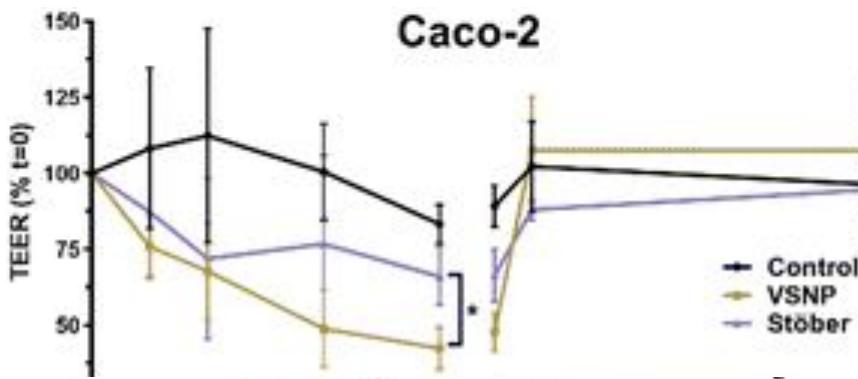
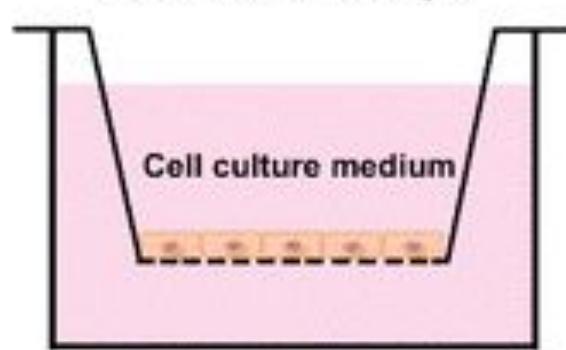


# In-vitro Permeation Model Development

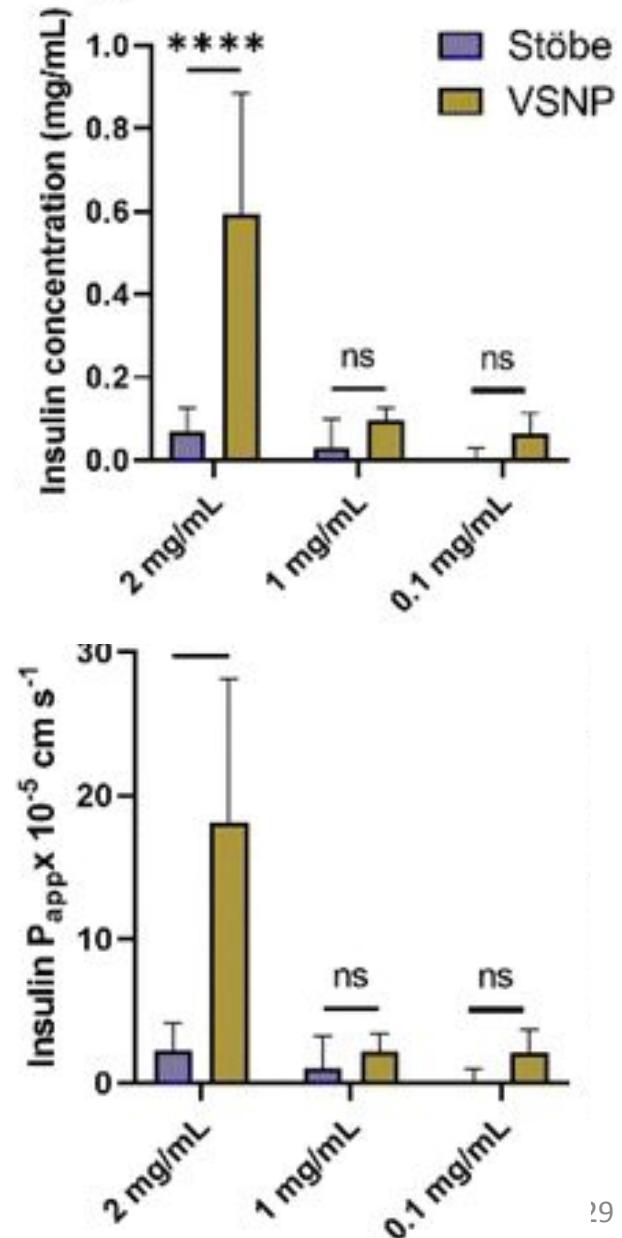
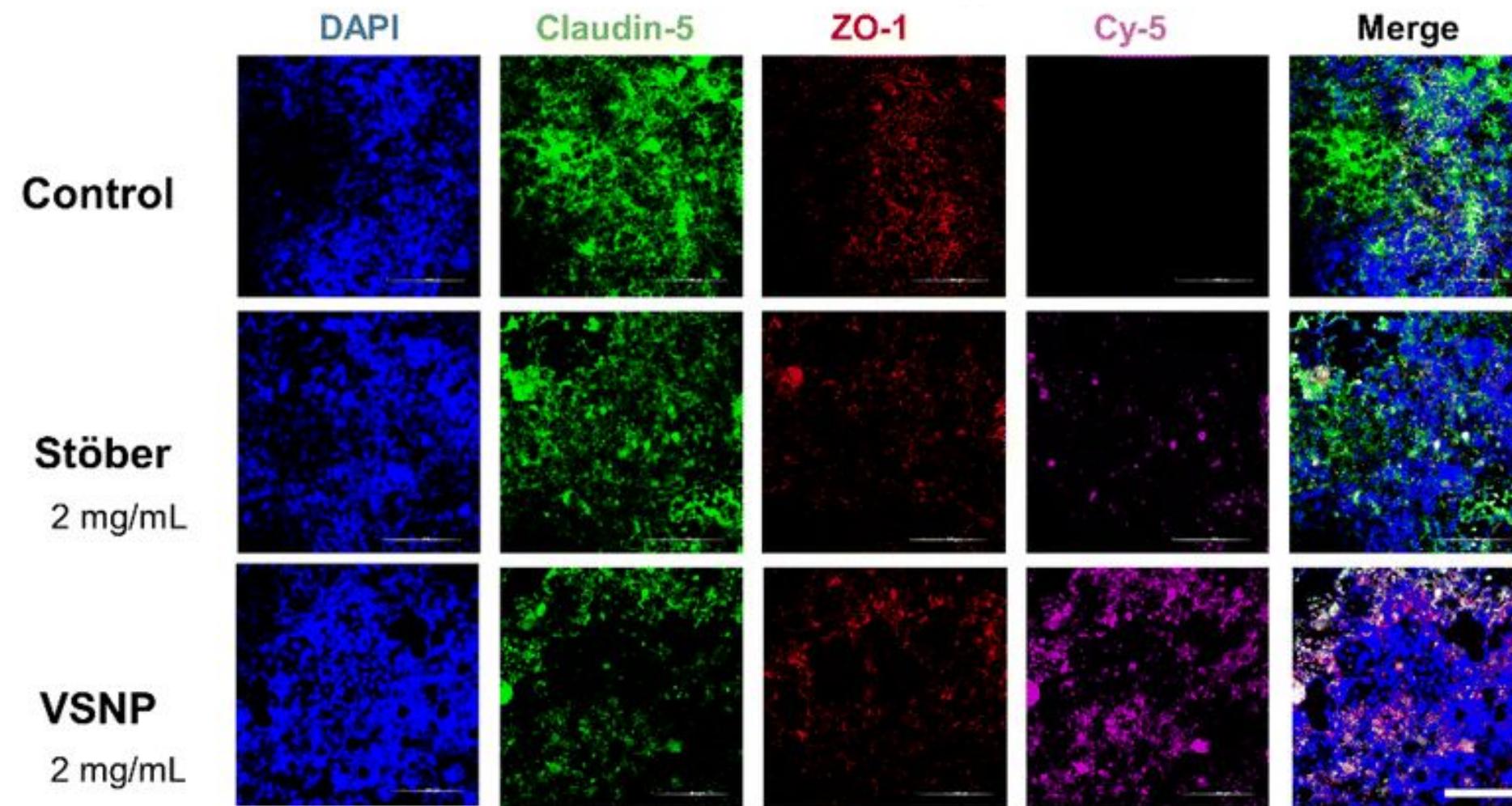


# VSNPs Mediated Permeation

Caco-2 Monolayer

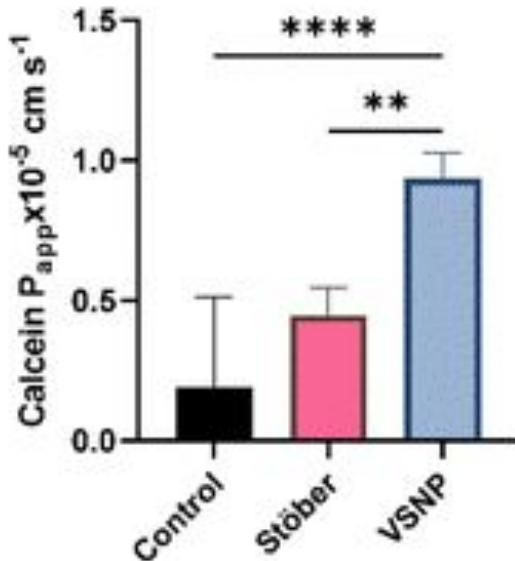


# VSNPs Mediated Permeation

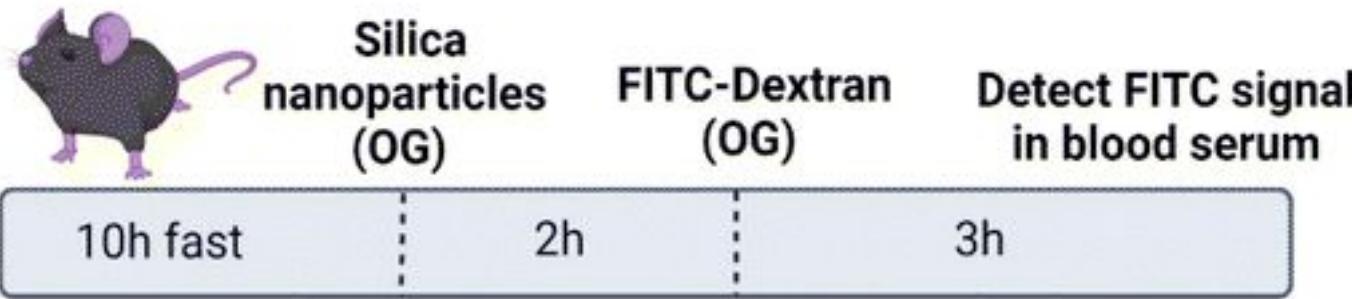
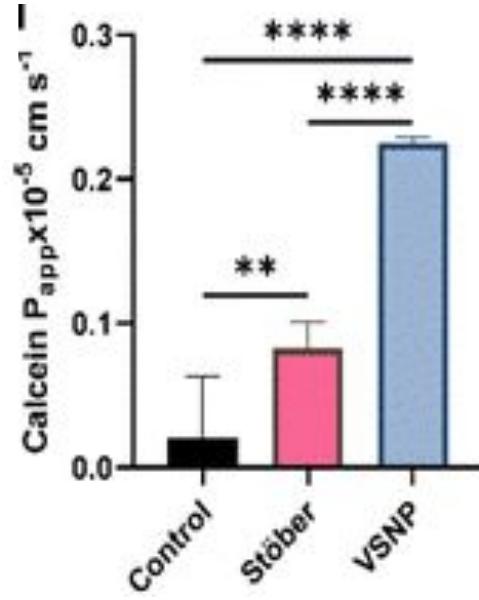


# VSNPs Mediated Oral Uptake

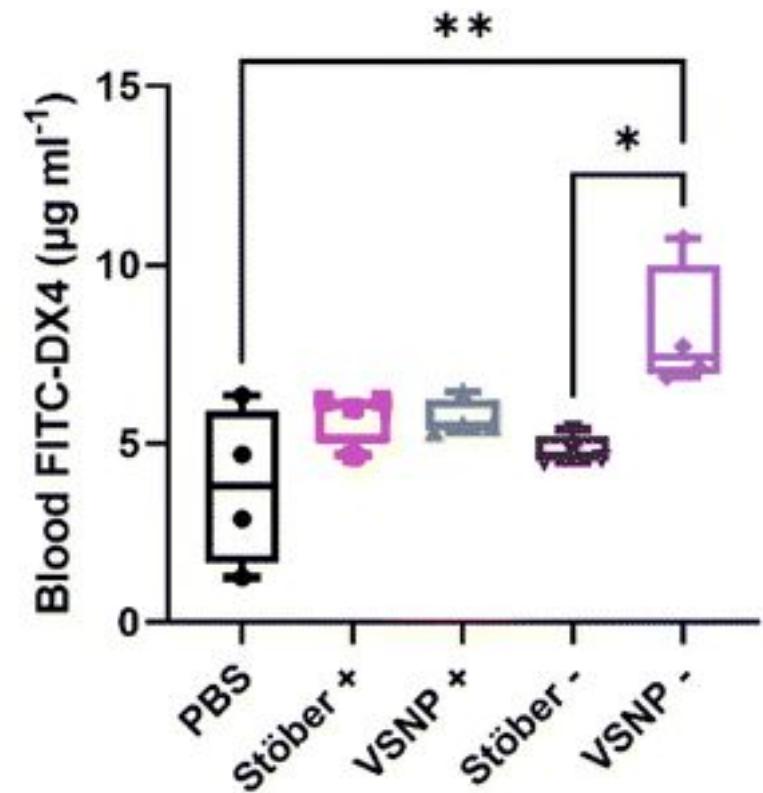
Caco2



Coculture

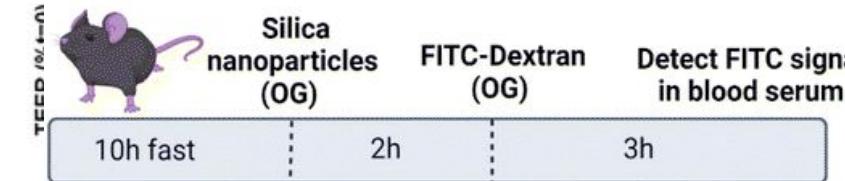
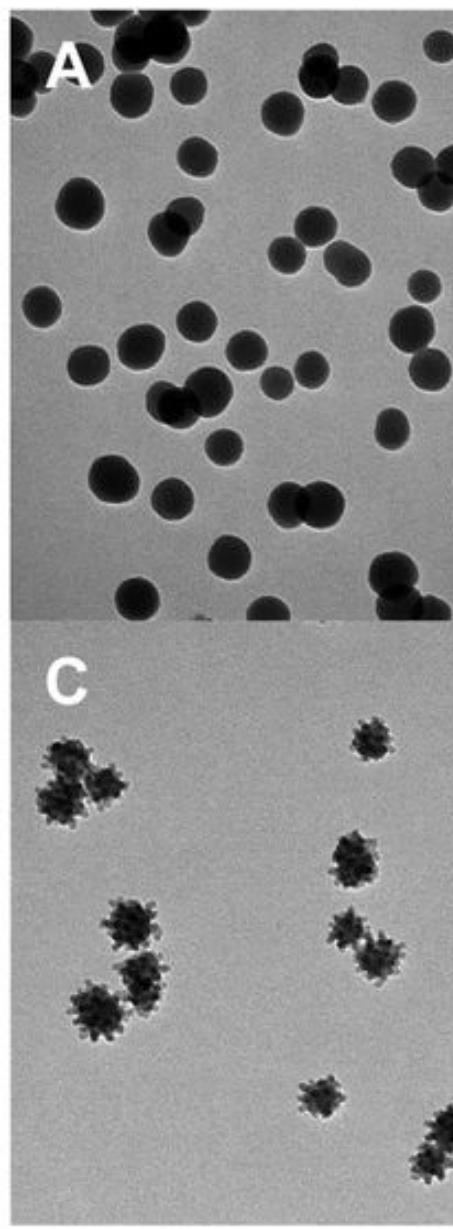


B

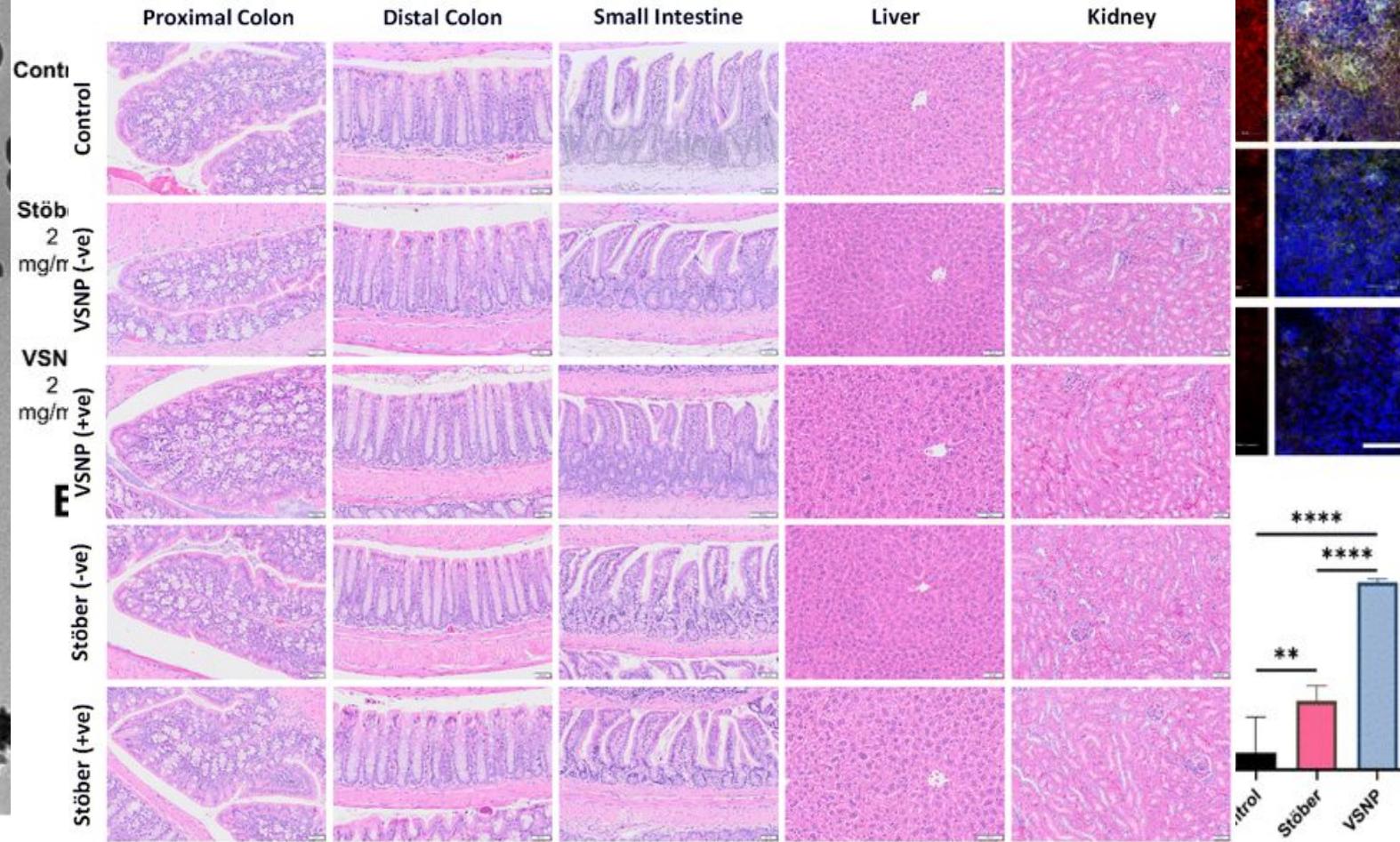


# Biomodul

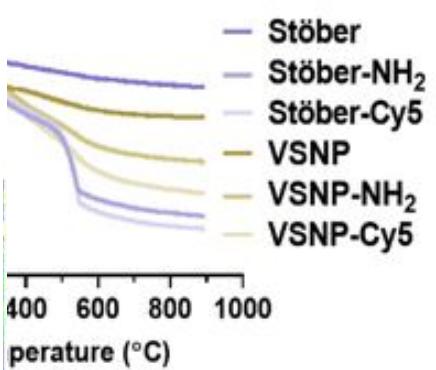
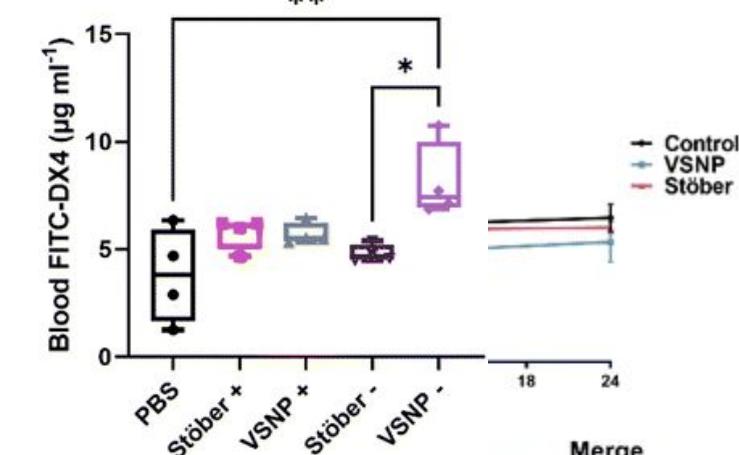
A



C

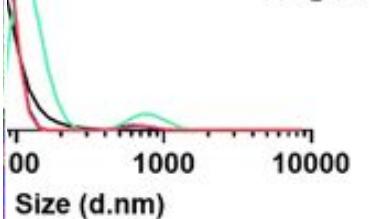


B



VSNP

- 0 min
- 30 min
- 180 min
- Original



# pSi based Oral Protein Delivery

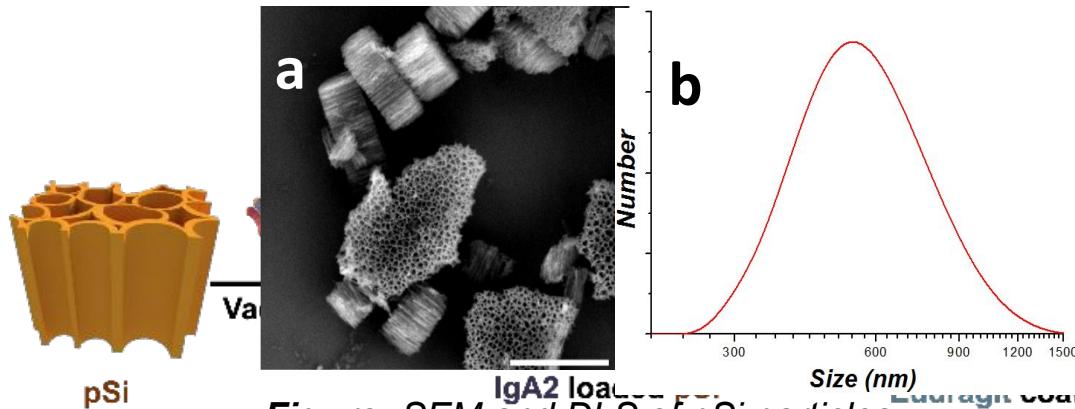


Figure: SEM and DLS of pSi particles

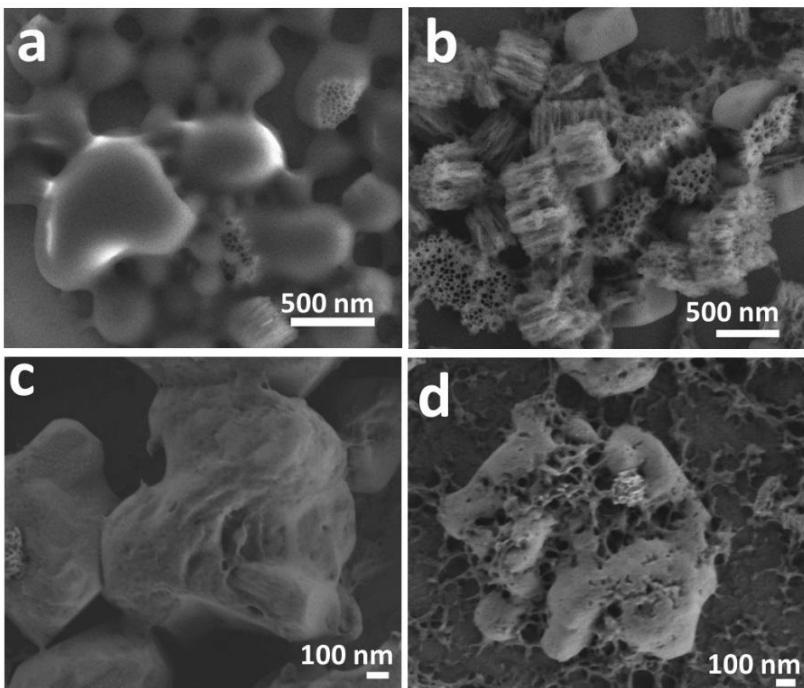
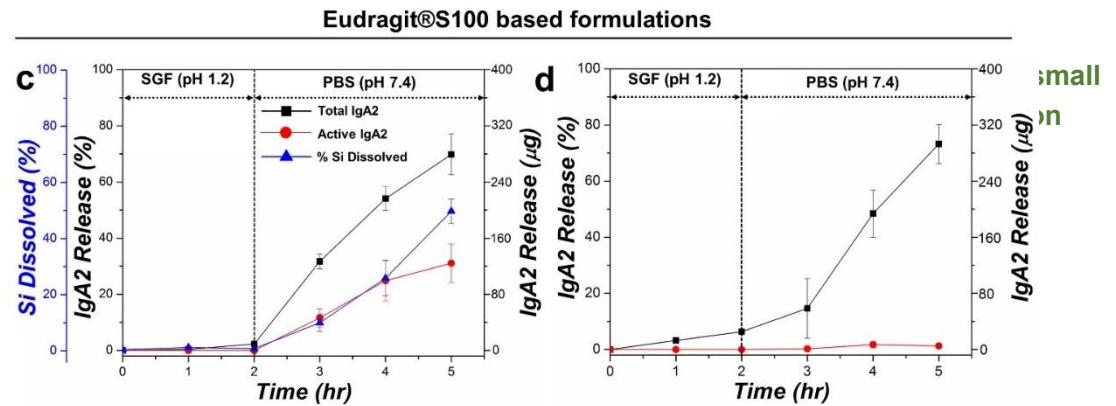
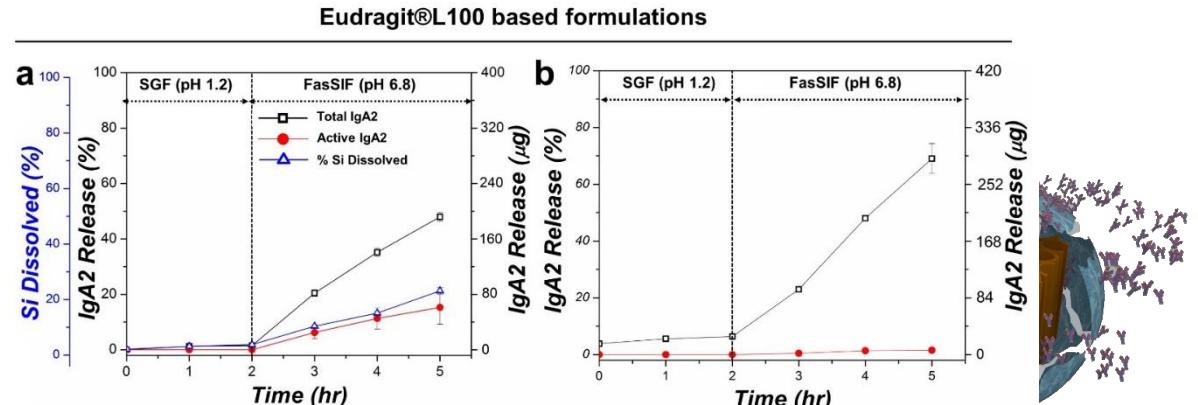


Figure: SEM images of Eudragit coated pSi formulations



Uncoated pSi based formulations

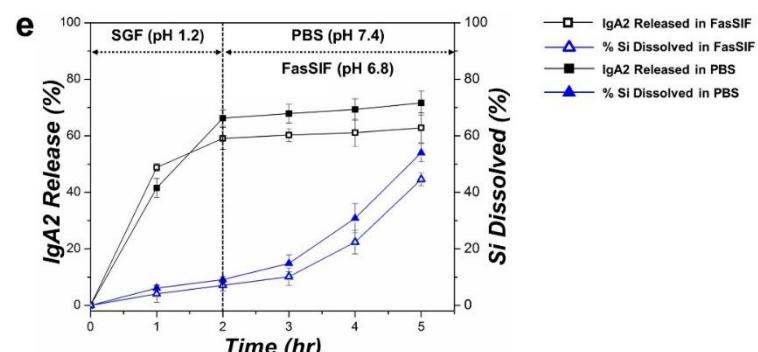
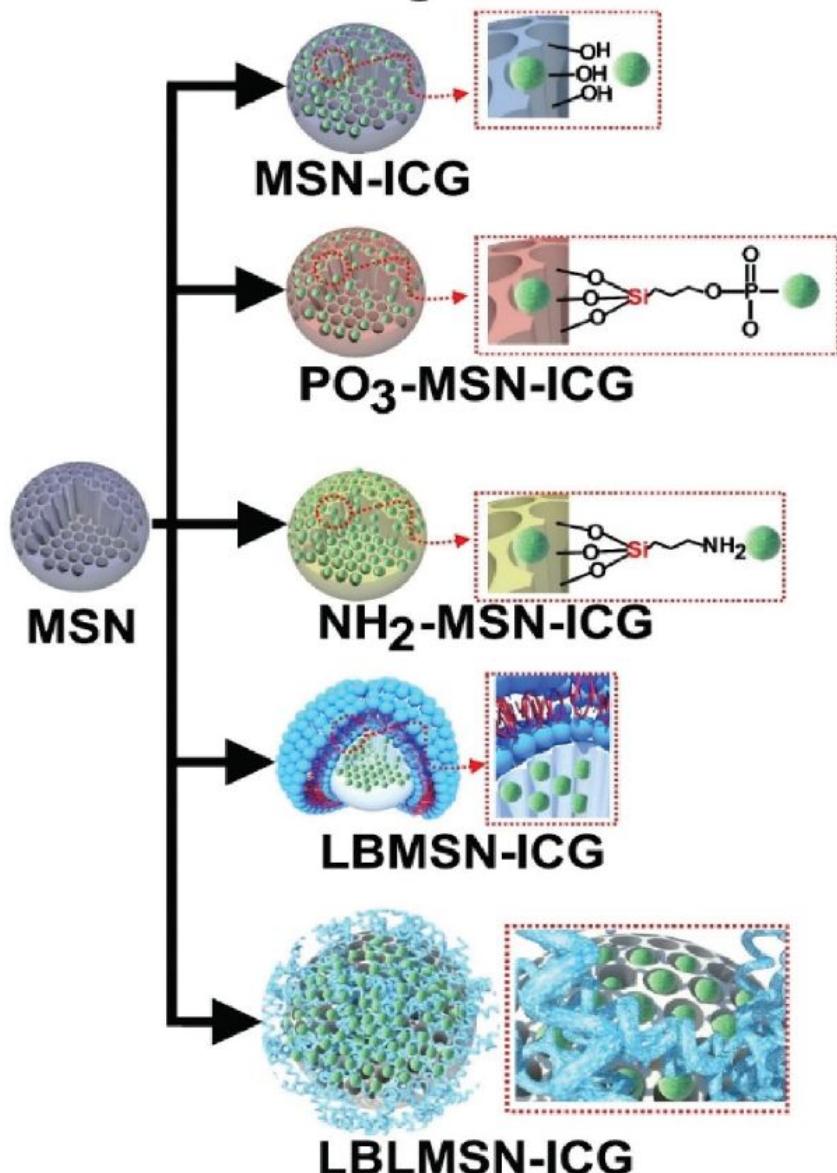


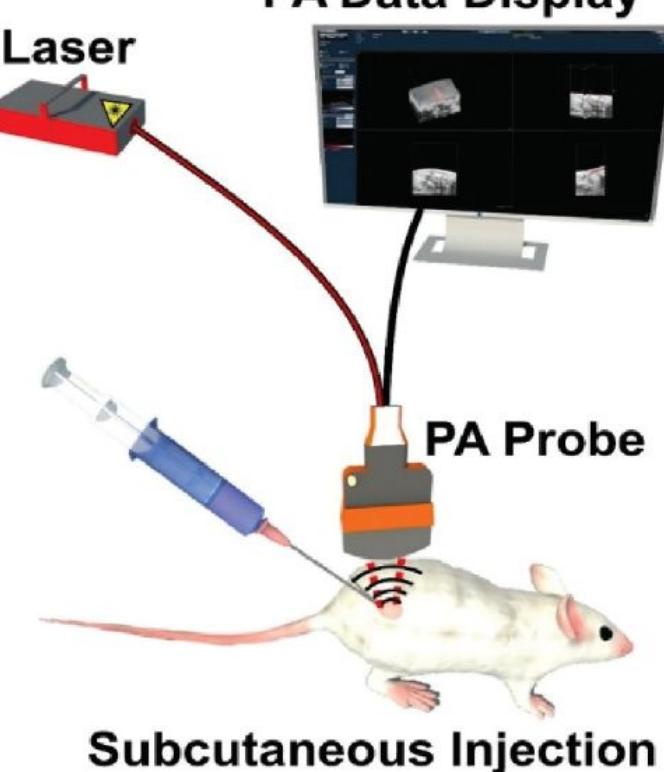
Figure: In-vitro release of IgA2 from pSi-Eudragit formulations

# ICG/Functionalized MSN for PA imaging

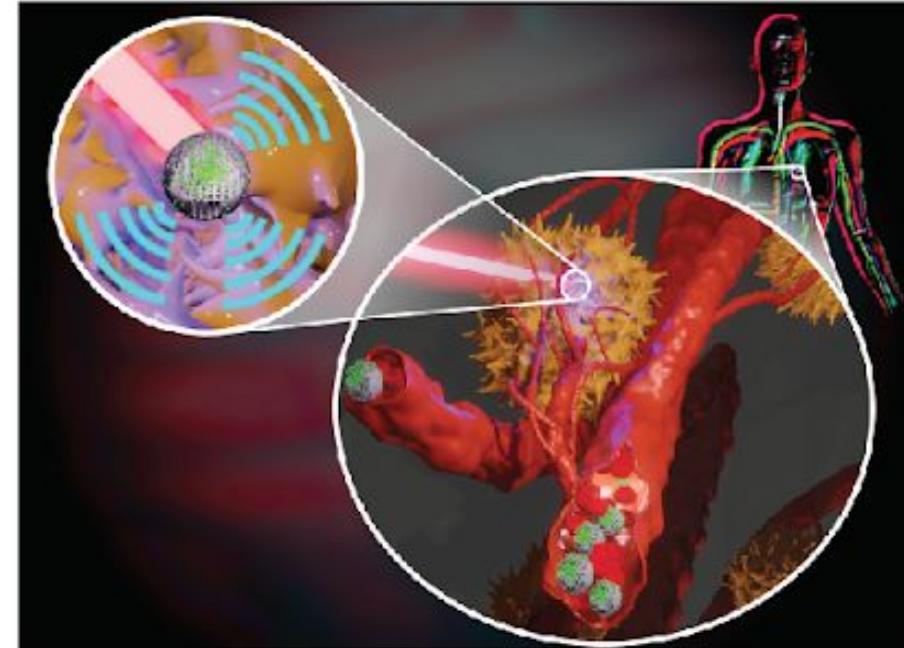
## ICG Loading/Functionalization



## PA Data Display



## Subcutaneous Injection



Highlighting a research article from the Porous Biomaterials group at the School of Pharmacy of The University of Queensland.

Efficient photoacoustic imaging using indocyanine green (ICG) loaded functionalized mesoporous silica nanoparticles

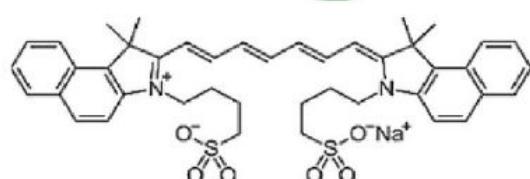
Surface chemistry is an important consideration in the designing of new materials for medical use. This article explores a range of chemical and physical surface chemistries on mesoporous silica for enhanced photoacoustic bioimaging outcome.

As featured in:



See Michael A. McGuirlin,  
Anirali Popat, Tushar Kumeria et al.,  
*Biomater. Sci.*, 2019, 2, 1010

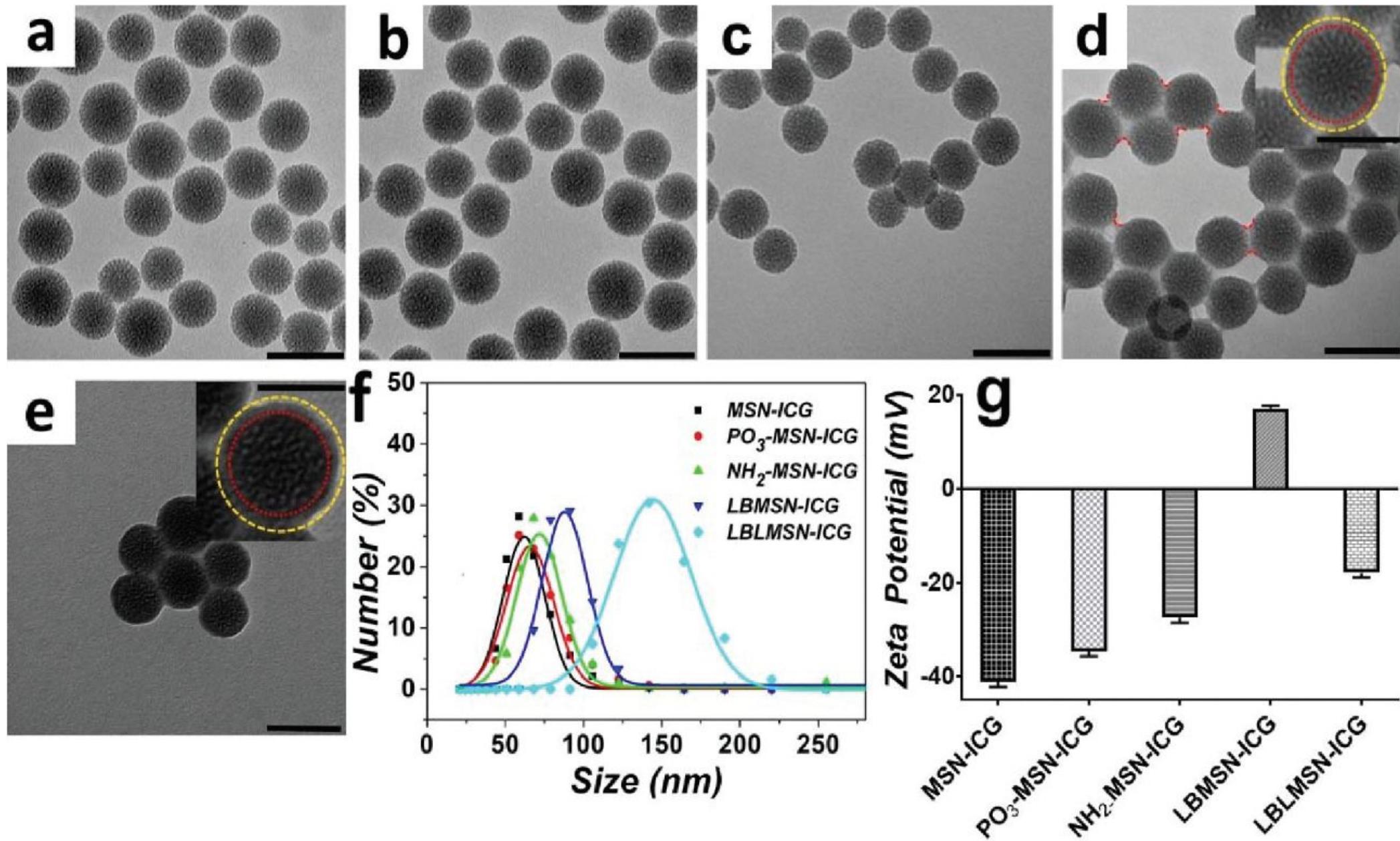
ICG =



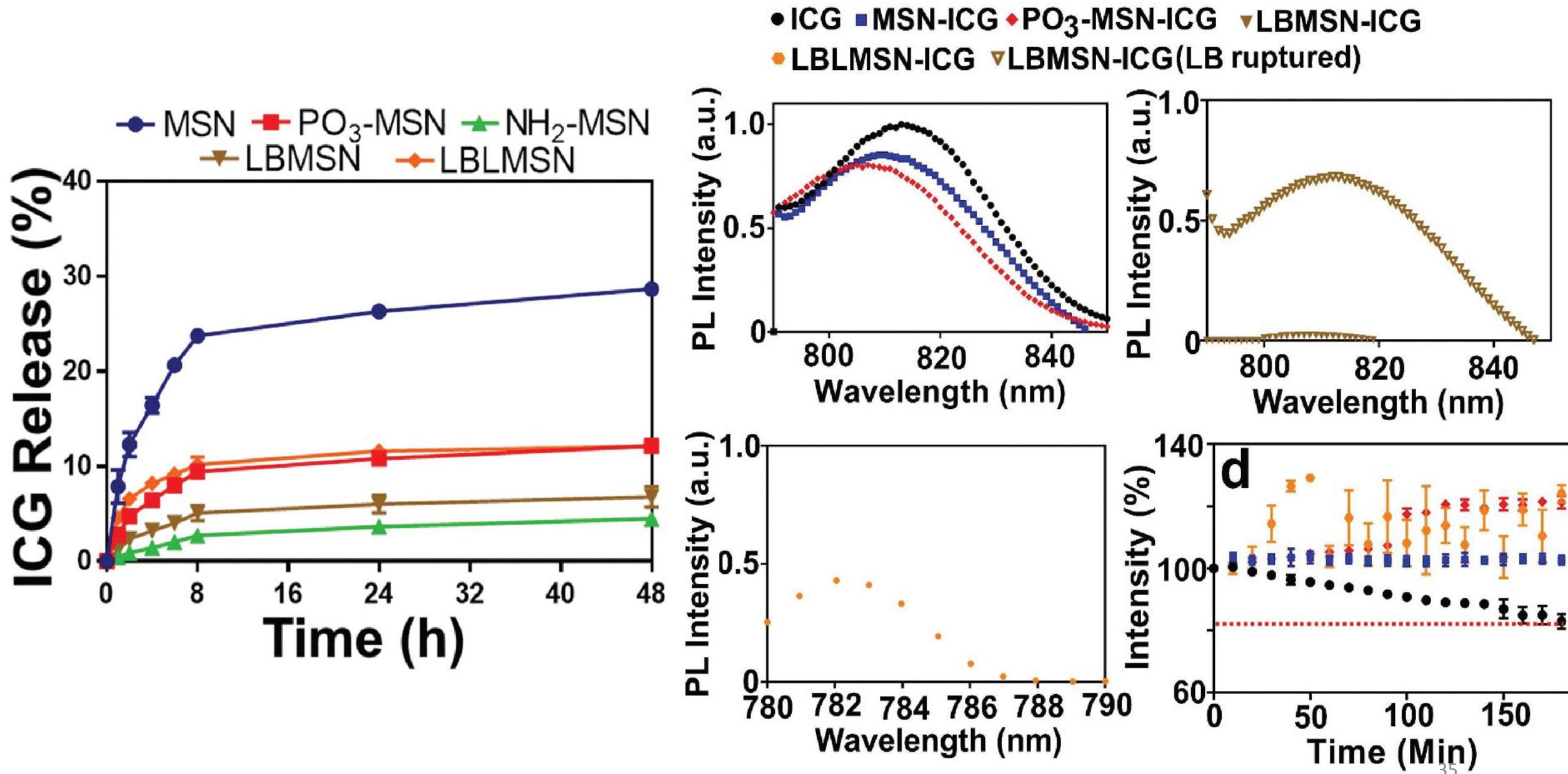
[rsc.li/biomaterials-science](http://rsc.li/biomaterials-science)

33

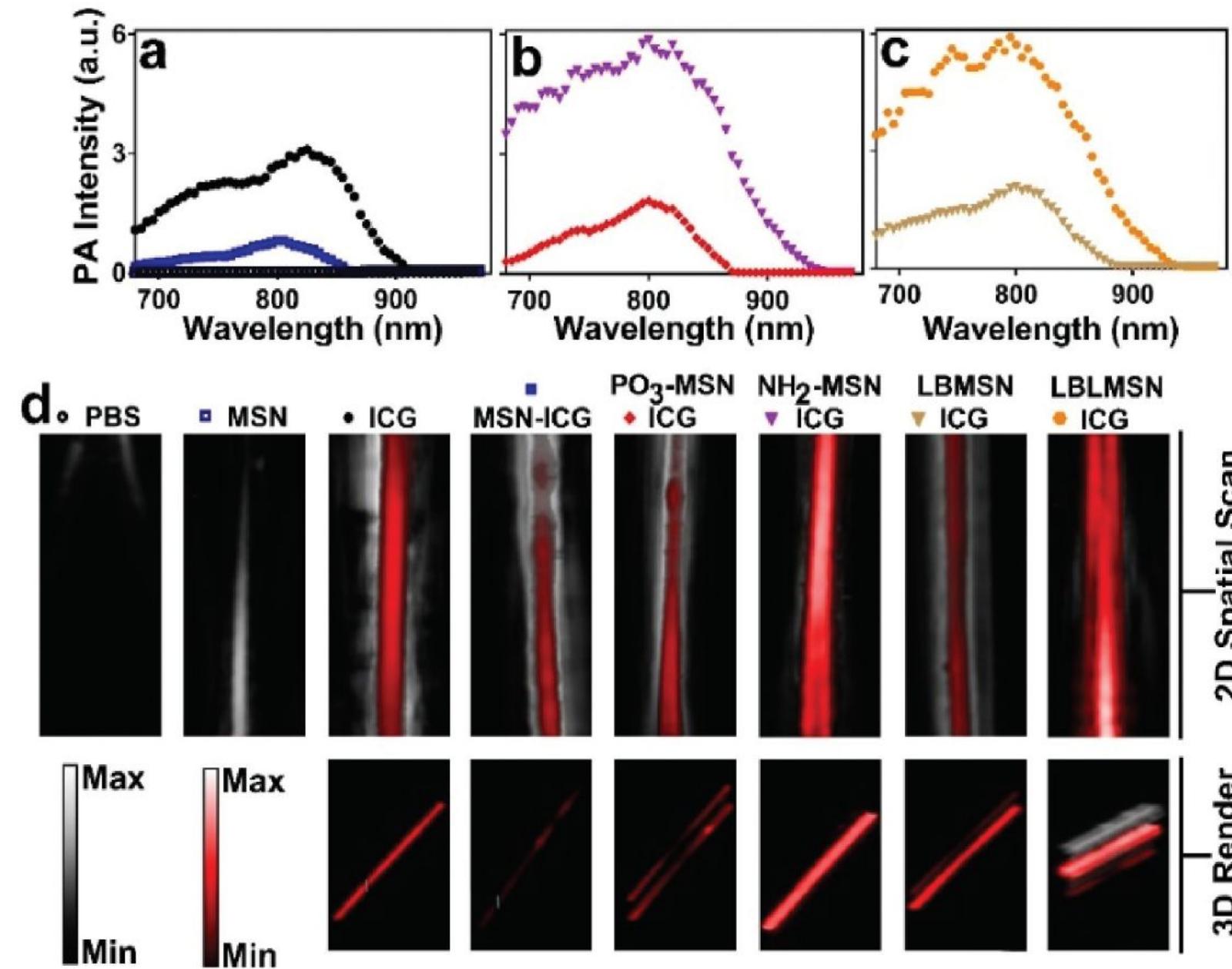
# Functionalization of MSN



# Release and Degradation of ICG

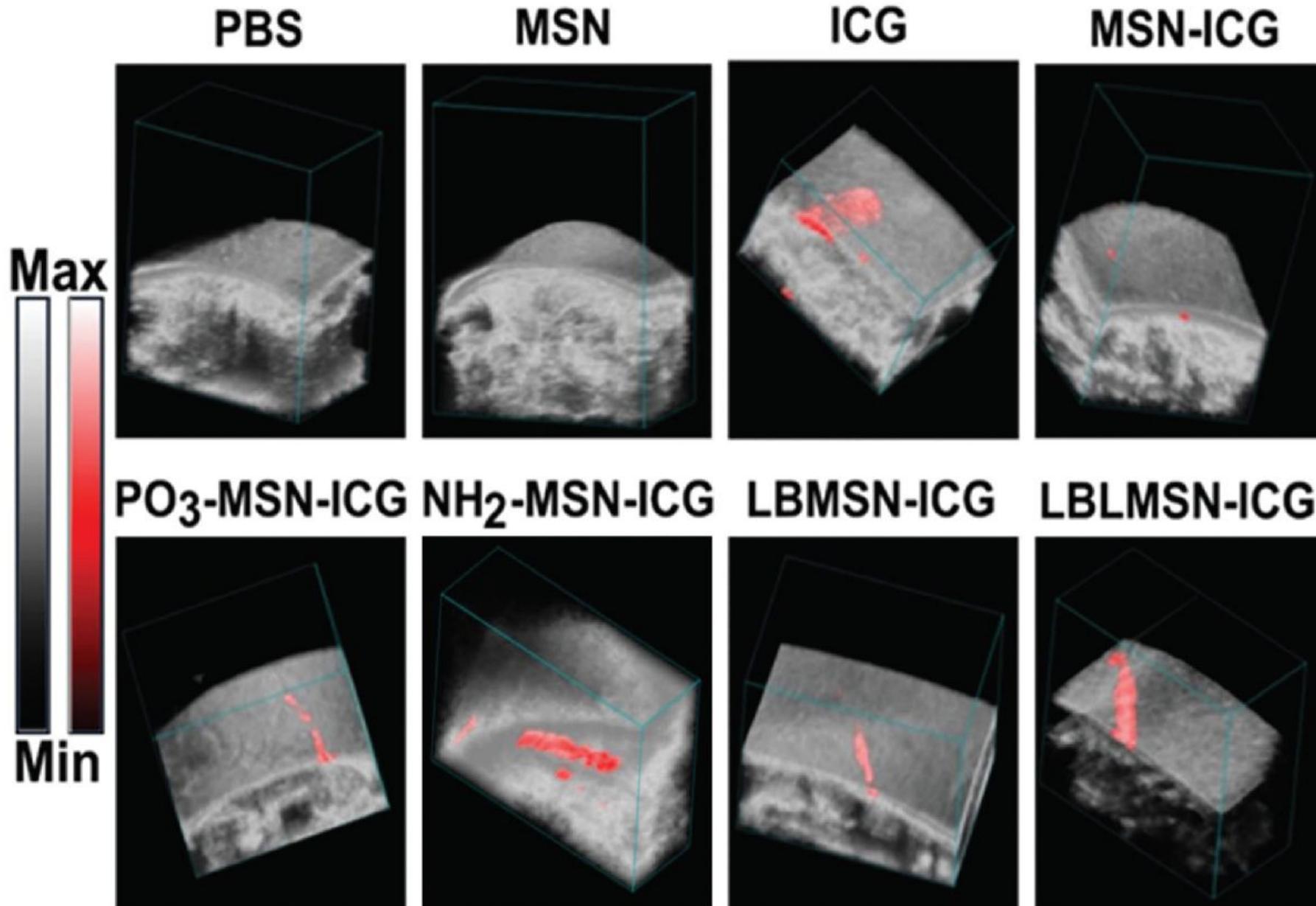


# In-vitro PA imaging



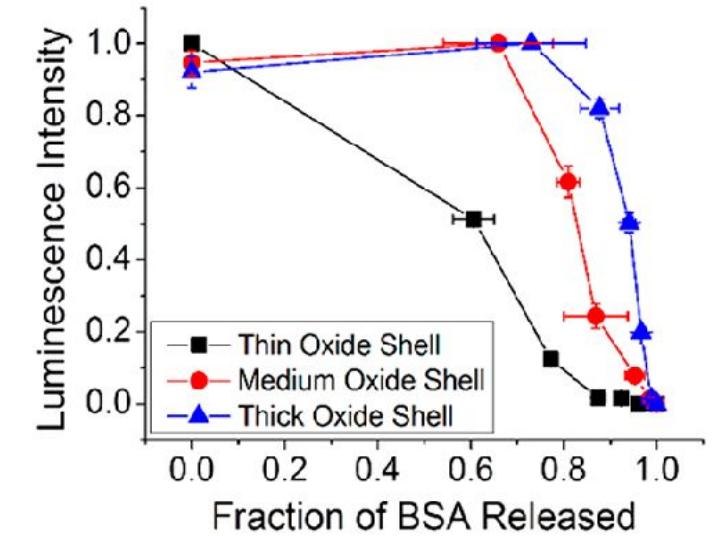
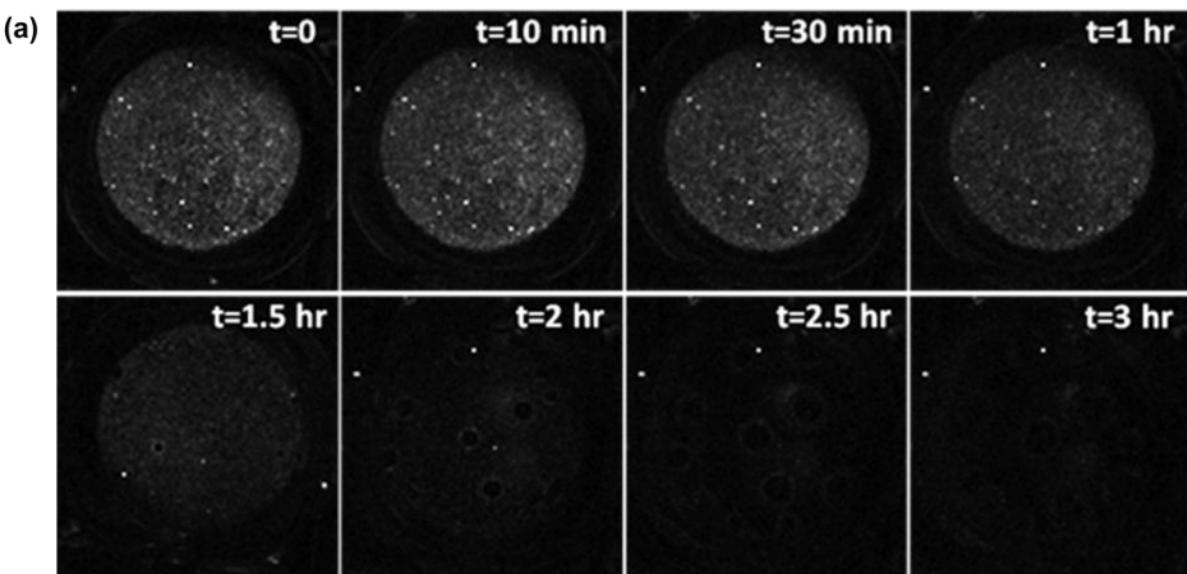
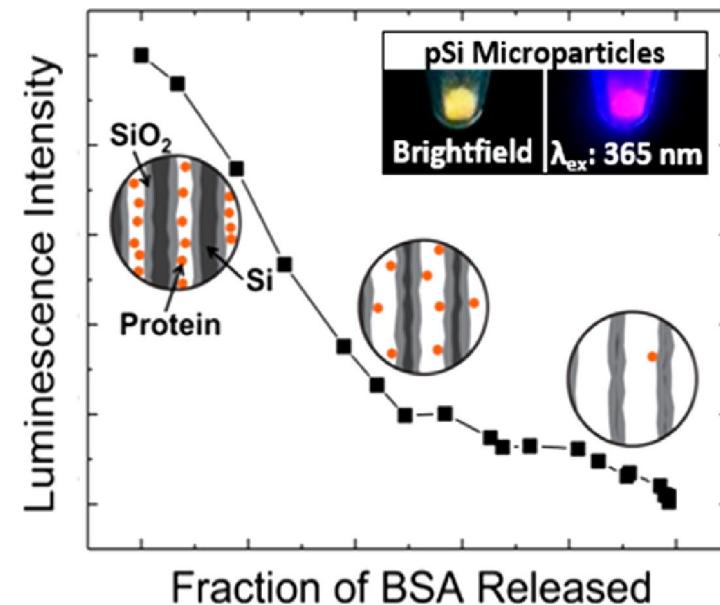
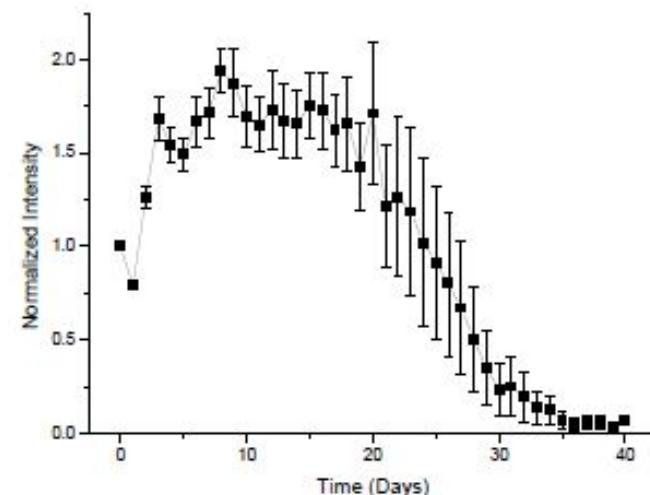
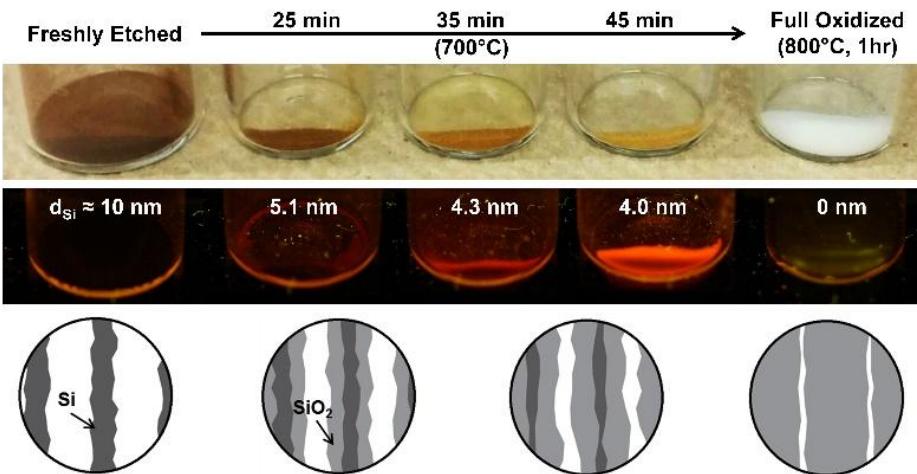
The in vitro PA signal enhancement for the ICG loaded unmodified MSNs, PO<sub>3</sub>-MSNs, and LBMSNs was close to 2.5-fold, while almost 4-fold PA signal enhancement was observed for NH<sub>2</sub>-MSNs and LBLMSN (at 200  $\mu$ g mL<sup>-1</sup> equivalent ICG dose), relative to pure ICG.

# PA imaging after bolus injection



The  $\text{NH}_2\text{- MSNs}$  displayed an enhancement of **1.29-fold** compared to the same equivalent dose of pure ICG, whereas the highest PA bioimaging signal enhancement in subcutaneously injected mouse cadavers of **1.43-fold** was observed for LBL modified MSNs in comparison to pure ICG

# Self-reporting Ophthalmic Protein Delivery



# Self-reporting Ophthalmic Drug Delivery

Luminescent pSi in vivo

