



# **Microneedle technology: From bench to clinic**

**Mark R. Prausnitz**

**Georgia Institute of Technology**

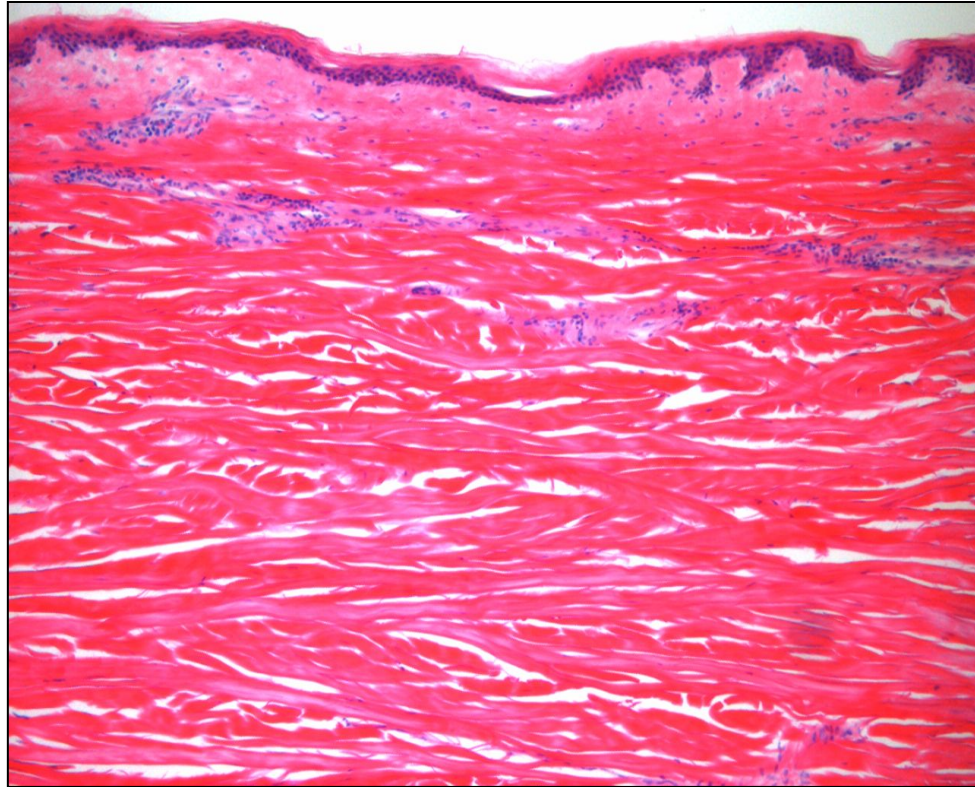
# Disclosure

Mark Prausnitz is a co-founder and has a significant financial interest in

- Micron Biomedical
- Clearside Biomedical
- Microstar Biotech
- Aldena Therapeutics
- Vimela Therapeutics

This conflict of interest is managed by the Georgia Institute of Technology.

# Drug delivery to skin is blocked by stratum corneum

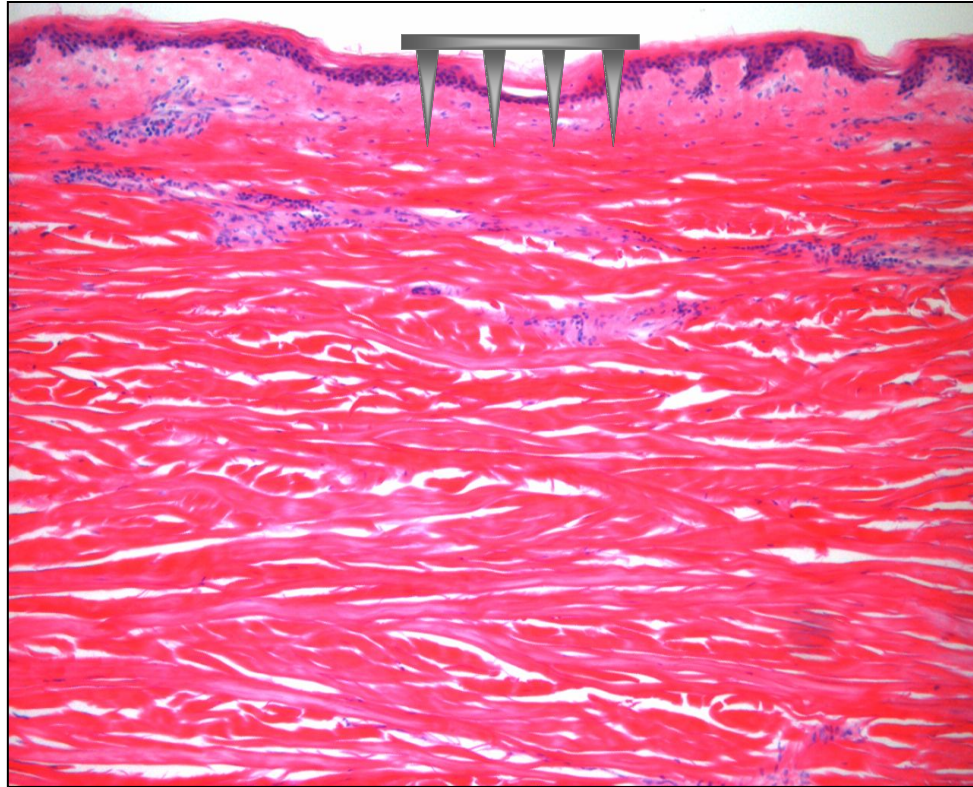


Stratum corneum

Viable epidermis

Dermis

# Microneedles cross the stratum corneum barrier



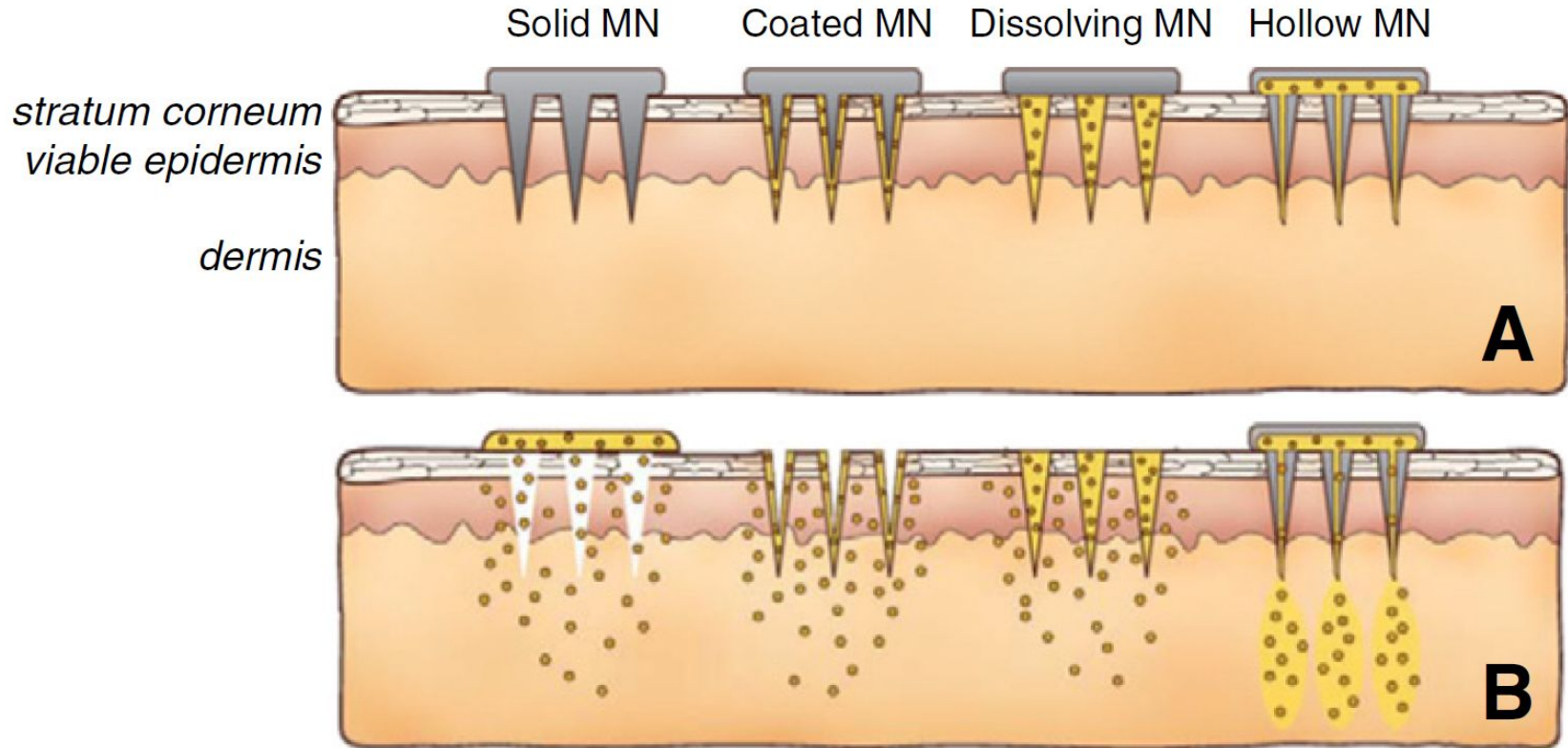
Stratum corneum

Viable epidermis

Dermis



# Microneedle technology comes in various forms



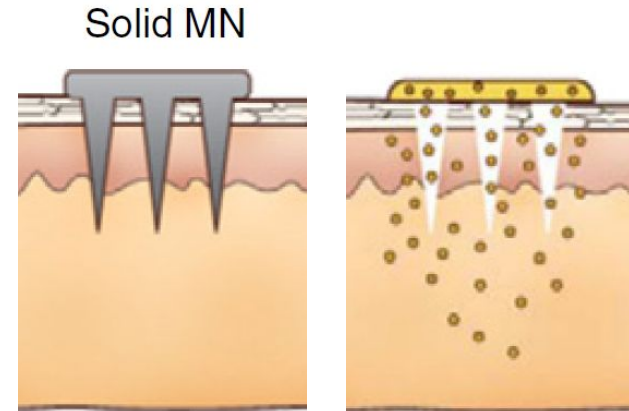
# Solid microneedles to create pathways in skin

## Drug delivery into skin

- Naltrexone
- STAR particles

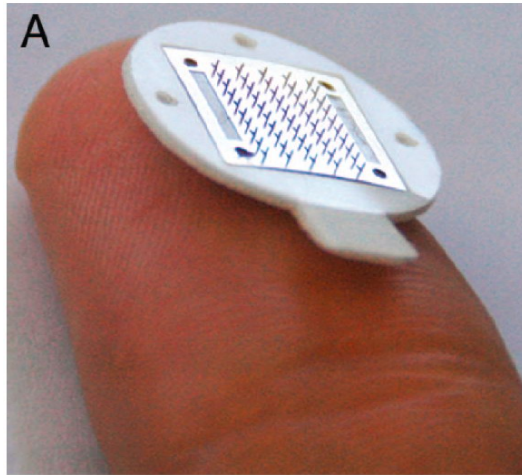
## Interstitial fluid out of skin

- Novel biomarkers

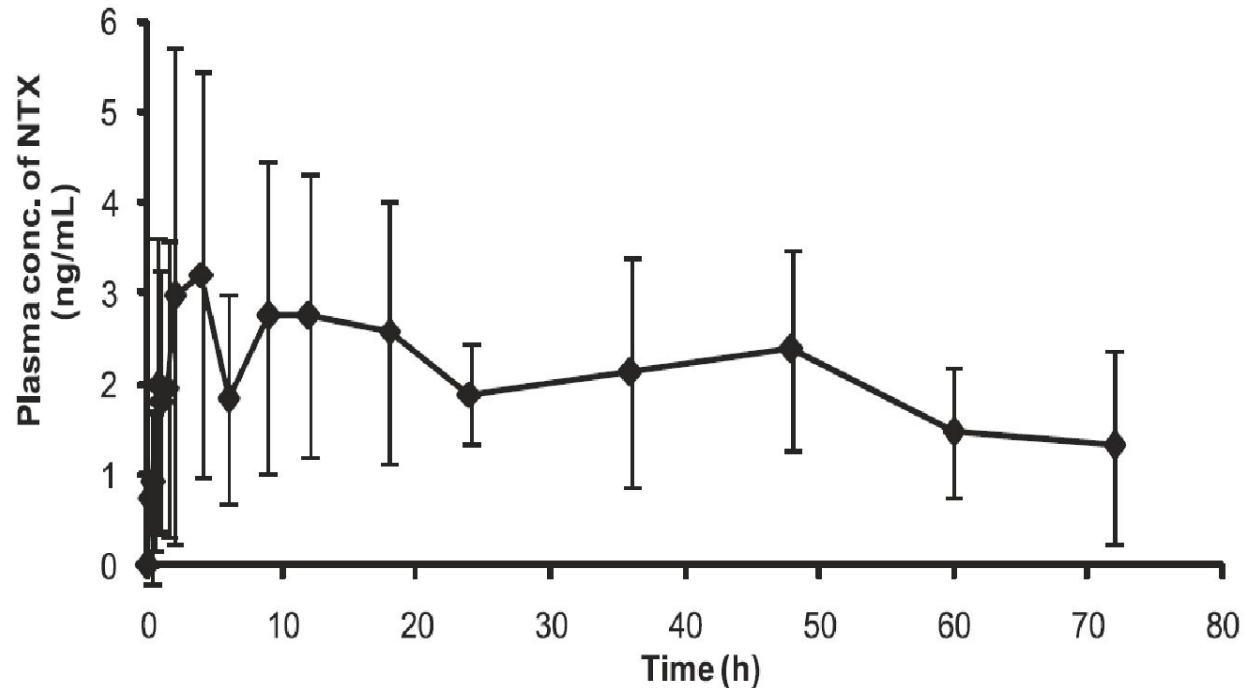


# Microneedles permit transdermal delivery of a skin-impermeant medication to humans



Daniel P. Wermeling<sup>\*†</sup>, Stan L. Banks<sup>‡</sup>, David A. Hudson<sup>§</sup>, Harvinder S. Gill<sup>¶</sup>, Jyoti Gupta<sup>||</sup>, Mark R. Prausnitz<sup>||</sup>, and Audra L. Stinchcomb<sup>‡</sup>

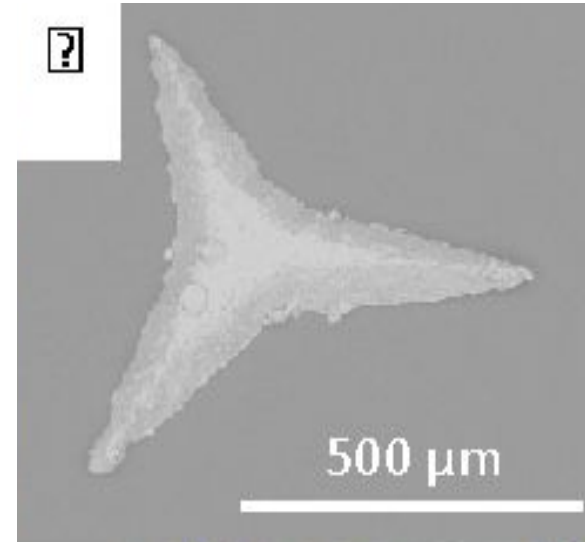


“Poke and patch”





# STAR particles for enhanced topical drug and vaccine delivery

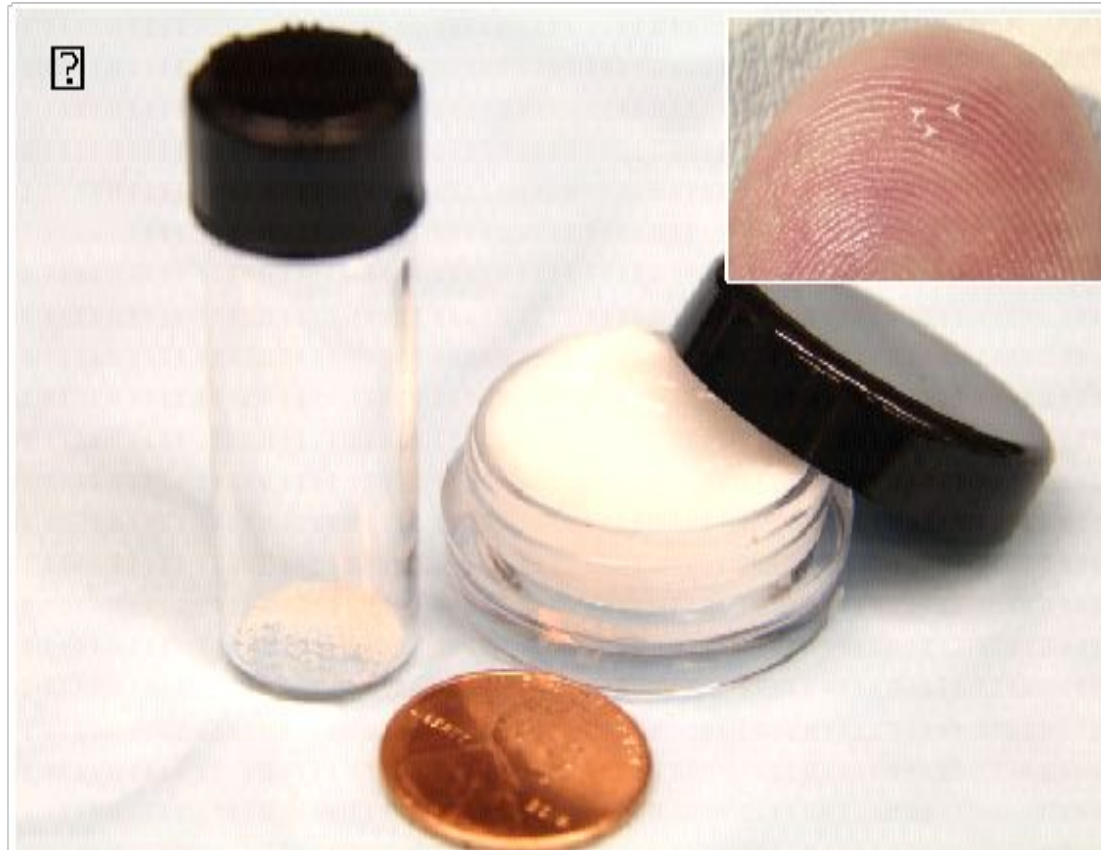
Andrew R. Tadros<sup>1</sup>, Andrey Romanyuk<sup>1</sup>, Ian C. Miller<sup>2</sup>, Andrea Santiago<sup>2</sup>, Richard K. Noel<sup>3</sup>, Laura O'Farrell<sup>3</sup>, Gabriel A. Kwong<sup>2</sup> and Mark R. Prausnitz <sup>1,2</sup> 







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**Nature Medicine,**  
26 (2020) 341-347

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Immediately after  
STAR particle  
application



1 day after  
STAR particle  
application



# STAR particle clinical trials

- Lidocaine delivery in children (2022)



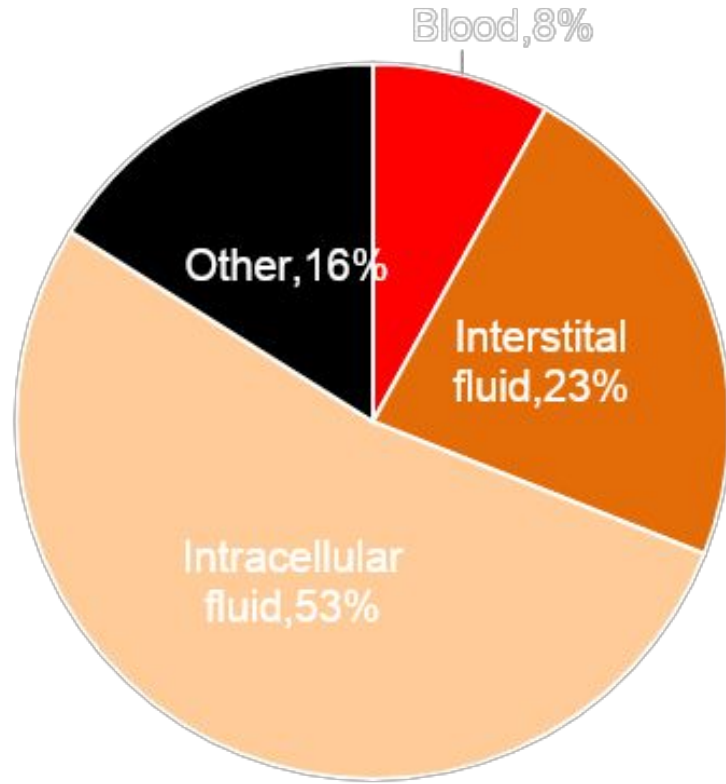
- Cosmeceutical agents (2022)



- Nucleic acid therapies for dermatology (undisclosed)



# Why use blood to collect biomarkers?

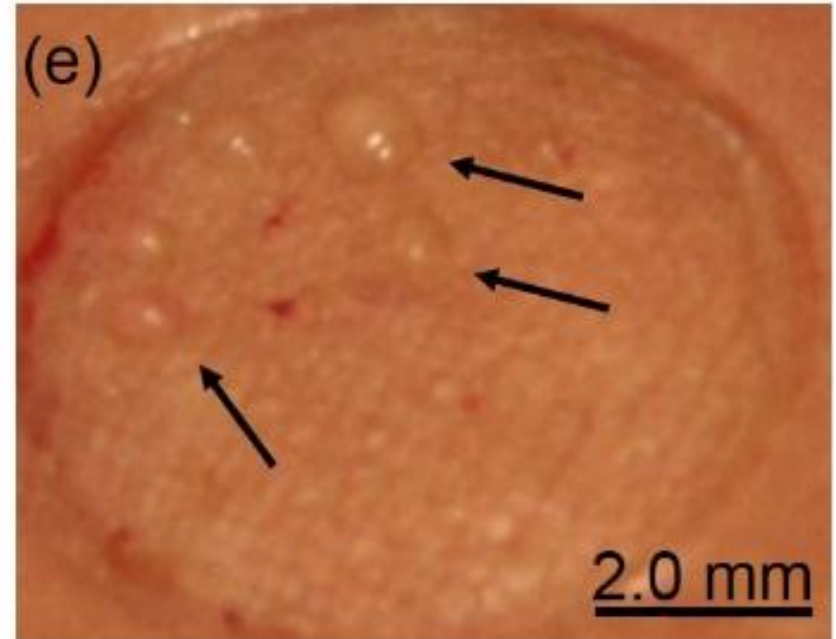
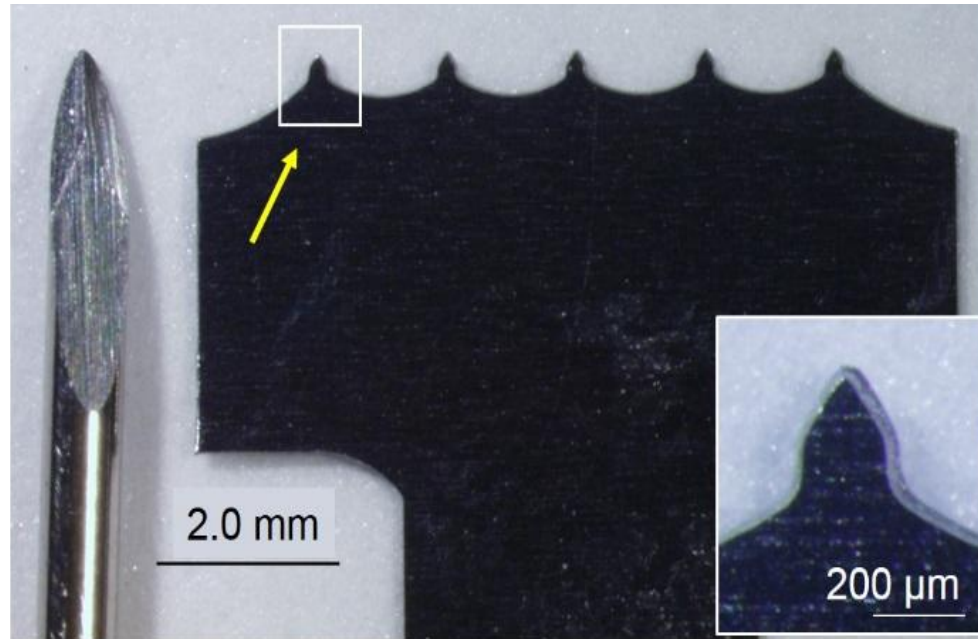


Distribution of fluids in the body



# Sampling interstitial fluid from human skin using a microneedle patch

Pradnya P. Samant<sup>1</sup>, Megan M. Niedzwiecki<sup>2,3</sup>, Nicholas Raviele<sup>1</sup>, Vilinh Tran<sup>4</sup>, Juan Mena-Lapaix<sup>1</sup>, Douglas I. Walker<sup>2,3,4</sup>, Eric I. Felner<sup>5</sup>, Dean P. Jones<sup>4</sup>, Gary W. Miller<sup>2,6</sup>, Mark R. Prausnitz<sup>1\*</sup>

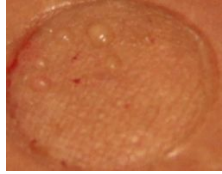




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ISF



Microneedles

SBF

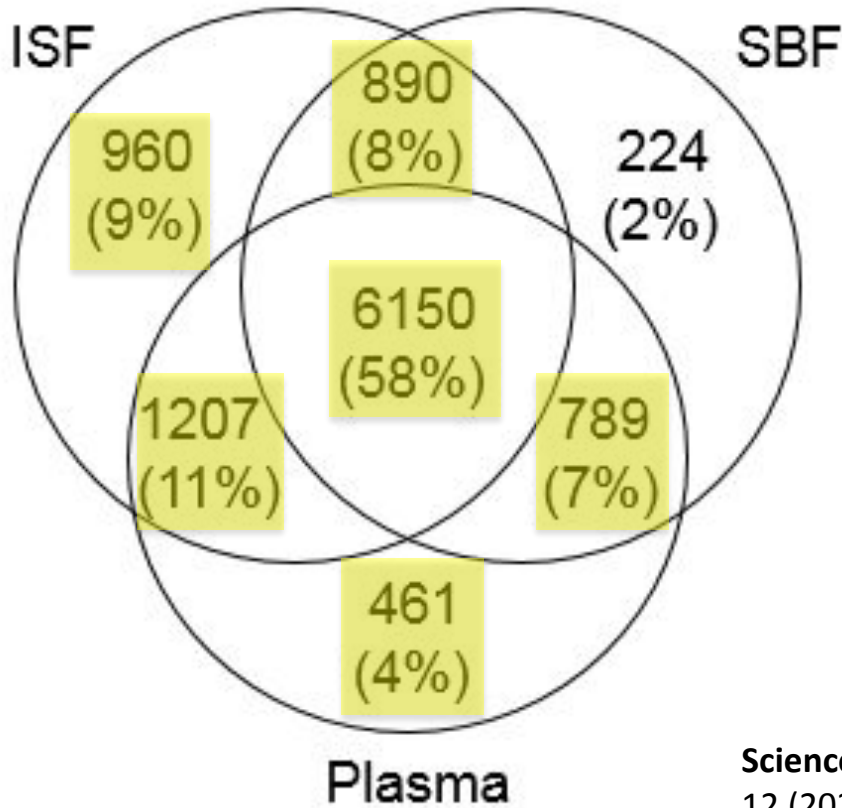


Suction blisters

Plasma



Venipuncture



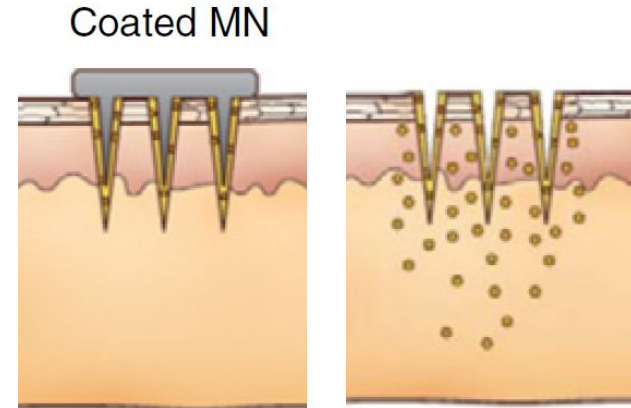
# Coated microneedles for drug and vaccine delivery

## Drug delivery via the skin

- Zolmitriptan
- Parathyroid hormone

## Vaccine delivery to the skin

- Influenza vaccine



# Clinical trials using coated microneedles



ZOSANO  
P H A R M A



Zolmitriptan (migraine)  
NDA submission



Radius®



Kindeva  
DRUG DELIVERY

Parathyroid hormone  
Phase 3 completed



v a x x a s

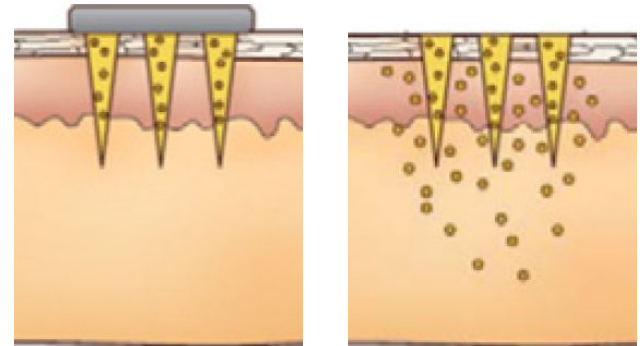
Influenza vaccine  
Phase 1 completed

# Dissolving microneedles for drug and vaccine delivery

## Vaccine delivery to the skin

- Influenza vaccine
- Measles & rubella vaccine

Dissolving MN

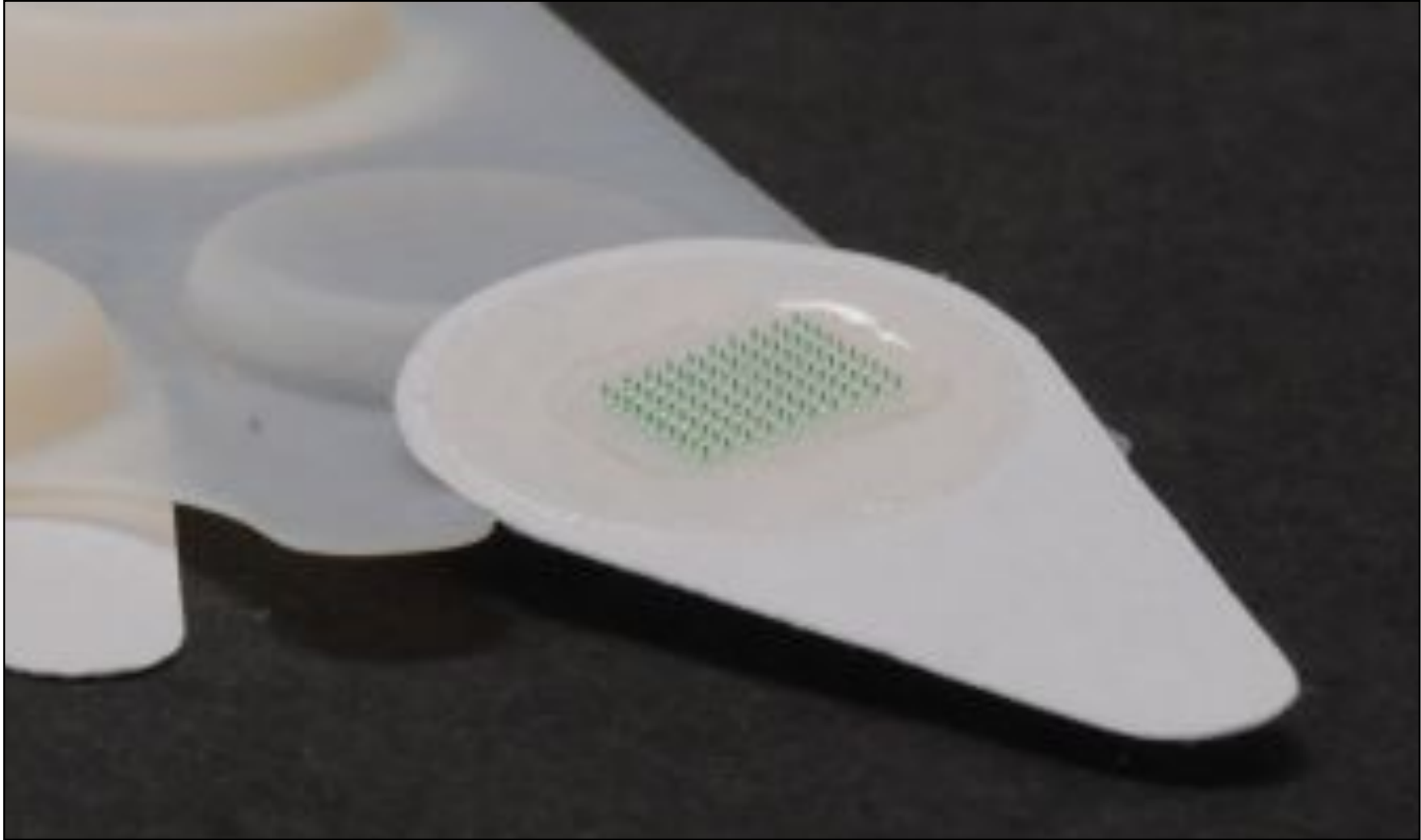


# Microneedle patch developed at Georgia Tech

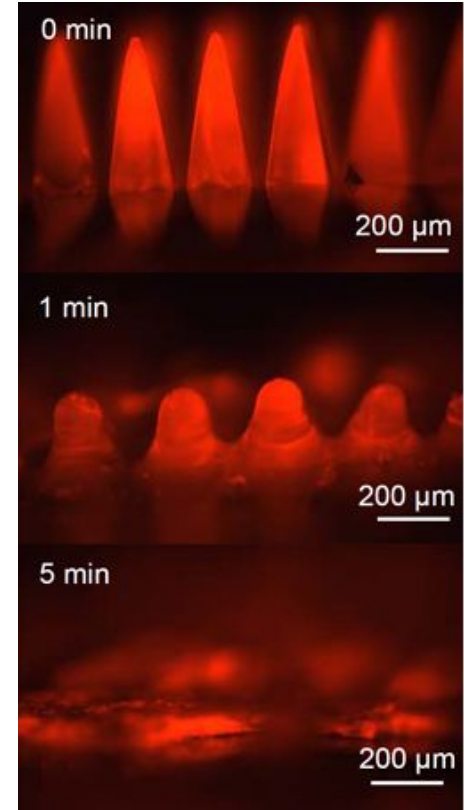
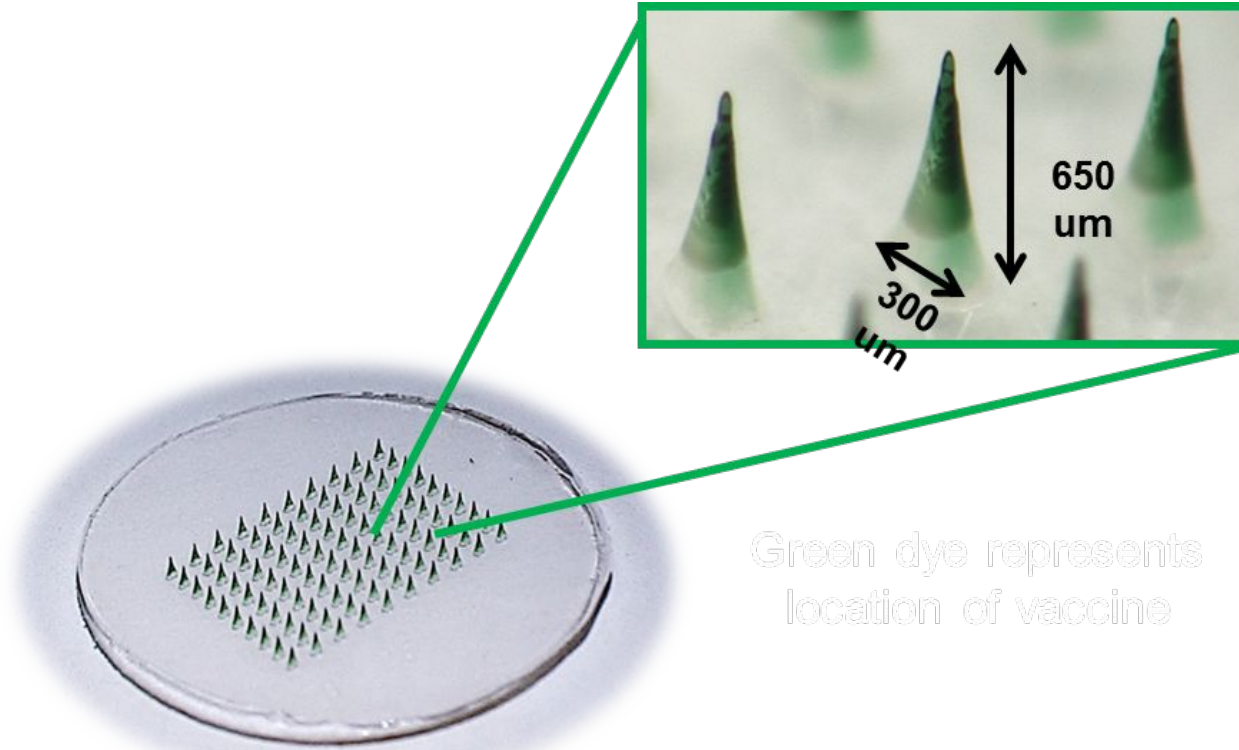




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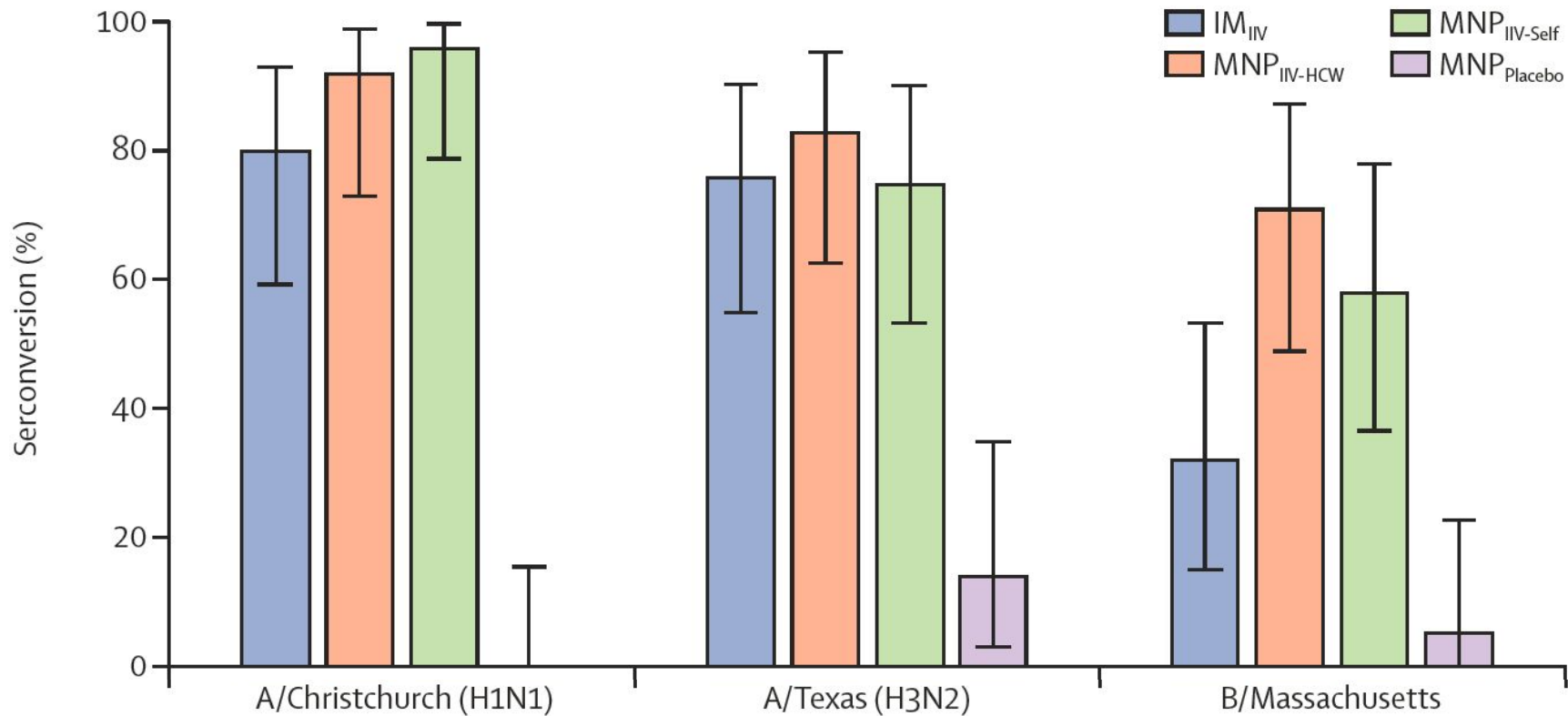
# Microneedle patch developed at Georgia Tech



# The safety, immunogenicity, and acceptability of inactivated influenza vaccine delivered by microneedle patch (TIV-MNP 2015): a randomised, partly blinded, placebo-controlled, phase 1 trial

Nadine G Roupael, Michele Paine, Regina Mosley, Sebastien Henry, Devin V McAllister, Haripriya Kalluri, Winston Pewin, Paula M Frew, Tianwei Yu, Natalie J Thornburg, Sarah Kabbani, Lili Lai, Elena V Vassilieva, Ioanna Skountzou, Richard W Compans, Mark J Mulligan\*, Mark R Prausnitz\*, for the TIV-MNP 2015 Study Group†

The Lancet, 390 (2017) 649-658

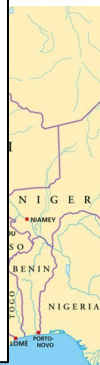


# Worldwide measles deaths climb 50% from 2016 to 2019 claiming over 207 500 lives in 2019

Measles surged worldwide in 2019 reaching highest number of reported cases in 23 years. Highlighted in a publication by WHO and the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), measles cases worldwide increased to 869 770 in 2019, the highest number reported since 1996 with increases in all WHO regions. Global measles deaths climbed nearly 50 percent since 2016, claiming an estimated 207 500 lives in 2019 alone.



World Health  
Organization



ATLANTIC OCEAN

# Clinical trial design for measles & rubella vaccination study

Phase 1/2, randomized, active-controlled, double-blind, double-dummy, age de-escalation trial.

Measles and rubella vaccine administered by

- microneedle patch
- subcutaneous delivery

Study groups

- 45 adults [18-40 years]
- 120 toddlers [15-18 months]
- 120 infants [9-10 months]

Local systemic adverse events, safety labs collected

Measles and rubella serum neutralizing antibodies measured

Final study visit on day 180





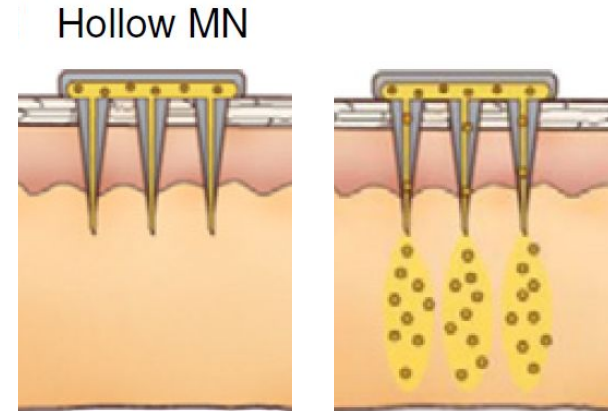
# Hollow microneedles for targeted tissue delivery

## Targeting the skin

- Local anesthesia
- Insulin delivery

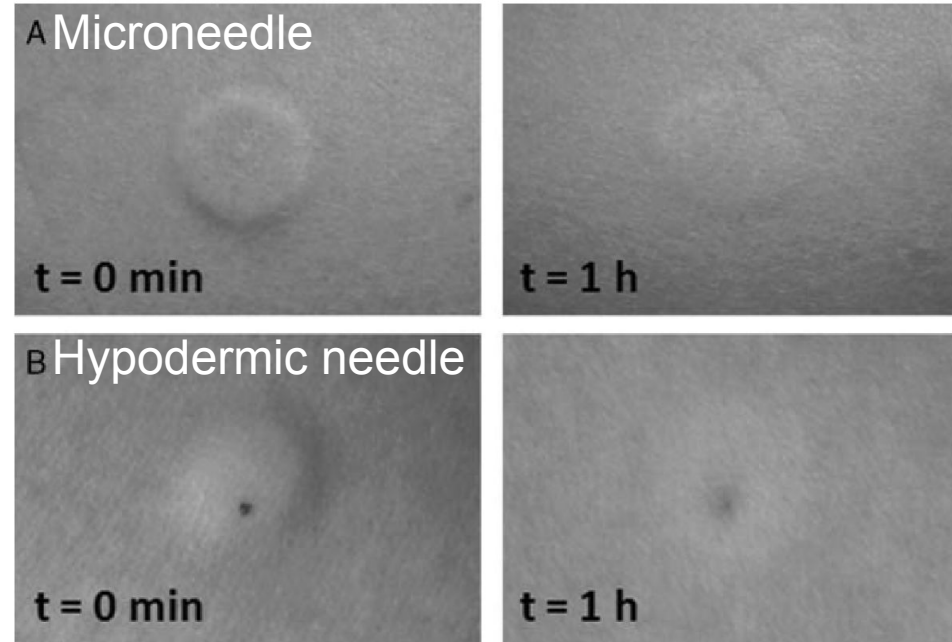
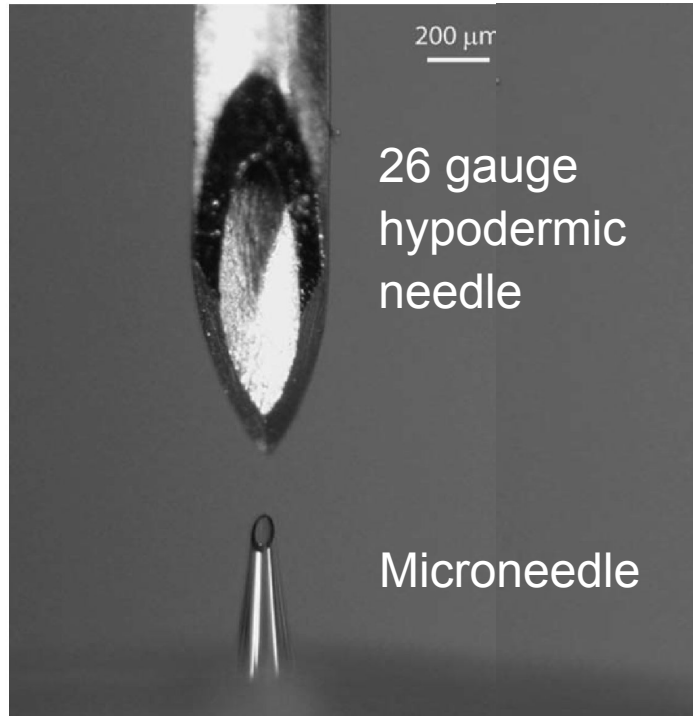
## Targeting the eye

- Suprachoroidal space



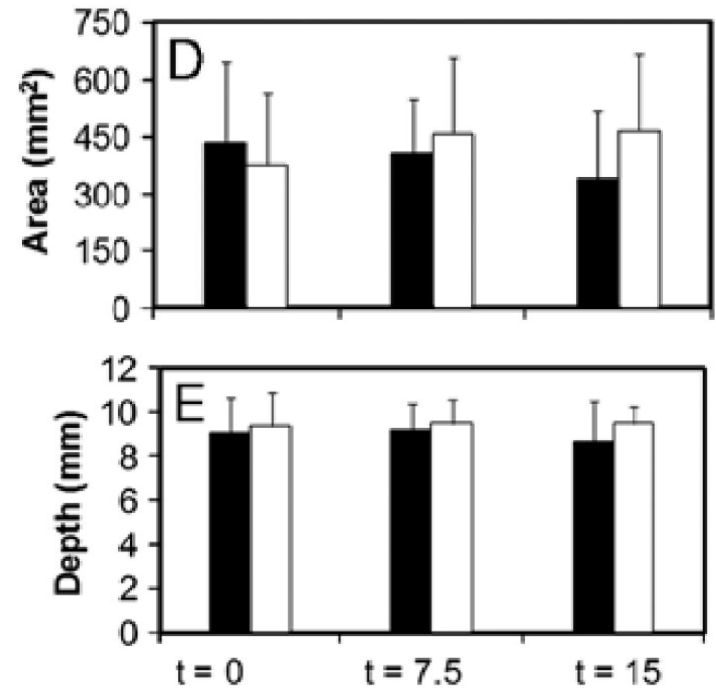
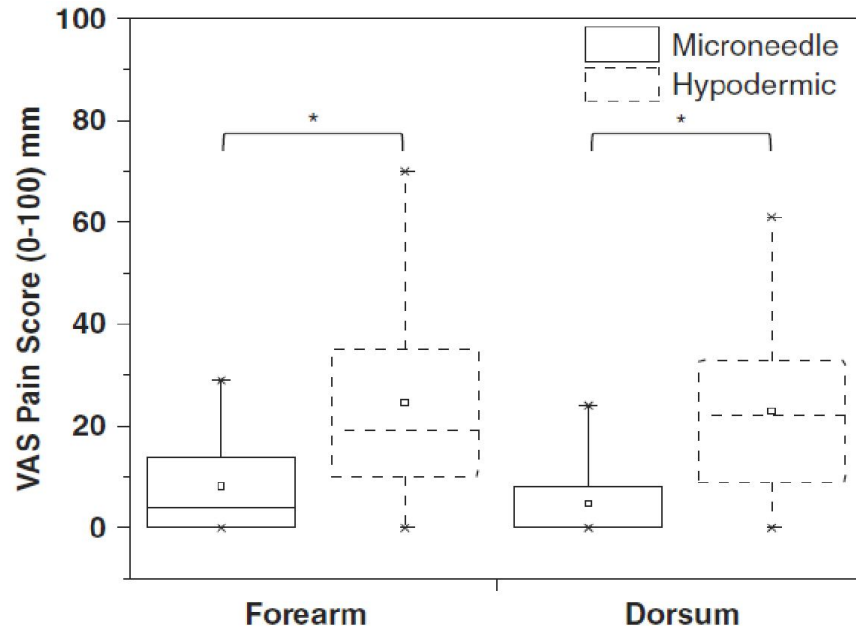
# Rapid Local Anesthesia in Humans Using Minimally Invasive Microneedles

*Jyoti Gupta, PhD,\* Donald D. Denson, PhD,†‡ Eric I. Felner, MD, MS,\*§ and Mark R. Prausnitz, PhD\**



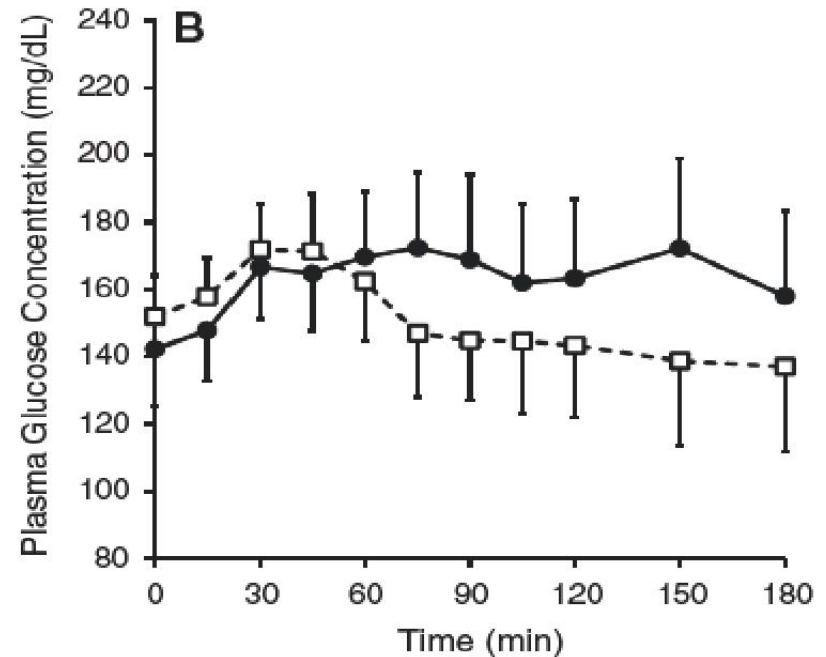
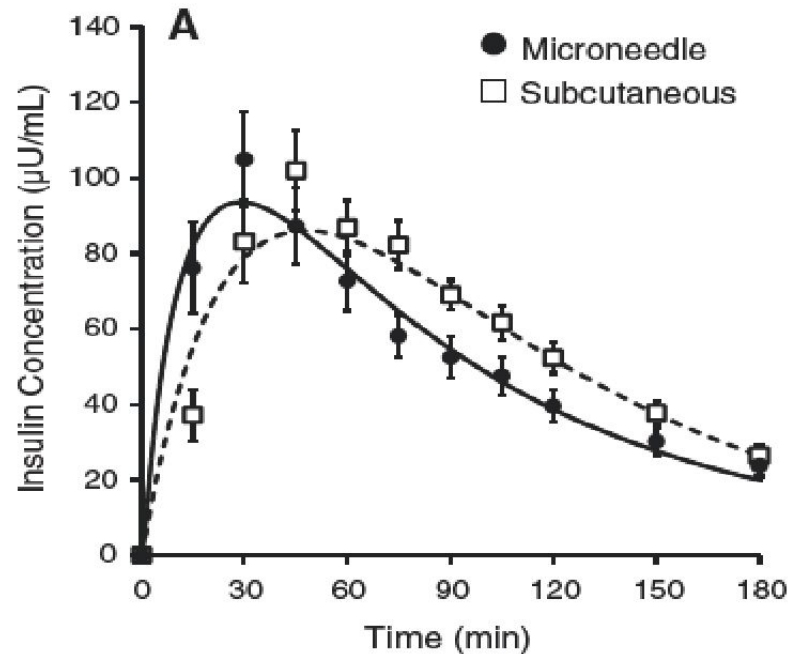
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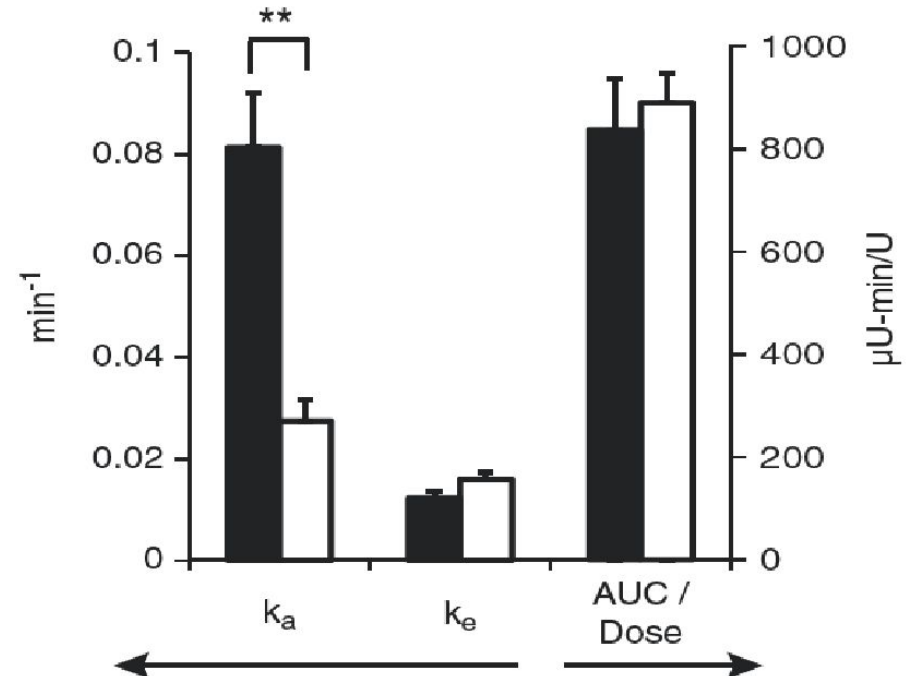
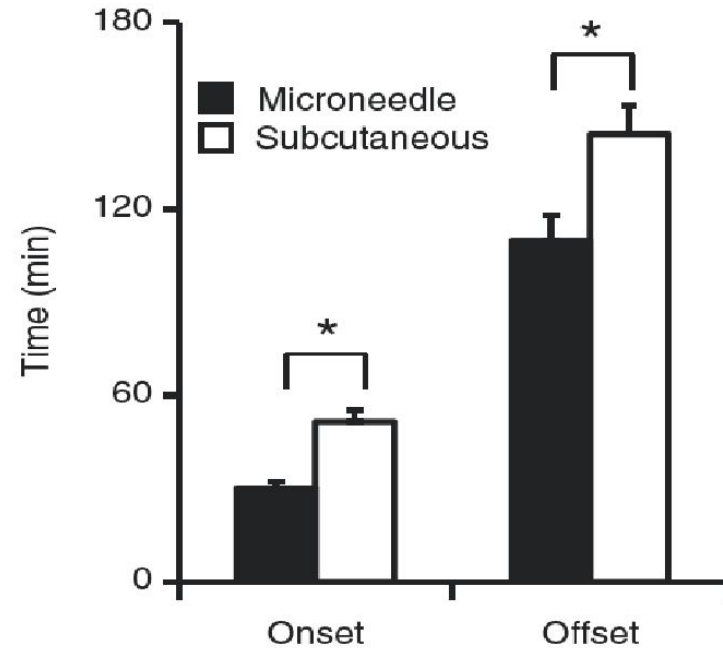
Faster pharmacokinetics and increased patient acceptance of intradermal insulin delivery using a single hollow microneedle in children and adolescents with type 1 diabetes

James J Norman<sup>a,b</sup>, Milton R Brown<sup>a</sup>, Nicholas A Raviele<sup>a</sup>, Mark R Prausnitz<sup>b</sup> and Eric I Felner<sup>a,b</sup>



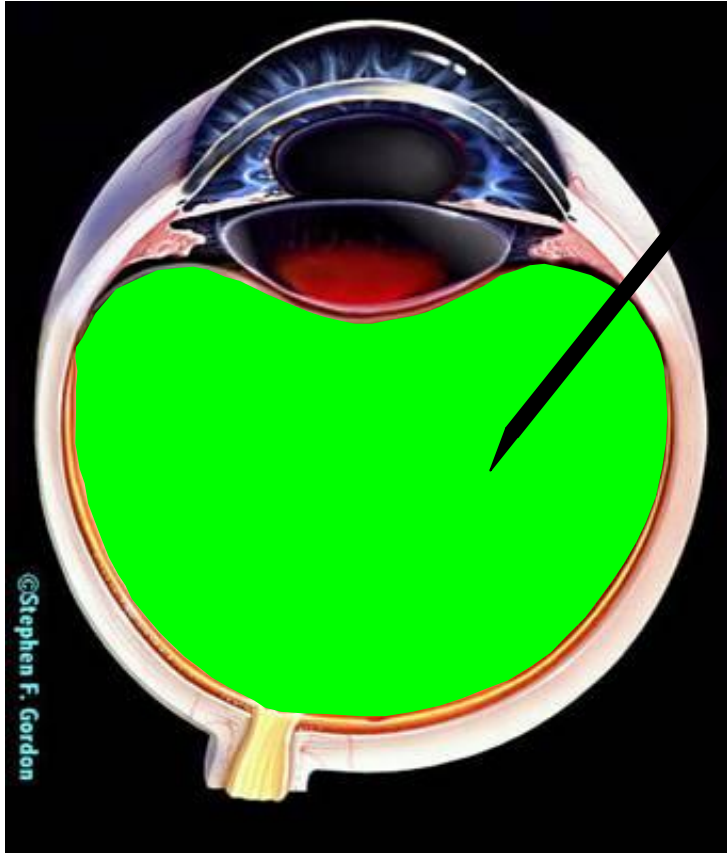
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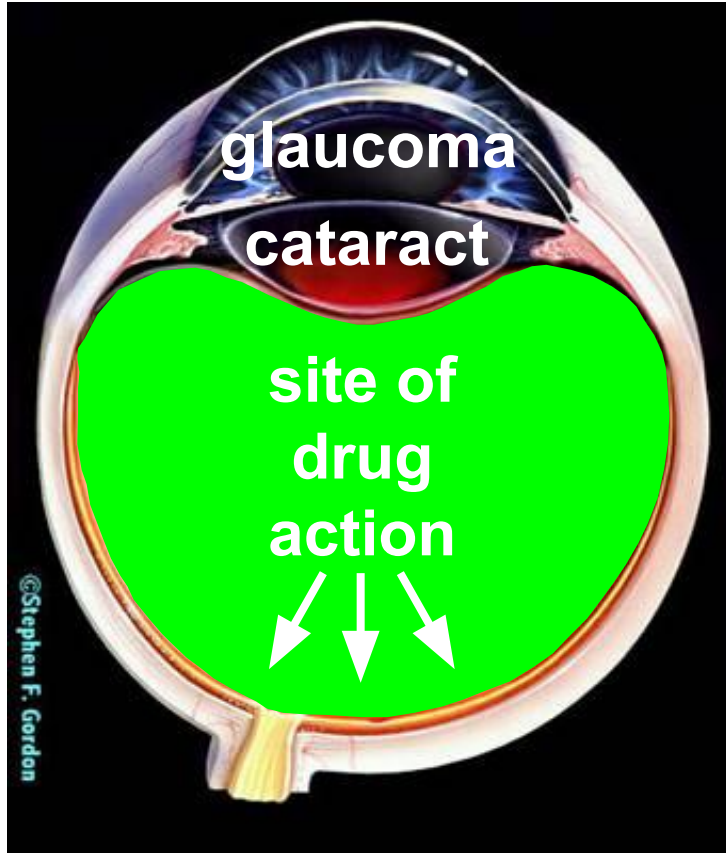




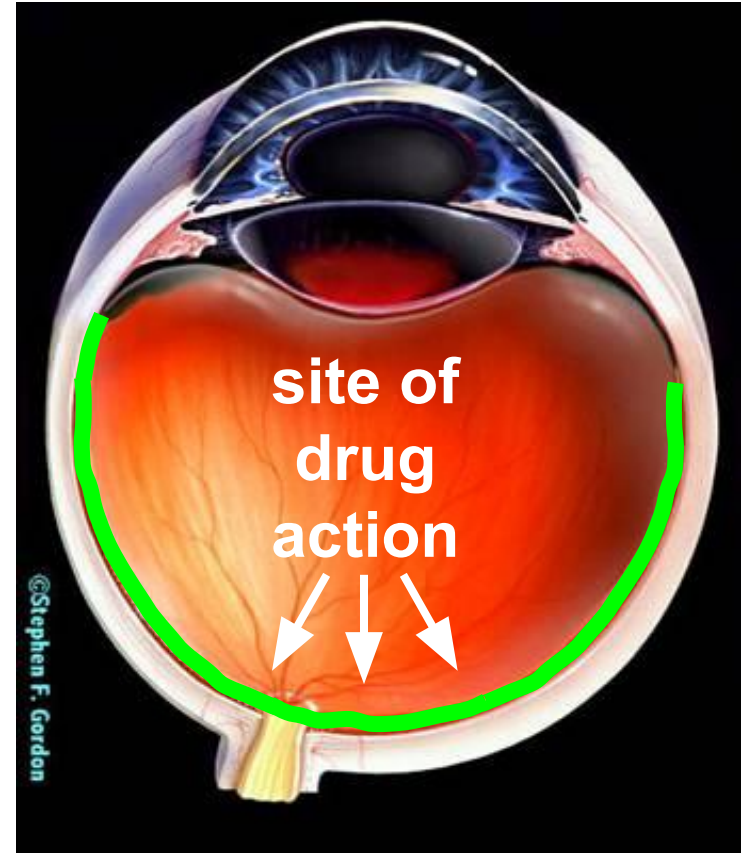
Steroid delivery to treat macular edema needs better targeting



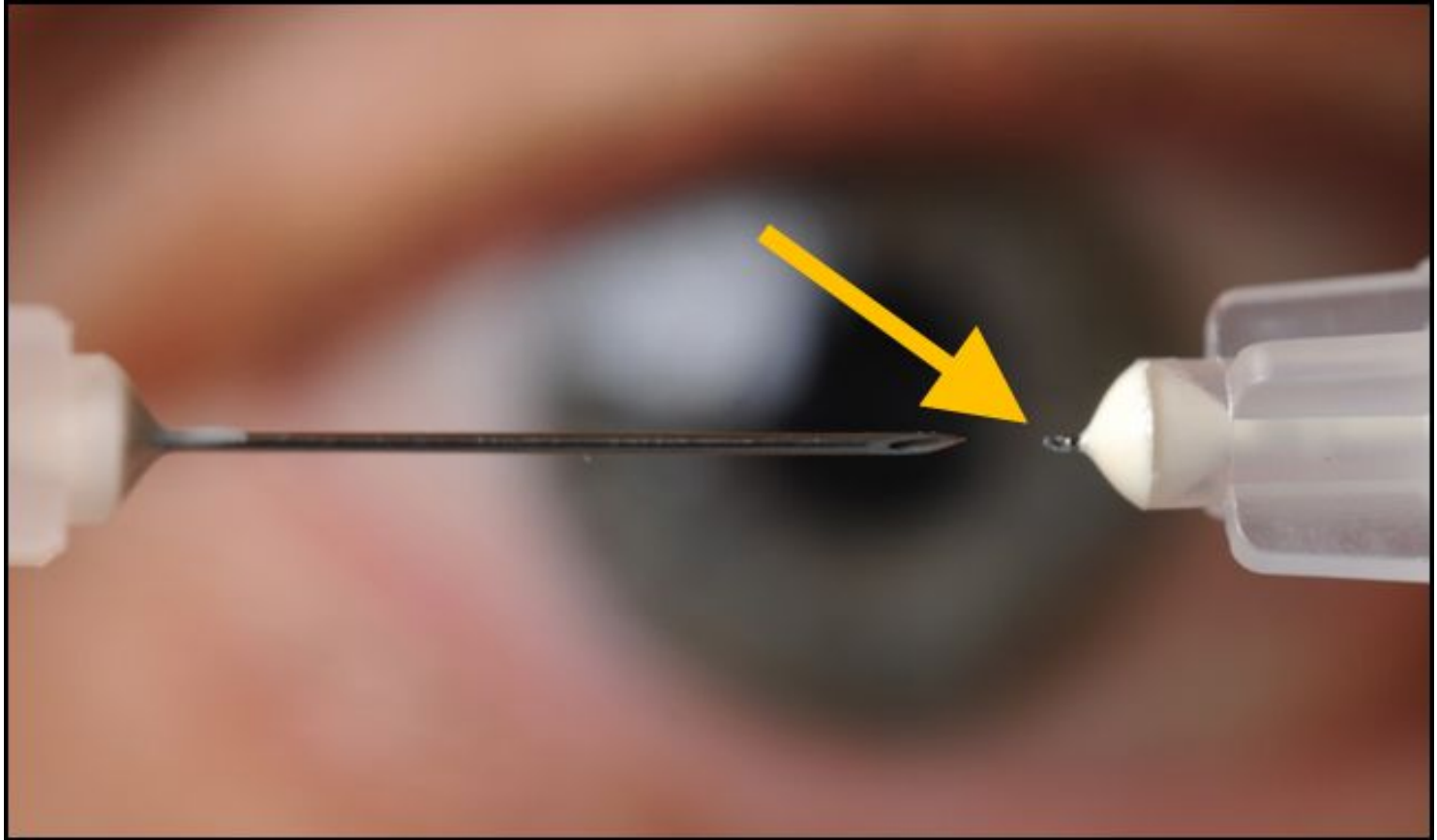
# Steroid delivery to treat macular edema needs better targeting



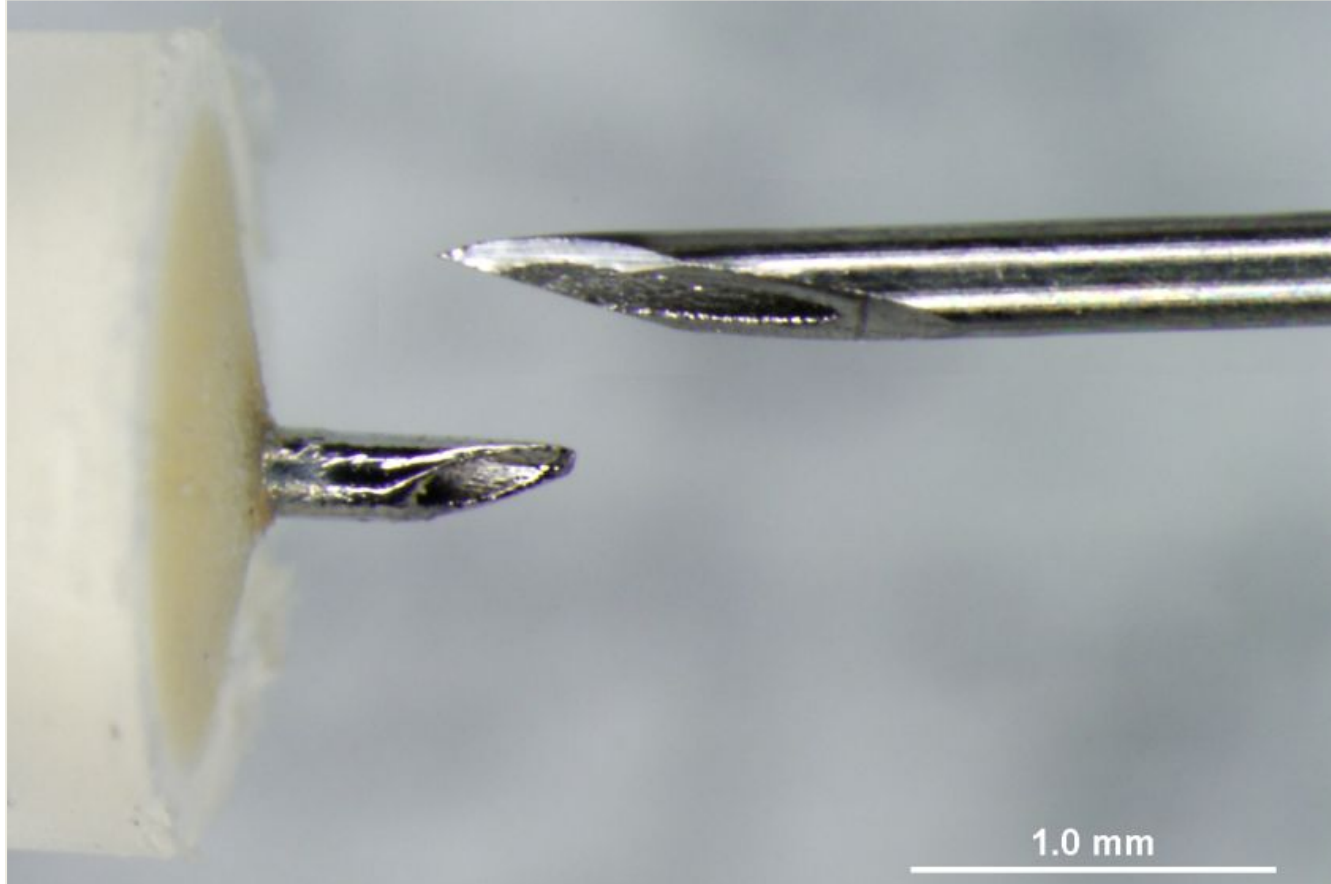
**VS.**



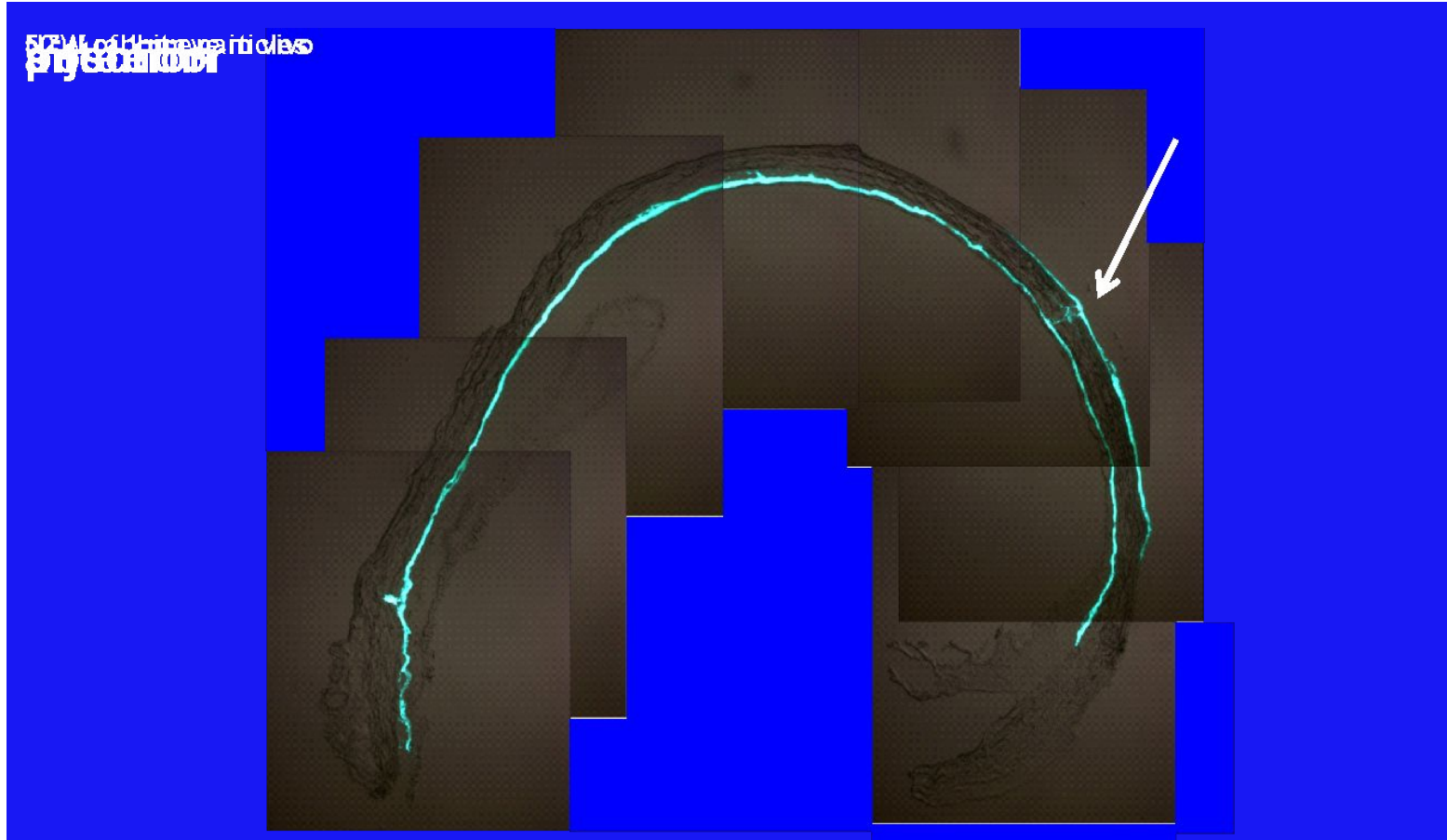
Hollow microneedle to target the suprachoroidal space



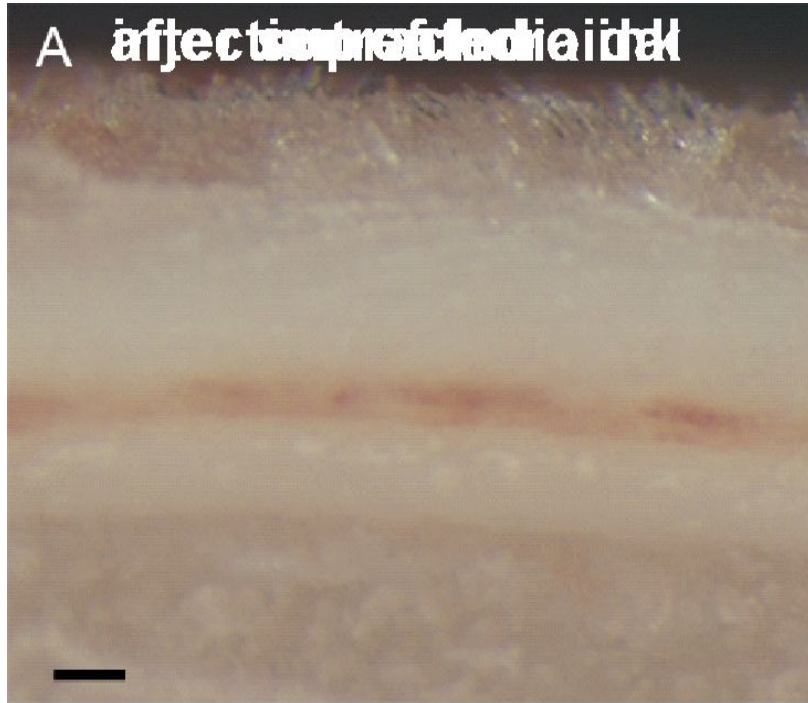
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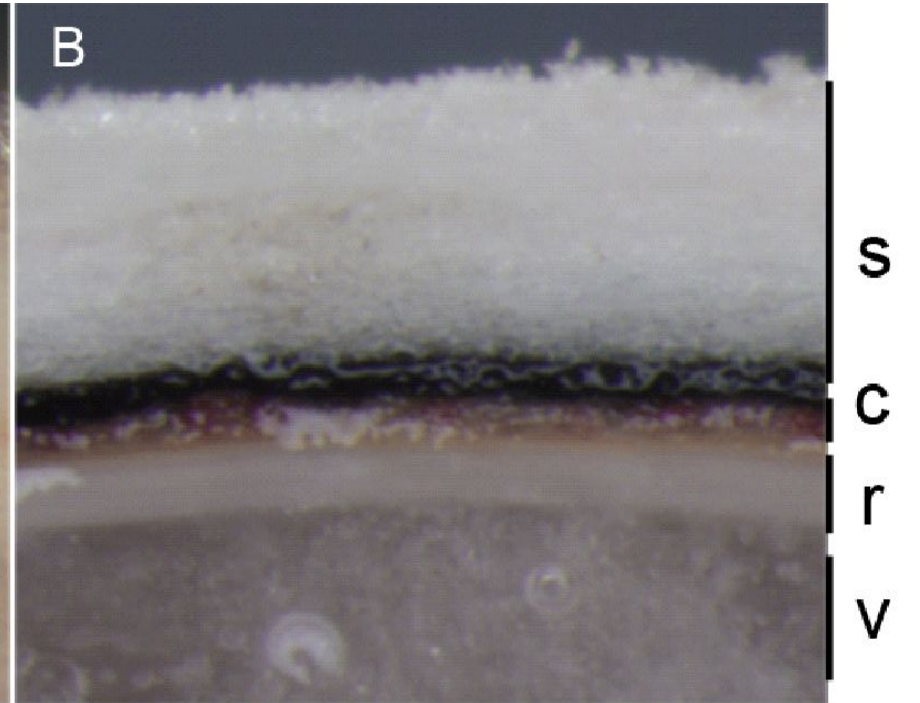
# Injection targets the suprachoroidal space



# Injection targets the suprachoroidal space



Untreated tissue



After suprachoroidal injection  
of India ink





# XIPERE<sup>®</sup>

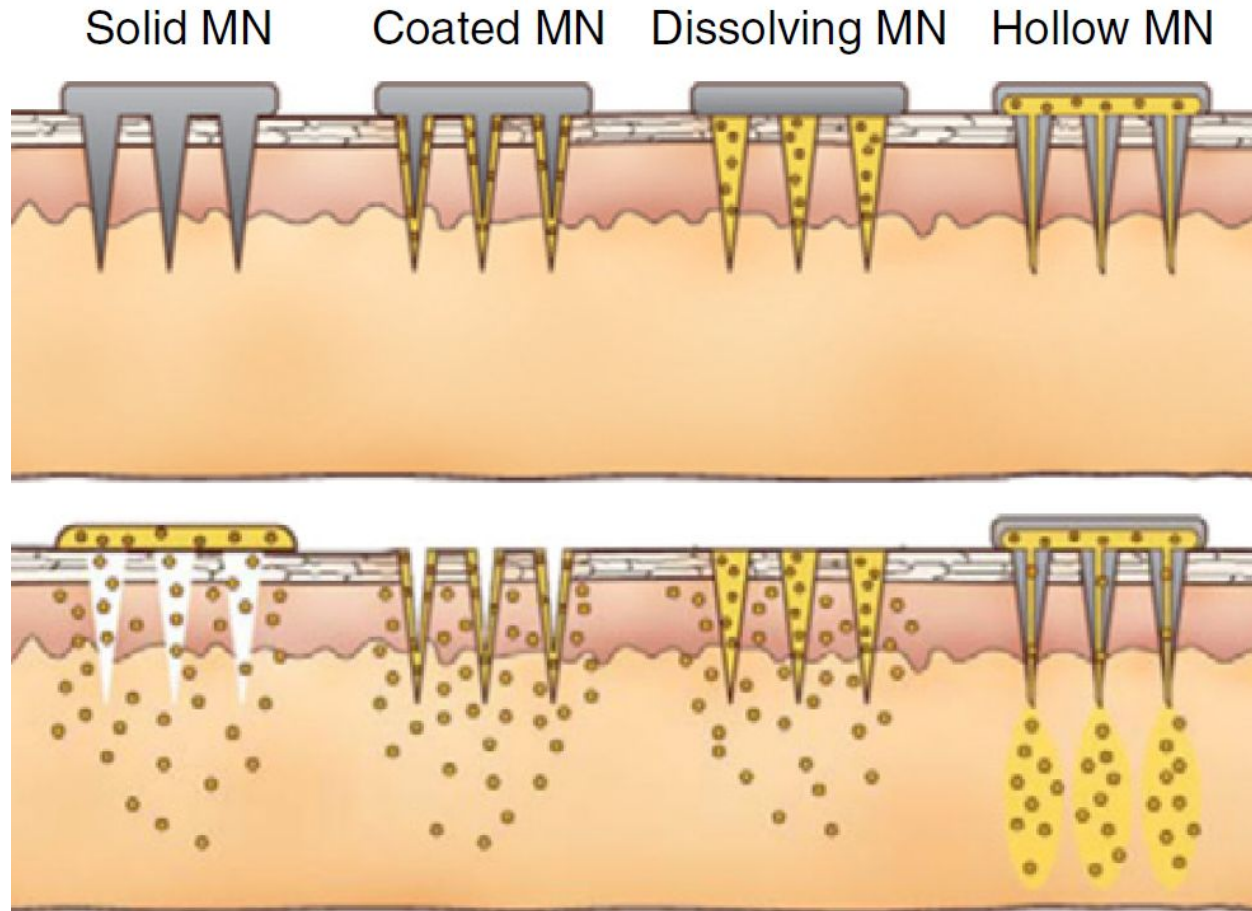
(triamcinolone acetonide  
injectable suspension) 40 mg/mL

- Treatment of macular edema
- FDA approved in 2021
- Product launched in 2022



**BAUSCH** Health

# Summary



A close-up photograph of a surface covered with numerous small, red, conical or pointed structures. These structures are arranged in a somewhat regular grid pattern. Each red tip sits on a clear, rounded base, which appears to be a lens or a small dome. The background is a blurred mix of red and grey tones, suggesting a textured surface. The lighting is soft, highlighting the sharp points of the red structures.

# Questions?