

# Organoids: A historical perspective of thinking in three dimensions

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Universidad Nacional de San Martín  
Buenos Aires-Argentina

# Organs-on-a-chip...the new revolution in preclinical studies



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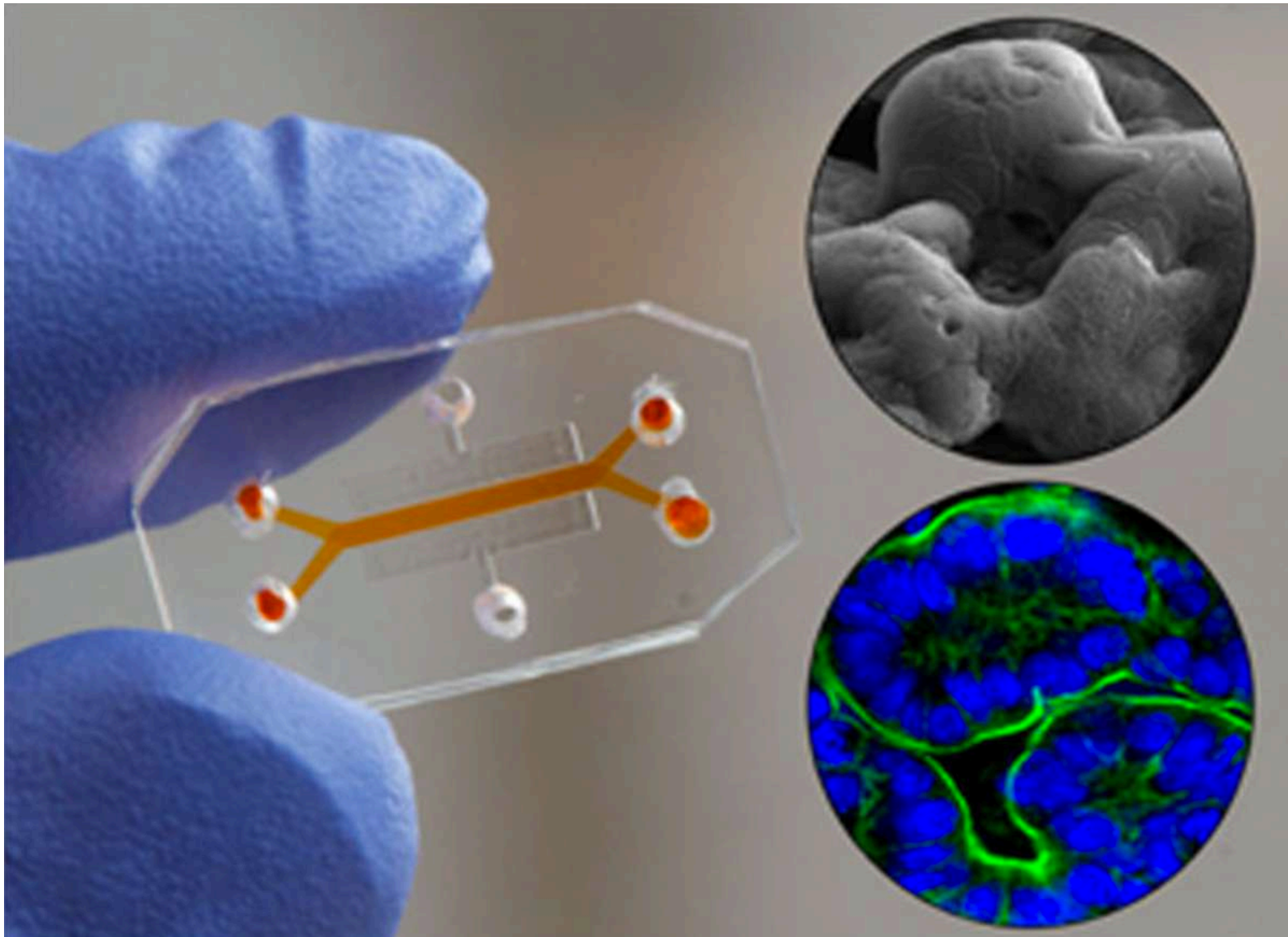
Home » FDA Collaborates with Emulate to Use Organs-on-Chips Technology as a Toxicology Testing Platform

**FDANEWS Device Daily Bulletin**

**Medical Devices / Research and Development / Commercial Operations**

## **FDA Collaborates with Emulate to Use Organs-on-Chips Technology as a Toxicology Testing Platform**

April 12, 2017



## Life in a Lab

Scientists have created a device that mimics the functions of a living lung to test the effects of drugs.



### HUMAN LUNG-ON-A-CHIP

The device is the size of a computer memory stick and made from silicone rubber.

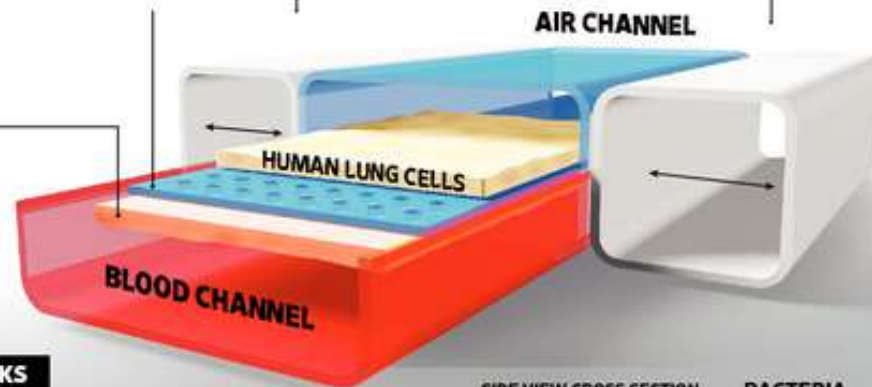
### MEMBRANE

A porous membrane splits the main channel. Human lung cells line the top of the membrane, while human capillary blood cells line the bottom.

### VACUUM CHANNELS

When suction is applied to the side channels, the membrane and cells stretch and relax rhythmically, like during breathing.

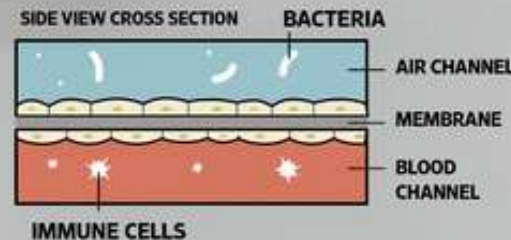
CAPILLARY BLOOD-VESSEL CELLS



### HOW IT WORKS

Air flows over the top of the lung cells, and a blood-like fluid containing immune cells flows through the bottom.

When researchers introduced bacteria in the air channel, the immune cells moved through the membrane into the air space to fight the bacteria.

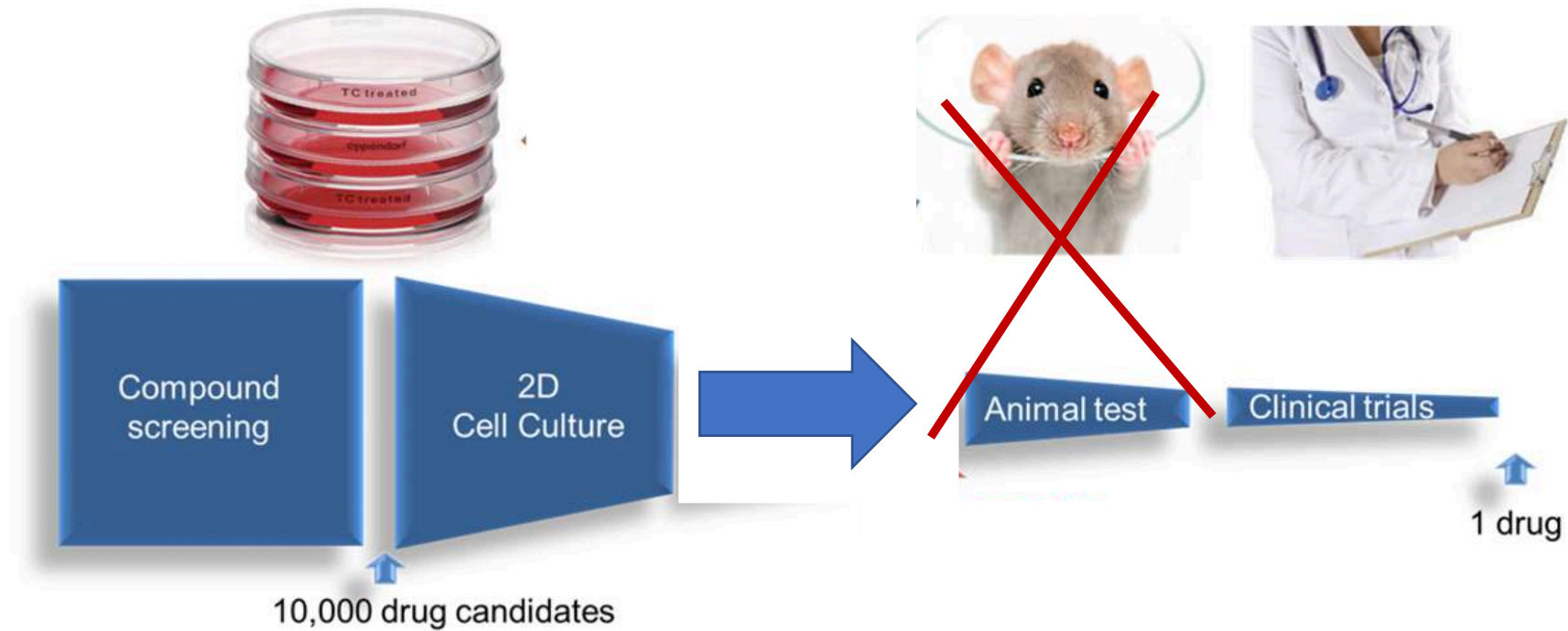


Source: Wyss Institute for Biologically Inspired Engineering at Harvard University

Graphic by Alberto Cervantes/The Wall Street Journal

Source: Wyss Institute for Biologically inspired Engineering at Harvard University

# Current drug development pathway



# How did we get here?

**JCB: Perspective**

## Organoids: A historical perspective of thinking in three dimensions

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<sup>2</sup>Biological Systems and Engineering Division, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, CA 94720

# What is an organoid?

*“...we define an organoid as a unit of function of a given organ that is able to reproduce, in culture, a biological structure similar in architecture and function to its counterpart in vivo. The origin of this unit is today multiple, as it can come from a fragment of tissue, a stem cell located in an adult organ, an embryonic stem cell, or an induced pluripotent stem cell.”*

Simian & Bissell, 2017, JCB

Journey through the milestones of tissue culture that led to the development of organs on a chip...



**1906 Harrison**  
Hanging drop cell culture method

**1926 Strangeways & Fell**  
Tube cultures

**1952 Moscona & Moscona**  
Dissociation and aggregation of cells from organ rudiments of the early chick embryo

**1956 Ehrmann & Gey**  
Reconstituted collagen from rat tails

**1960-1977**  
Culture of different cell types on collagen I gels

**1975 Michalopoulos and Pitot**  
Differentiation of hepatocytes on floating collagen gels

**1977 Emerman and Pitelka**  
Culture of differentiated mammary epithelial cells on floating collagen gels

**1979 Timpl et al.**  
Characterization of laminin

1906

**1914 Thomson**  
Definition of cultures as "controlled" vs "uncontrolled" when tissue organization and functionality are lost

1914

1926

**1929 Fell & Robison**  
Watch glass method

1929

1952

**1954 Trowell**  
Grid cell culture method

1954

1956

**1957 Lasfargues**  
Dissociation of mammary glands into organoids using collagenase from *Clostridium*

1957

1960

**1973 Gahmberg & Hakomori; Ruoslahti et al.; Hynes**  
Discovery of Fibronectin

1973

1975

**1977 Orkin**  
Gel isolated from matrix of chondrosarcomas, EHS, known today as Matrigel

1977

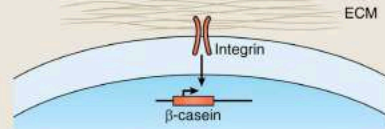
1979

**1984, 1985 Lee et al.**  
Basal and luminal polarity is established when cells are on floating collagen gels, as shown by milk protein synthesis and secretion into the medium.

1984

**1987 D.M. Bissell et al.; Li et al.**  
Demonstration of the functional use of laminin-rich gels to support hepatocellular function or mammary gene expression.

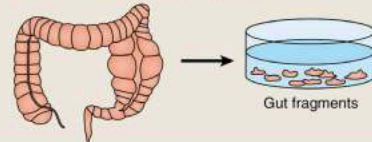
**1991 Streuli et al.**  
Integrins regulate gene expression



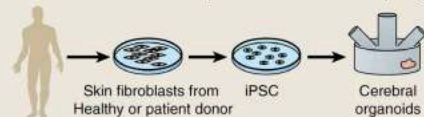
**2006 Nelson et al.**  
Micropattern gels provide positional cues that establish the range of action of TGF- $\beta$  in morphogenesis vs invasion



**2009 Sato et al.**  
"Mini-guts": a culture system allows growth of epithelial organoids from a single Lgr5-positive stem cell



**2013 Lancaster et al.**  
Human brain organoids are generated from iPSCs derived from cells from a patient with microcephaly.



1987

1989

1991

2001

2006

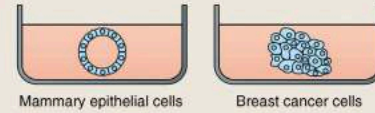
2008

2009

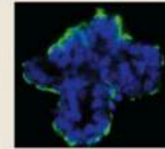
2012

2013

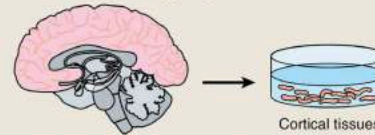
**1989 Barcellos-Hoff et al. 1992 Petersen et al.**  
Use of a laminin-rich matrix to develop assays of mammary morphogenesis and to distinguish between healthy and malignant human epithelial cells.



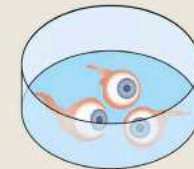
**2001 Simian et al.**  
Use of 3D collagen cultures to study the mechanisms of mammary gland branching morphogenesis



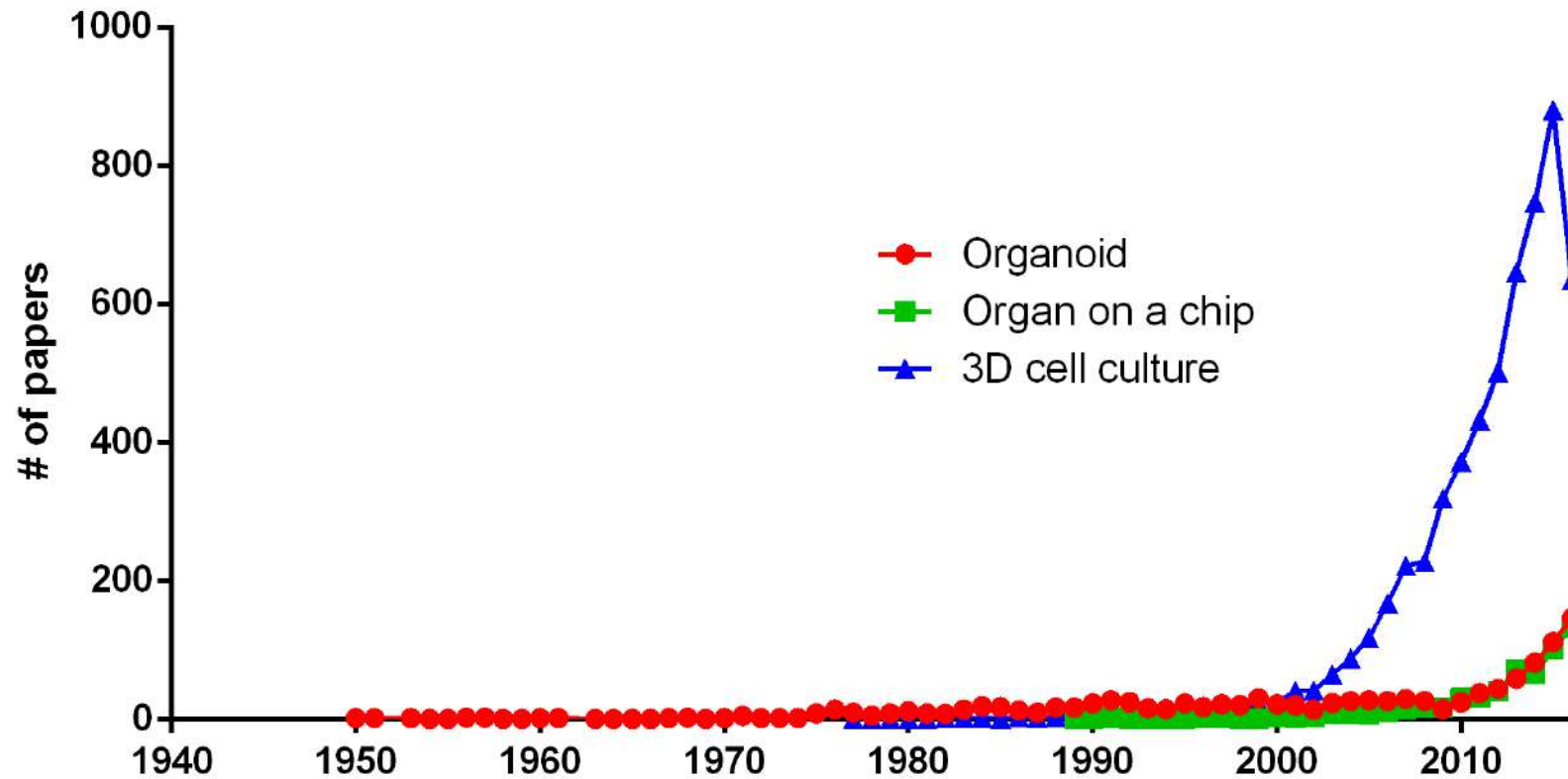
**2008 Eiraku et al.**  
Self-organized formation of polarized cortical tissues from ESCs using 3D aggregation cultures



**2012 Nakano et al.**  
Formation of a self-organized optic cup structure from human ESCs in 3D culture

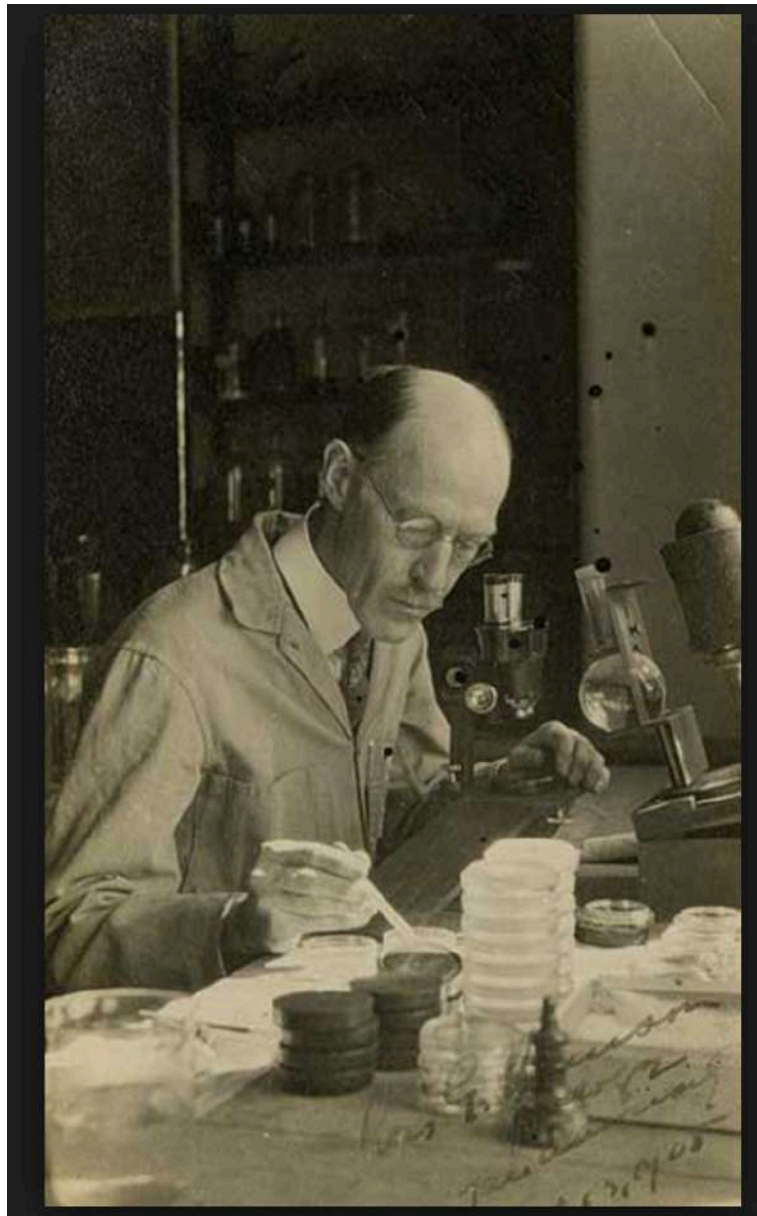


# Pubmed citations per year

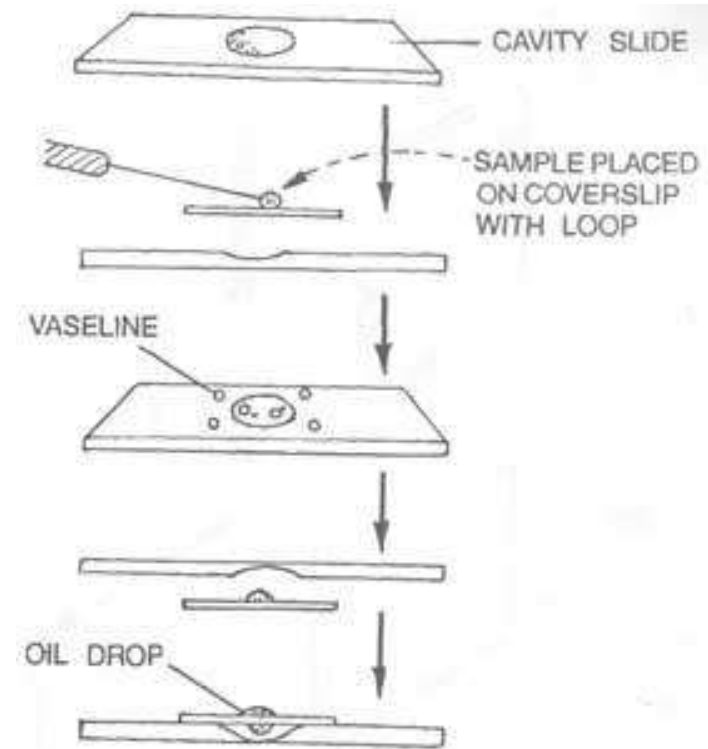
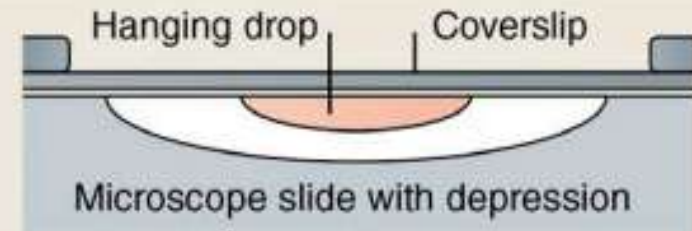


# WHY?

do we culture cells?



## 1906 Harrison Hanging drop cell culture method



# The Royal Society of Medicine.

*Marcus Beck Laboratory Reports.—No. 2.*

## Some Further Researches on the Cultivation of Tissues *in vitro.*

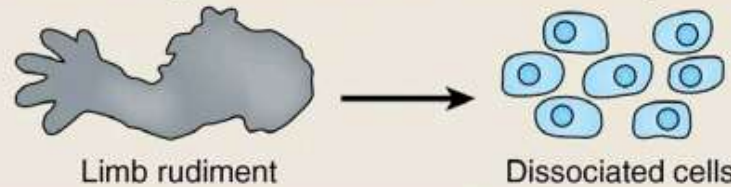
By DAVID THOMSON, M.B., Ch.B.Edin., D.P.H.Cantab.<sup>1</sup>

*Read before a Meeting of the Society on May 11, 1914.*

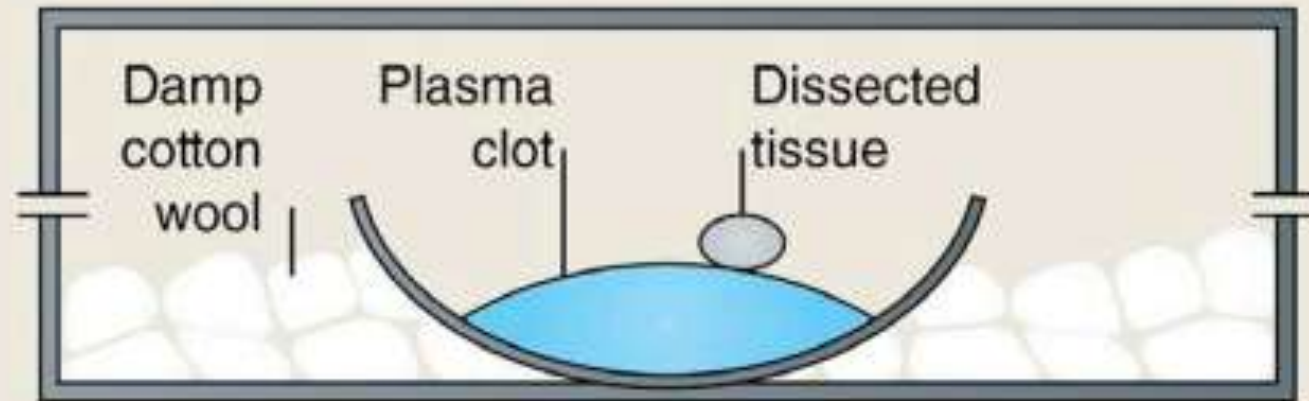
The PRESIDENT, Sir FRANCIS H. CHAMPNEYS, Bt., M.D., in the Chair.

### 1914 Thomson

Definition of cultures as "controlled" vs "uncontrolled"  
when tissue organization and functionality are lost

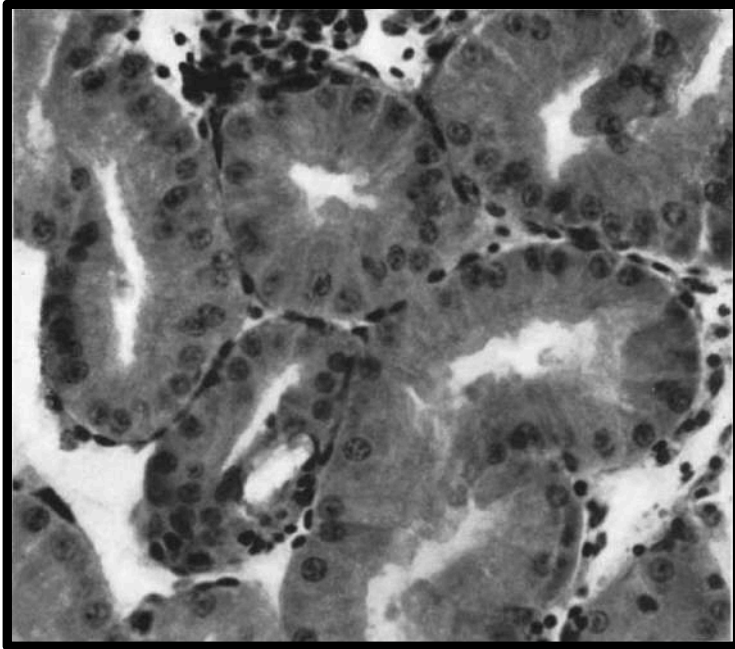


## 1929 Fell & Robison Watch glass method

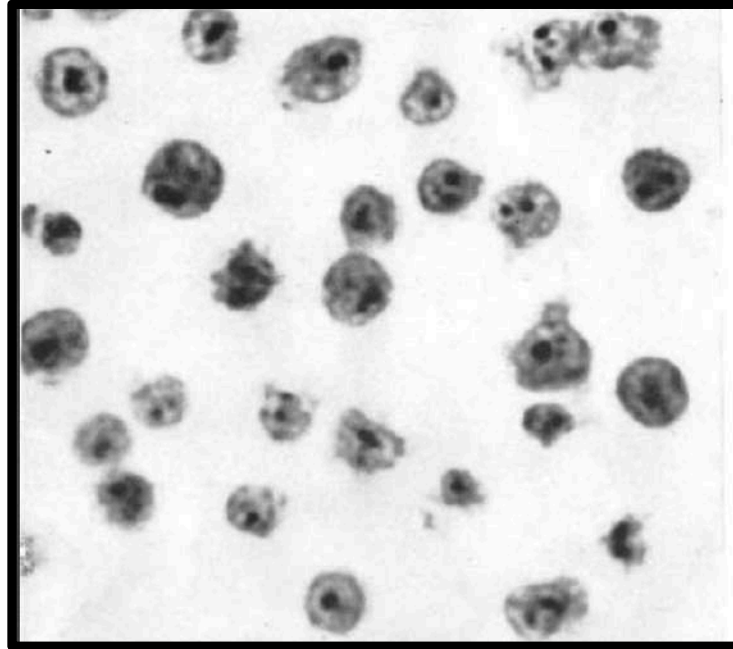


# Moscona and Moscona, 1952

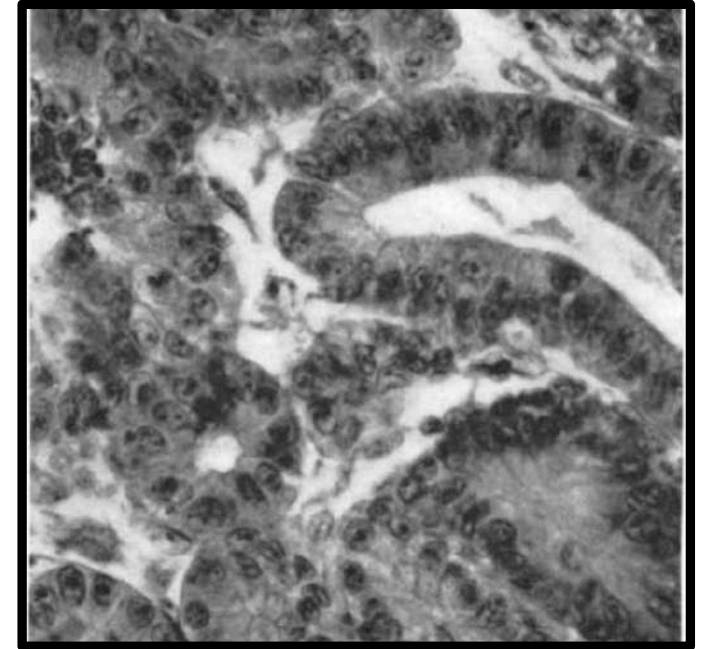
Dissociation and aggregation of cells from organ rudiments



Kidney



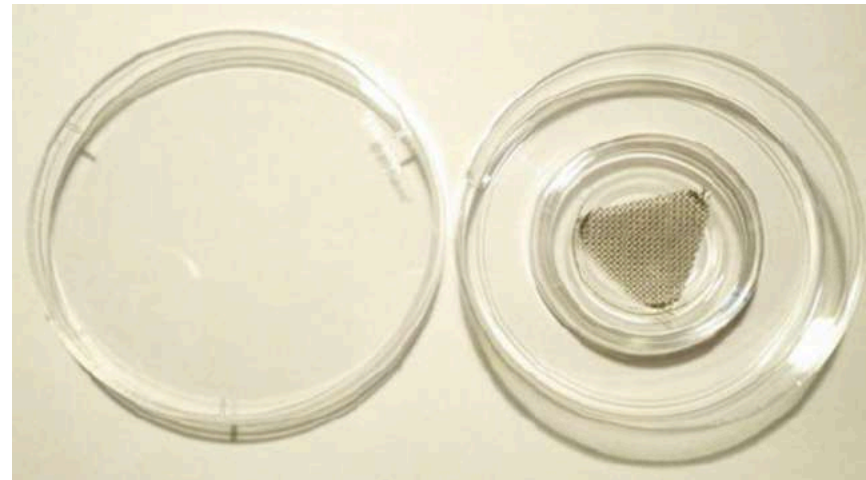
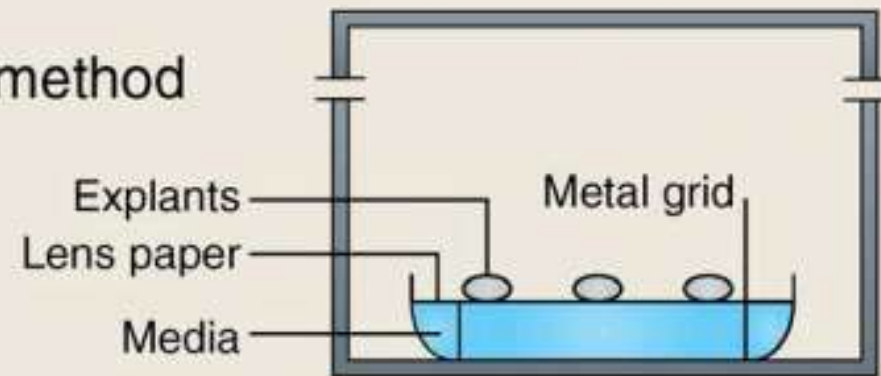
Cell aggregates



In vitro kidney-like structures

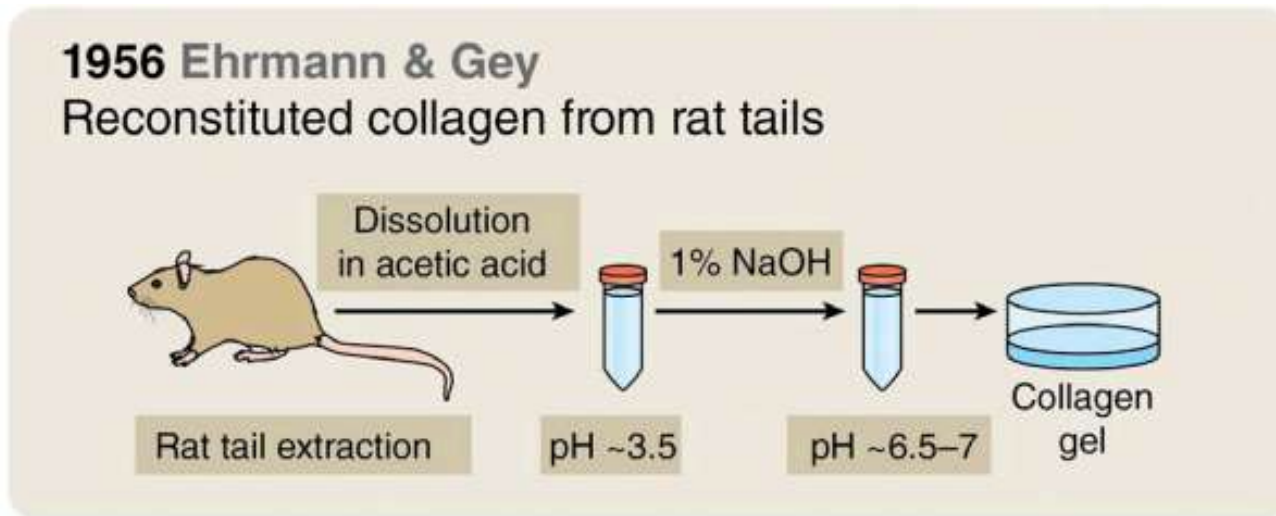


## 1954 Trowell Grid cell culture method



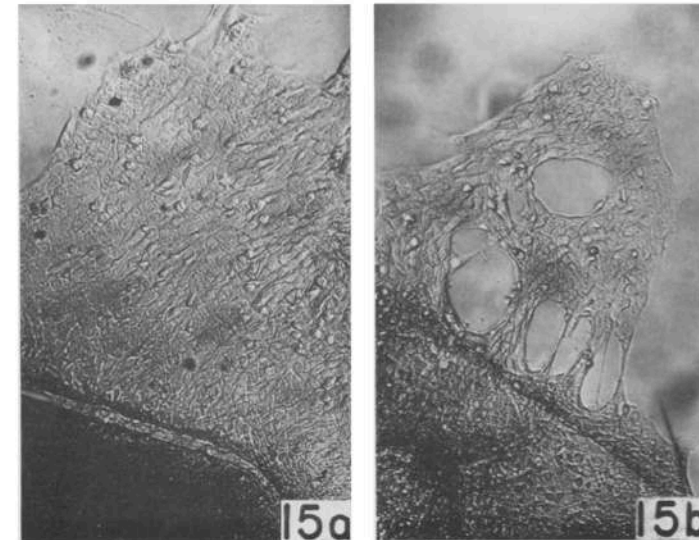
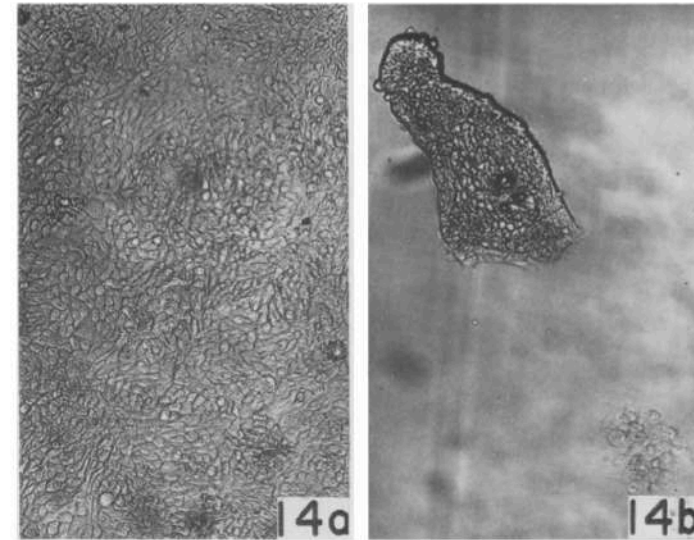
# Use of collagen: 1956

- Huzella, T. 1932. Orientation de la croissance des cultures de tissus sur la trame fibrillaire artificielle coagulée de la solution de collagène. SAC r. Soc. Biol. Paris. 109:515.



# The Growth of Cells on a Transparent Gel of Reconstituted Rat-Tail Collagen<sup>1,2</sup>

ROBERT L. EH RMANN<sup>3</sup> and GEORGE O. GEY,<sup>4</sup> *Division for Cellular Pathology, Department of Surgery, The Johns Hopkins Hospital and Medical School, Baltimore, Md.*



Ehrmann and Gey

## 1957 Lasfargues

Dissociation of mammary glands into organoids using collagenase from *Clostridium*

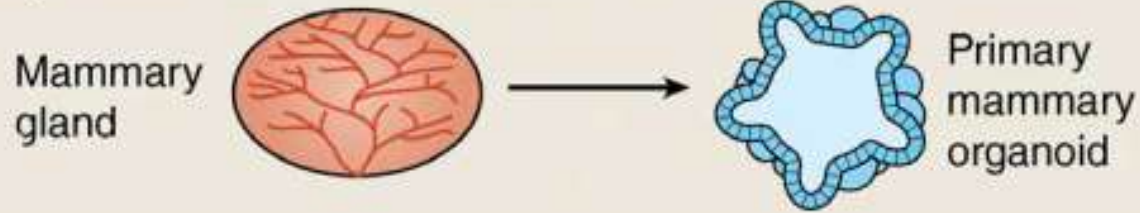


TABLE 1

*Effect of different collagenase concentrations on the dissociation of the mammary tissue*

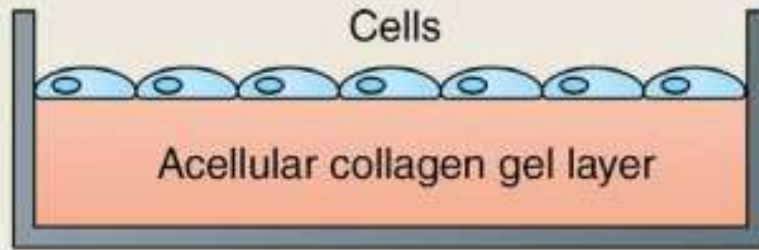
CONCENTRATION	EXPOSURE TIME	RESULTS AT 37°C.
<i>mg/ml</i>	<i>hours</i>	
0.025	18	Partial dissociation
0.050	3	Beginning of dissociation
0.100	2	Partial dissociation
0.200	2	Advanced dissociation

The tissue is finely minced in the collagenase solution and reduced to tiny fragments of 1 mm square or less. Simms' saline is the solvent used for the collagenase.

Lasfargues, E.Y. 1957. Anat. Rec. 127:117–129.

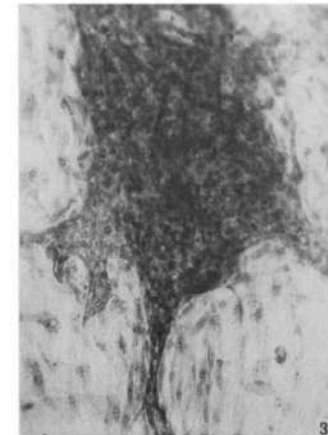
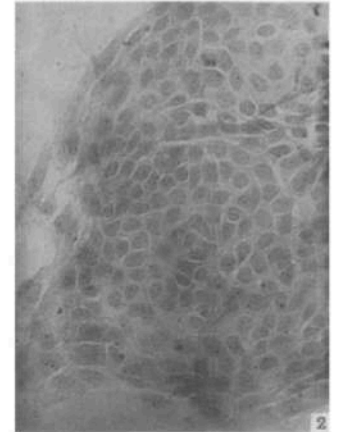
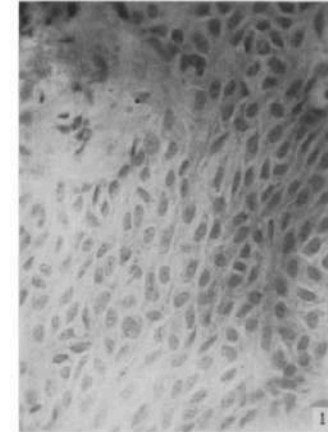
1960-1977

Culture of different cell types on collagen I gels



MAMMARY EPITHELIUM CULTURES  
ETIENNE V. BARBAROUS

PLATE I



# HIGH-YIELD PREPARATION OF ISOLATED RAT LIVER PARENCHYMAL CELLS

## A Biochemical and Fine Structural Study

M. N. BERRY and D. S. FRIEND

From the Division of Clinical Pathology and the Department of Pathology, University of California School of Medicine, San Francisco, California 94122

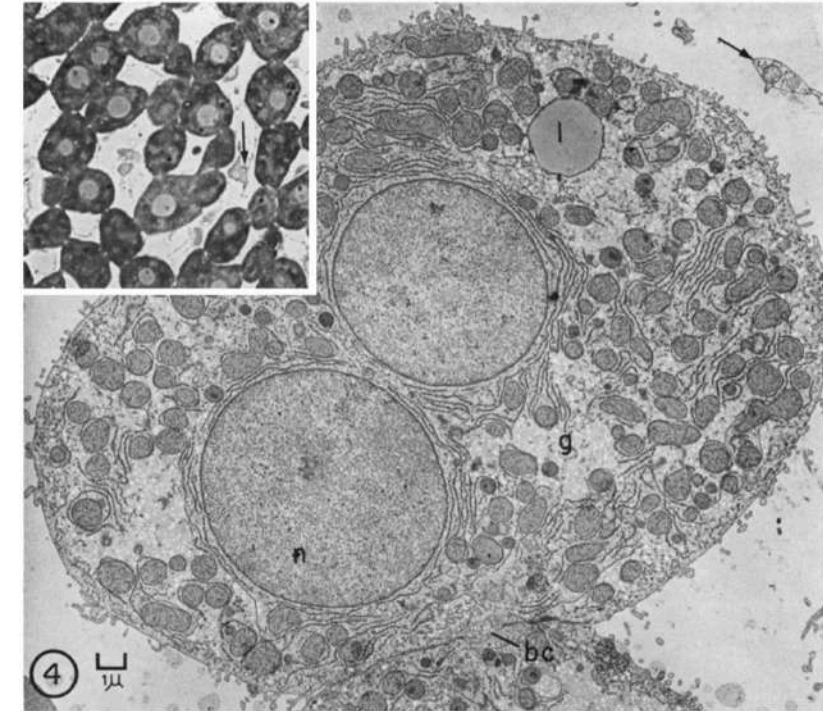


FIGURE 4 Phase and electron micrographs of liver cells during perfusion with medium containing hyaluronidase and collagenase. Adjacent hepatic parenchymal cells remain contiguous around bile canaliculi (*bc*), but endothelial (arrows) and Kupffer cells are fragmented and separated from cords of parenchymal cells. Glycogen (*g*) appears as large pools of poorly stained particles. The appearance of this binucleate liver cell is otherwise comparable to that of the normal cell before perfusion. (*l*), lipid.  $\times 5500$ ; inset  $\times 1000$ .

Berry, M.N., and D.S. Friend. 1969. *J. Cell Biol.* 43:506–520.

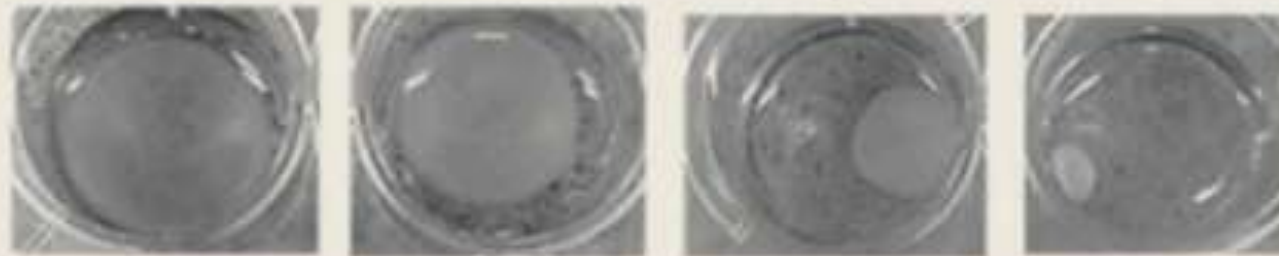
# Cells on floating collagen I gels reach a higher degree of differentiation

## **1975 Michalopoulos and Pitot**

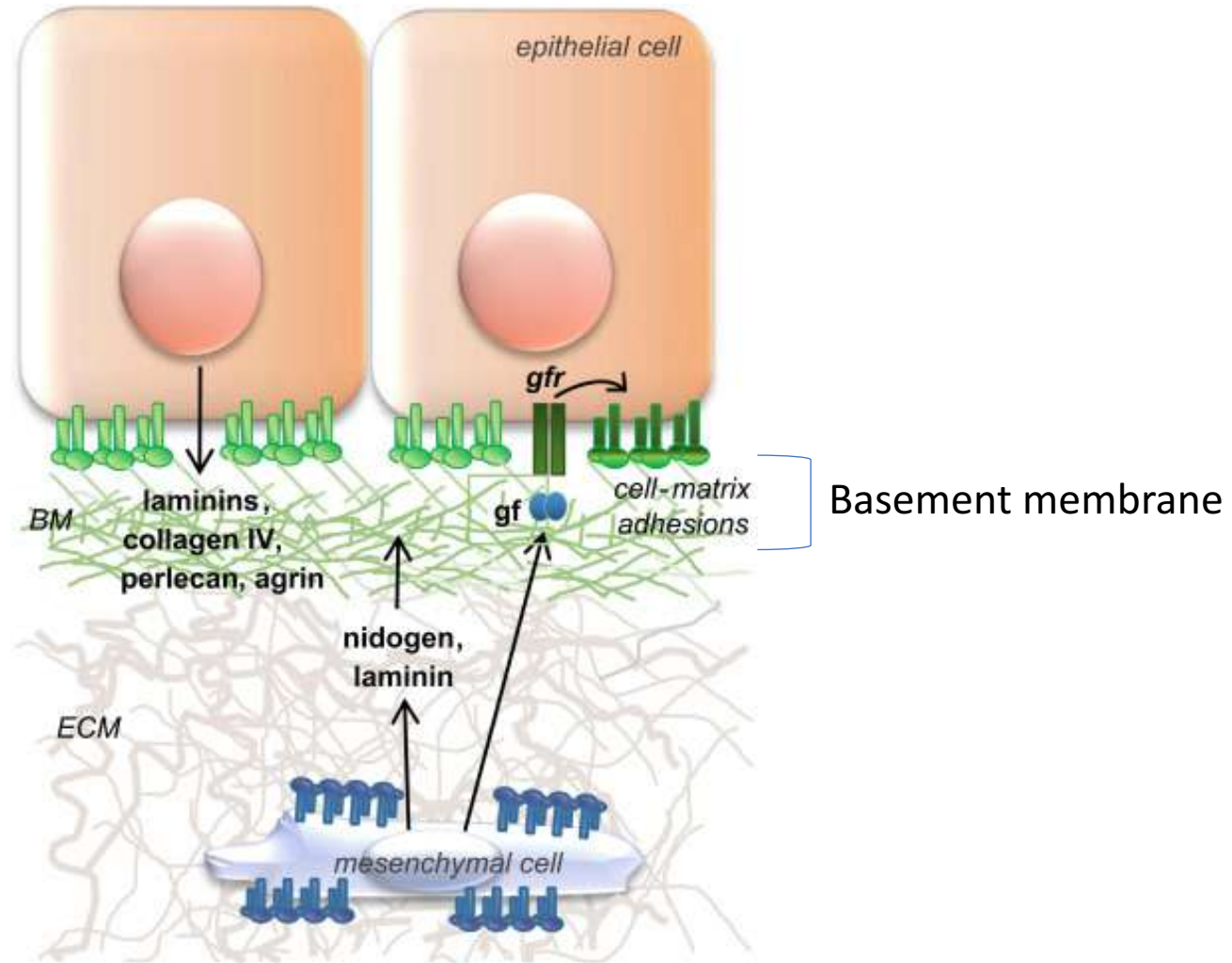
Differentiation of hepatocytes on floating collagen gels

## **1977 Emerman and Pitelka**

Culture of differentiated mammary epithelial cells on floating collagen gels



# 1973-1979: Discovery of Fibronectin and Laminin



Nelson et al. *Developmental Biology*, Volume 401, Issue 1, 2015, 103–109



1977: Engelbreth, Holm, and Swarm isolate EHS.....that is to say Matrigel

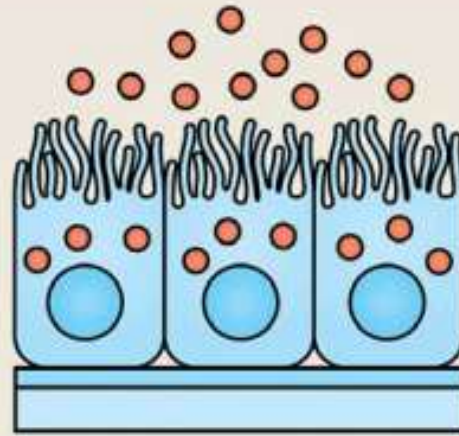


# By the 1980's...

- Were able to culture cells
- Could make collagen I gels
- Could disaggregate different tissues using collagenase
- Had characterized basement membrane components
- EHS (Matrigel was available)

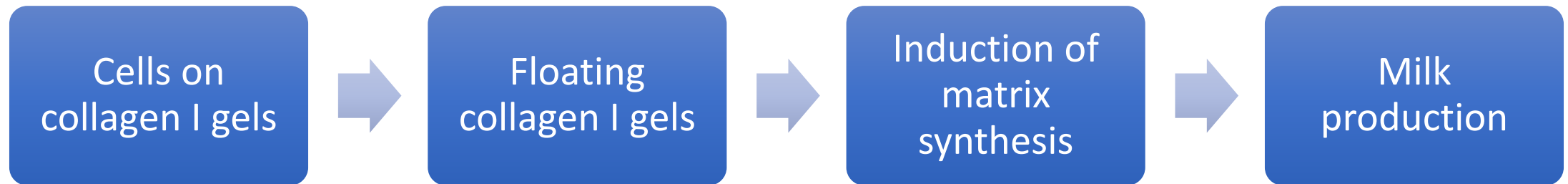
**1984, 1985 Lee et al.**

Basal and luminal polarity is established when cells are on floating collagen gels, as shown by milk protein synthesis and secretion into the medium.



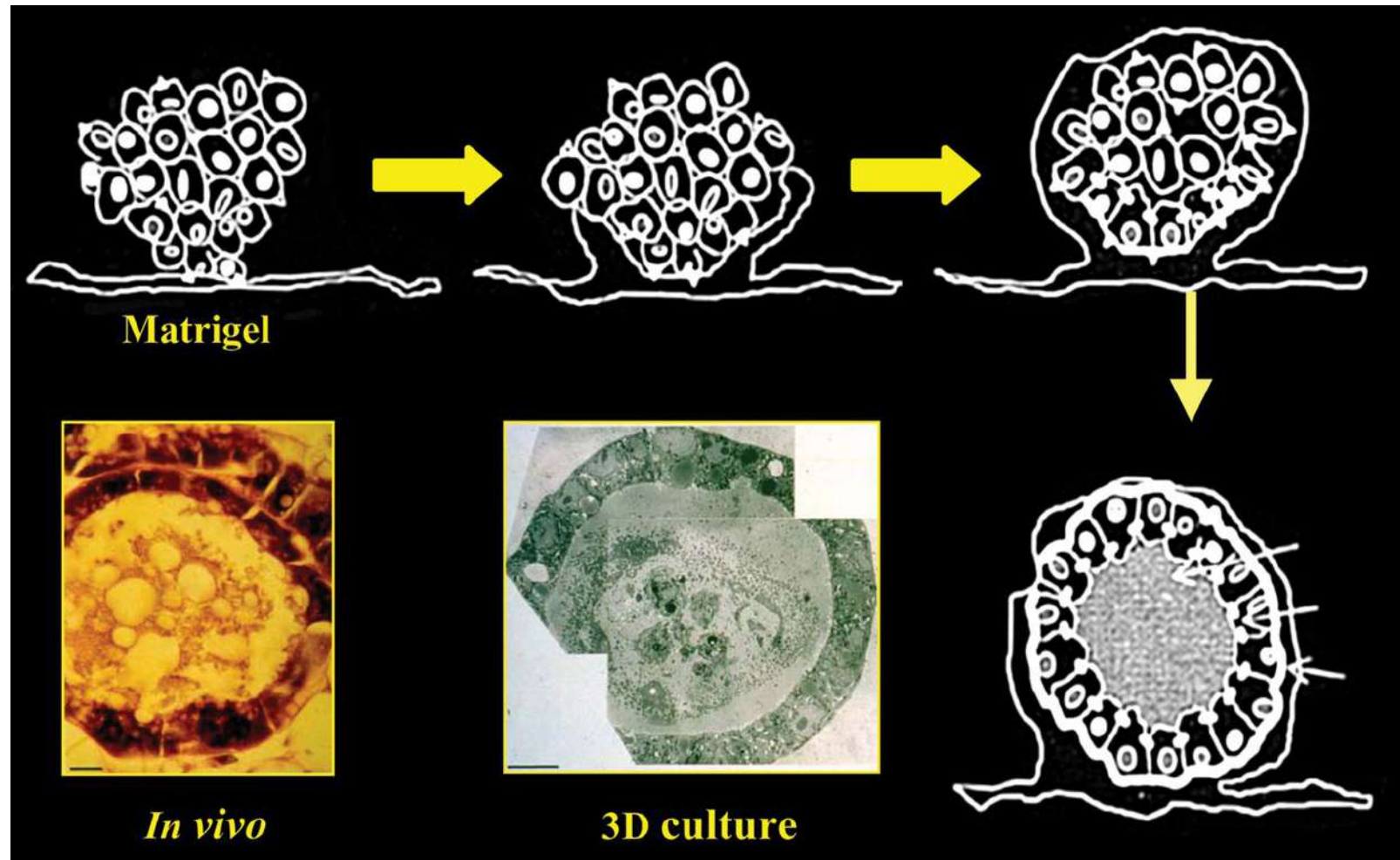
- Lee, E.Y., G. Parry, and M.J. Bissell. 1984. Modulation of secreted proteins of mouse mammary epithelial cells by the collagenous substrata. *J. Cell Biol.* 98:146–155..
- Lee, C.S. Kaetzel, G. Parry, and M.J. Bissell. 1985. Interaction of mouse mammary epithelial cells with collagen substrata: Regulation of casein gene expression and secretion. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA.* 82:1419–1423.

# Events related to milk production on floating collagen I gels



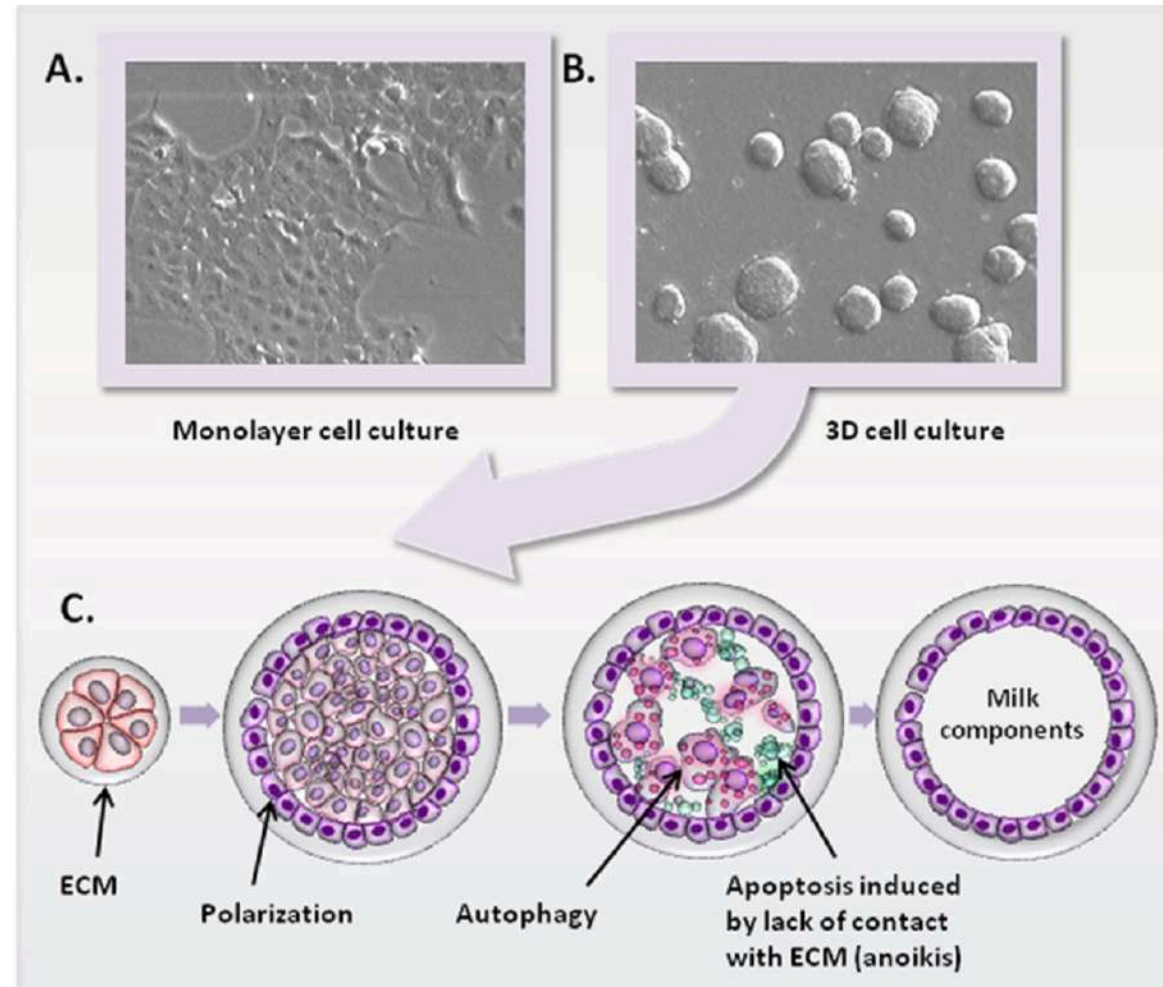
**1987 D.M. Bissell et al.; Li et al.**

Demonstration of the functional use of laminin-rich gels to support hepatocellular function or mammary gene expression.



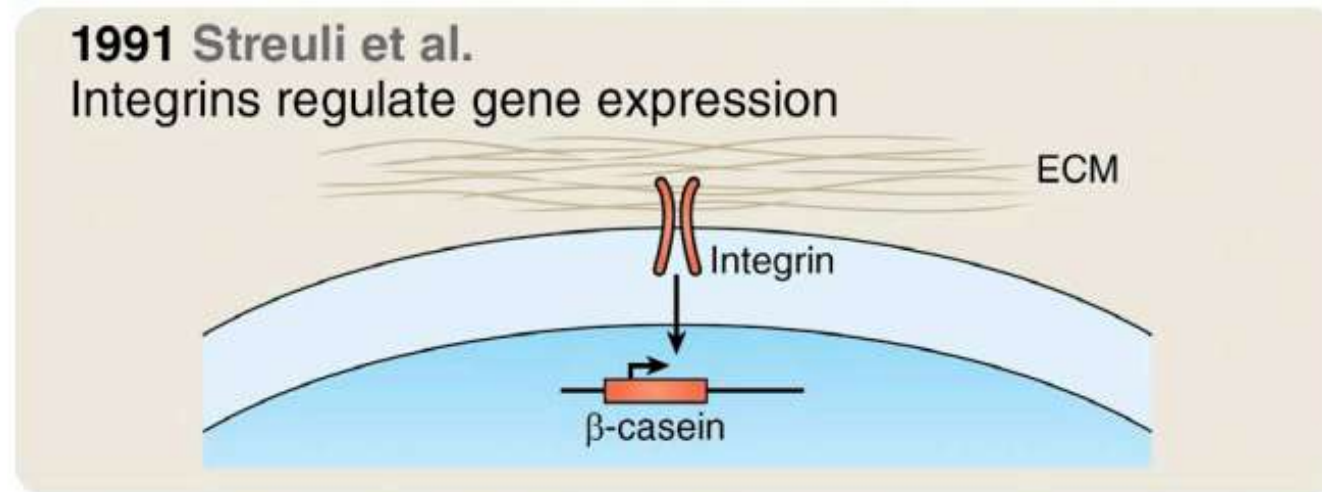
**1987 D.M. Bissell et al.; Li et al.**

Demonstration of the functional use of laminin-rich gels to support hepatocellular function or mammary gene expression.



Gajewska et al. (2013). Autophagy in Development and Remodelling of Mammary ....  
Dr. Yannick Bailly (Ed.), InTech, DOI: 10.5772/54558

# How does the ECM govern milk production?

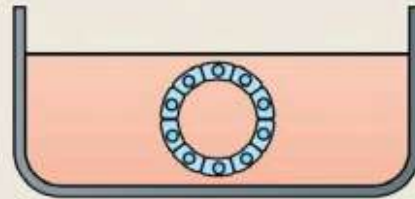


Laminin-111 through  $\beta$ 1 and  $\beta$ 4 integrins governs milk production

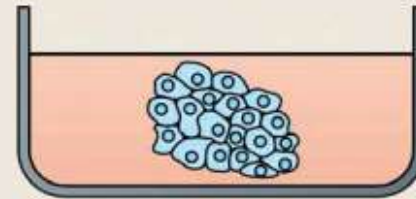
# Assay to distinguish normal from malignant cells

**1989 Barcellos-Hoff et al. 1992 Petersen et al.**

Use of a laminin-rich matrix to develop assays of mammary morphogenesis and to distinguish between healthy and malignant human epithelial cells.



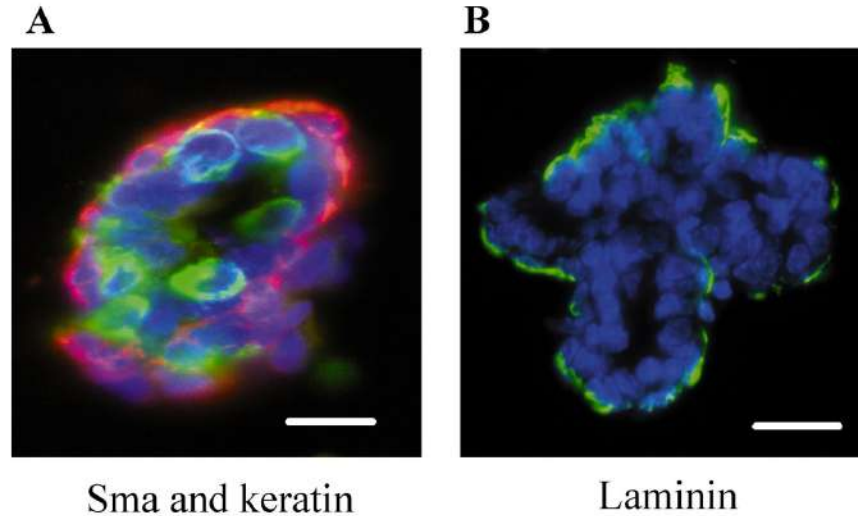
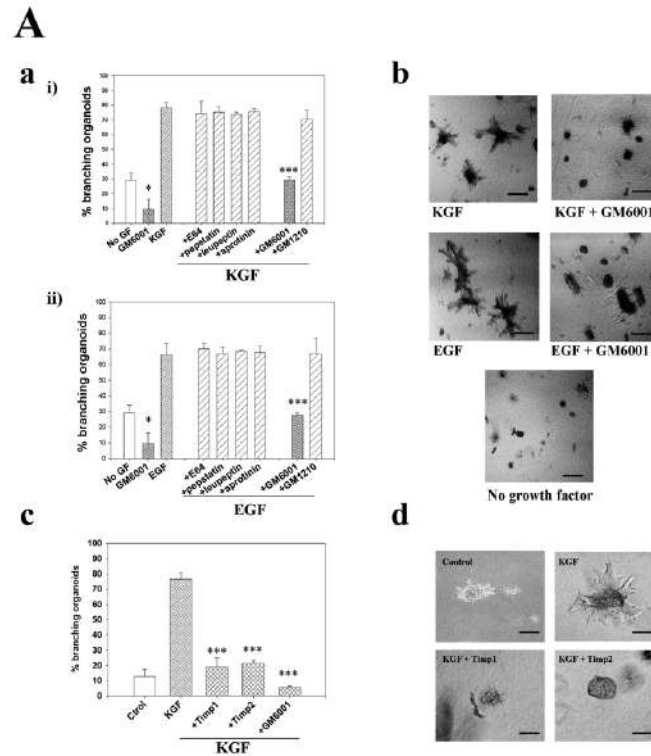
Mammary epithelial cells



Breast cancer cells



# 1990-2000: use of 3D cultures to study morphogenesis



Simian et al. Development 2001;128:3117-3131

# Stem cell field: 1981

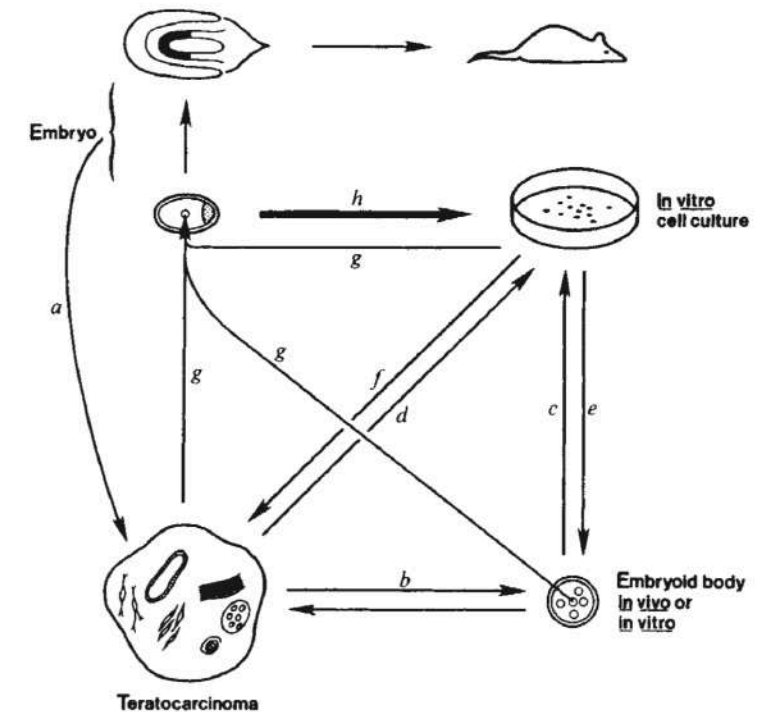
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## Establishment in culture of pluripotential cells from mouse embryos

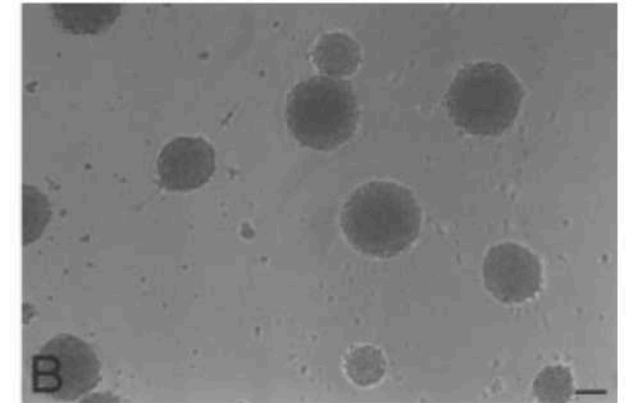
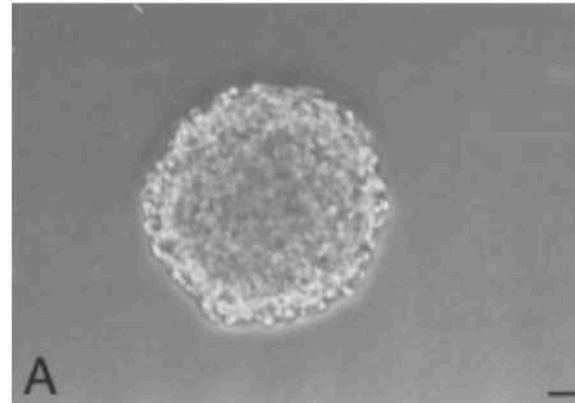
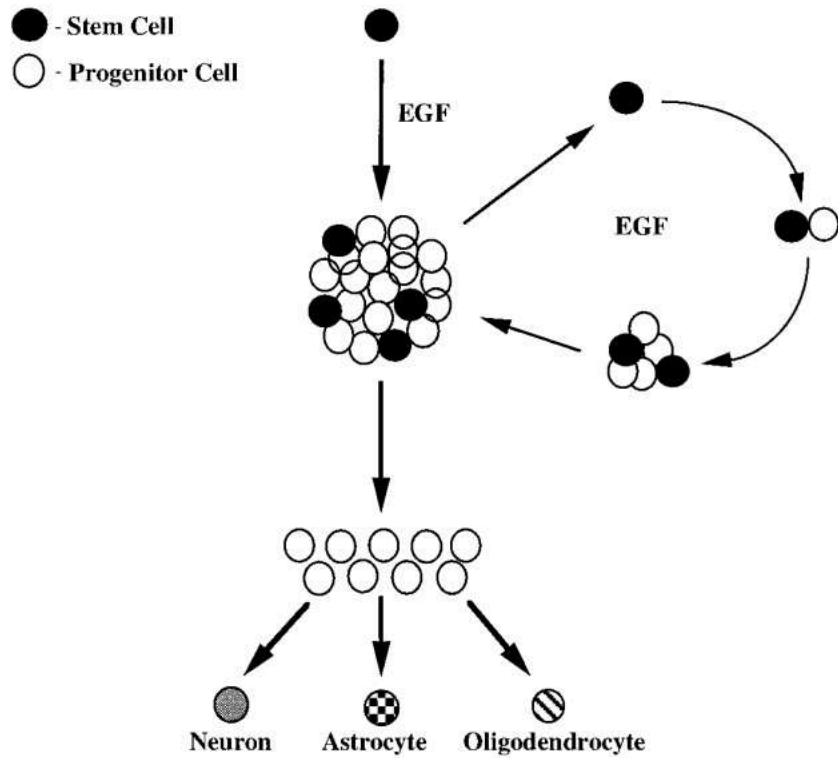
M. J. Evans\* & M. H. Kaufman†

Departments of Genetics\* and Anatomy†, University of Cambridge, Downing Street, Cambridge CB2 3EH, UK

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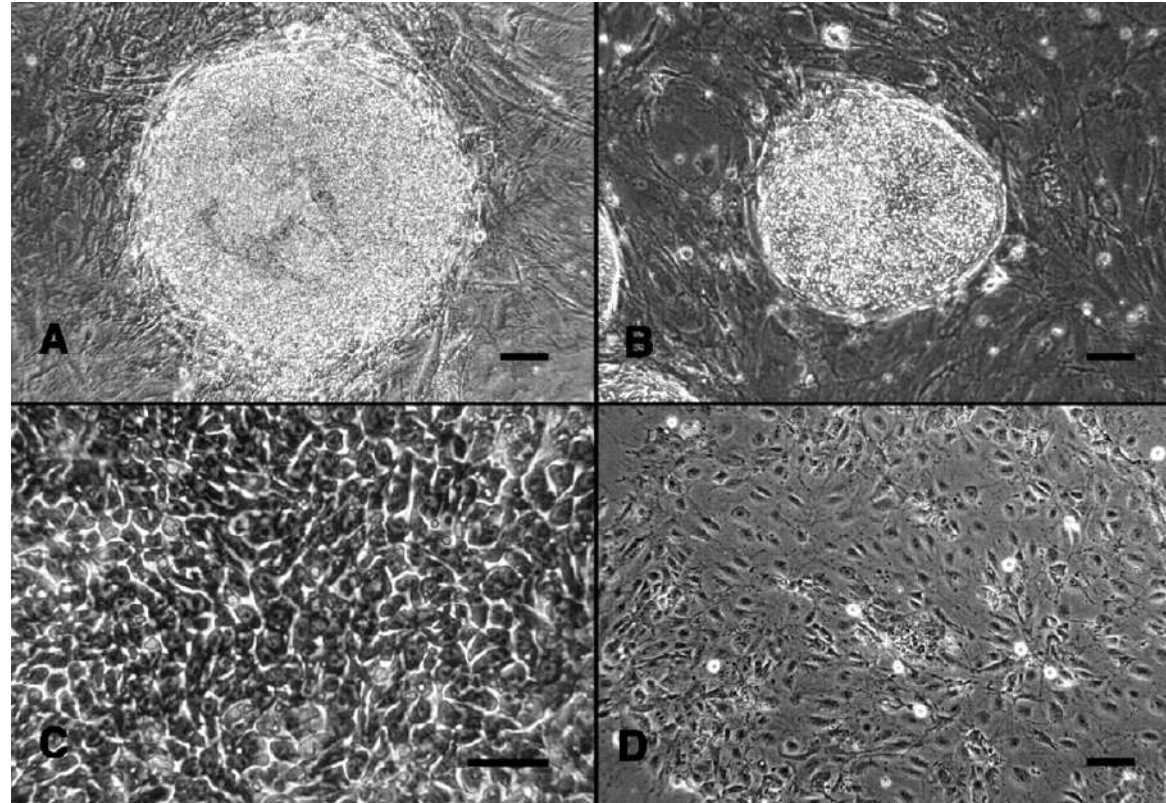


# 1996: First neurosphere cultures



Reynolds and Weiss, 1996. Dev. Biol 175, 1-13

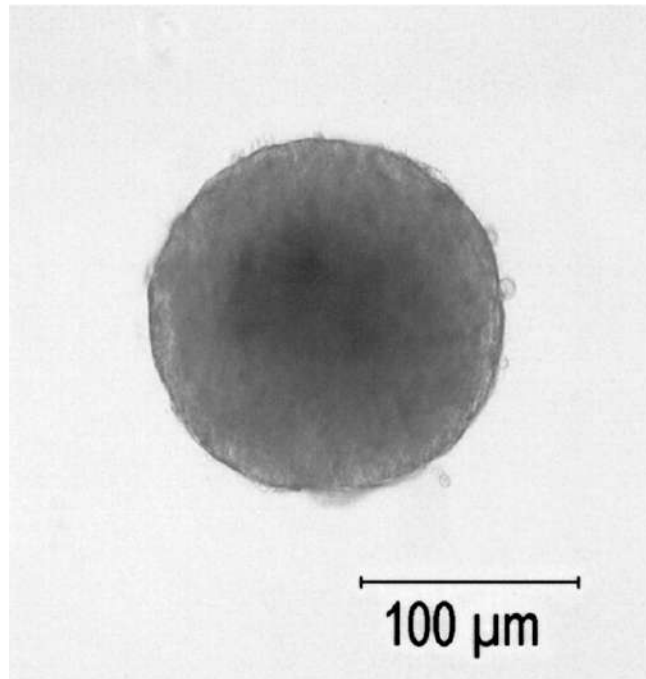
# 1998: Embryonic Stem Cell Lines Derived from Human Blastocysts



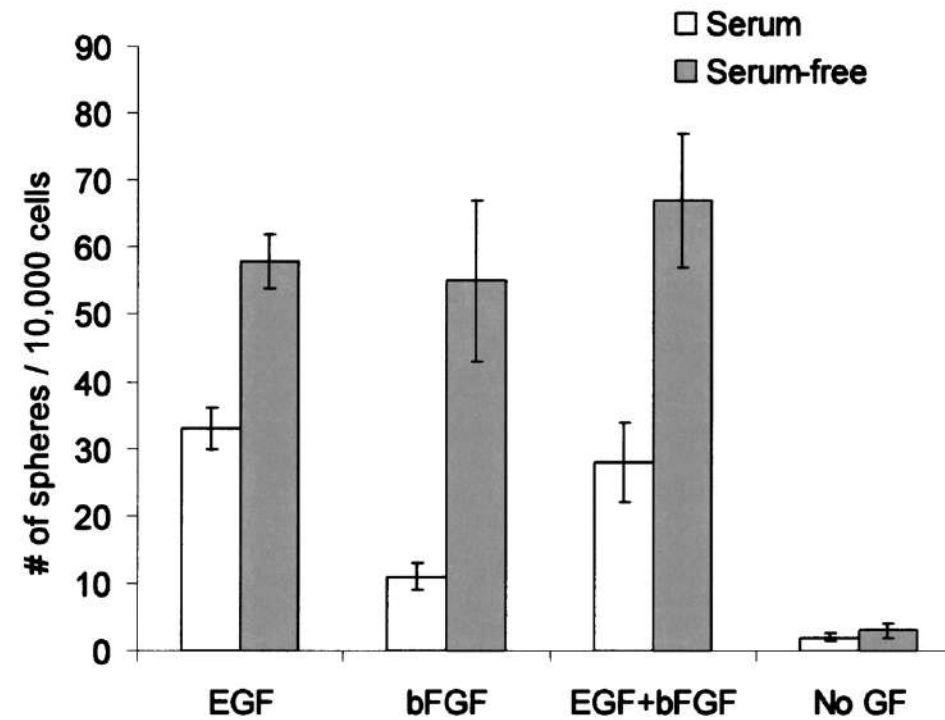
James A. Thomson et al. *Science* 1998;282:1145-1147

# Culture of mammary gland stem cells

**A**

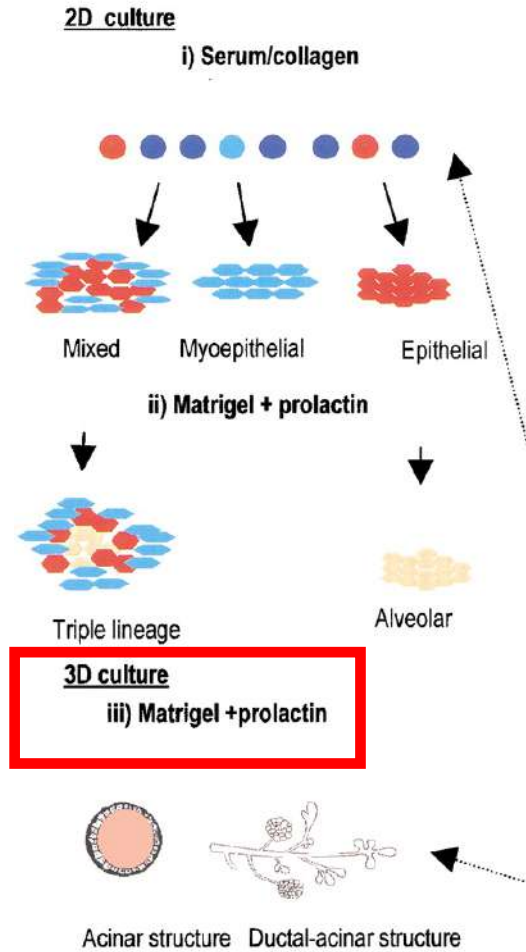


**B**

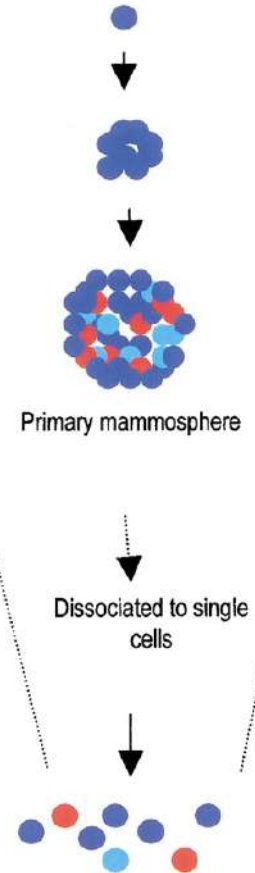


Gabriela Dontu et al. Genes Dev. 2003;17:1253-1270

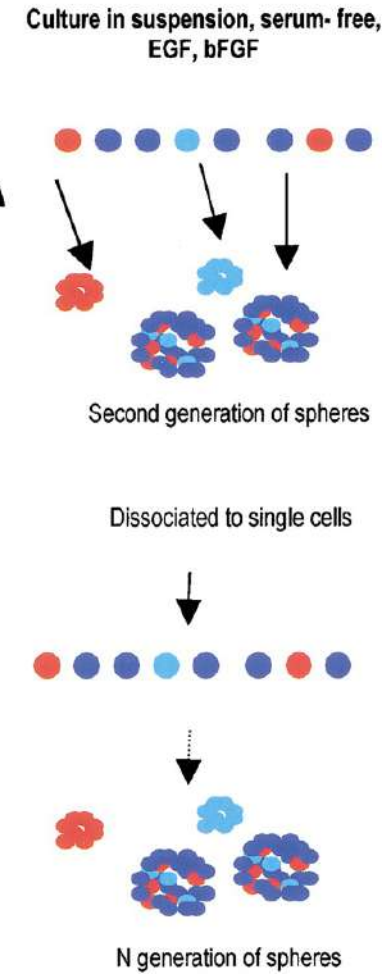
## A Differentiation



## Primary culture



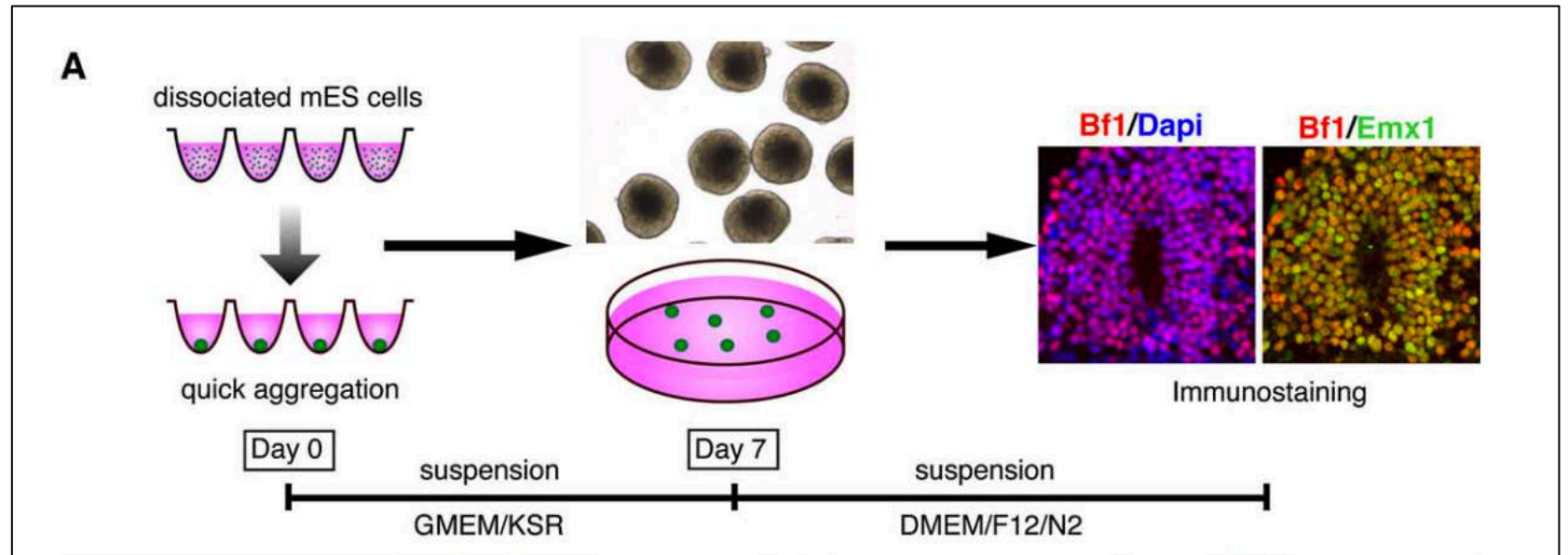
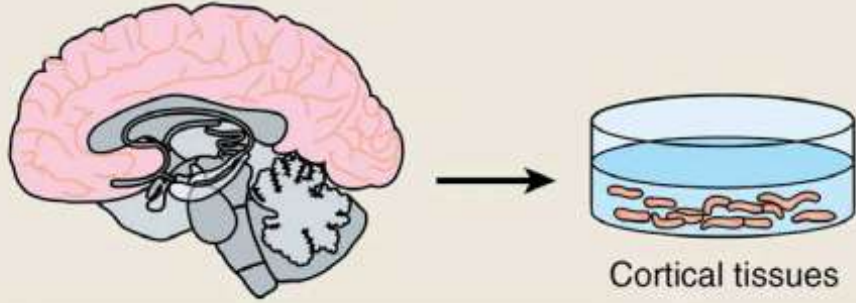
## B Self renewal



Gabriela Dontu et al. Genes Dev. 2003;17:1253-1270

2008 Eiraku et al.

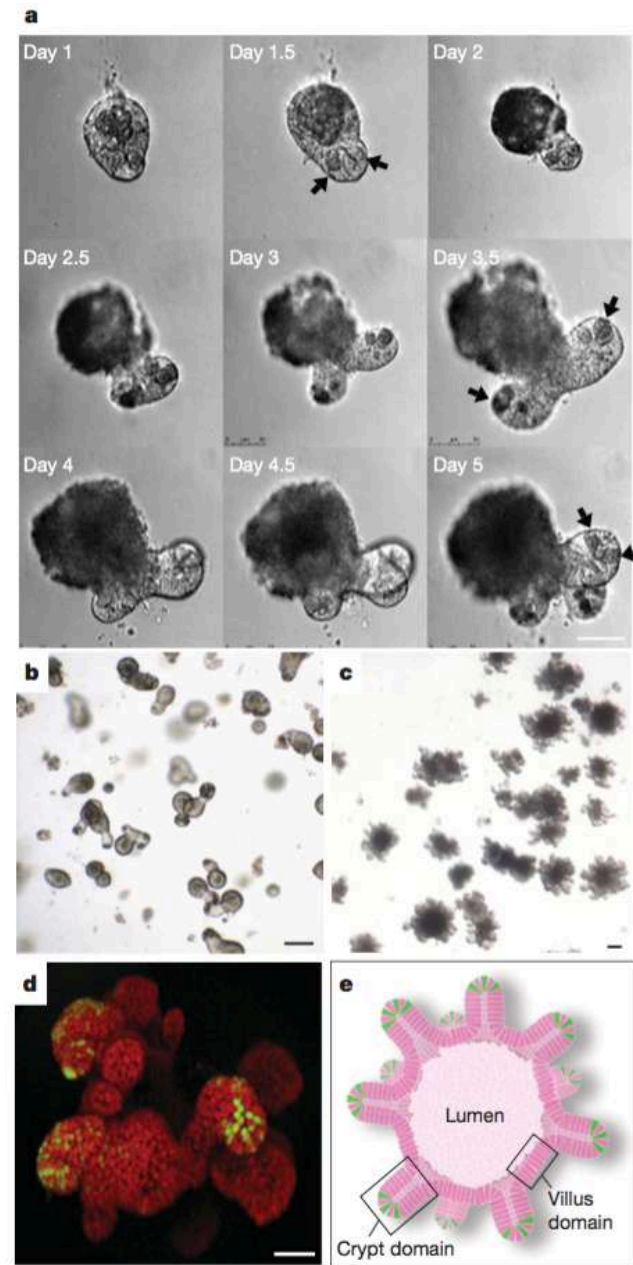
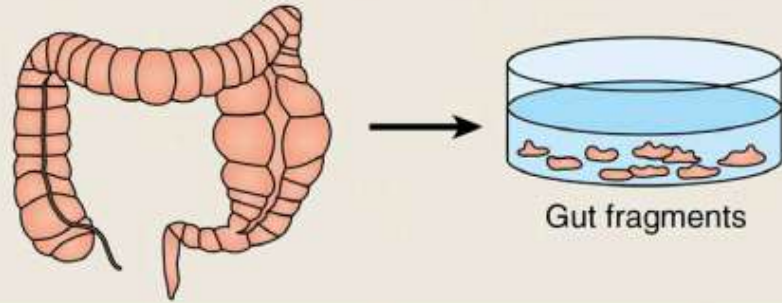
Self-organized formation of polarized cortical tissues from ESCs using 3D aggregation cultures



Eiraku et al. 2008. Self-organized formation of polarized cortical tissues from ESCs... Cell Stem Cell. 3:519– 532.

**2009 Sato et al.**

“Mini-guts”: a culture system allows growth of epithelial organoids from a single Lgr5-positive stem cell

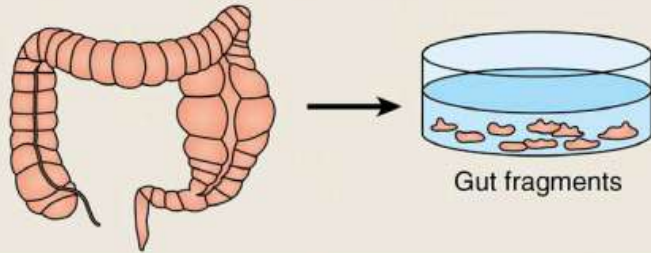


Sato et al. 2009 Single Lgr5 stem cells build crypt-villus structures in vitro... Nature. 459:262–265.



2009 Sato et al.

“Mini-guts”: a culture system allows growth of epithelial organoids from a single Lgr5-positive stem cell



## METHODS SUMMARY

**Mice.** Outbred mice 6–12 weeks old were used. Generation and genotyping of the *Lgr5-EGFP-Ires-CreERT2* allele<sup>1</sup> has been described previously<sup>3</sup>. Rosa26-lacZ or YFP-Cre reporter mice were obtained from Jackson Labs.

**Crypt isolation, cell dissociation and cell culture.** Crypts were released from murine small intestine by incubation for 30 min at 4 °C in PBS containing 2 mM EDTA (Supplementary Methods). Isolated crypts were counted and pelleted. A total of 500 crypts were mixed with 50 µl of Matrigel (BD Bioscience) and plated in 24-well plates. After polymerization of Matrigel, 500 µl of crypt culture medium (Advanced DMEM/F12 (Invitrogen)) containing growth factors (10–50 ng ml<sup>-1</sup> EGF (Peprotech), 500 ng ml<sup>-1</sup> R-spondin 1 (ref. 11) and 100 ng ml<sup>-1</sup> Noggin (Peprotech)) was added. For sorting experiments, isolated crypts were incubated in culture medium for 45 min at 37 °C, followed by trituration with a glass pipette. Dissociated cells were passed through cell strainer with a pore size of 20 µm. GFP<sup>hi</sup>, GFP<sup>low</sup> and GFP<sup>-</sup> cells were sorted by flow cytometry (MoFlo; Dako). Single viable epithelial cells were gated by forward scatter, side scatter and pulse-width parameter, and by negative staining for propidium iodide. Sorted cells were collected in crypt culture medium and embedded in Matrigel containing Jagged-1 peptide (1 µM; AnaSpec) at 1 cell per well (in 96-well plates, 5 µl Matrigel). Crypt culture medium (250 µl for 48-well plates, 100 µl for 96-well plates) containing Y-27632 (10 µM) was overlaid. Growth factors were added every other day and the entire medium was changed every 4 days. For passage, organoids were removed from Matrigel and mechanically dissociated into single-crypt domains, and then transferred to fresh Matrigel. Passage was performed every 1–2 weeks with a 1:5 split ratio.

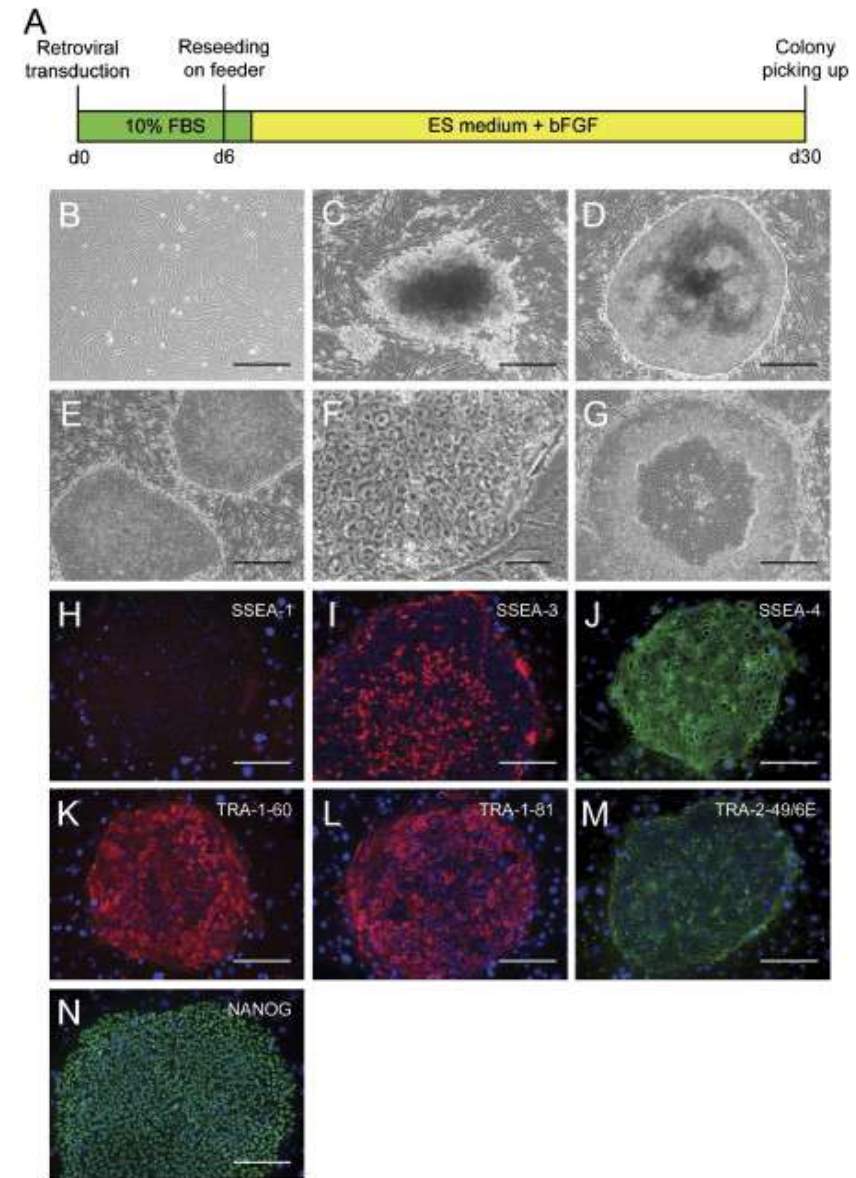
# The same technology was used for culture of:

- **Stomach:** Barker, N., M. Huch, P. Kujala, M. van de Wetering, H.J. Snippert, J.H. van Es, T. Sato, D.E. Stange, H. Begthel, M. van den Born, et al. 2010. Lgr5+ve stem cells drive self-renewal in the stomach and build long-lived gastric units in vitro. *Cell Stem Cell*. 6:25–36
- **Pancreas:** Huch, M., P. Bonfanti, S.F. Boj, T. Sato, C.J. Loomans, M. van de Wetering, M. Sojoodi, V.S. Li, J. Schuijers, A. Gracanin, et al. 2013a. Unlimited in vitro expansion of adult bi-potent pancreas progenitors through the Lgr5/R-spondin axis. *EMBO J*. 32:2708–2721
- **Colon:** Sato, T., D.E. Stange, M. Ferrante, R.G. Vries, J.H. Van Es, S. Van den Brink, W.J. Van Houdt, A. Pronk, J. Van Gorp, P.D. Siersema, and H. Clevers. 2011. Long-term expansion of epithelial organoids from human colon, adenoma, adenocarcinoma, and Barrett's epithelium. *Gastroenterology*. 141:1762–1772.

- **Liver:** Huch, M., C. Dorrell, S.F. Boj, J.H. van Es, V.S. Li, M. van de Wetering, T. Sato, K. Hamer, N. Sasaki, M.J. Finegold, et al. 2013b. In vitro expansion of single Lgr5+ liver stem cells induced by Wnt-driven regeneration. *Nature*. 494:247–250.

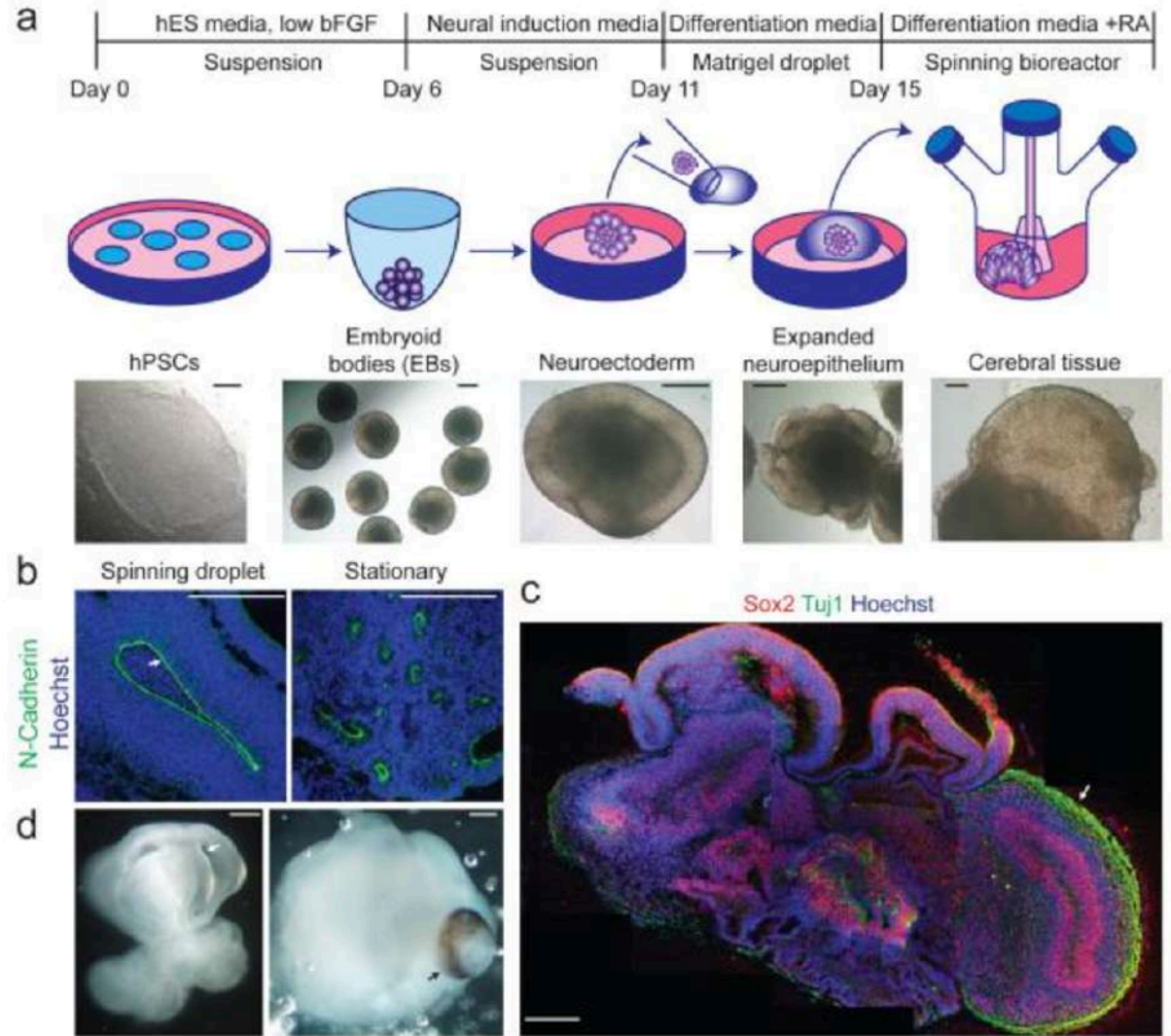
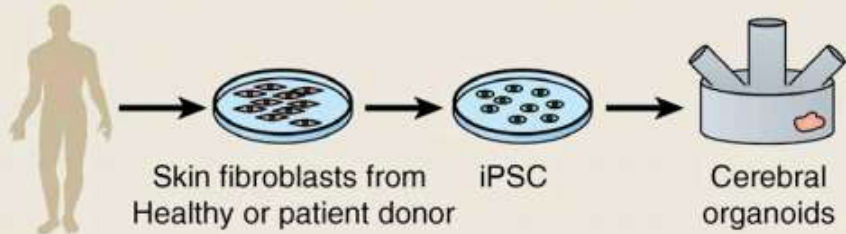
# Induction of iPS cells from human dermal fibroblasts

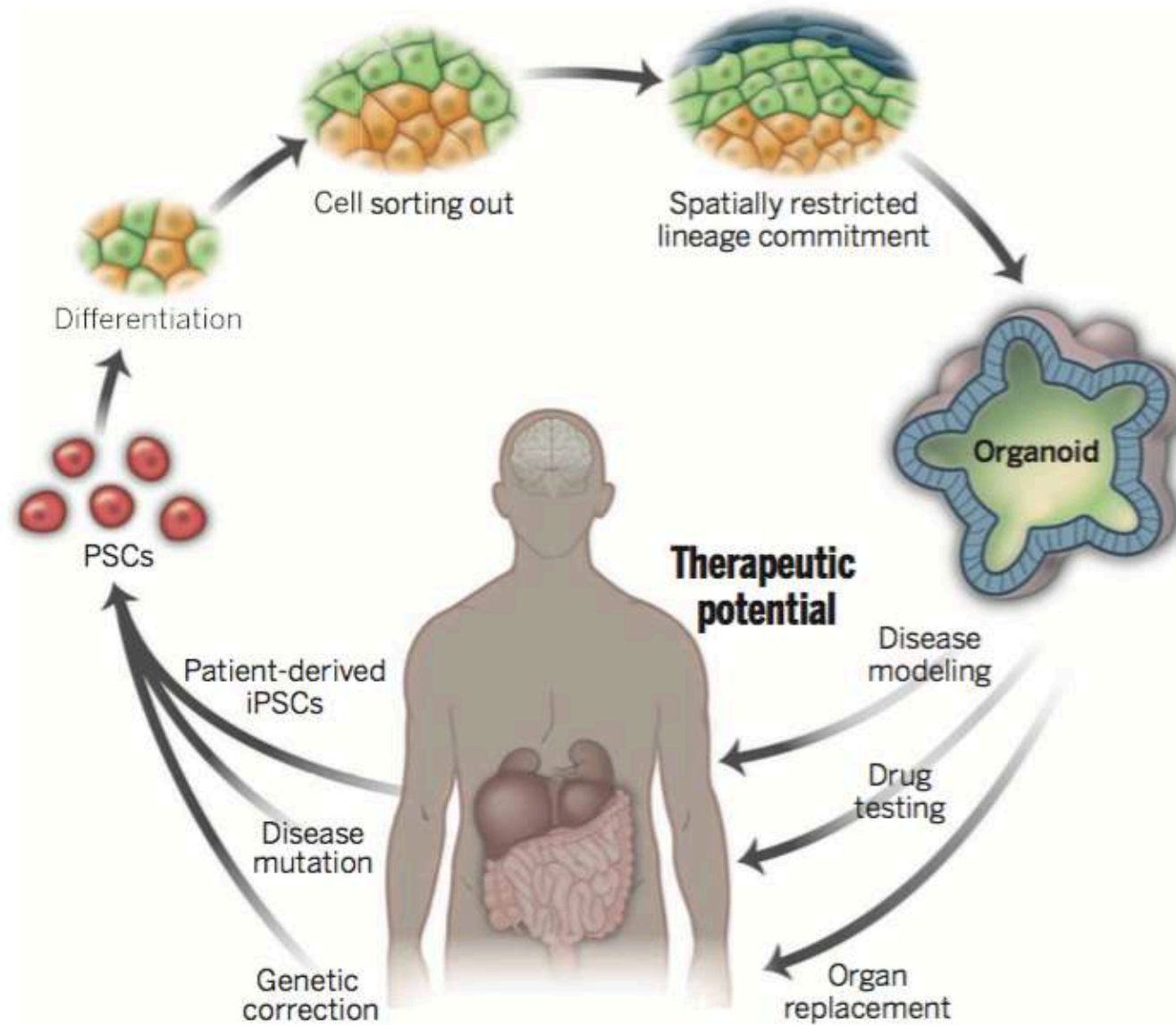
Takahashi et al 2007. Induction of pluripotent stem cells from adult human fibroblasts by defined factors. *Cell*. 131:861–872.



**2013 Lancaster et al.**

Human brain organoids are generated from iPSCs derived from cells from a patient with microcephaly.





Lancaster, M.A., and J.A. Knoblich. 2014. Organogenesis in a dish: Modeling development and disease using organoid technologies. *Science*. 345:1247125.

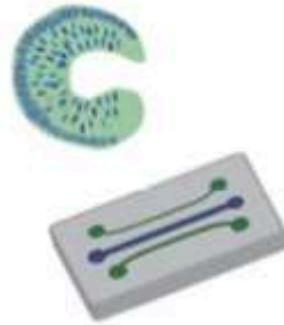
## Biological Model Systems



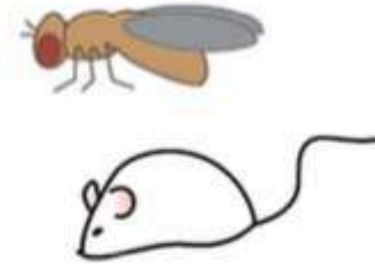
2D cell culture



3D cell culture



Organoids  
Organ-on-a-chip



Model organisms



Humans

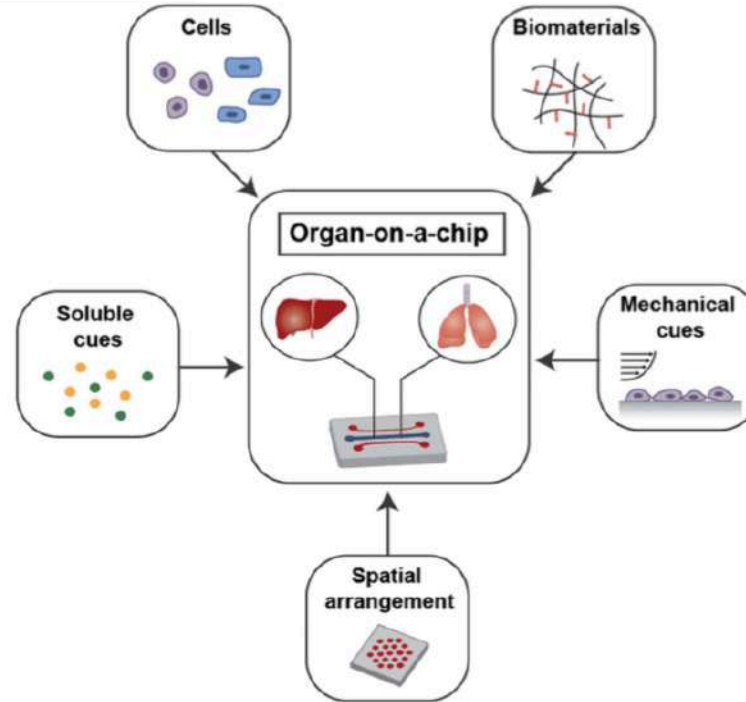
Experimental Tractability

Physiological Relevance

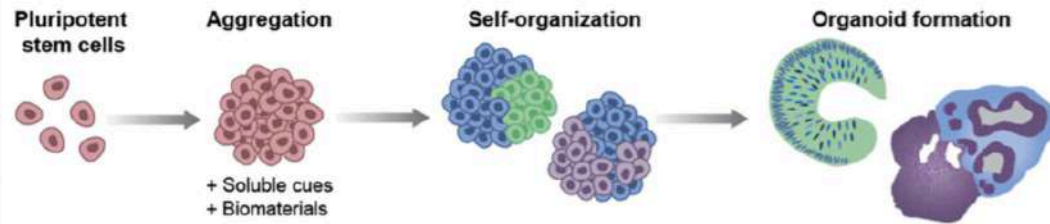
Jackson & Lu, 2016. Integrative Biology, 13;8(6):672-83

## Approaches in generating tissue and organ models

### Top-down approaches

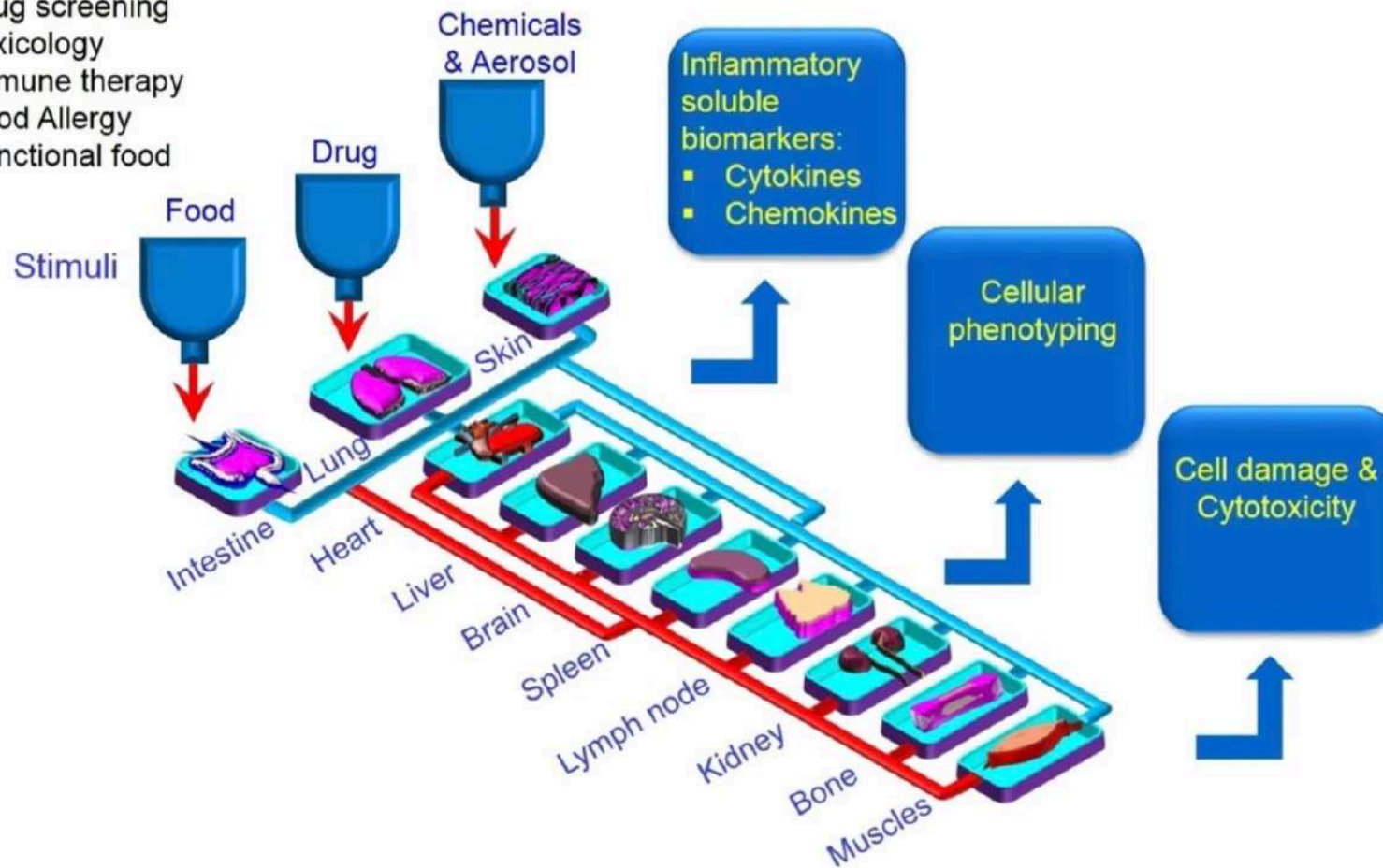


### Bottom-up approaches





- Disease modeling
- Drug screening
- Toxicology
- Immune therapy
- Food Allergy
- Functional food



Ramadan and Gijs, 2014. Lab Chip. 2015 Feb 7;15(3):614-36

Thanks for listening & cheers!

**Me**



**Mina J. Bissell**

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