

# Hemi-porous Janus microparticles as a muco-adhesive enteral delivery system for BCS Class III drugs

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**I have no financial relationships to disclose.**

# Are adhesive formulations effective for intestinal absorption of BCS class III drugs ?

**Intestinal fluid**

**Lower viscosity**

Flow

**Drug &**

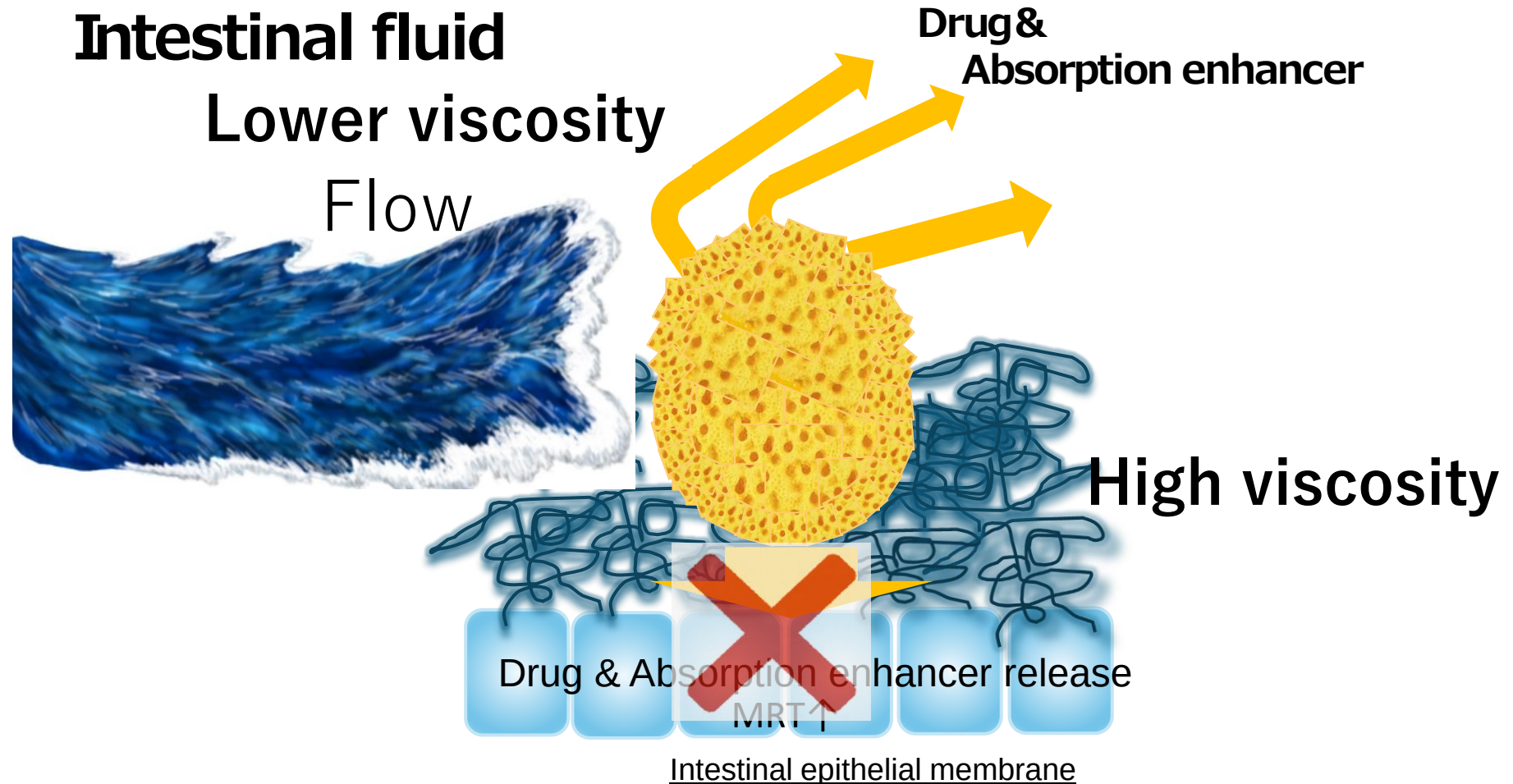
**Absorption enhancer**

**High viscosity**

Drug & Absorption enhancer release

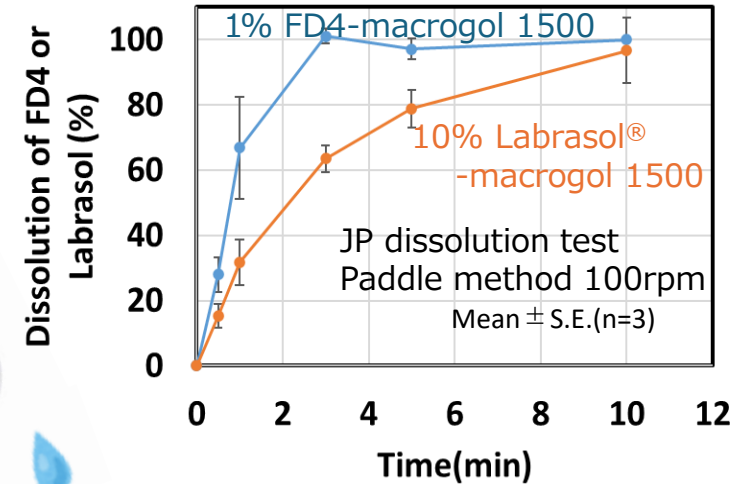
MRT ↑

Intestinal epithelial membrane



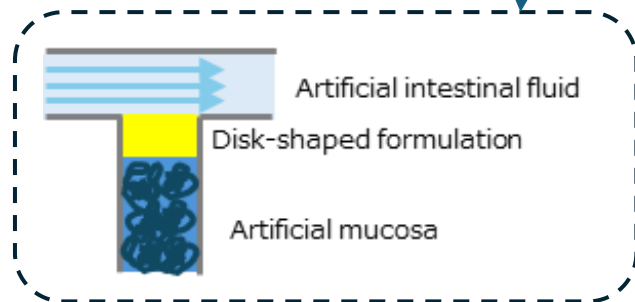
# *In vitro* evaluation model for the dissolution of the formulation on mucosa

Disk-shaped formulation ( $\phi 4.5\text{mm}$ )



(B) Sampling  
( $\rightarrow$  Surrogate of release to intestinal fluid )

(A) Sampling at end point  
( $\rightarrow$  Surrogate of release to mucosa)



Artificial mucosa  
1.5% Carbopol 974  
0.91% Mucin (Type II)  
7.02% BSA  
2.5% egg yolk emulsion (pH6.8)

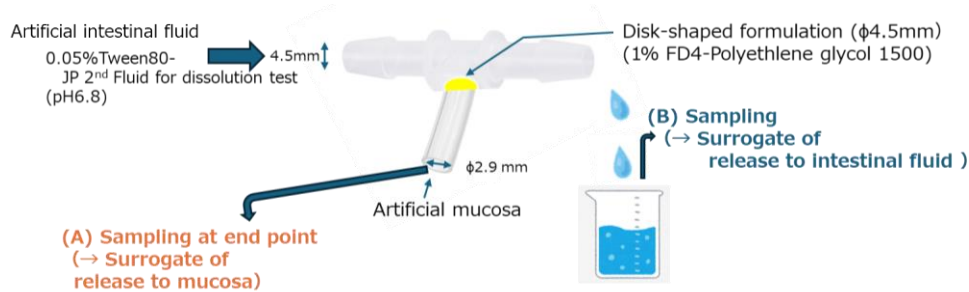
Eur. J. Pharm. Sci. 181 (2023) 106361

Artificial intestinal fluid  
0.05% Tween80-  
JP 2<sup>nd</sup> Fluid for dissolution test (pH6.8)  
(1.03mL/min)  $\rightarrow$  4.5mm

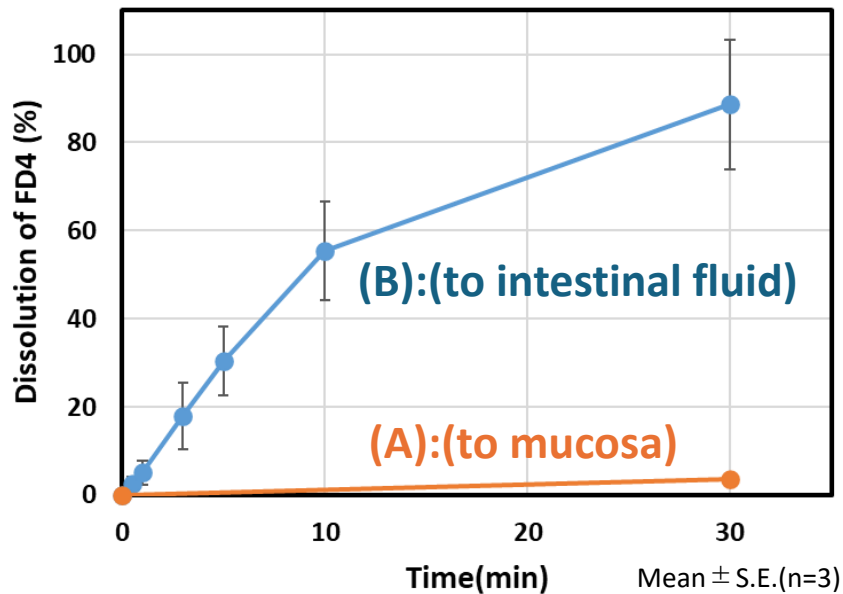
J. MAGNETIC RESONANCE  
IMAGING 32:345-351 (2010)

$\phi 2.9\text{ mm}$

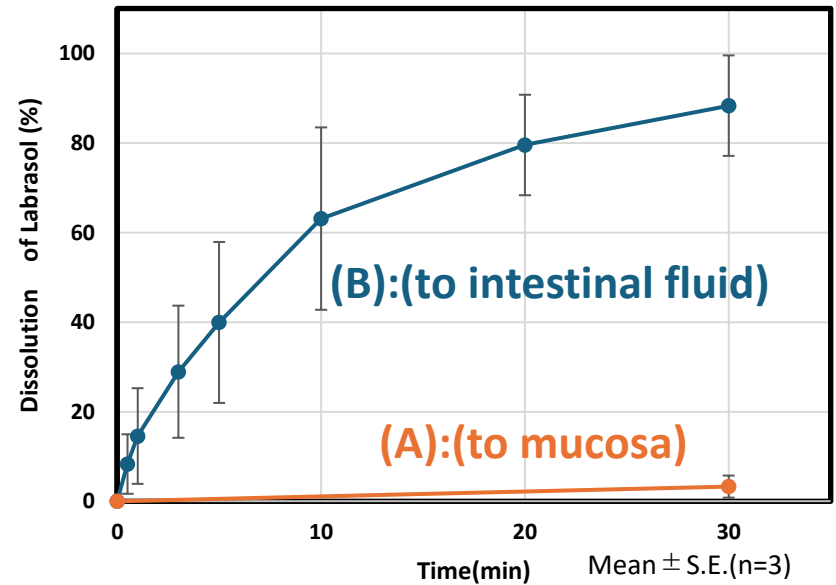
# Drug is released to intestinal fluid, not mucosa!



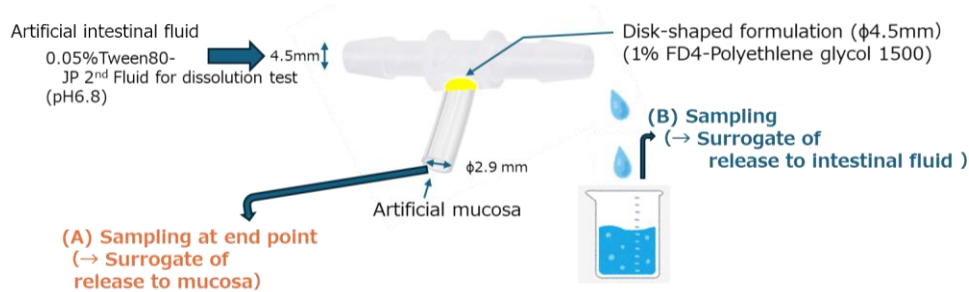
## FD4 dissolution



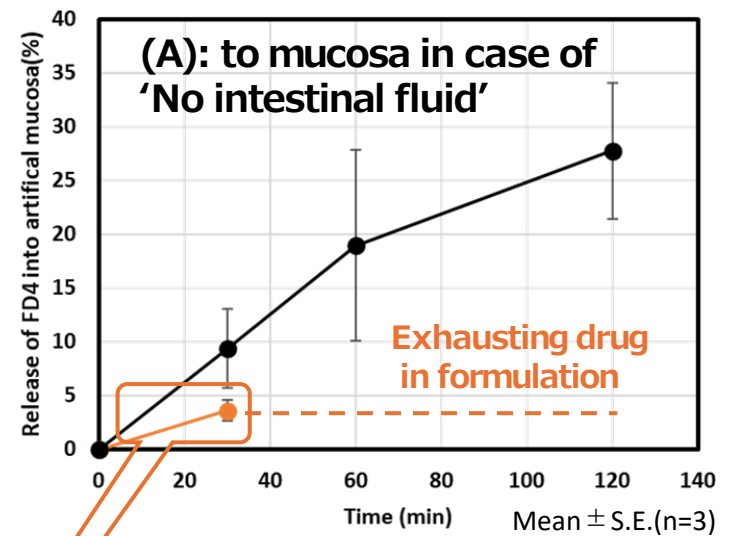
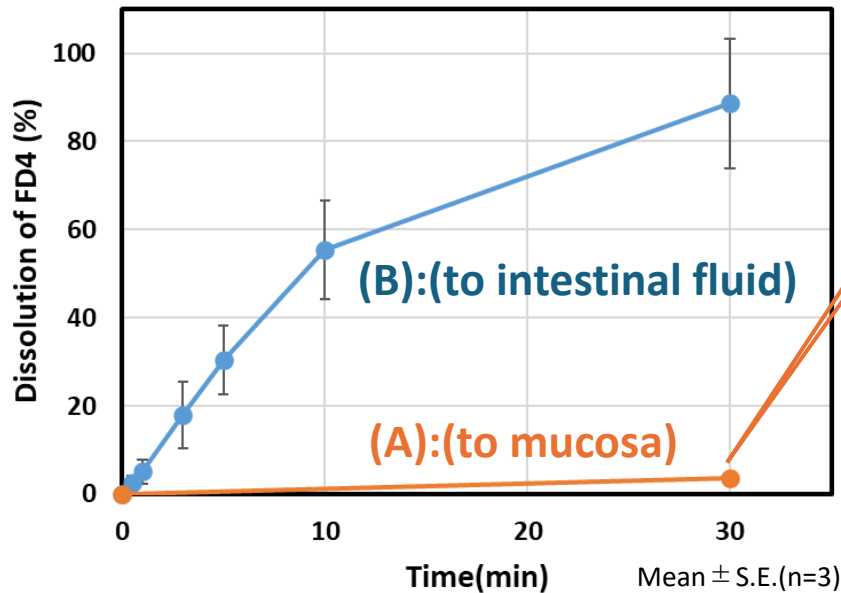
## Labrasol<sup>®</sup> dissolution



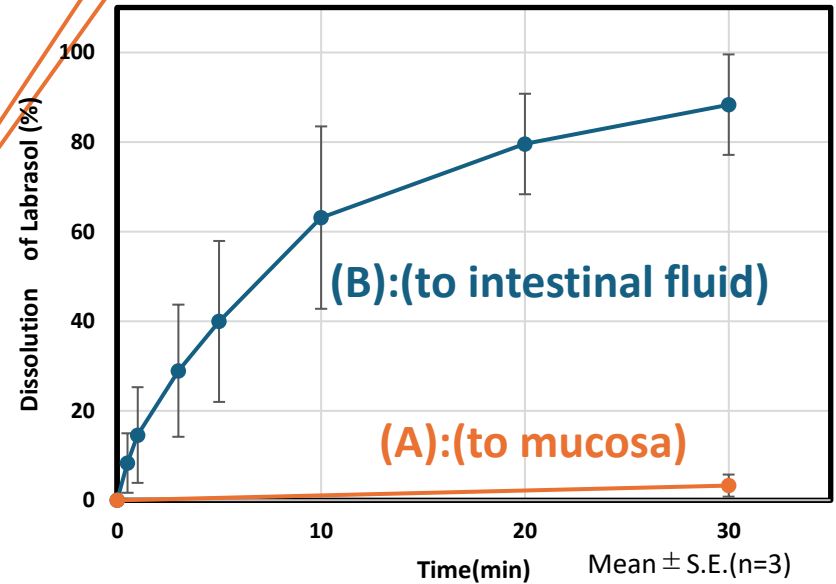
# Drug is released to intestinal fluid, not mucosa!



## FD4 dissolution

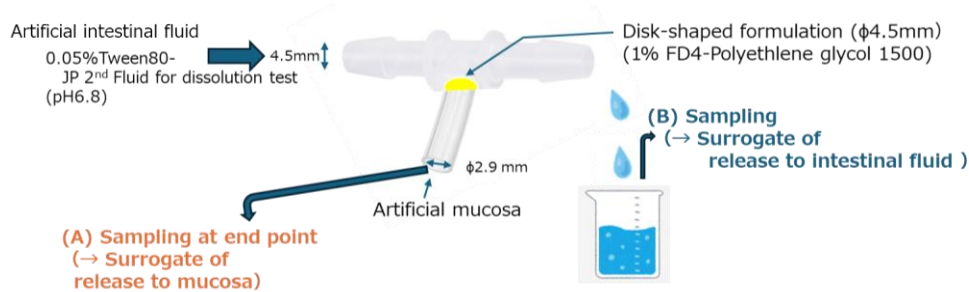


## Labrasol® dissolution

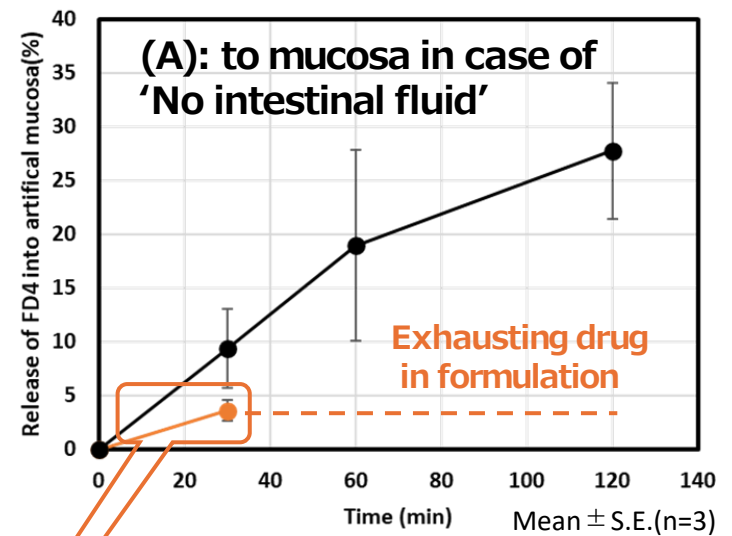
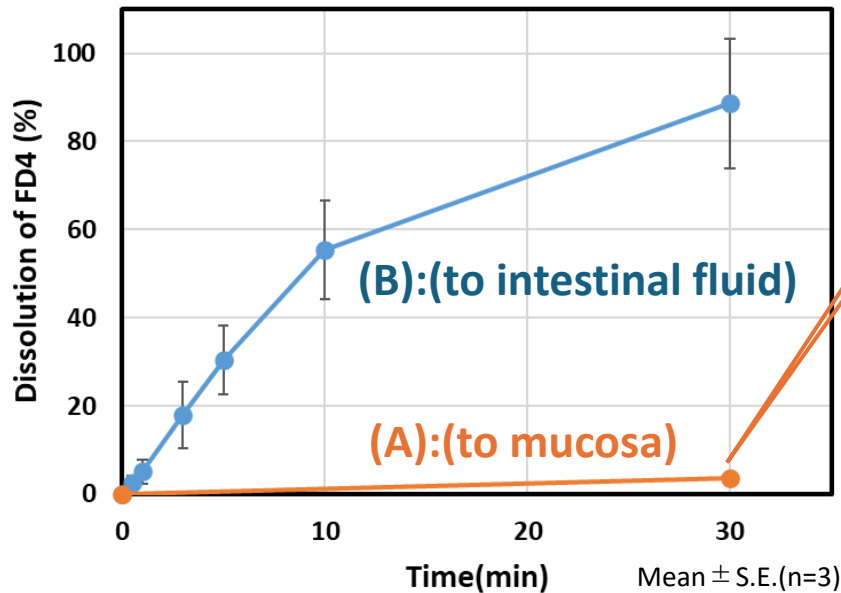


If the release to intestinal fluid stopped, the drug release to mucosa **prolonged** and **increased**.

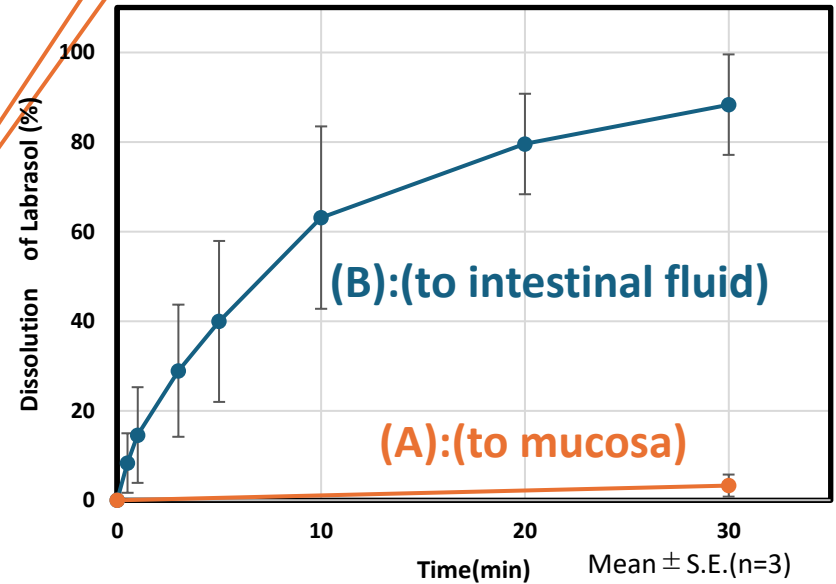
# Drug is released to intestinal fluid, not mucosa!



## FD4 dissolution

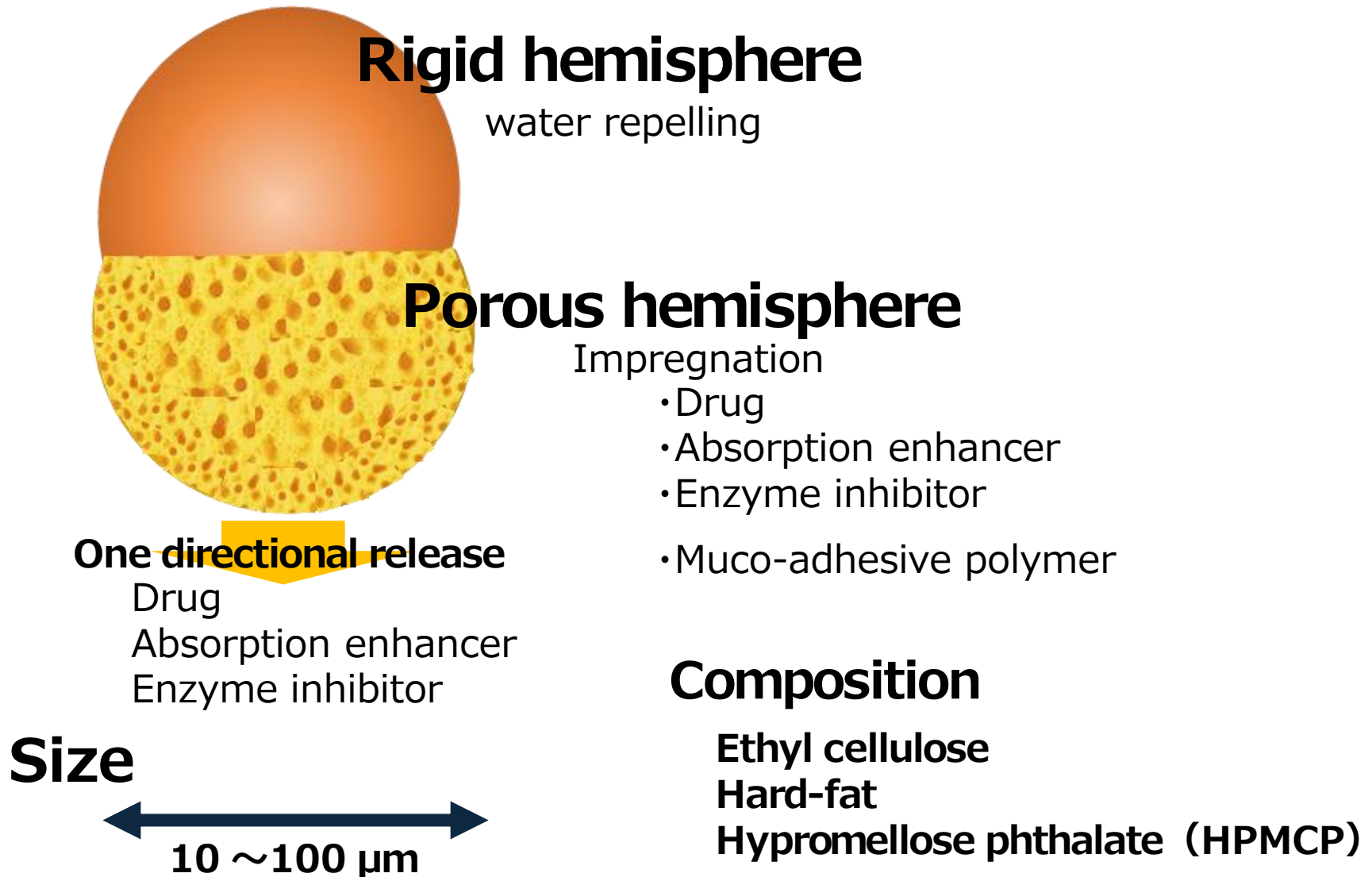


## Labrasol® dissolution

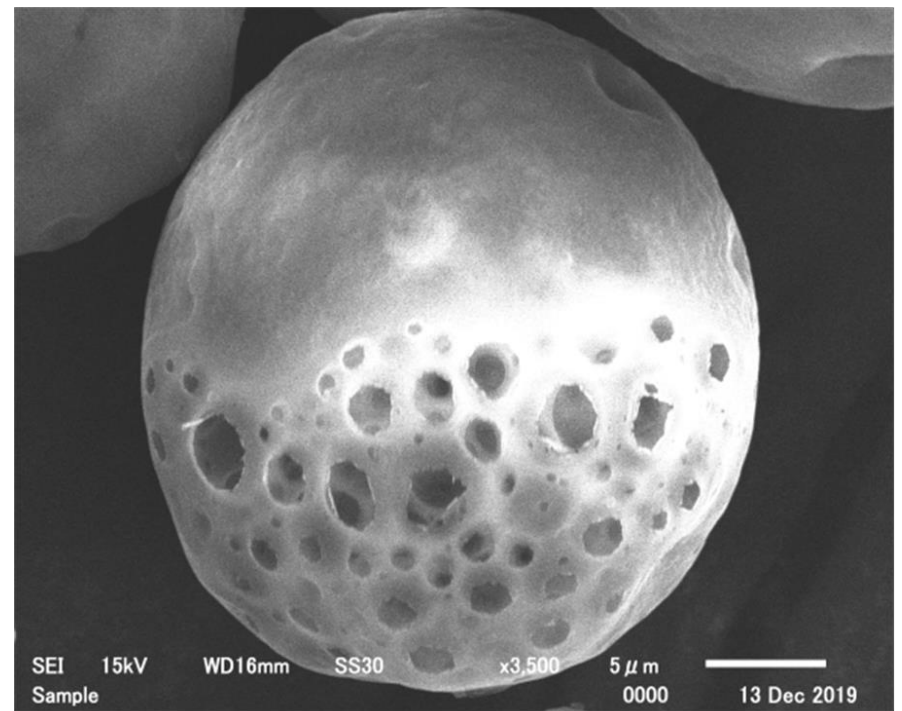


If the release to intestinal fluid stopped, the drug release to mucosa **prolonged** and **increased**.

# One-directional release formulation: Hemi-porous Janus microparticles

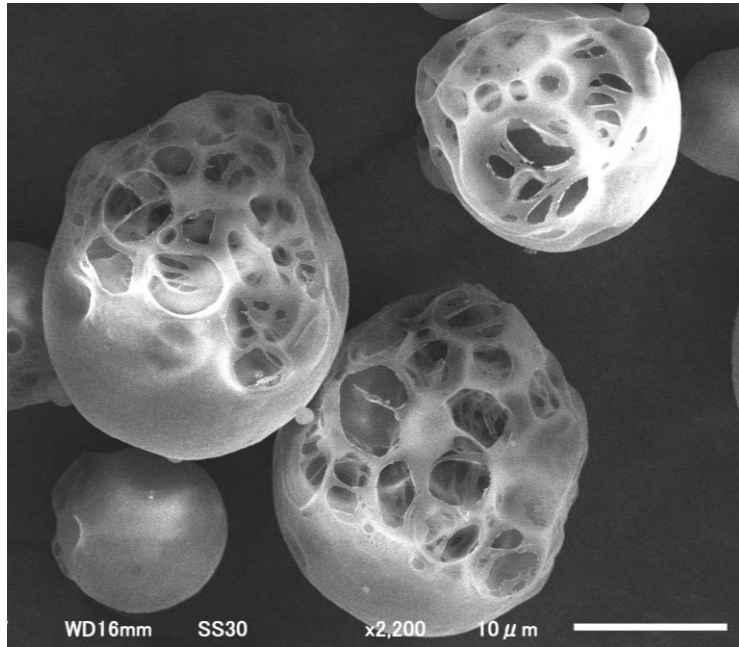


**This is our formulation  
'hemi-porous Janus  
microparticles'.**

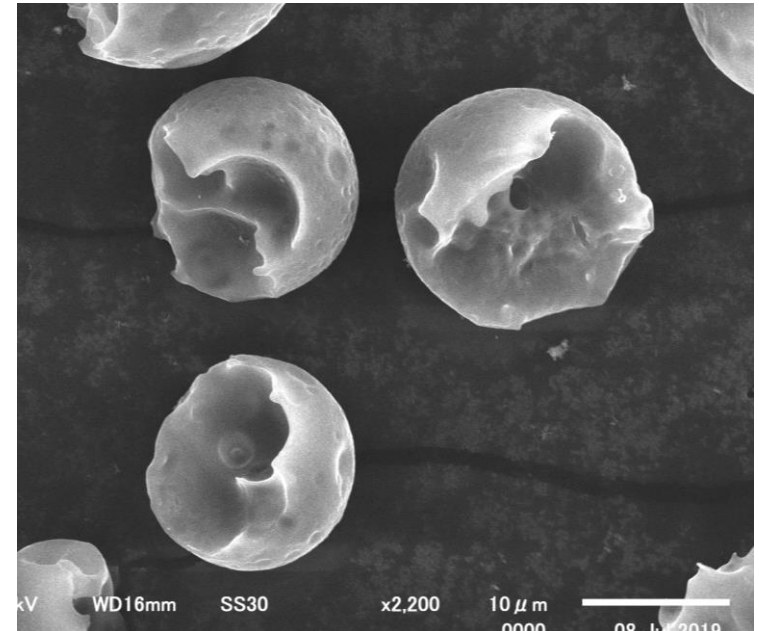




# What constitutes each hemisphere?



0.1M  
Phosphate  
buffer (pH8.0)



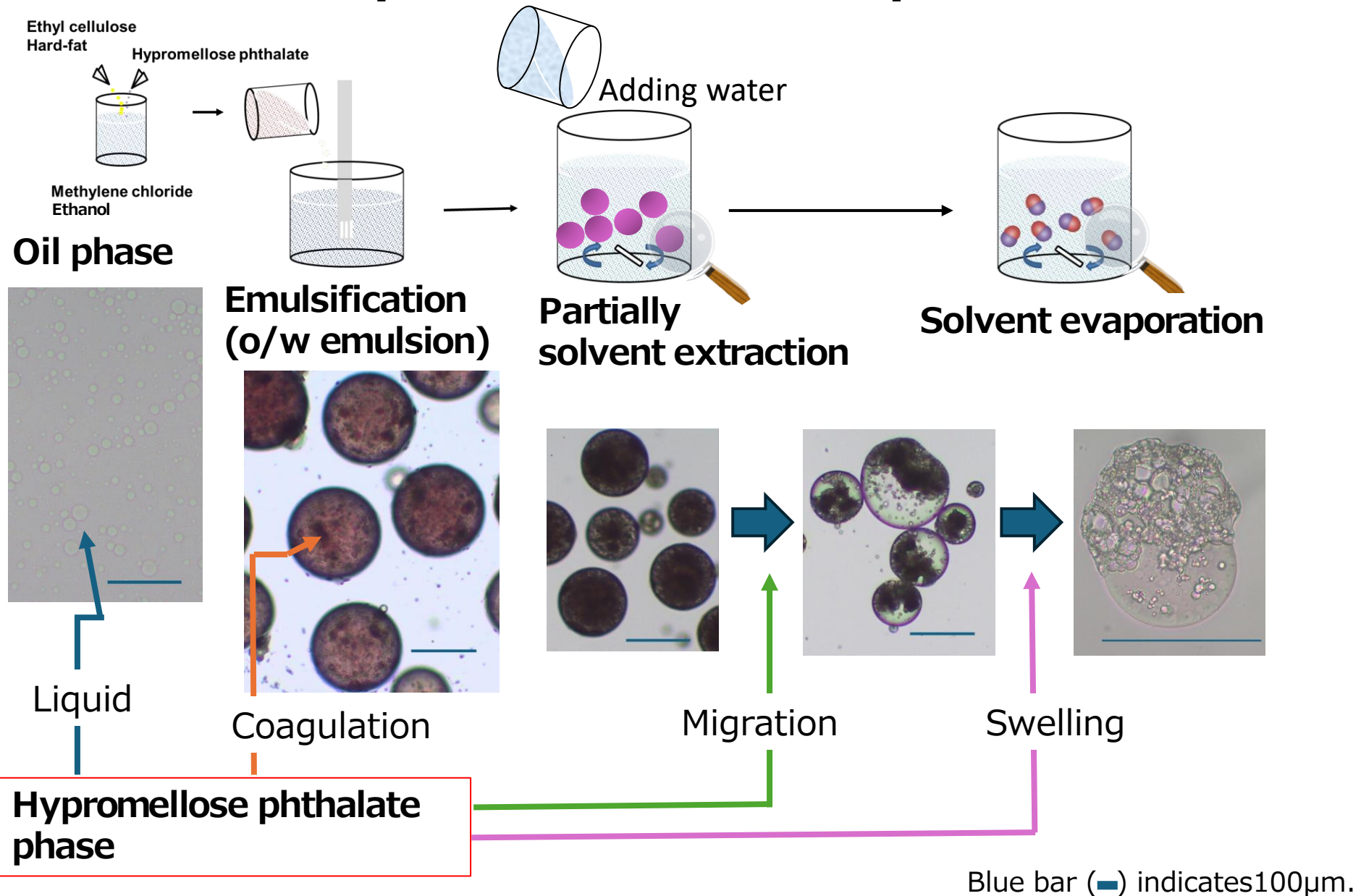
**Porous hemisphere**

→ **Hypromellose phthalate**

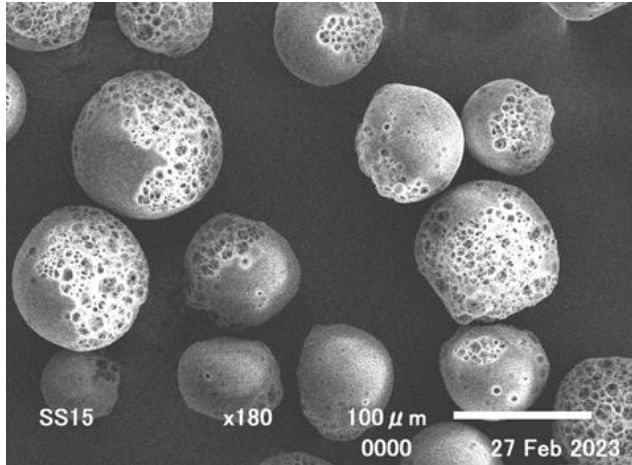
**Rigid hemisphere**

→ **Blend of Ethyl cellulose and hard-fat**

# Preparation of hemi-porous Janus microparticles

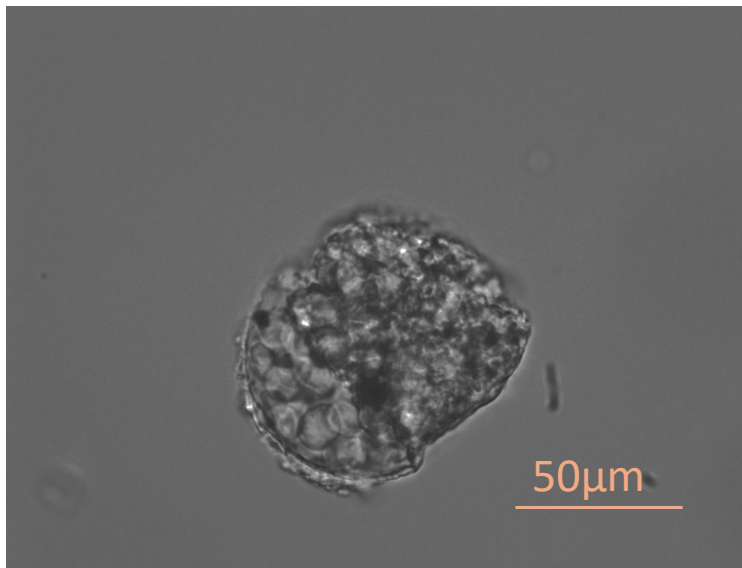


# Drug can be loaded only in a hemisphere

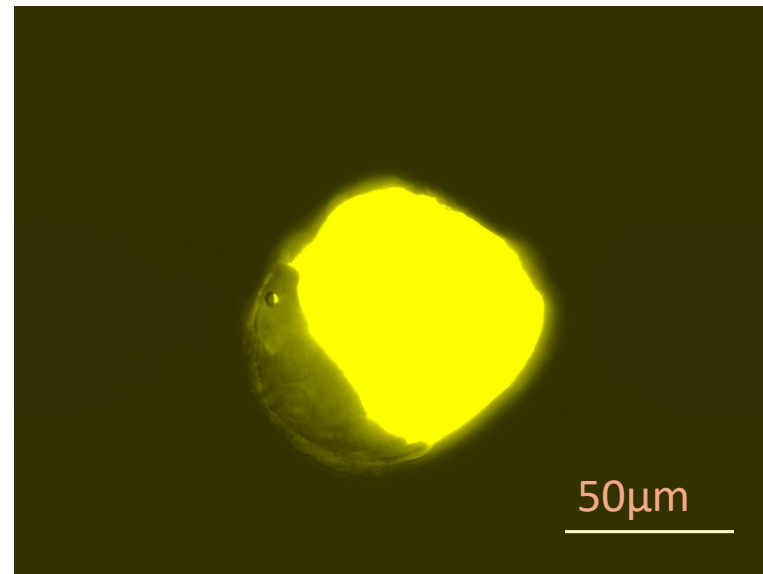


FD4 solution  
Impregnating and drying

**Optical**



**Fluorescent**



# Surrogate evaluation of wettability of rigid and porous hemispheres

(A) Hypromellose phthalate film  
(Surrogate of porous hemisphere)



Contact angle:  $53.7^\circ$

(B) Ethyl cellulose film



Contact angle:  $60.3^\circ$

(C) Ethyl cellulose/hard fat film  
(Surrogate of rigid hemisphere)



Contact angle:  $96.9^\circ$

The difference in the wettability of the two hemispheres can be controlled by adding hard fat.

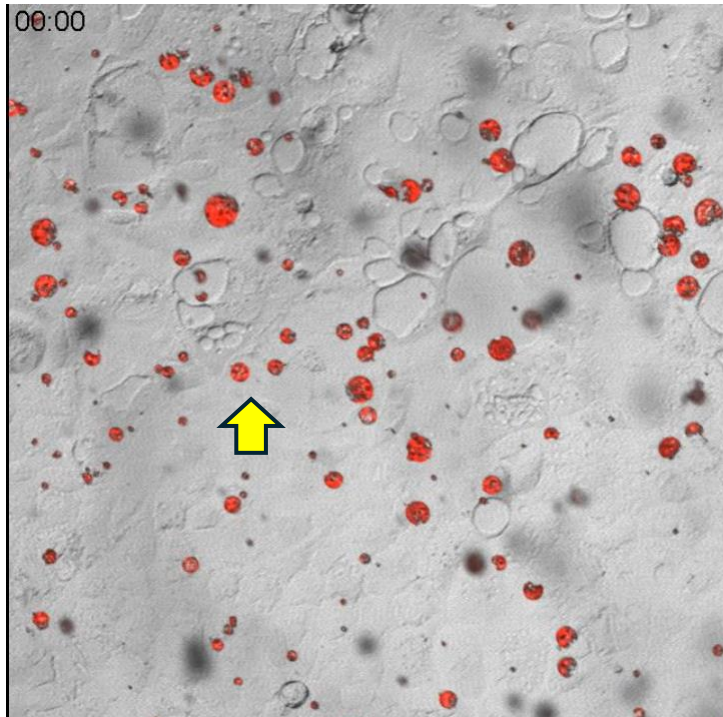


Increase the incorporation efficiency of drug aqueous solution in porous hemispheres

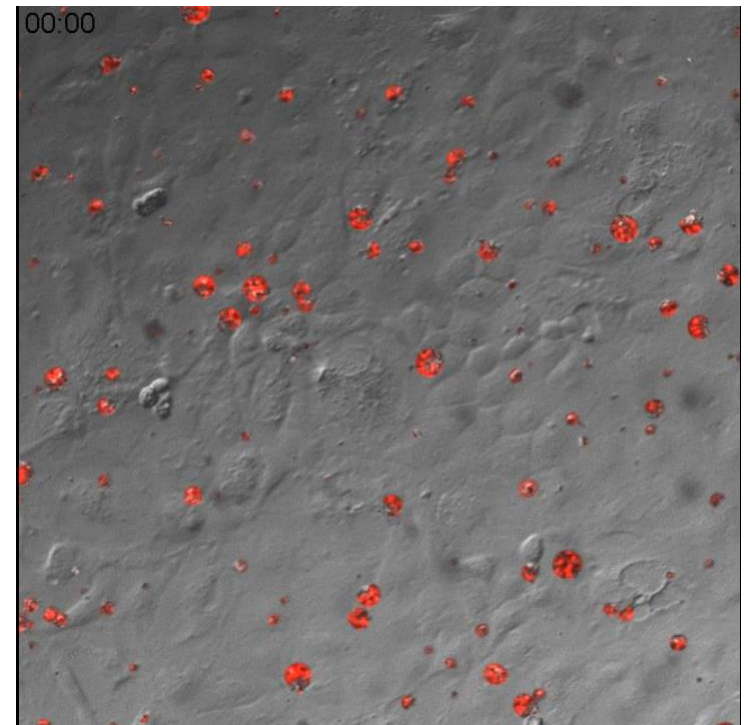


# Muco-adhesive hemiporous microparticles attached Caco-2 membrane

(+) Muco-adhesive polymer

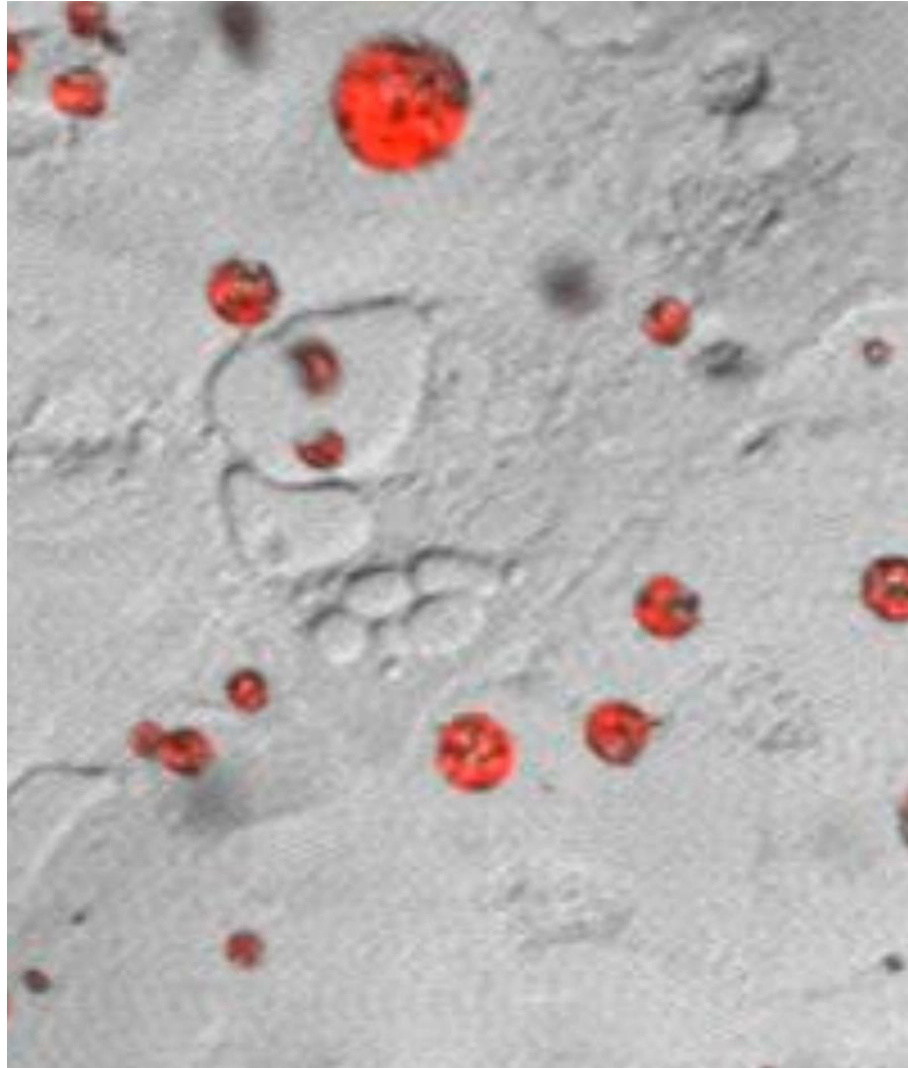


(-) Muco-adhesive polymer



Speed:  $\times 1$

Adhesive polymer: Carbopol® 934

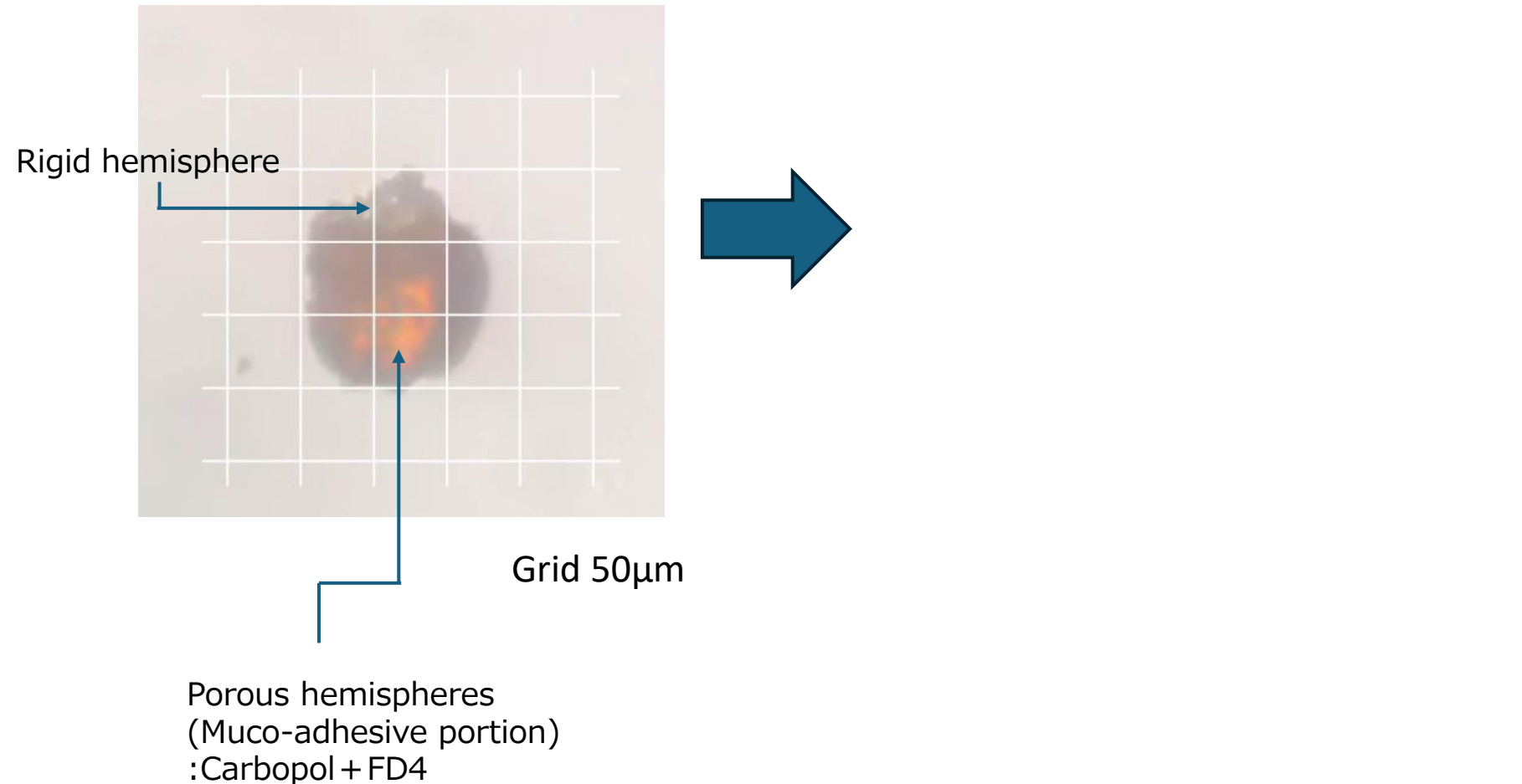


Speed:  $\times 0.06$

Adhesive polymer: Carbopol<sup>®</sup> 934

# Porous hemisphere is transformed into a muco-adhesive portion under the intestinal pH condition (*in vitro*)

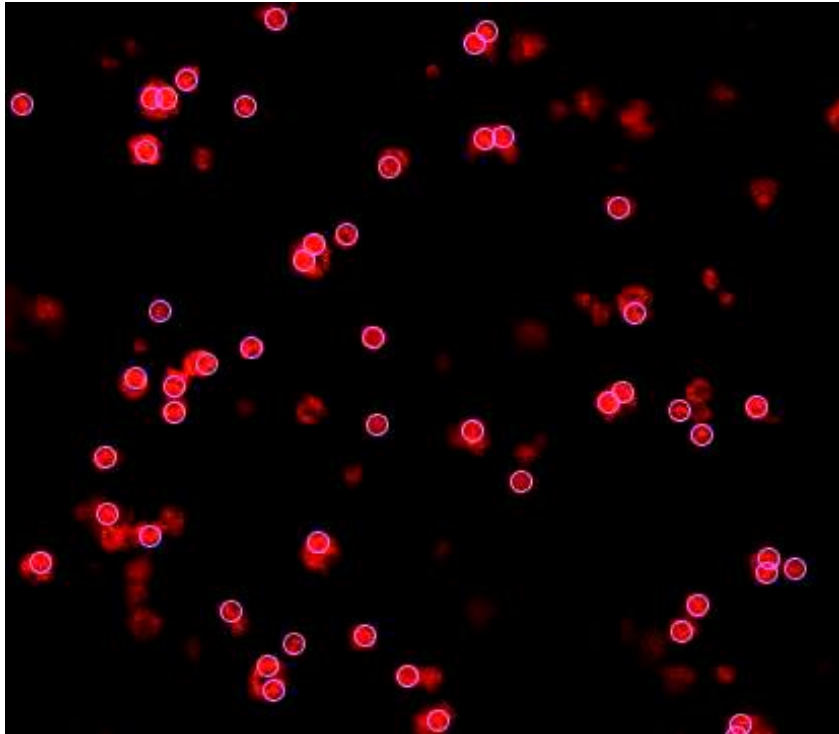
Just after the addition of 2nd fluid (pH6.8)



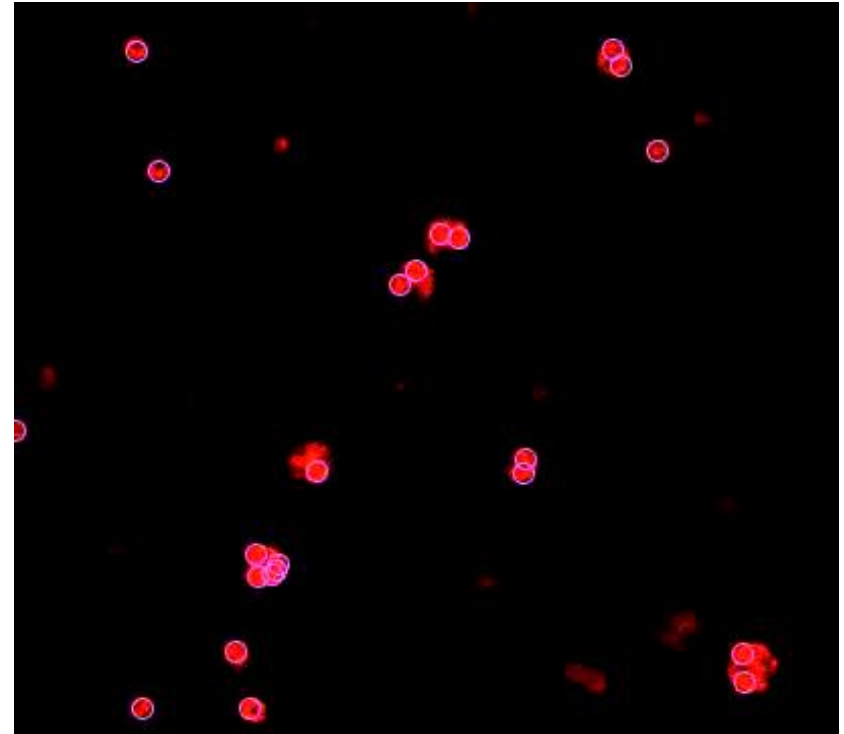
Adhesive polymer: Carbopol<sup>®</sup> 934

# Muco-adhesive hemiporous microparticles attached Caco-2-HT29MTX membrane

(+) Muco-adhesive polymer



(-) Muco-adhesive polymer



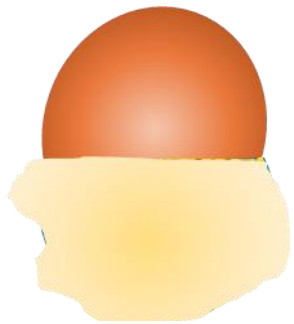
Speed:  $\times 1$

Adhesive polymer: Carbopol® 934

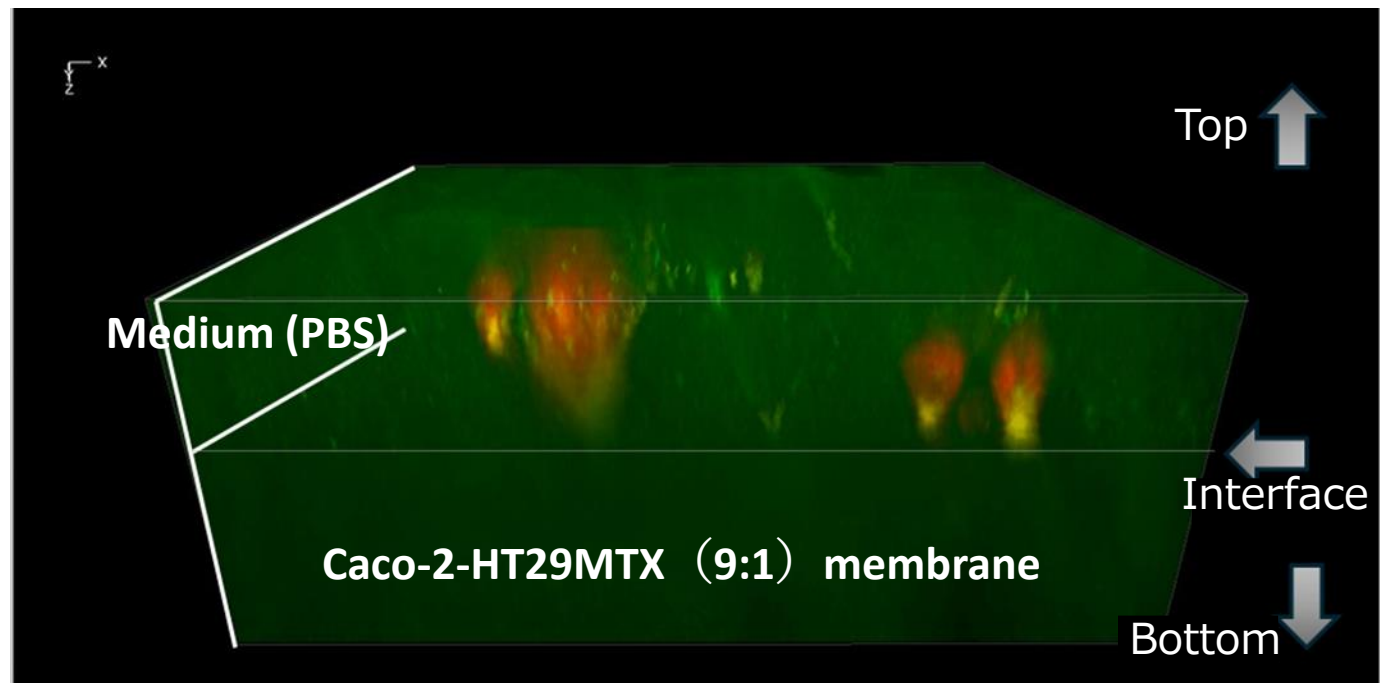


# Muco-adhesive hemi-porous microparticles attached to mucus with the porous hemisphere oriented downwards and the rigid hemisphere facing upwards *in vitro* Caco-2-HT29MTX culture

Water-repelling rigid hemispheres  
Nile red (red)



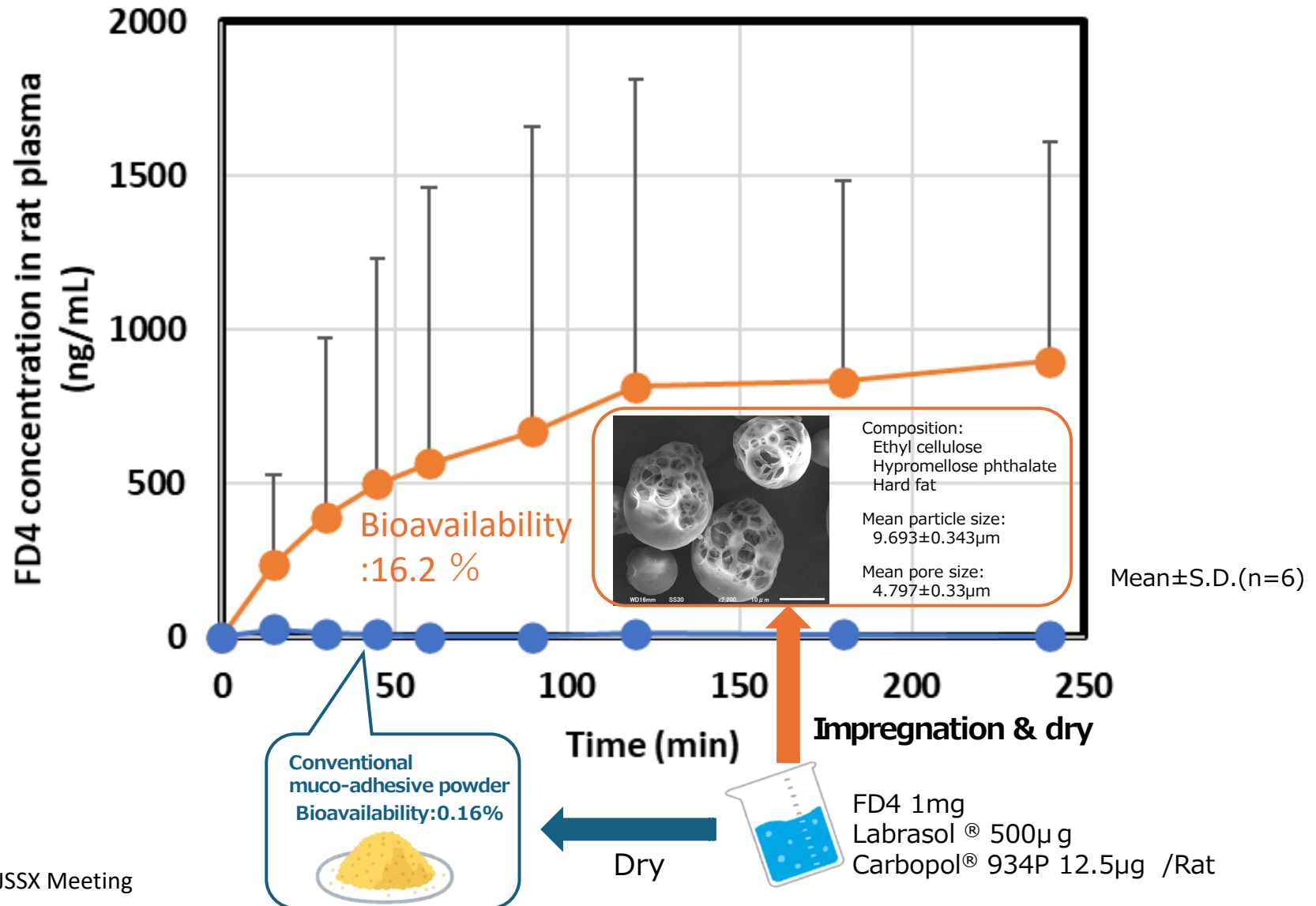
Muco-adhesive portion  
FD4 (yellow)



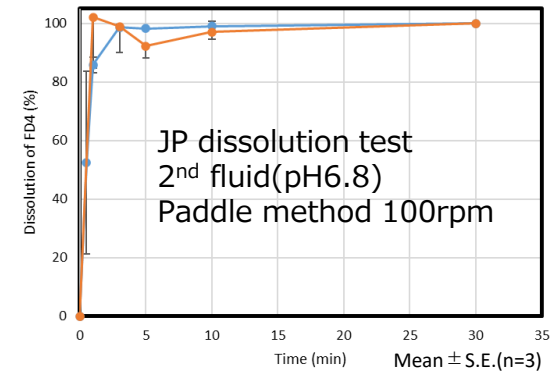
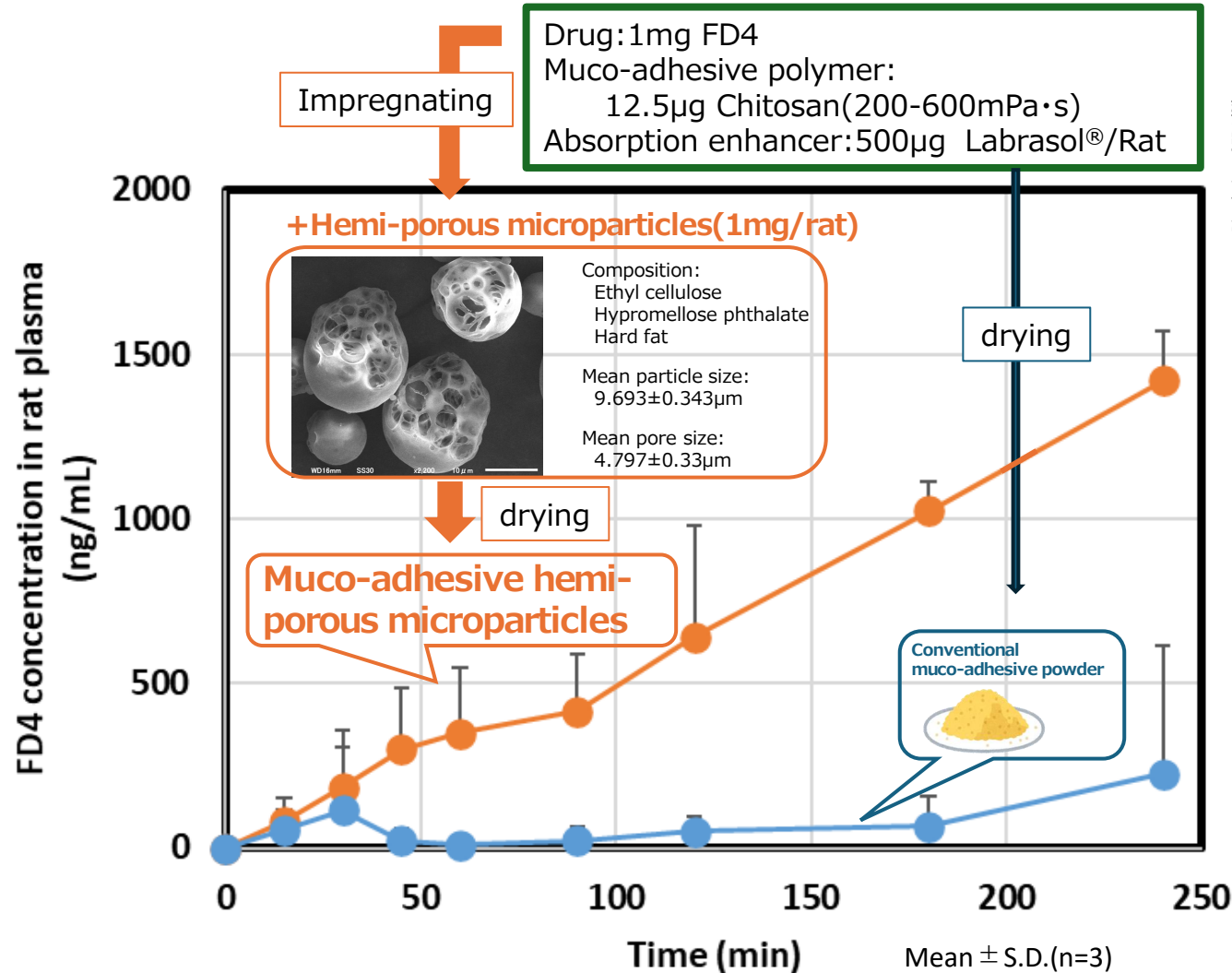
24 h

Adhesive polymer: Carbopol<sup>®</sup> 934

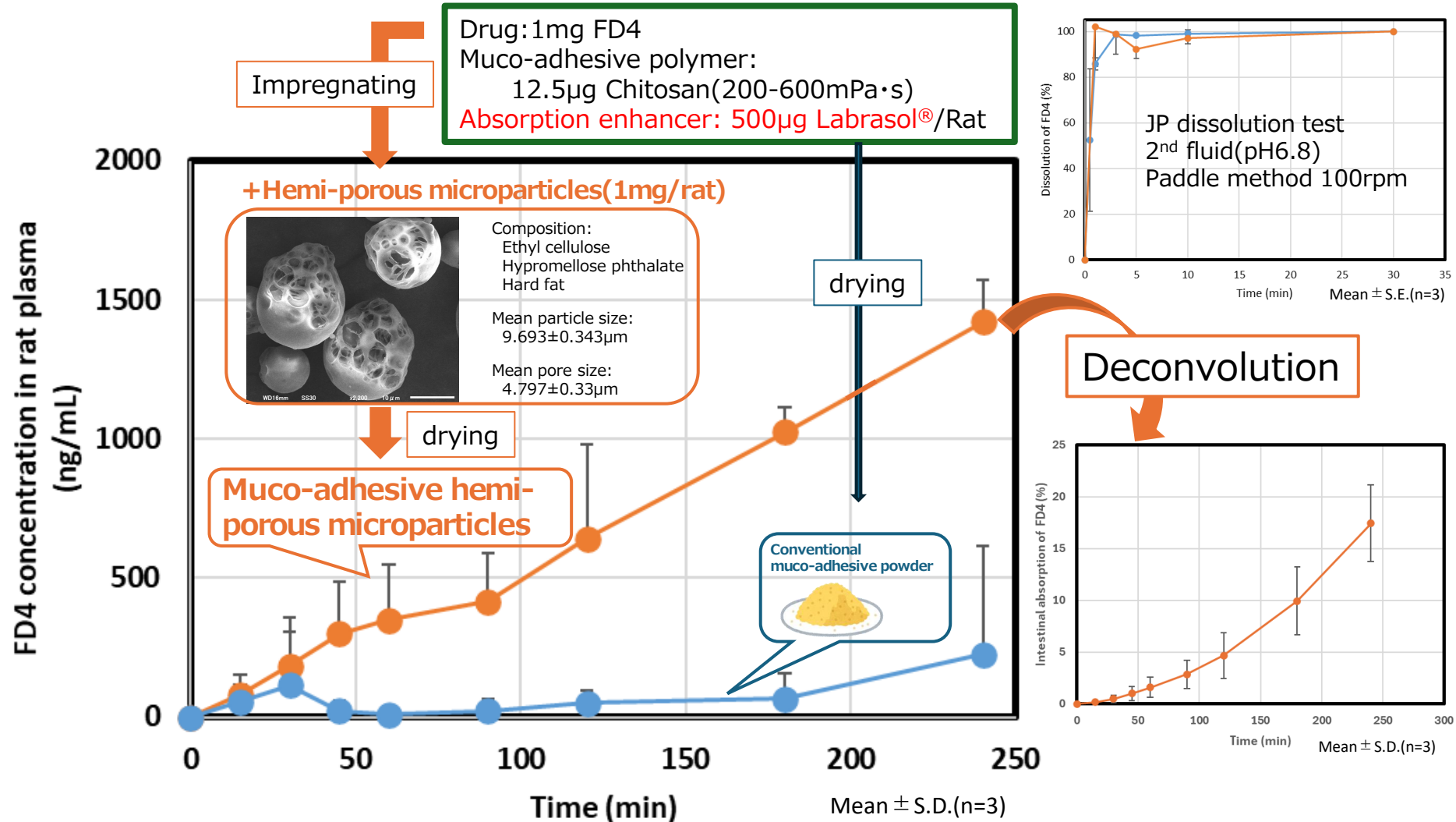
# Rat jejunum absorption of FD4 were improved by the administration of FD4-muco-adhesive hemi-porous microparticles (Carbopol934)



# Rat jejunum absorption of FD4 were improved by the administration of FD4-muco-adhesive hemi-porous microparticles (Chitosan)



# Rat jejunum absorption of FD4 were improved by the administration of FD4-muco-adhesive hemi-porous microparticles



# FD4-muco-adhesive hemi-porous microparticles attached to rat jejunum



Undissolved FD4

240 min

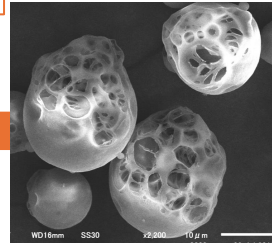
- **Adhesion to jejunum**
- **Incomplete dissolution of FD4**  
→ FD4 dissolved slowly in mucosa, which was the only direction of FD4 release.

# 6.6% relative bioavailability of insulin were achieved by the rat jejunum administration of insulin-muco-adhesive hemi-porous microparticles

Drug: 2U insulin  
Muco-adhesive polymer:  
130  $\mu\text{g}$  Chitosan (200-600 mPa·s)  
Enzyme inhibitor: 1 mg citric acid  
Absorption enhancer: 800  $\mu\text{g}$  Labrasol®/Rat

Impregnating

Hemi-porous microparticles  
(2 mg/rat)



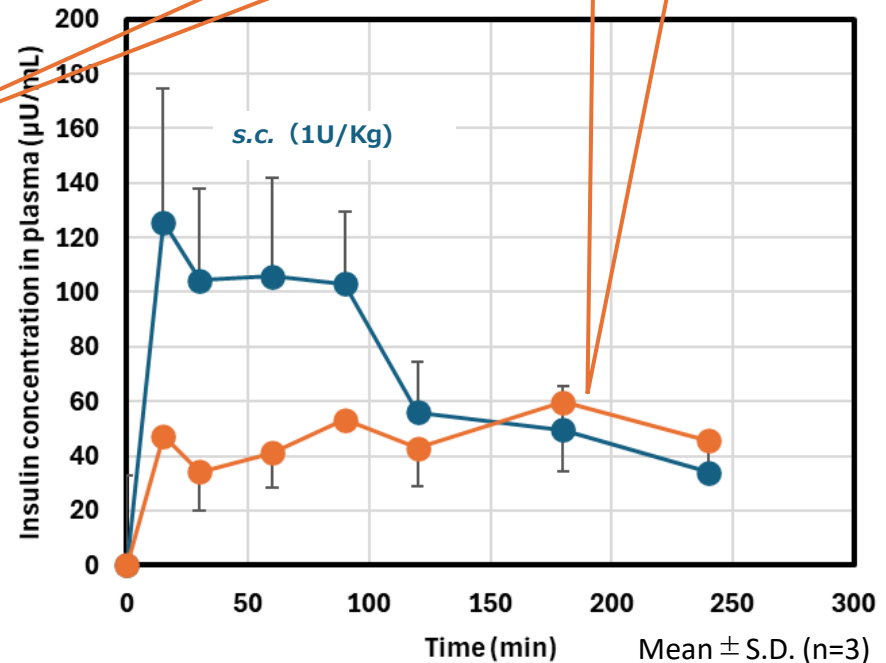
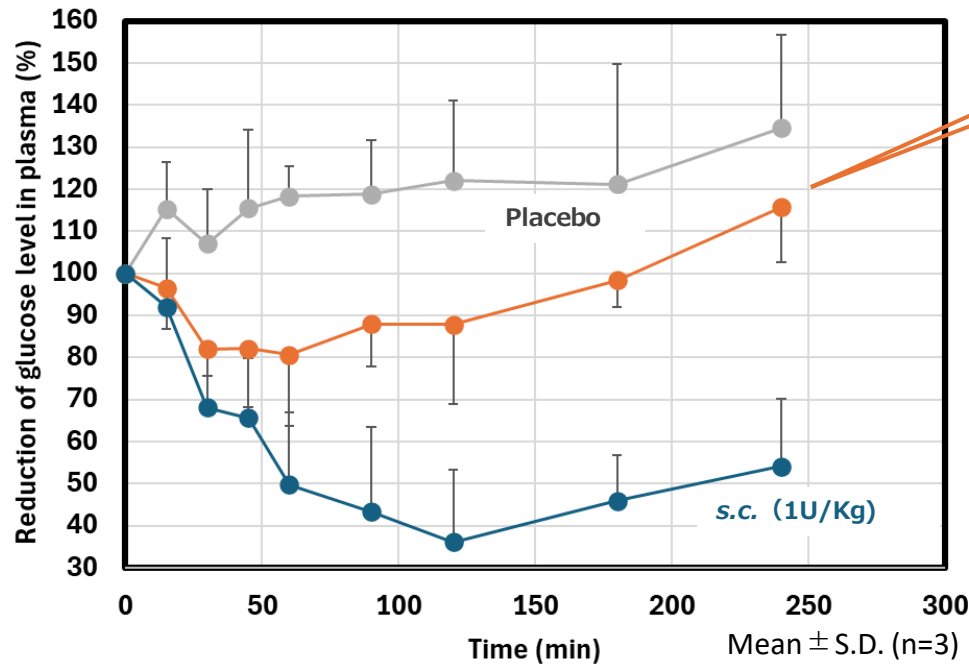
Composition:  
Ethyl cellulose  
Hypromellose phthalate  
Hard fat

Mean particle size:  
 $9.693 \pm 0.343 \mu\text{m}$

Mean pore size:  
 $4.797 \pm 0.33 \mu\text{m}$

drying

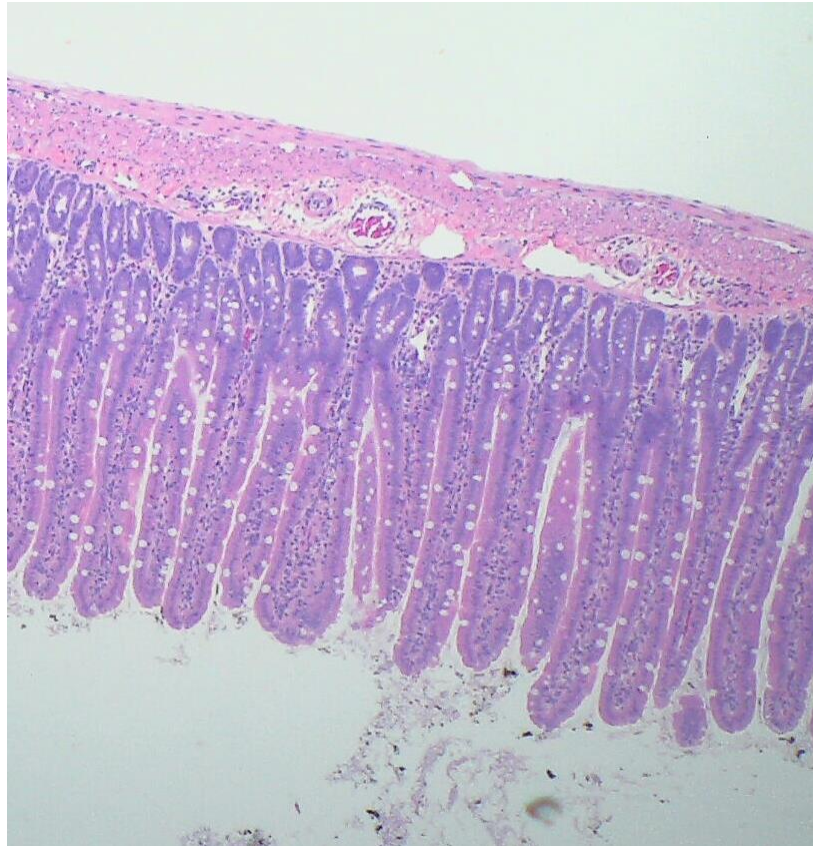
Muco-adhesive  
hemi-porous  
microparticles  
(Insulin 10U/Kg)





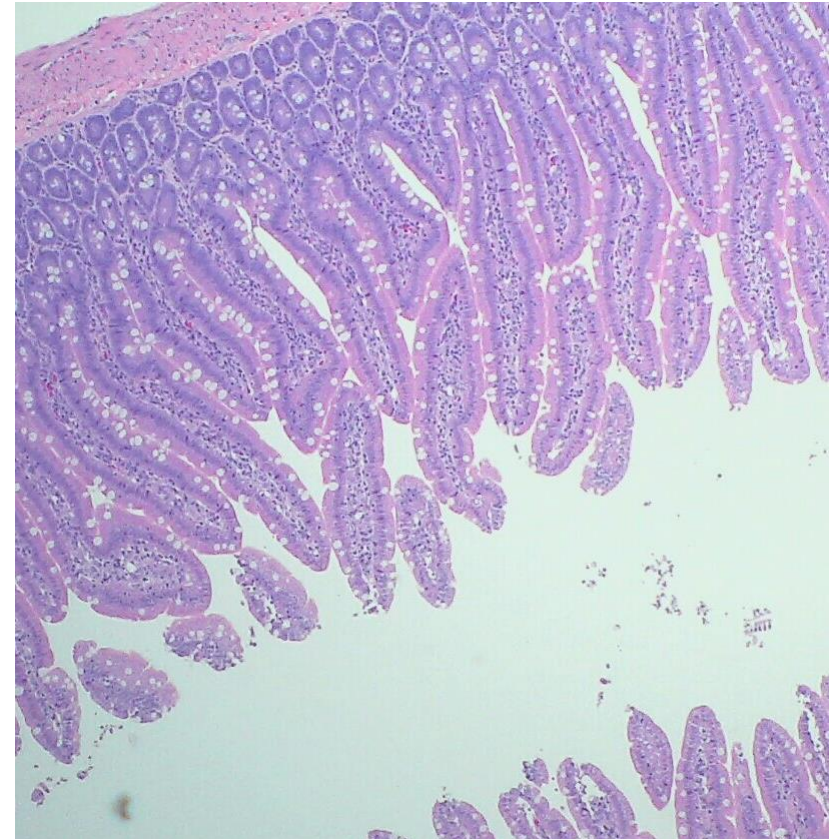
**Histological analysis did not show pronounced  
local mucosal irritation**

**Insulin-muco-adhesive hemi-  
porous microparticles**



100μm

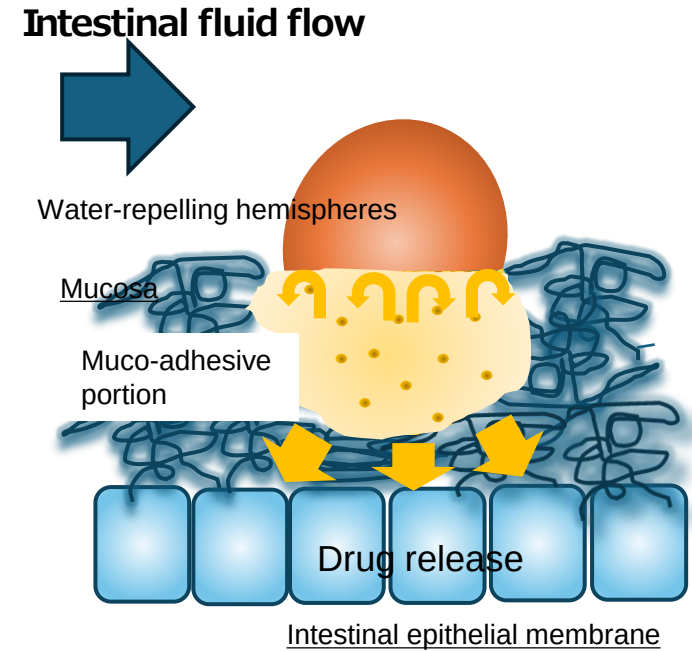
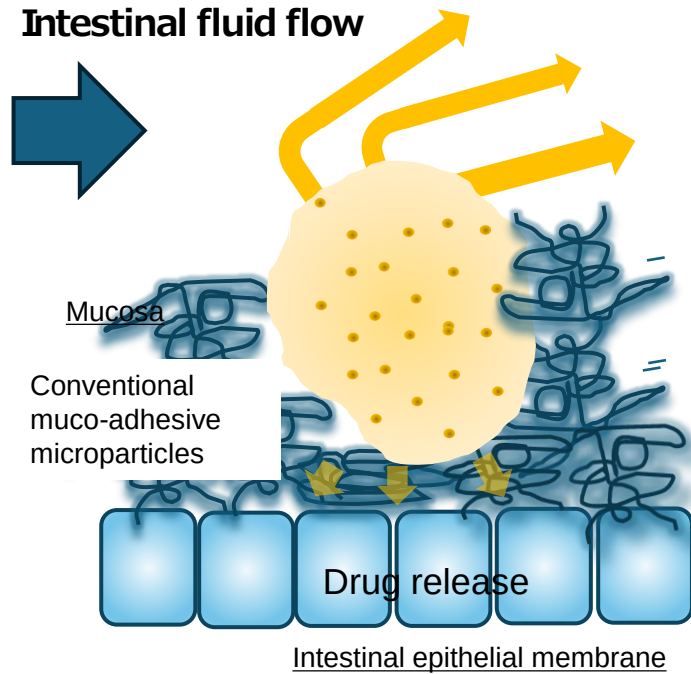
**Control**



100μm



# Conclusions



- A conventional formulation releases drugs and absorption enhancers mainly to the luminal side, and releases little to the high-viscosity mucosa.
- Drugs and absorption enhancers released to the luminal side are immediately diluted by the intestinal fluid. → **Bioavailability of BCS class 3 drugs was low.**

- The oriented adhesion suppresses the release of drugs and absorption enhancers to the luminal side, and lead to the slow release of drug and absorption enhancer only to the mucosal side but keeping high concentrations of them in mucosa. → **Bioavailability of BCS class 3 drugs was improved.**

# Merci pour votre attention!



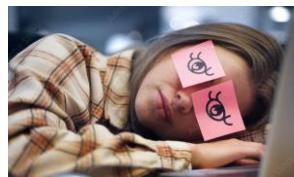
## Acknowledgements

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Ms.Y.Yamada

