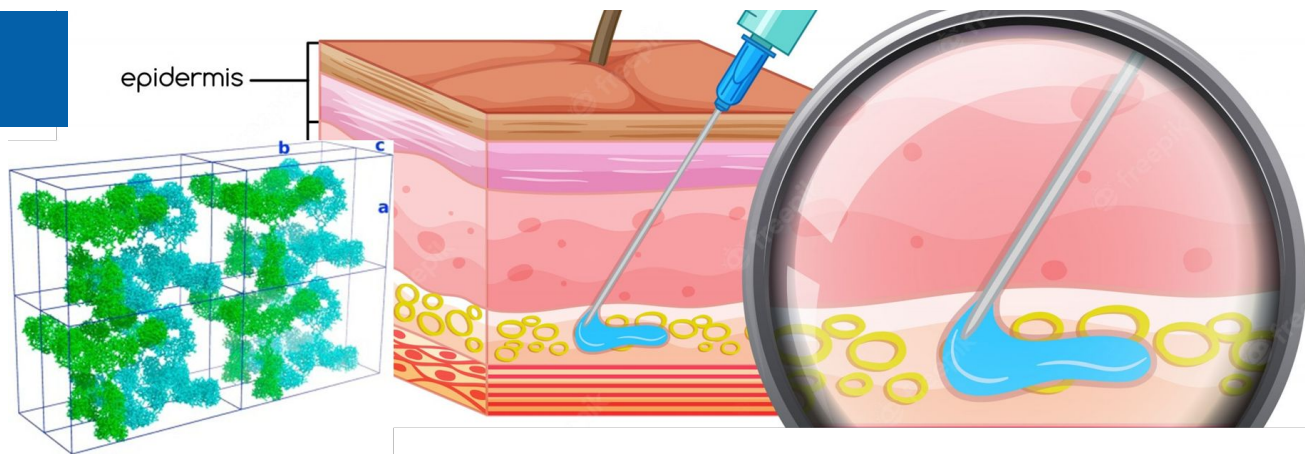


Technical Research &  
Development



# Uncloaking In-vitro Subcutaneous Bioavailability Tools

Manuel Sanchez-Felix

CRS/IPEC 24<sup>th</sup> July 2023

# Introduction



Subcutaneous Drug Delivery & Development Consortium



Subcutaneous Bioavailability Challenge



In-vitro Tools



Summary

# Subcutaneous Drug Delivery & Development Consortium



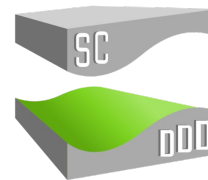
## Vision

Our vision is to **transform patient care** and **improve patient outcomes** leading **fundamental advancements** in **subcutaneous drug development and delivery**



## Mission

The mission of the Subcutaneous Drug Development & Delivery Consortium is to **collaboratively address the most pressing subcutaneous dosage and delivery issues and opportunities** in a **precompetitive manner**



<https://subcutaneousconsortium.org/>.

# Subcutaneous Drug Delivery & Development Consortium

Public

## SC Consortium Officers:



**Donna French, PhD**

President



**Sachin Mittal, PhD**

Vice President



**Monica Adams, PhD**

Marketing Officer



**David Kang, PhD**

Treasurer



Donna French



Rajesh Gandhi



Vibha Jawa



David Collins



Kathleen Lin



David Kang



Ryan Nolan



Sachin Mittal



Nicole Buist



Monica Adams



Peter Skutnik



Ron Pettis

**Astra  
Zeneca**

**BMS**

**Eli Lilly**

**Halozyne**

**Merck**

**GSK**

**Becton Dickinson**



Jennie Stevenson



Joerg Nerkamp



Marie Picci



Eric Schiller



Sylvain Huille



Beate Bittner



Johannes Schmidt



Ning Yu



Kevin Maloney



Ming Chen



Manami Tsutsumi



Advait Badkar



RK Maraju

**Amgen**

**Novartis**

**Sanofi**

**Roche**

**Biogen**

**Boehringer Ingelheim**

**Pfizer**

TIER 2 Members:

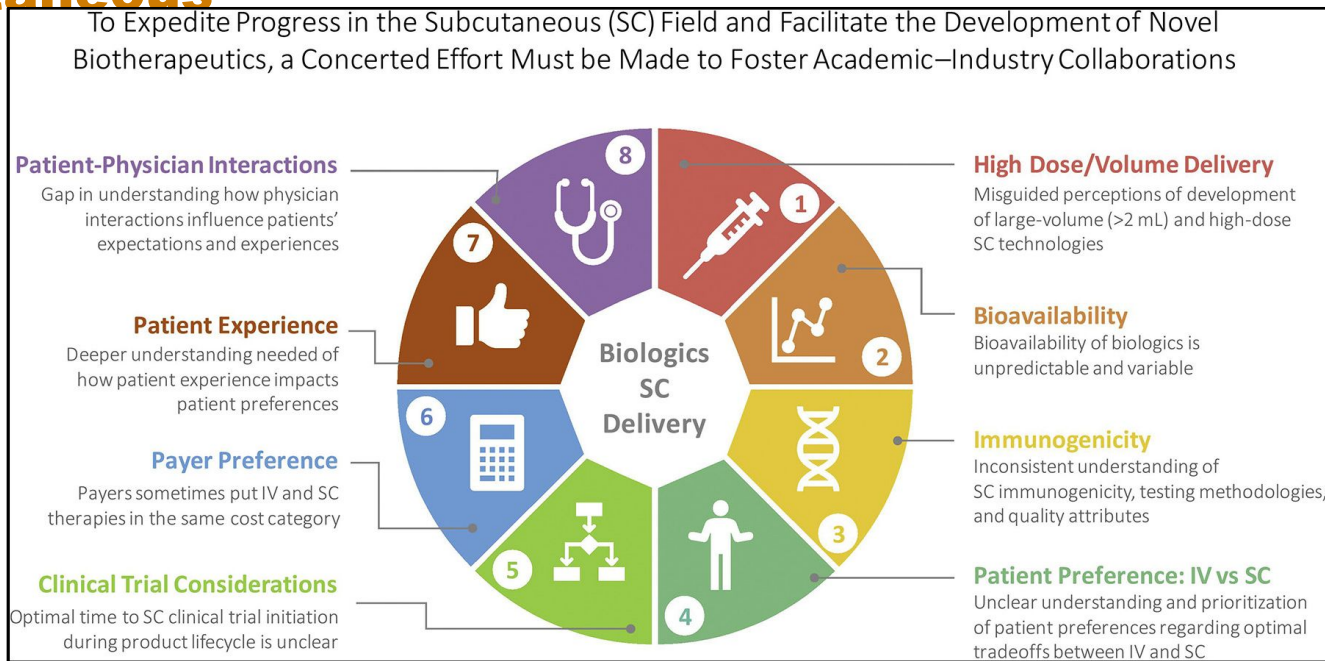


*Nemera*

*kaléo*



# Accelerating the development of novel technologies and tools for subcutaneous delivery of biotherapeutics



David S. Collins, Manuel Sanchez-Felix, Advait V. Badkar, Randall Mrsny, Journal of Controlled Release, 221, (2020), p. 475-482

# Subcutaneous Drug Delivery & Development Consortium

The **top 6 problem statements** have been prioritized for 2020, with **6 sub-teams created around these statements** (the 2 patient statements have been combined into 1 sub-team).



# Subcutaneous Bioavailability Challenges

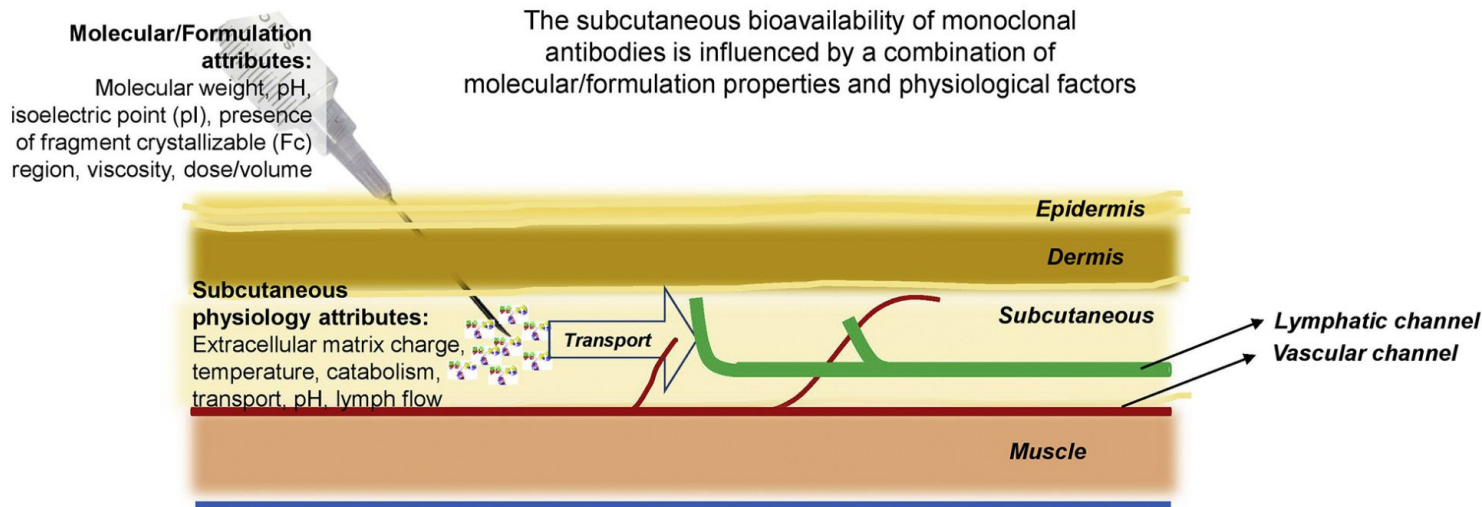


## Contents

1. Introduction . . . . .
2. Current landscape in evaluating the bioavailability of mAbs . . . . .
  - 2.1. Current *in vitro* and *in silico* approaches to evaluating the bioavailability of mAbs . . . . .
  - 2.2. Potential directions for models moving forward . . . . .
3. Opportunities . . . . .
4. Conclusion and open innovation challenge . . . . .



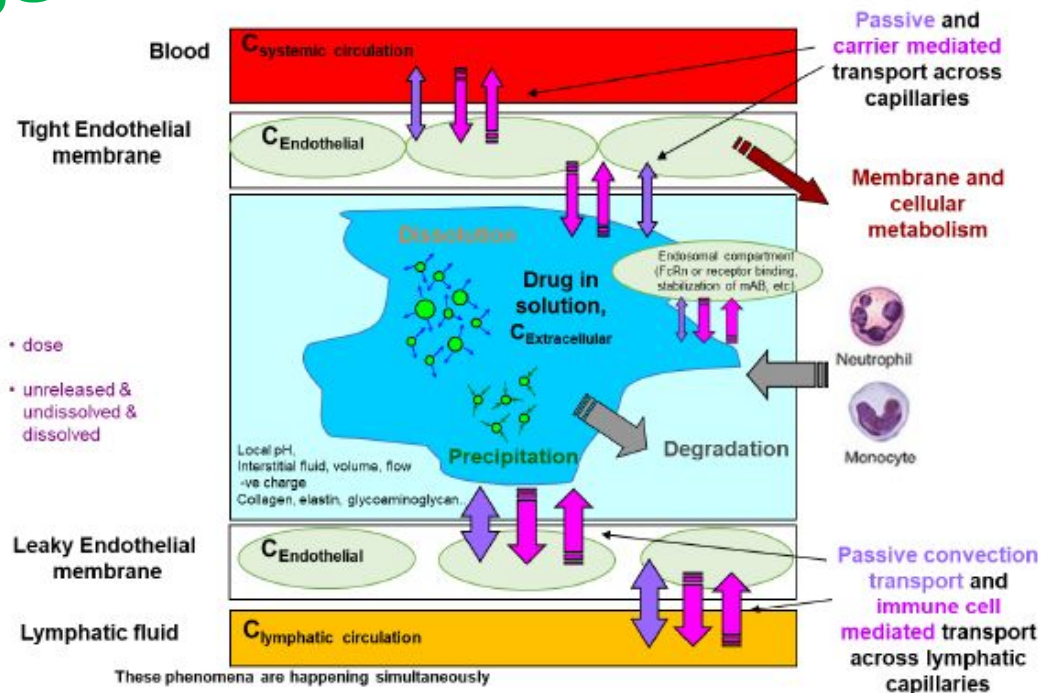
# mAB Subcutaneous Bioavailability Challenge



M. Sanchez-Felix, M. Burke, H.H. Chen, C. Patterson, S. Mittal, Predicting bioavailability of monoclonal antibodies after subcutaneous administration: Open innovation challenge, Adv Drug Deliv Rev, 167, (2020), p. 66-77

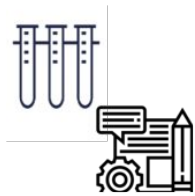


# mAB Subcutaneous Bioavailability Challenge



# mAB Subcutaneous Bioavailability Challenge

Vision



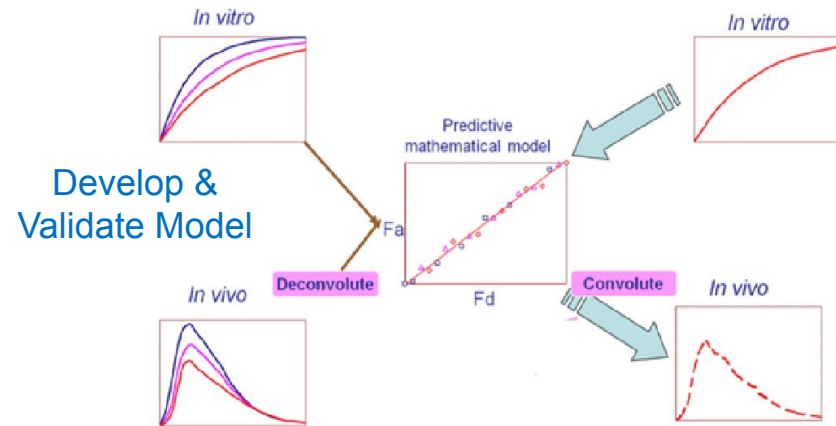
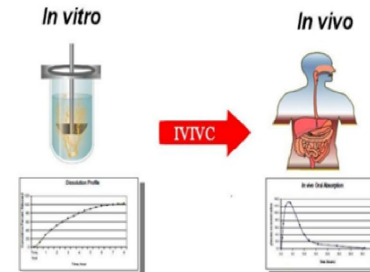
In-silico & In-vitro



Translation of Bioavailability



Bring Together Communities to Work on Needs

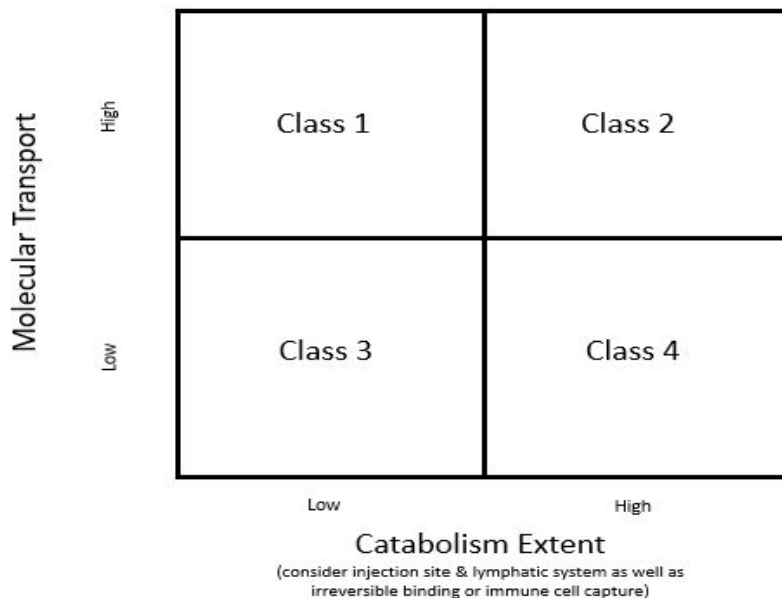


M. Sanchez-Felix, M. Burke, H.H. Chen, C. Patterson, S. Mittal, Predicting bioavailability of monoclonal antibodies after subcutaneous administration: Open innovation challenge, Adv Drug Deliv Rev, 167, (2020), p. 66-77

# Subcutaneous Bioavailability Challenges

## Open Challenge

Classification system concept for mAbs: molecular transport vs catabolism extent



# mAB Subcutaneous Bioavailability Challenge

- General confusion on what we want from In-vitro assay(s)

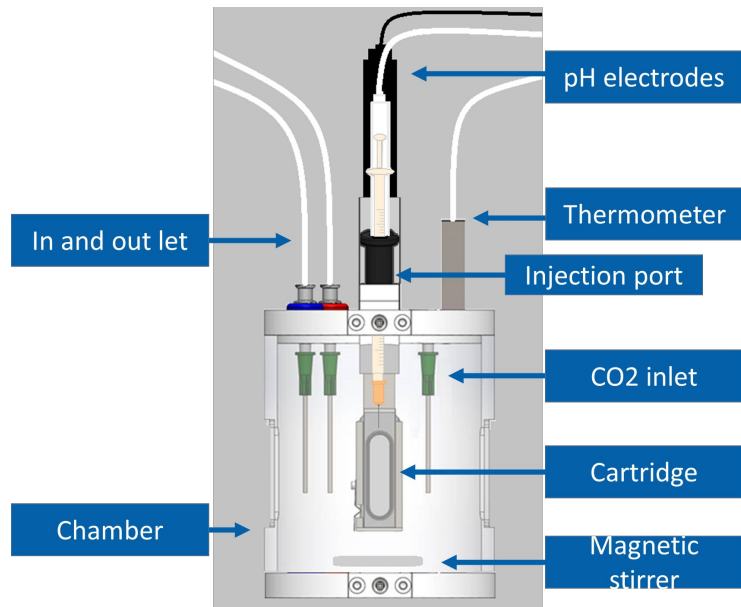


- Is it:
  - Amount retained at the site of injection
  - Diffusivity
  - Amount transported via lymphatic or blood capillaries
  - Immune response risk assessment
  - Absorption for in-silico modeling of PK
  - Catabolism
  - SC Bioavailability



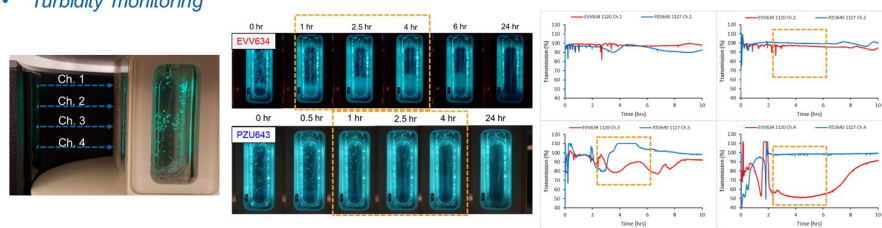
- Reality is that we will need different in-vitro assays; just as we have different assays for oral bioavailability for small molecules

# In-vitro Tools: Scissor

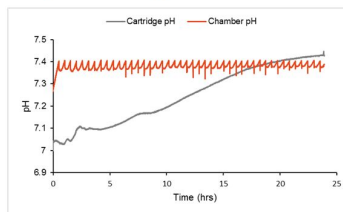


## Monitoring data from Scissor

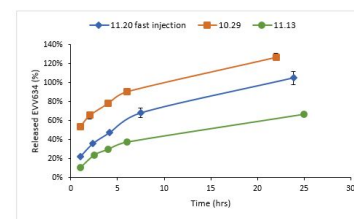
- Turbidity monitoring*



- pH monitoring*



- Diffusion measurement*



# In-vitro: Scissor and other systems



A novel in vitro method to model the fate of subcutaneously administered biopharmaceuticals and associated formulation components

Hanne M. Kinnunen <sup>a,1</sup>, Vikas Sharma <sup>b</sup>, Luis Rodrigo Contreras-Rojas <sup>a</sup>, Yafei Yu <sup>a</sup>, Chloé Alleman <sup>a</sup>, Alavattam Sreedhara <sup>b</sup>, Stefan Fischer <sup>c</sup>, Leslie Khawli <sup>c,2</sup>, Stefan T. Yohe <sup>d</sup>, Daniela Bumbaca <sup>e</sup>, Thomas W. Patapoff <sup>b</sup>, Ann L. Daugherty <sup>d</sup>, Randall J. Mersny <sup>a,\*</sup>



- Investigated insulin and 4 mAB on the scissor system
- $R^2 = 0.927$  correlation between observed % SC bioavailability and diffused fraction

AAPS PharmSciTech, Vol. 18, No. 6, August 2017 (© 2017)  
DOI: 10.1208/s12249-016-0698-5



## Research Article

### Development of a Convenient *In Vitro* Gel Diffusion Model for Predicting the *In Vivo* Performance of Subcutaneous Parenteral Formulations of Large and Small Molecules

Dennis H. Leung, <sup>1,2,6</sup> Yash Kapoor, <sup>3</sup> Candice Alleyne, <sup>1</sup> Erika Walsh, <sup>1</sup> Andrew Leithead, <sup>1</sup> Bahanu Habulihaz, <sup>4</sup> Gino M. Salituro, <sup>4</sup> Annette Bak, <sup>1</sup> and Timothy Rhodes <sup>5</sup>

International Journal of Pharmaceutics 605 (2021) 120824



Simulating particle movement inside subcutaneous injection site simulator (SCISSOR) using Monte-Carlo method

Hao Lou <sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Cory Berkland <sup>a</sup>, Michael J. Hageman <sup>a,b,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66047, USA  
<sup>b</sup> Biopharmaceutical Innovation and Optimization Center, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66047, USA



# In-vitro: Scissor

Journal of Controlled Release 273 (2018) 13–20

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Journal of Controlled Release

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/jconrel](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/jconrel)



*In vitro* model for predicting bioavailability of subcutaneously injected monoclonal antibodies

Hanne Kinnunen Bown<sup>a</sup>, Catherine Bonn<sup>a</sup>, Stefan Yohe<sup>b</sup>, Daniela Bumbaca Yadav<sup>c</sup>, Thomas W. Patapoff<sup>d</sup>, Ann Daugherty<sup>b</sup>, Randall J. Msrny<sup>e,\*</sup>



- Measured diffusion and profiles of the mAB's from the injection chamber into the larger volume chamber (6 hours)
- Curve fitting analysis of these profiles using the Hill equation identified parameters that were used, along with physiological properties for each mAB, in a partial least square analysis to define a relationship between molecule and formulation properties with clinical PK.
- Profile characteristics of diffusion provided a strong predictive correlation for these 8 mAB's
- Invitro tool provides a useful tool to predict the impact of the molecule and formulation properties that has the potential for predicting clinical outcomes.

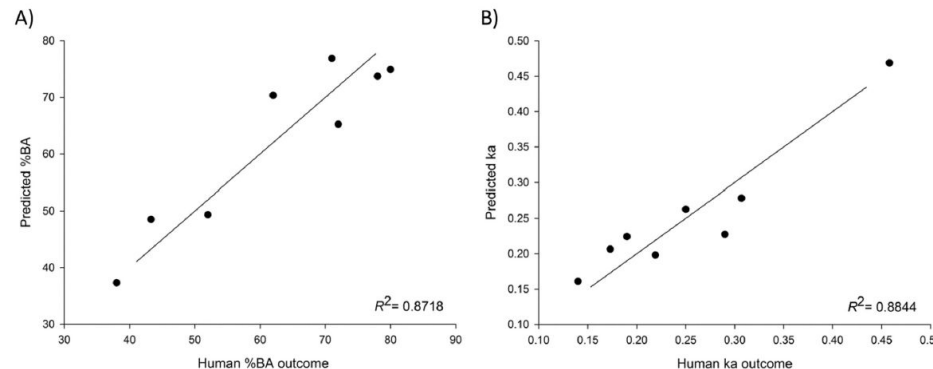


Fig. 6. Linear correlation assessment for human in vivo data and PLS-based modelling of Scissor system data outputs for A) %BA based on 4 components ( $R^2 = 0.87$ ) and for B)  $k_a$  based on 4 components ( $R^2 = 0.88$ ).

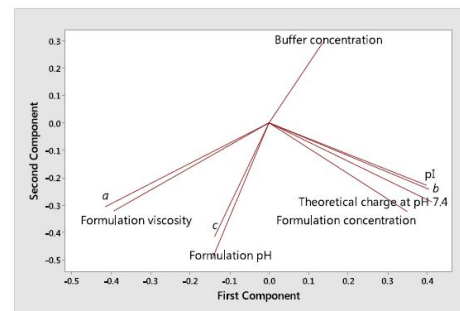
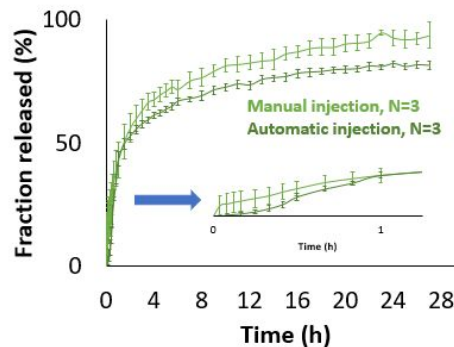


Fig. 3. Loading plot of the two first components describing the relationships between input parameters for the set of monoclonal antibodies tested in the Scissor system.



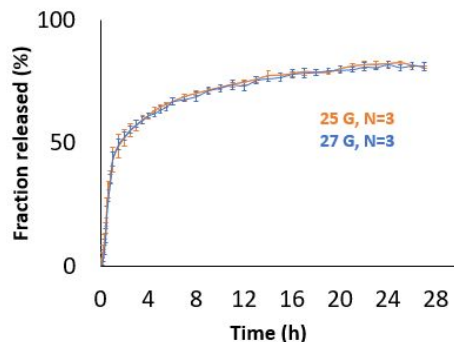
# In-vitro Scissor

## Investigating the subcutaneous injection site simulator for the administration of oligonucleotides



Injection method clearly had an impact on the individual release curves with greater reproducibility for automatic injected samples.

**Automatic injection will be used for further Scissor optimisation**



Needle type did not significantly impact the release curves for similar assay conditions (automatic injection).

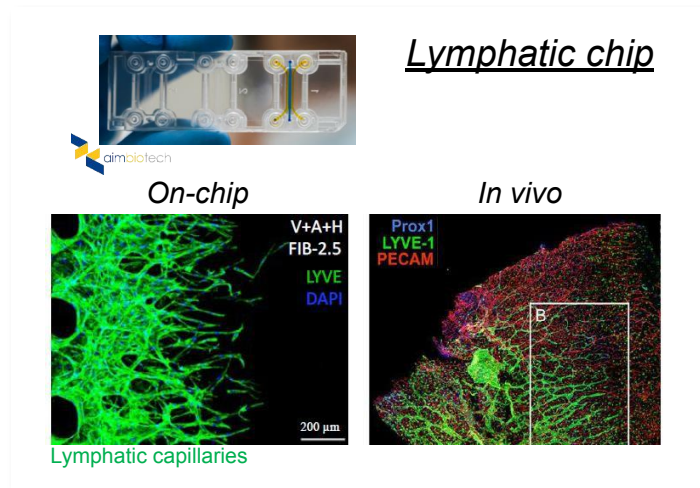
**27 G will be used for further optimisation due to improved patient compliance**



# Skin-on-chip model

**Collaboration partner:** MIT (Professor Roger Kamm, Postdoc Giorgos Pavlou)

- The skin-on-chip models the **subcutaneous interstitium** and **lymphatic vasculature**
- Used to quantify mAb **lymphatic drainage** as **key predictor of mAb bioavailability** (based on Amgen)



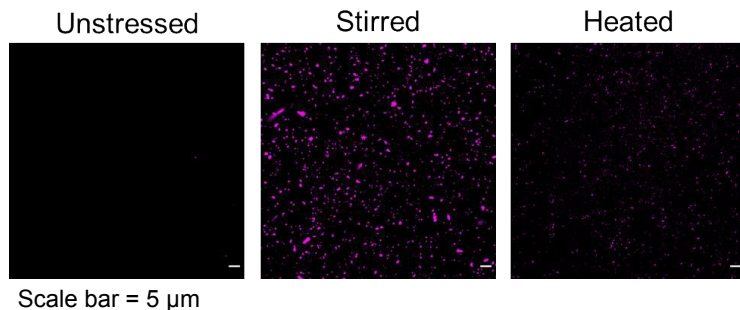
Serrano, J. C. et al., 2022

**Project goal:** implement the skin-on-chip model to assess lymphatic absorption of a panel of internal mAbs and perform IVIVC with clinical bioavailability data

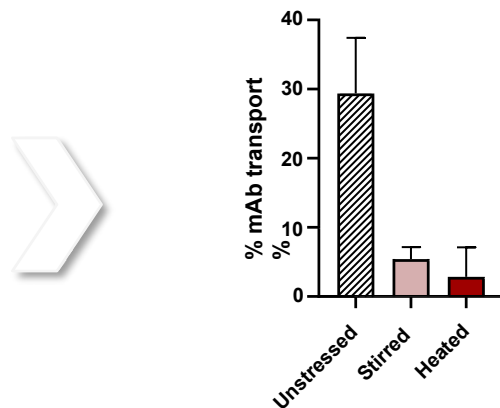
# Skin-on-chip model

## Pinpointing IgG aggregation

### 1. Induce and characterize IgG aggregates



### 2. Lymphatic absorption



*Model is able to detect the effect of IgG aggregation on lymphatic absorption:  
implications for mAb and formulation optimization*

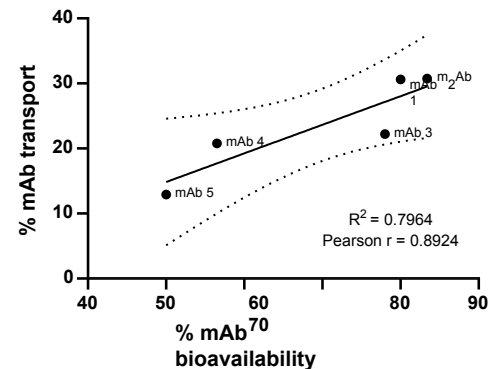
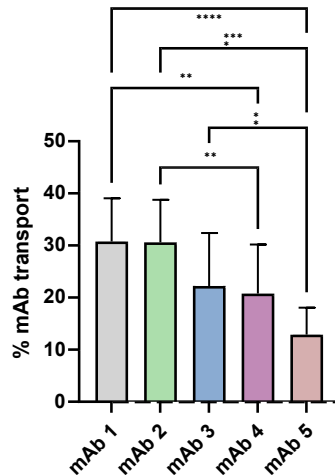
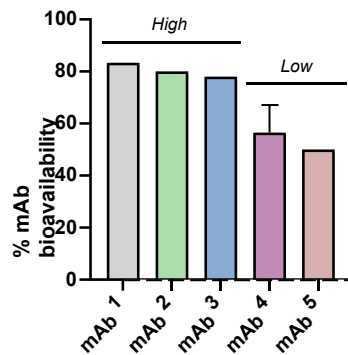
# Skin-on-chip model

## In Vitro-In Vivo Correlation: NVS mAbs

Clinical data

On-chip

IVIVC



Mean  $\pm$  SD of four independent experiments; One-way ANOVA

*The good IVIVC for the 5 mAbs tested supports the hypothesis that the main event(s) that impacts bioavailability is occurring in the subcutaneous region*

# Summary



Subcutaneous bioavailability and PK will probably require more than one in-vitro model



Community is not clear on what it wants from In-vitro assays



Great advancements in in-vitro assays have been made over the last 5 years



Multiple high-dose and high-volume formulation subcutaneous options are being advanced that will require in vitro models to de-risk development



The **Subcutaneous Drug Delivery & Development Consortium** will be releasing its 2<sup>nd</sup> **“open”** SC bioavailability challenge

# Acknowledgements

## Scissor:

- Karin Somby
- Valerio Campagna
- Paulo Santos
- Driton Vllasiu  
(Kings College London)
- Ben Forbes  
(Kings College London)
- Randy Mrsny  
(Bath University)
- Imogen Anastasiou (Pion)
- Karl Box (Pion)
- Balint Sinko (Pion)

## • MIT Skin-on-Chip

- Adriana Martinez Ledo
- *Gabriela Misiewicz*
- Jillian Handel
- Ryan Pelis
- Thomas Dimke
- Bruin Gerard
- Marie Picci
- Karolyn Bechtold-Peters
- Roger Kann (MIT)
- Giorgos Pavlou (MIT)
- Maria Proestaki (MIT)

## • TRD SC Group

- Marie Picci
- Karolyn Bechtold-Peters
- Jorge Nerkamp
- Isabel Ottinger
- Maxime Gaillot
- Robert Hormes
- Sabine Adler
- Harry Tiemessen
- Stephane Olland
- Colleagues in PHAD/CPP

## • Subcutaneous Consortium

- Donna French (AZ)
- David Collins (Lilly)
- Renee Tannenbaum (Halozyme)
- Sachin Mittal (Merck)
- Advait Badkar (Pfizer)
- Matt Burke (Radis Health)
- Marie-Teresa Peracchia (Sanofi)
- Neil Mathias (BMS)
- Rajesh Gandhi (BMS)
- Jennie Stevenson (Amgen)
- Randy Mrsny (Bath University)



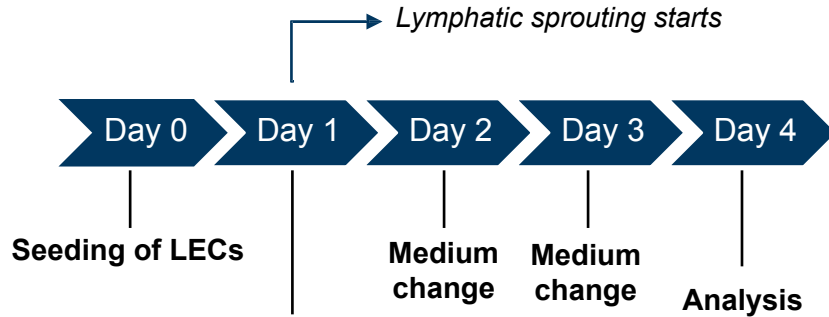
**Thank you**



# References

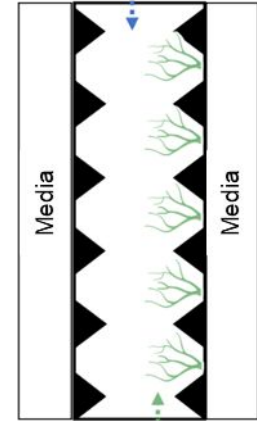
- David S. Collins, Manuel Sanchez-Felix, Advait V. Badkar, Randall Mersny, Accelerating the development of novel technologies and tools for subcutaneous delivery of biotherapeutics, Journal of Controlled Release, 221, (2020), p. 475-482
- M. Sanchez-Felix, M. Burke, H.H. Chen, C. Patterson, S. Mittal, Predicting bioavailability of monoclonal antibodies after subcutaneous administration: Open innovation challenge, Adv Drug Deliv Rev, 167, (2020), p. 66-77
- Jean C. Serrano, Mark R. Gillrie, Ran Li, Sarah H. Ishamuddin, Roger D. Kamm, On-chip engineered human lymphatic microvasculature for physio-/pathological transport phenomena studies, bioRxiv, 2022

# Experimental workflow



- **Model characterization**
  - Interstitial flow velocity
  - Lymphatic capillary morphology
- **Lymphatic absorption assay**

Interstitial space



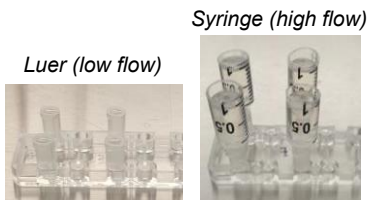
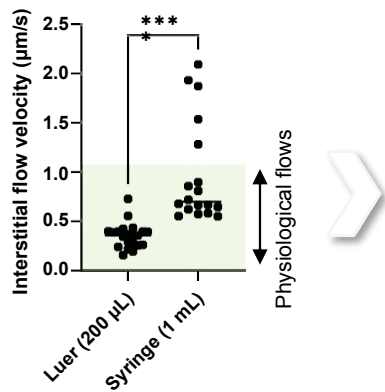
LEC

LEC: Lymphatic Endothelial Cell

# Relevant lymphatic physiology

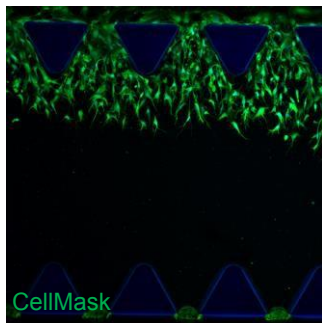
## on-chip

### Tunable interstitial flow

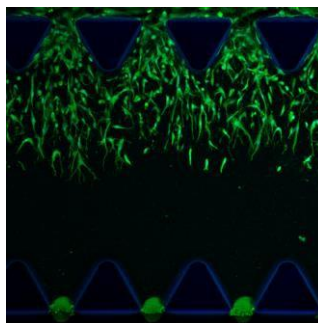


### Tunable capillary morphology

Low flow (luer)

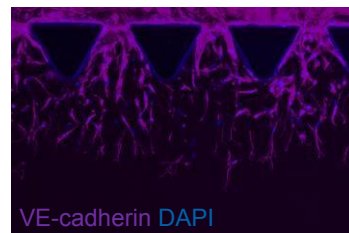
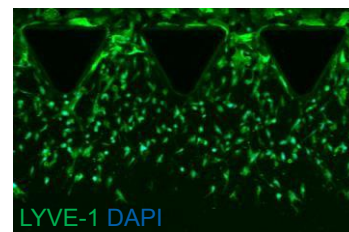


High flow (syringe)



|  | In Vivo | High flow |
|--|---------|-----------|
| <u>Vascular Density (%)</u>                | 15-30   | 14.33     |
| <u>Length* (<math>\mu\text{m}</math>)</u>  | 200-800 | ~651.10   |
| <u>Diameter (<math>\mu\text{m}</math>)</u> | 10-50   | ~10.09    |

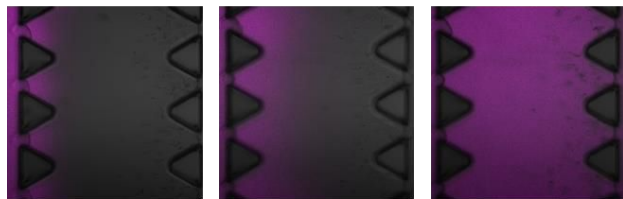
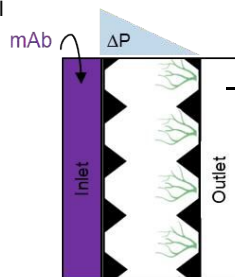
### Phenotypic marker expression



Gabriela Misiewicz

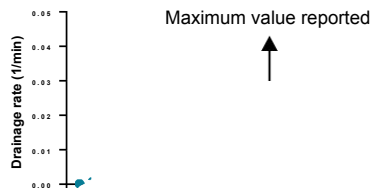
# Lymphatic absorption assay

Low flow  
to mimic physiological  
interstitial convective  
transport



$\Delta t$

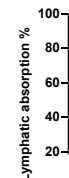
**Imaging outlet:**  
*Confocal microscope*



Model molecules

Optimization

**Sampling outlet:**  
*Plate reader*



NVS mAbs

IVIVC

**Ned Kirkpatrick**  
**Ishan Gupta**