

A fluorescence microscopy image showing a field of cells. The cells are stained with two different fluorescent dyes, one green and one red. The green staining is more widespread, while the red staining appears in more localized, punctate areas within the cells. The background is dark, making the fluorescent signals stand out.

BIOENG-399

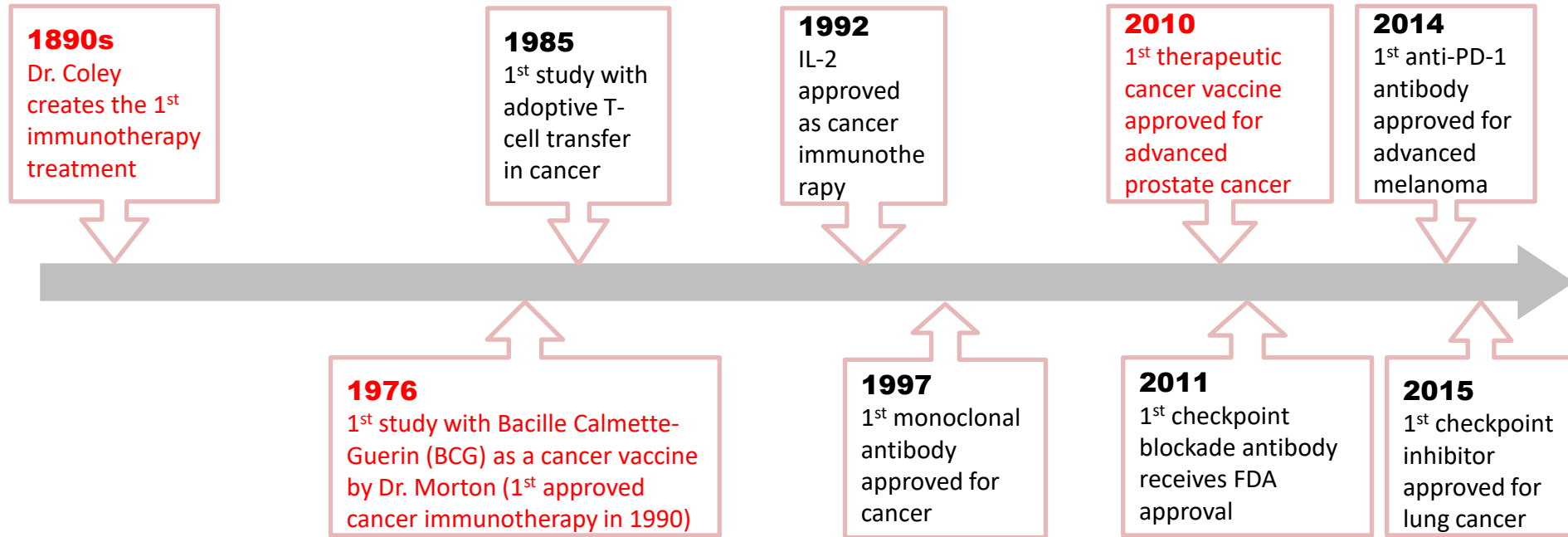
Immunoengineering

Prof. Li Tang

Lecture 10 and 11 Design of Immunogenic Vaccines (I
and II)

Spring 2025

The History of Immunotherapy



Cancer vaccine: limited clinical success

New York Times **July 29, 1908**


**ERYSIPELAS GERMS
AS CURE FOR CANCER**

Dr. Coley's Remedy of Mixed
Toxins Makes One Disease
Cast Out the Other.

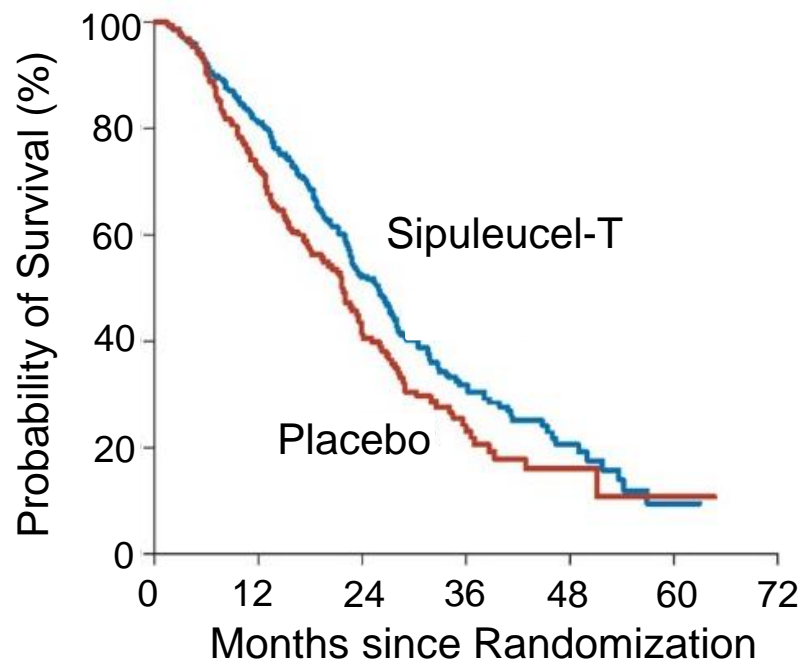
MANY CASES CURED HERE

Physician Has
Years and T
Probably

Following news
two men have be
the City Hospital
a fluid discover
Coley of New Yo



Sipuleucel-T to treat
prostate cancer



- >100 years
- 1 therapeutic cancer vaccine
- 4.1-month improvement in median survival
- >\$ 100,000

Kantoff et al. , N Engl J Med. 2010 363(5):411-22.

Major challenges in cancer vaccine development

PERSPECTIVE

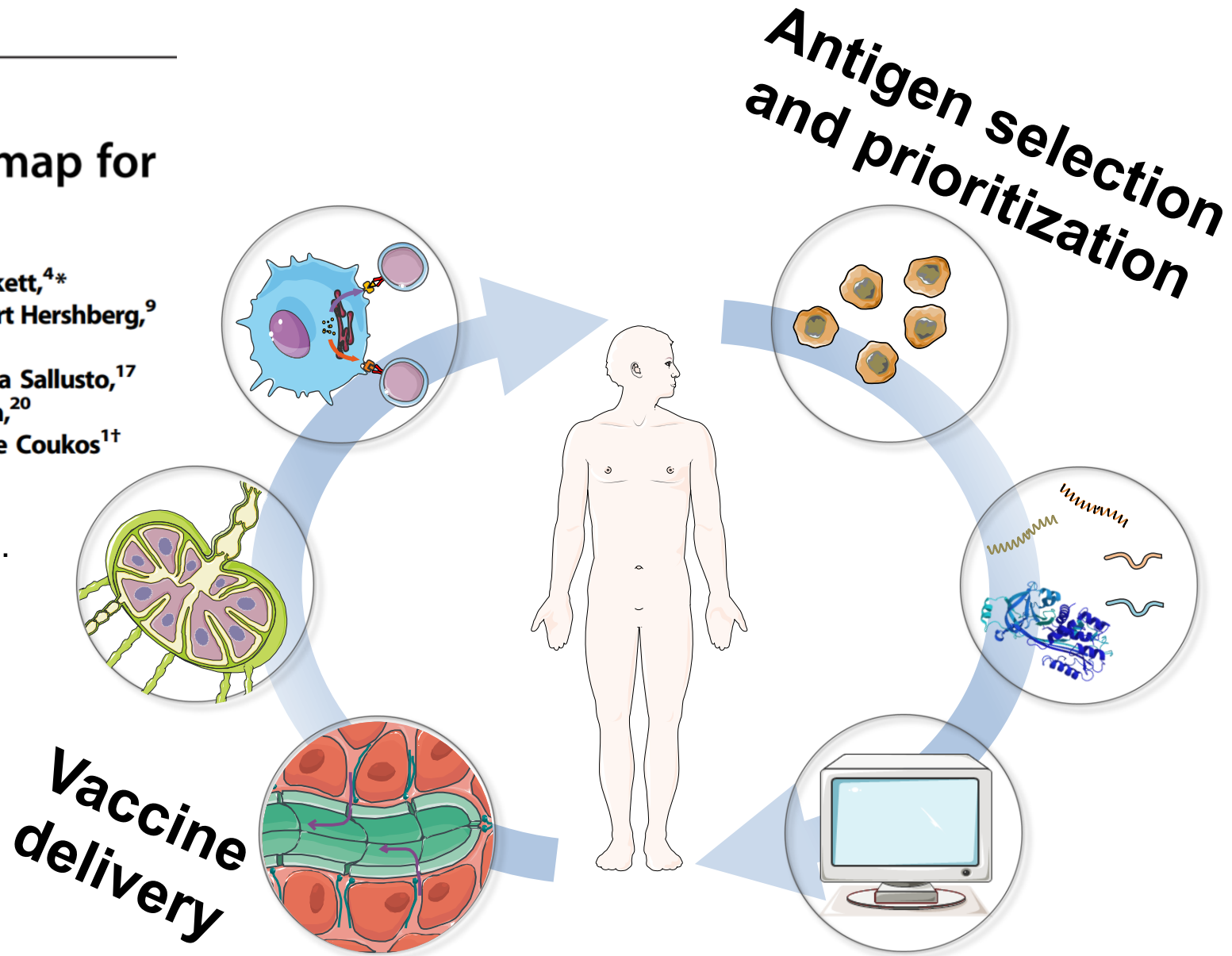
CANCER

The Human Vaccines Project: A roadmap for cancer vaccine development


Pedro Romero,¹ Jacques Banchereau,² Nina Bhardwaj,³ Mark Cockett,^{4*} Mary L. Disis,⁵ Glenn Dranoff,⁶ Eli Gilboa,⁷ Scott A. Hammond,⁸ Robert Hershberg,⁹ Alan J. Korman,¹⁰ Pia Kvistborg,¹¹ Cornelis Melief,¹² Ira Mellman,¹³ A. Karolina Palucka,^{2,14} Irina Redchenko,¹⁵ Harlan Robins,¹⁶ Federica Sallusto,¹⁷ Theodore Schenkelberg,¹⁸ Stephen Schoenberger,¹⁹ Jeffrey Sosman,²⁰ Özlem Türeci,²¹ Benoît Van den Eynde,^{22,23,24} Wayne Koff,²⁵ George Coukos^{1†}

Remero et al *Sci. Transl. Med.* 8, 334ps339 (2016).

Guo et al *Front Immunol* (2018).

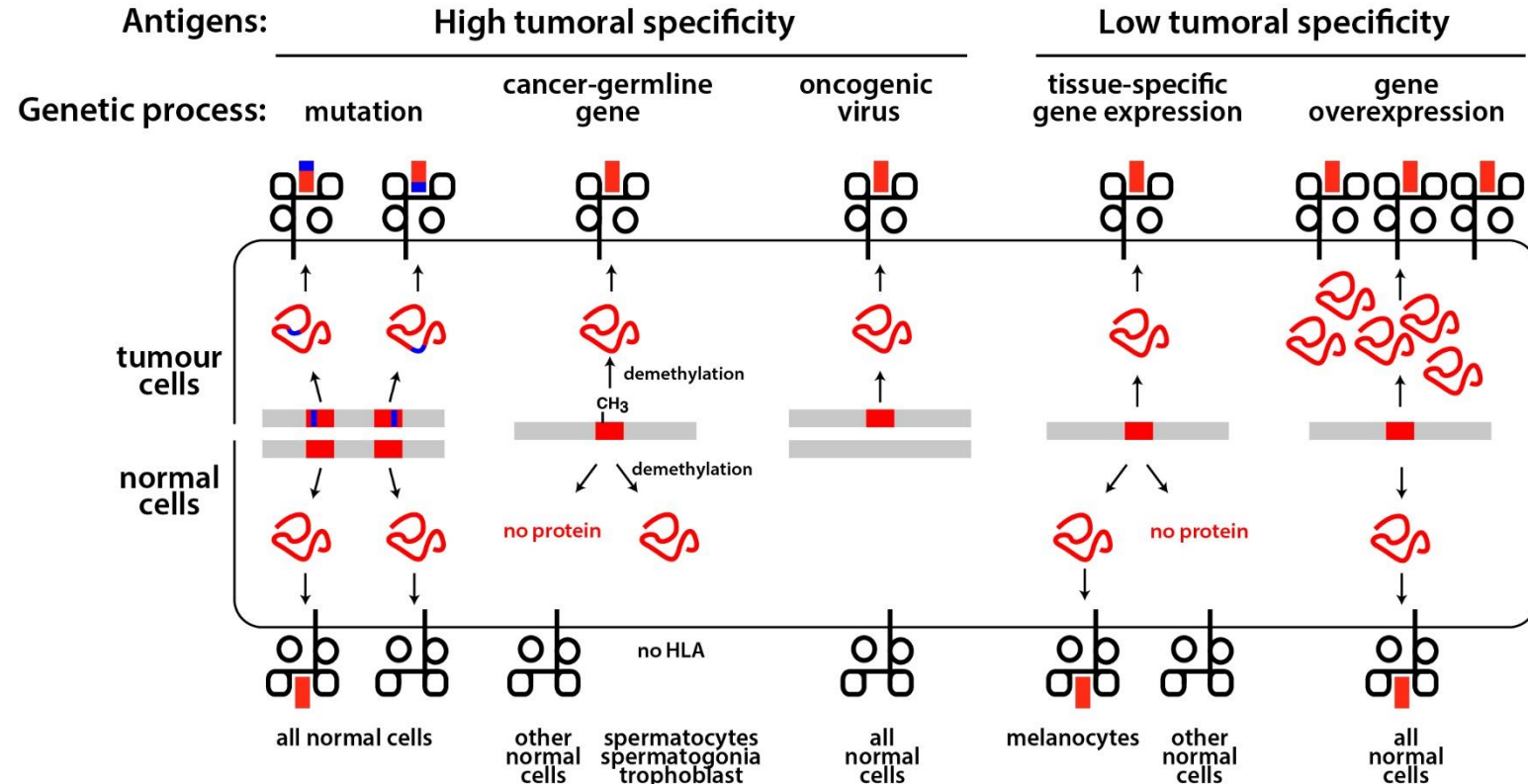


What antigens are T-cells responding to?

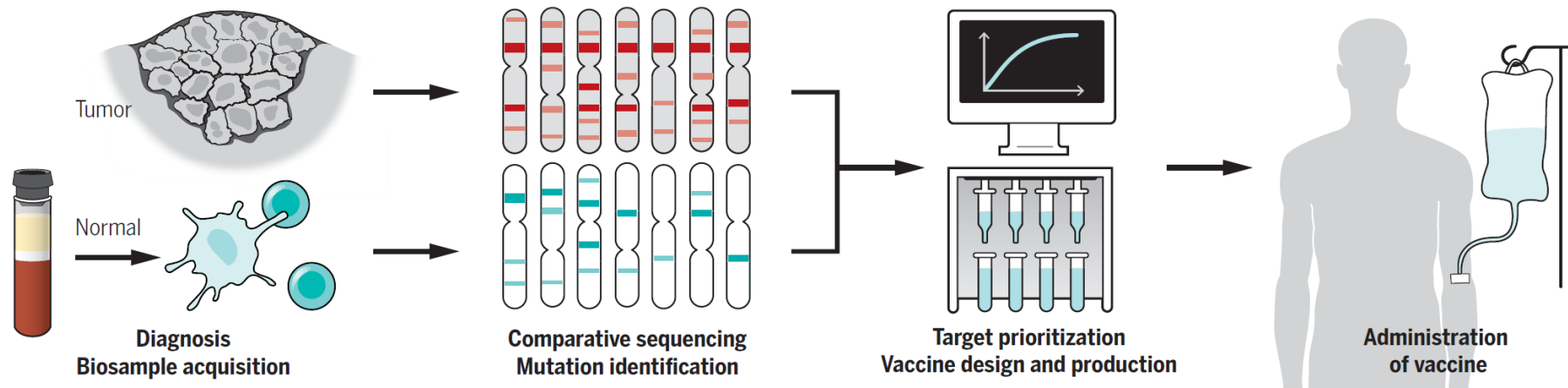
Normal host cell displaying multiple MHC-associated self antigens		EXAMPLES
Tumor cells expressing different types of tumor antigens	Product of oncogene or mutated tumor suppressor gene	Oncogene products: mutated RAS, BCR/ABL fusion proteins Tumor suppressor gene products: mutated p53 protein
	Mutated self protein	Various mutant proteins in carcinogen, or radiation, induced animal tumors; various mutated proteins in melanomas
	Overexpressed or aberrantly expressed self protein	Overexpressed: tyrosinase, gp100, MART in melanomas Aberrantly expressed: cancer-testis antigens (MAGE, BAGE)
	Oncogenic virus	Human papilloma virus E6, E7 proteins in cervical carcinoma; EBNA proteins in EBV-induced lymphoma

Tumor antigens recognized by CD8+ T cells.

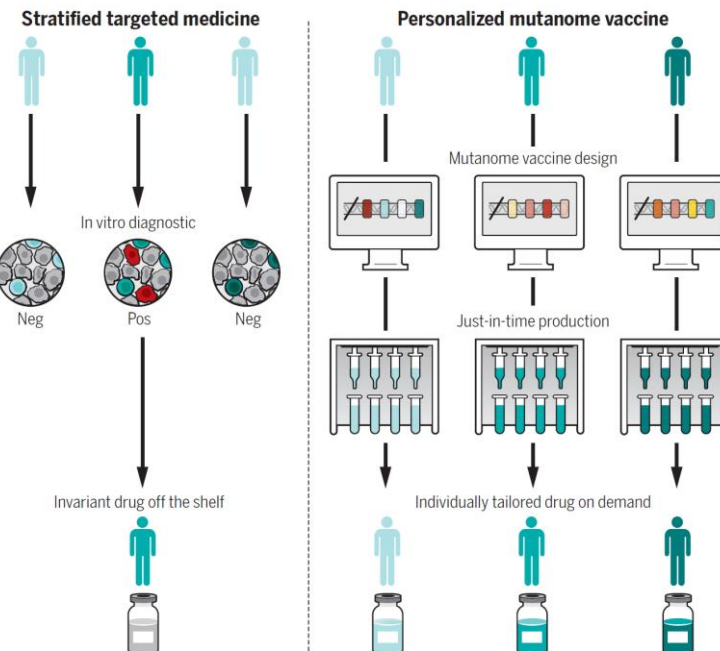
- Neo-antigens
- Cancer-testis antigens (CT Ags, or oncofetal Ags, such as MAGE, NY-ESO-1; expressed only in germ cells but not somatic (tissue) cells)
- Viral antigens



Neoantigens - ideal cancer vaccine targets?



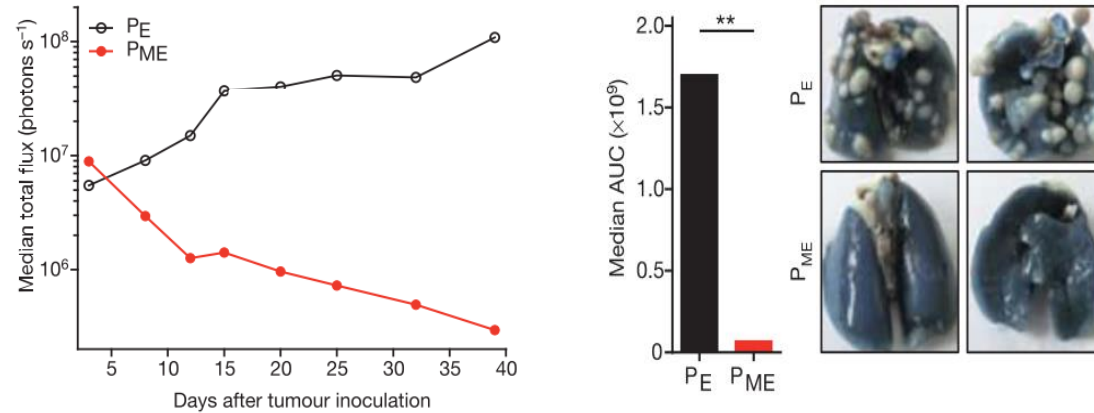
Technological advances in genomics, data science, and cancer immunotherapy now enable the rapid **mapping of the mutations** within a genome, rational **selection of vaccine targets**, and on-demand **production** of a therapy customized to a patient's individual tumor



Sahin, U.; Tureci, O., Personalized vaccines for cancer immunotherapy. *Science* **2018**, 359, 1355-1360.

Neoantigen cancer vaccines show the feasibility, safety, and immunotherapeutic activity

Mouse colon cancer



Human clinical trials

Sebastian Kreiter et al. *Nature*. 2015



Personalized neoantigen peptide vaccine clinical trials (with ClinicalTrial.gov trial identifications).

Institution	Trial ID	Details
DFCI	NCT01970358	NeoVax: Phase I trial for melanoma using SLP [*] neoantigens with poly IC:LC adjuvant ^{15,22,29,33,35,60}
DFCI	NCT02287428	NeoVax: Phase I trial for MGMT-unmethylated glioblastoma and glioblastoma multiforme using SLP neoantigens with poly IC:LC adjuvant ^{15,22}
Neon Therapeutics	NCT02897765	NEOPV-01: Phase I clinical trial for melanoma, non-small cell lung, and bladder cancers using personalized peptide vaccine with nivolumab ^{10,33}
Agenus	NCT02992977	AutoSynVax: Phase I trial for advanced cancer using synthetic peptides complexed to heat shock proteins with QS-21 Stimulon adjuvant ^{33,63}
WUSM ^{**}	NCT02427581	Phase I trial for triple negative breast cancer using SLP neoantigens with poly IC:LC adjuvant ²²
WUSM	NCT02510950	Phase 0 trial for glioblastoma multiforme astrocytoma using SLP neoantigens with poly IC:LC adjuvant ²²
MD Anderson Cancer Center	NCT02600949	Phase I trial for pancreatic and colorectal cancers using peptide vaccine plus IFA ²²

* SLP: synthetic long peptides.

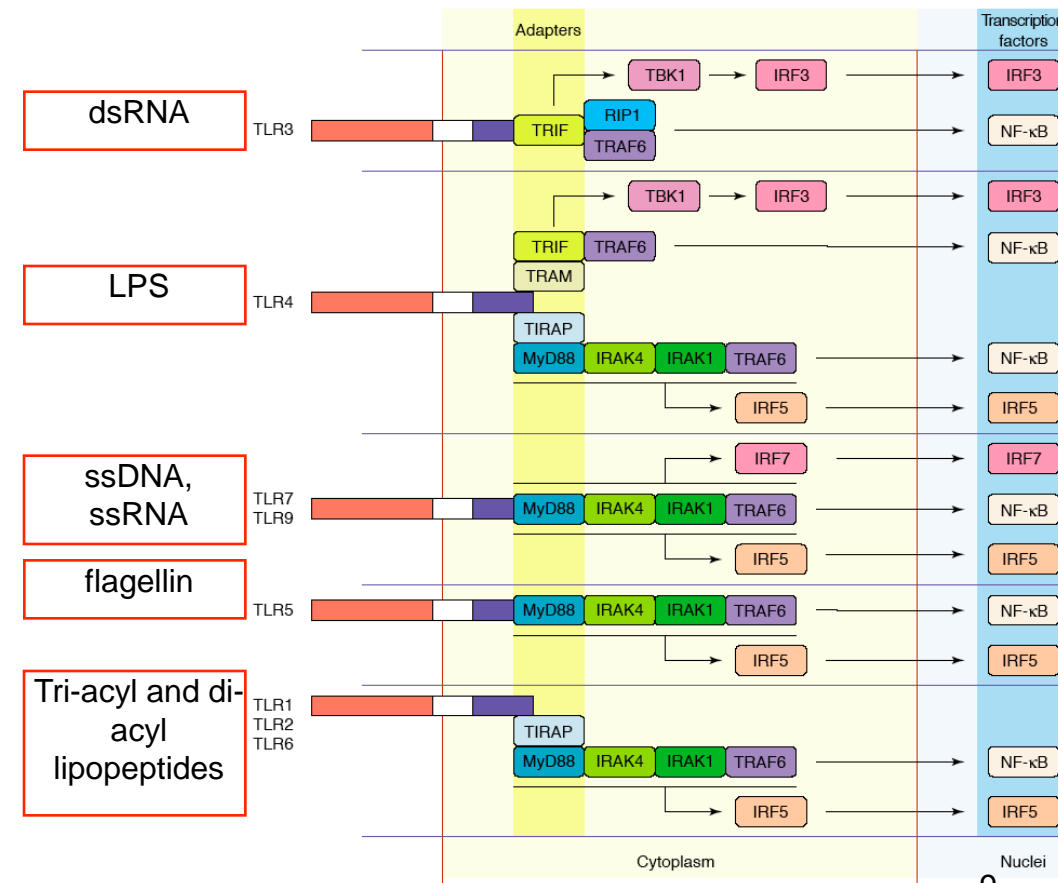
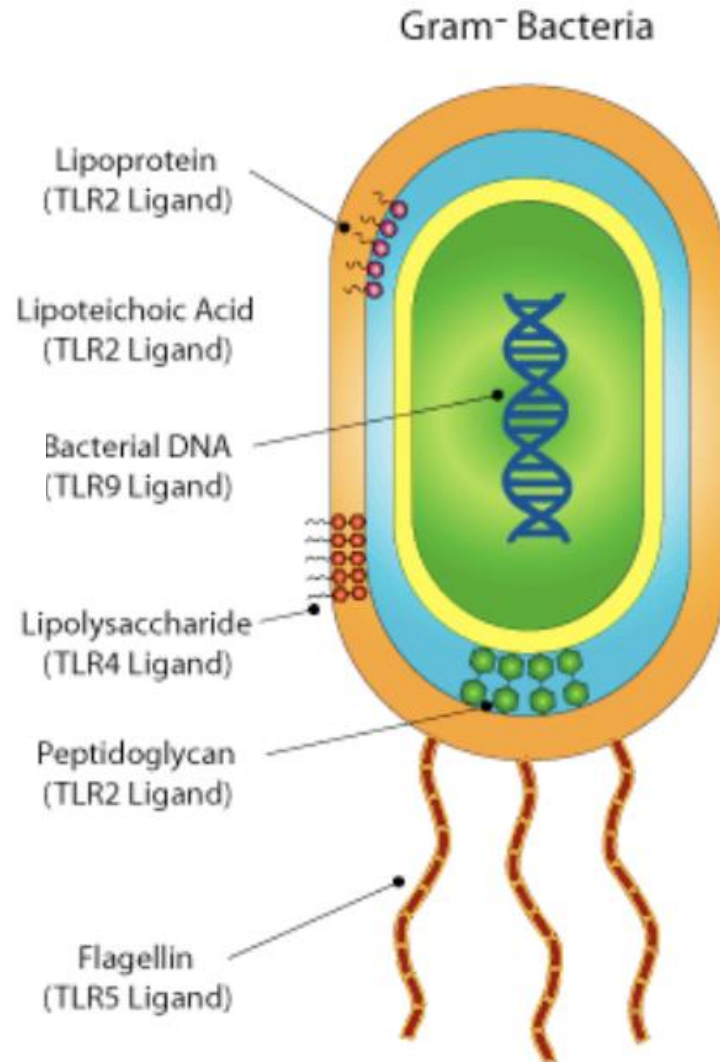
** WUSM: Washington University School of Medicine.



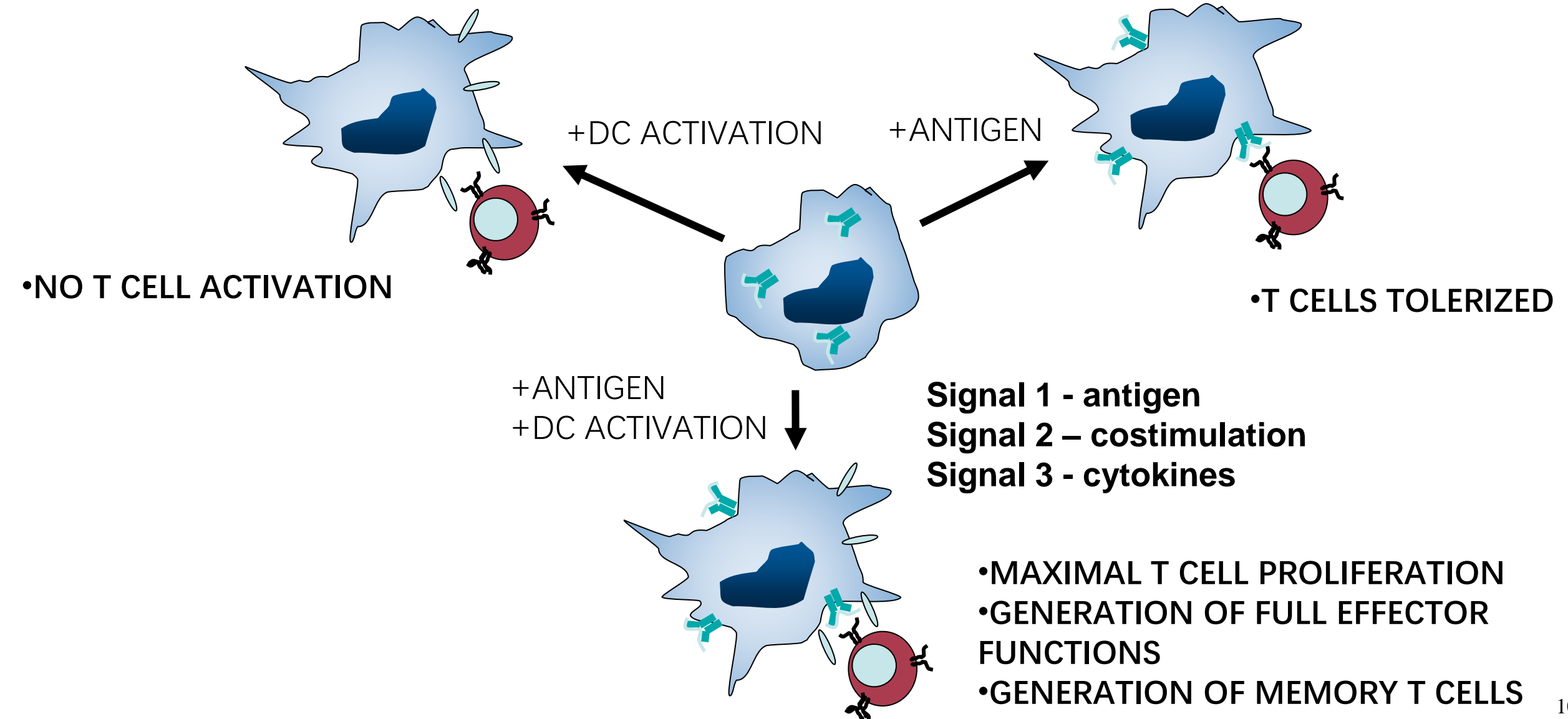
Amanda R. Aldous et al. *Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry*. 2017

What makes a vaccine?

Microbes co-deliver a package of antigen and multiple danger signals to dendritic cells



Antigen is one of (at least) two signals that must be delivered by a vaccine



Rudimentary components of vaccines

Antigen:

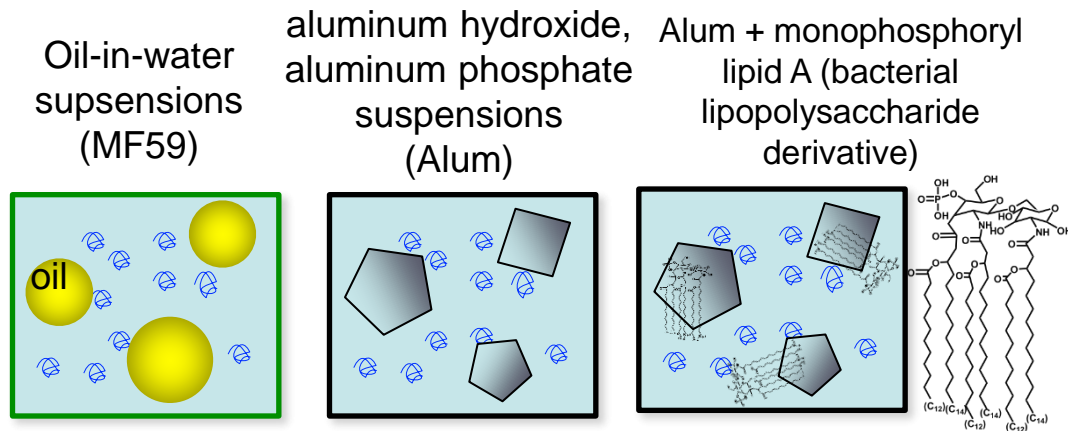
any biological molecule from a microbe that is recognized by a T cell receptor (TCR) or B cell receptor (BCR)

Adjuvant:

molecules act specifically on DCs, and activate DCs

Traditional adjuvants lack characteristics suitable for potent cancer vaccines

Only 3 main adjuvants have been licensed for human use so far:



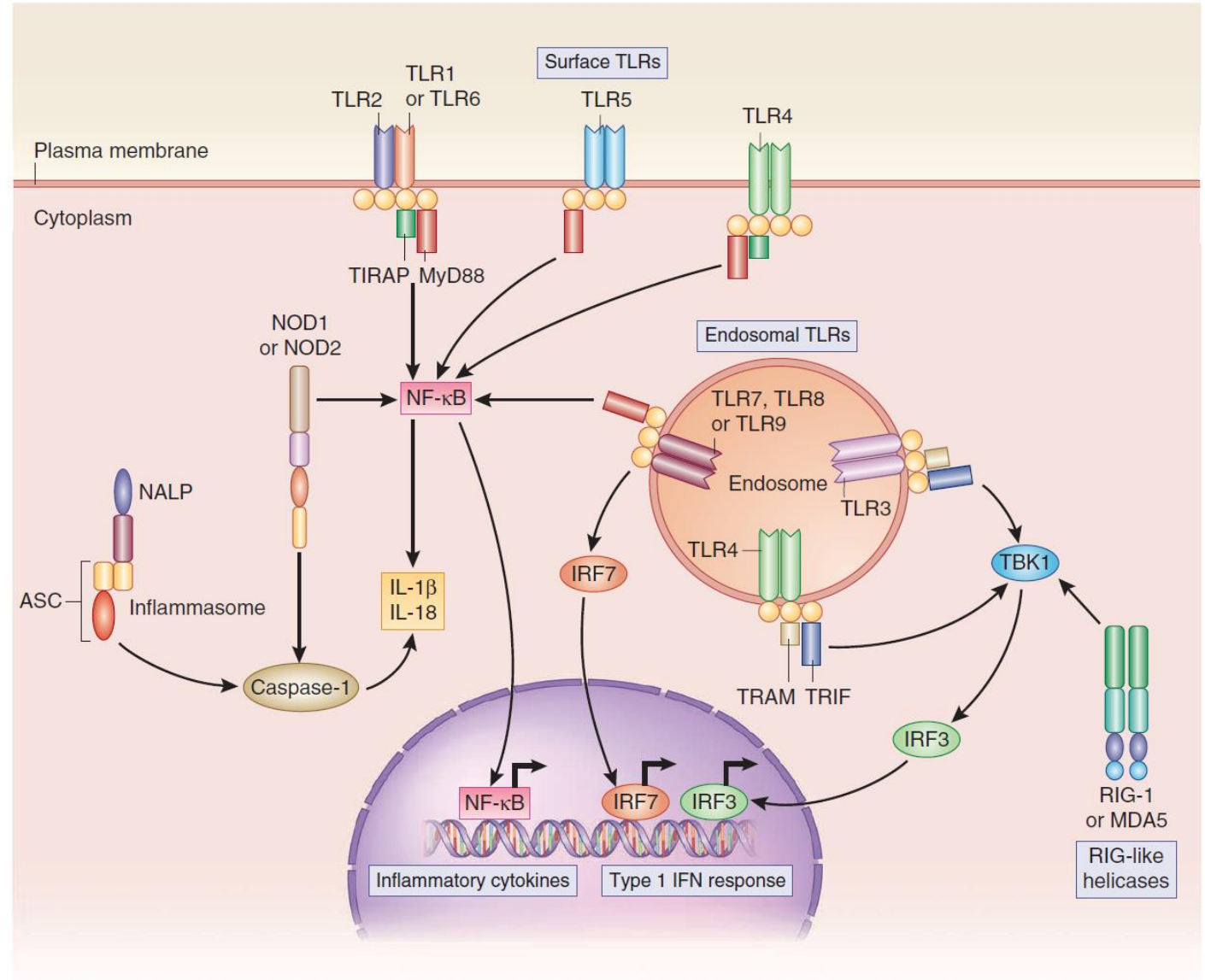
- Poorly immunogenic on their own
- very safe
- readily manufactured

Existing adjuvants:

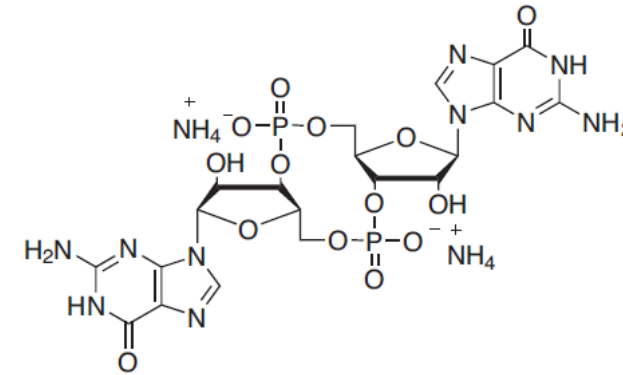
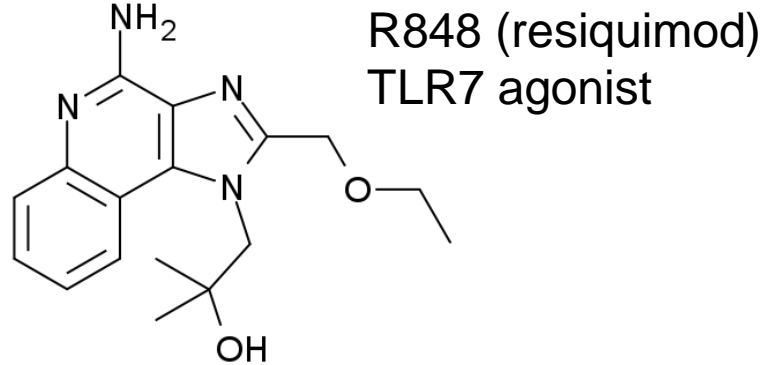
- increase humoral response, but weak cellular responses and little or no CD8+ T-cell response
- Th2 bias to immune response - not the most effective for intracellular pathogens or cancer
- poor durability of immune response

Key roles of adjuvants in modern vaccines

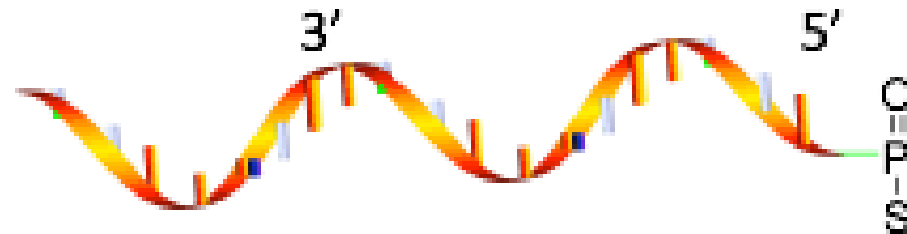
Year	Vaccine	Adjuvant and mechanism	Scientific findings
1885	Rabies	ssRNA TLRs 7 and 8	
1886			Briegen describes endotoxin
1889			Coley shows tumor necrosis with bacterial extracts
1911	Typhoid	LPS, DNA TLRs 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 and 9	
1916		Lipovaccine	More durable immune response to typhoid vaccine
1921	BCG for TB	DNA, lipoprotein TLRs 1, 2, 6 and 9	
1926		Aluminum salts	Enhanced antibody responses to diphtheria vaccine
1937		Incomplete Freund's adjuvant (IFA) (water-in-oil emulsion)	Enhanced cellular and antibody responses to TB
1942	Diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus	LPS, DNA TLRs 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 and 9	
1949	Whole-cell influenza	ssRNA TLRs 7 and 8	
1955	Inactivated polio vaccine	ssRNA TLRs 7 and 8	
1966			LPS structure determined
1979			Ribi makes detoxified endotoxin MPL
1991	Hepatitis A		MPL tested in clinic
1996			TLRs discovered
1997	Fluad	MF59 (oil-in-water emulsion)	
1997	Epaxal (for hepatitis A) Inflexal (for influenza)	Virosome	
1998			LPS shown to be TLR ligand
2004	Invivac (for influenza; Europe)	Virosome	
2005	Fendrix (for hepatitis B; Europe)	MPL Defined TLR4	
2007–2009	Pandemic influenza vaccines (Europe)	MF59, AS03 (oil-in-water emulsion)	
2009	Cervarix (for HPV16 and HPV18; USA)	MPL Defined TLR4	



Some examples of TLR ligands—what are the problems then?



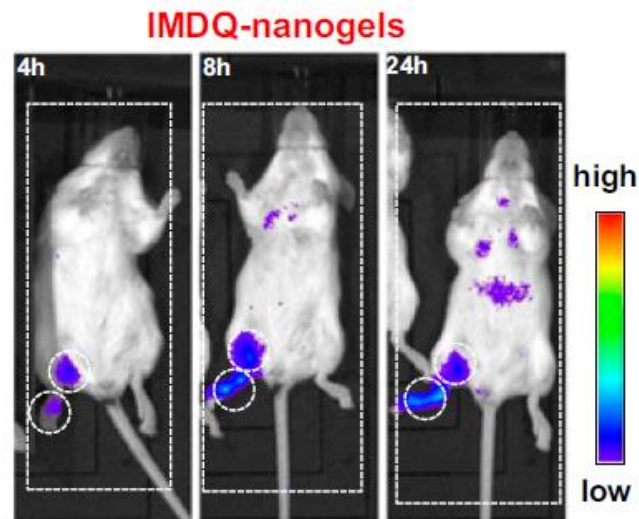
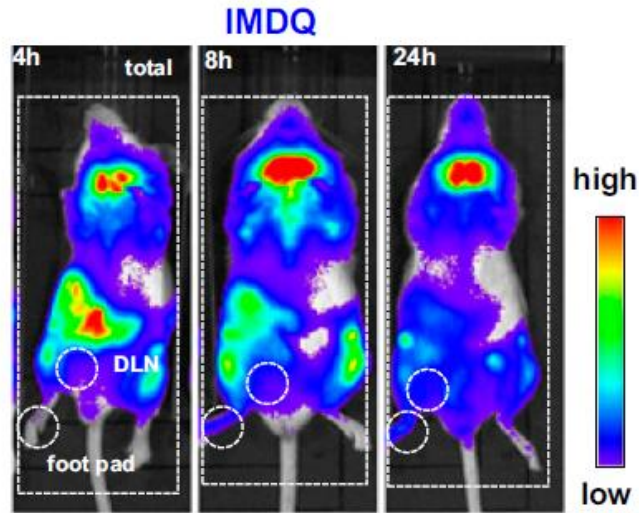
Cyclic di-GMP – ligand for STING



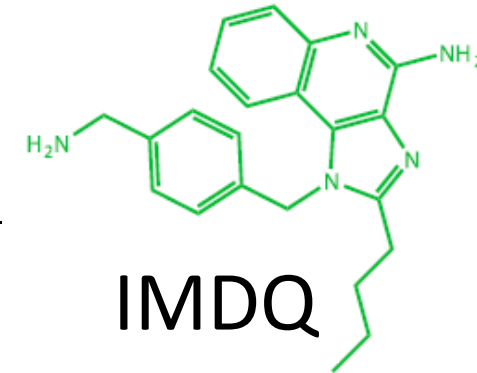
CpG DNA (20 base ssDNA - TLR9 agonist)

Systemic inflammatory toxicity of adjuvants

Footpad injection

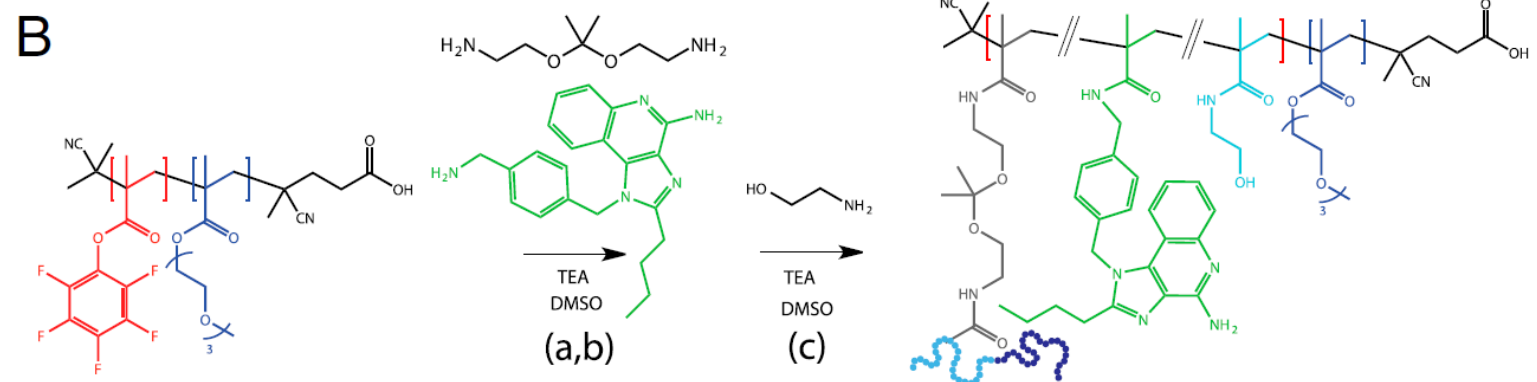
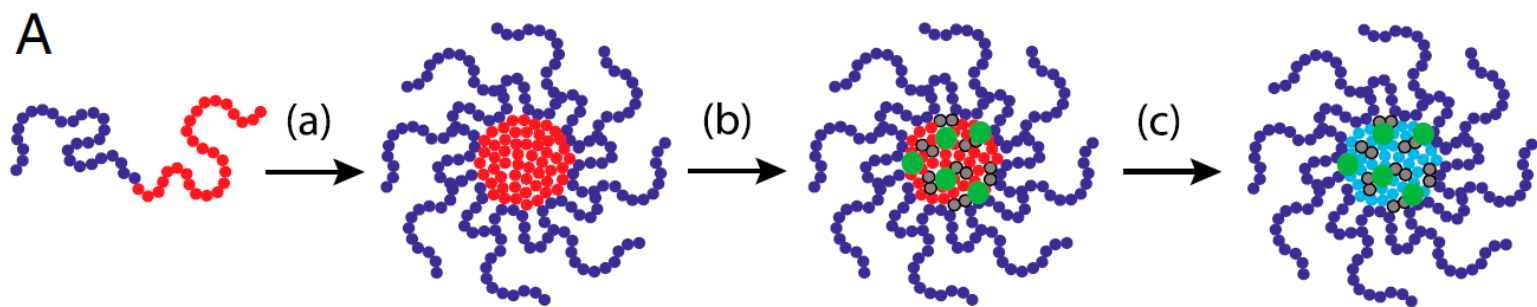


TLR7/8 agonist
1-(4-(aminomethyl)benzyl)-2-butyl-1H-imidazo[4,5-c]quinolin-4-amine (IMDQ)



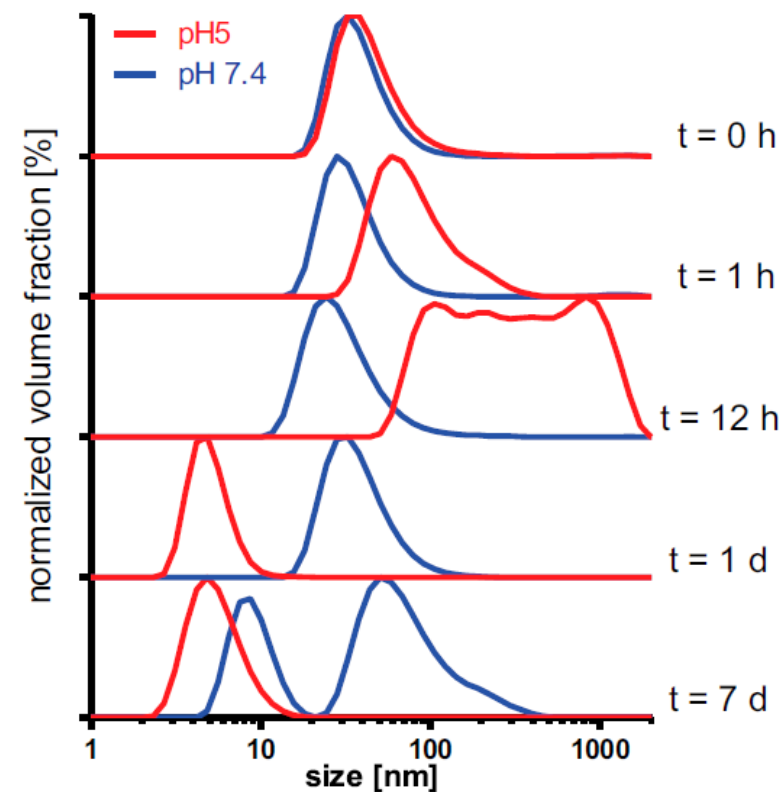
IFN- β reporter mice in which a firefly luciferase encoding sequence had been placed under the control of the IFN- β promoter

TLR7/8 agonists are indeed very potent inducers of type I IFN (including IFN- β), which are required for the adjuvant properties of TLR7/8 agonists but are **also a cause of severe inflammatory toxicity when induced systemically**



- (a) Blockcopolymers self-assemble in DMSO into nanoparticles
 (b) Covalent ligation of TLR7/8 agonist (green) and cross-linking
 (c) Conversion of residual pentafluorophenyl ester with 2-ethanolamine yielding fully hydrated nanogels after transfer to the aqueous phase.

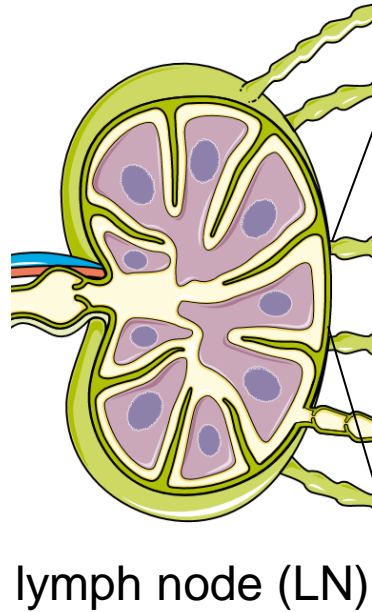
nanogels
 with similar size around 50 nm
 nanogels readily swell in
 response to acidic medium and
 fully degrade



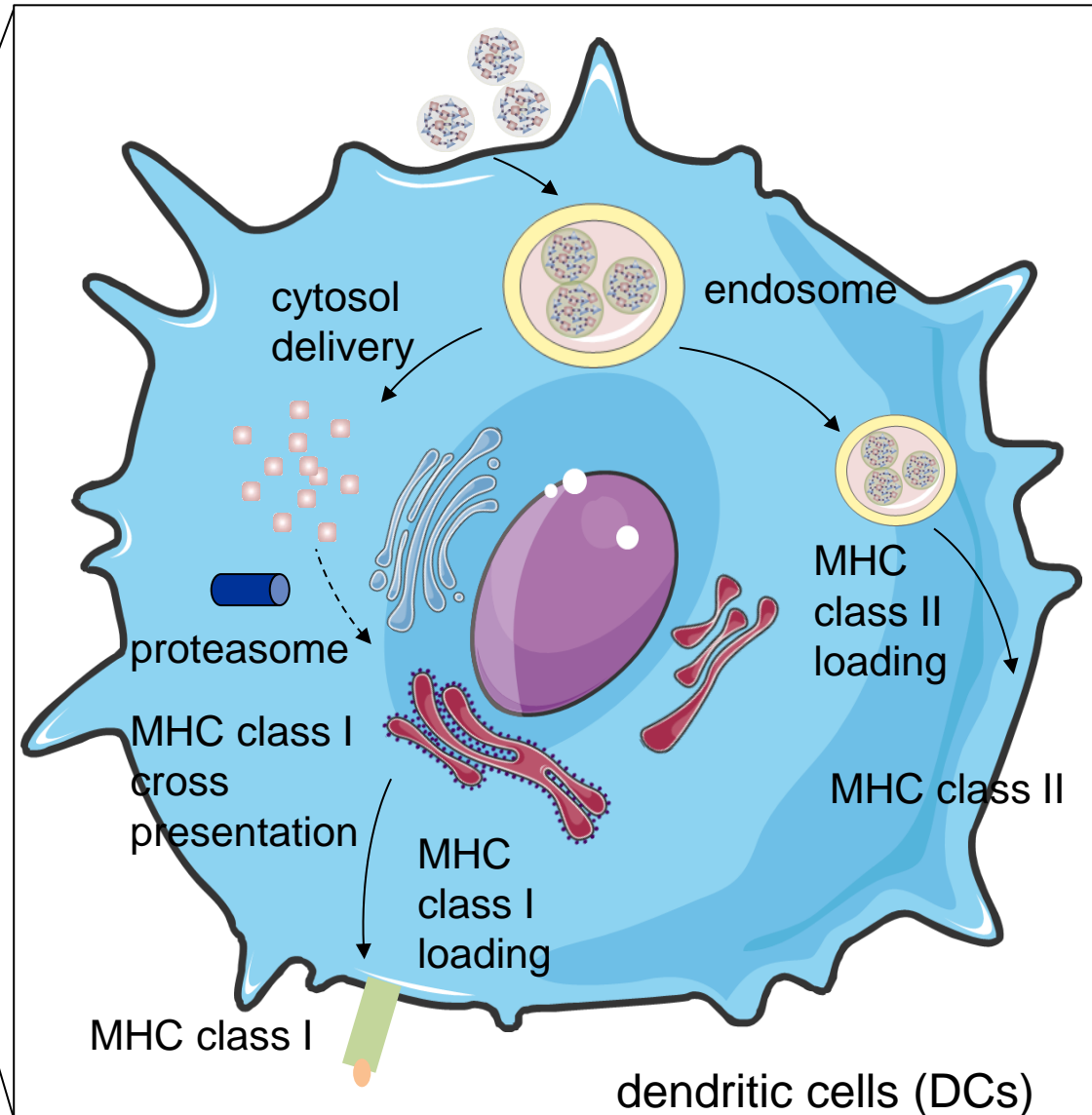
To achieve an effective vaccine

vaccines

1. LN/APC targeting



2. Control the antigen presentation process



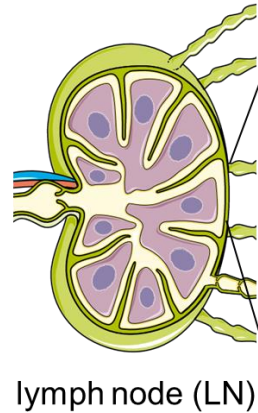
To achieve an effective vaccine with engineered biomaterials

Using Biomaterials to control the trafficking of vaccines for APC targeting

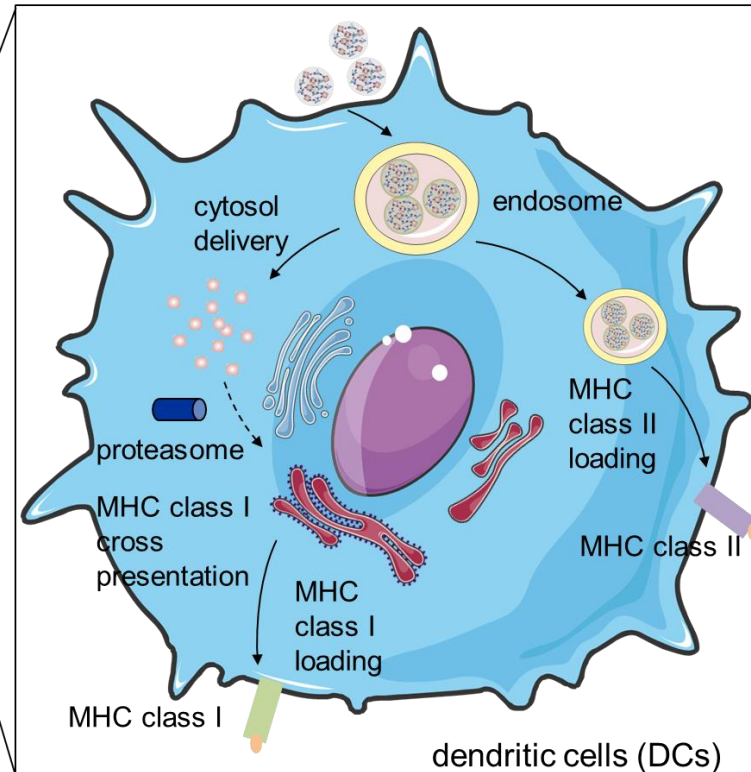
Using Biomaterials to control intracellular delivery and antigen presentation

vaccines

1. APC targeting



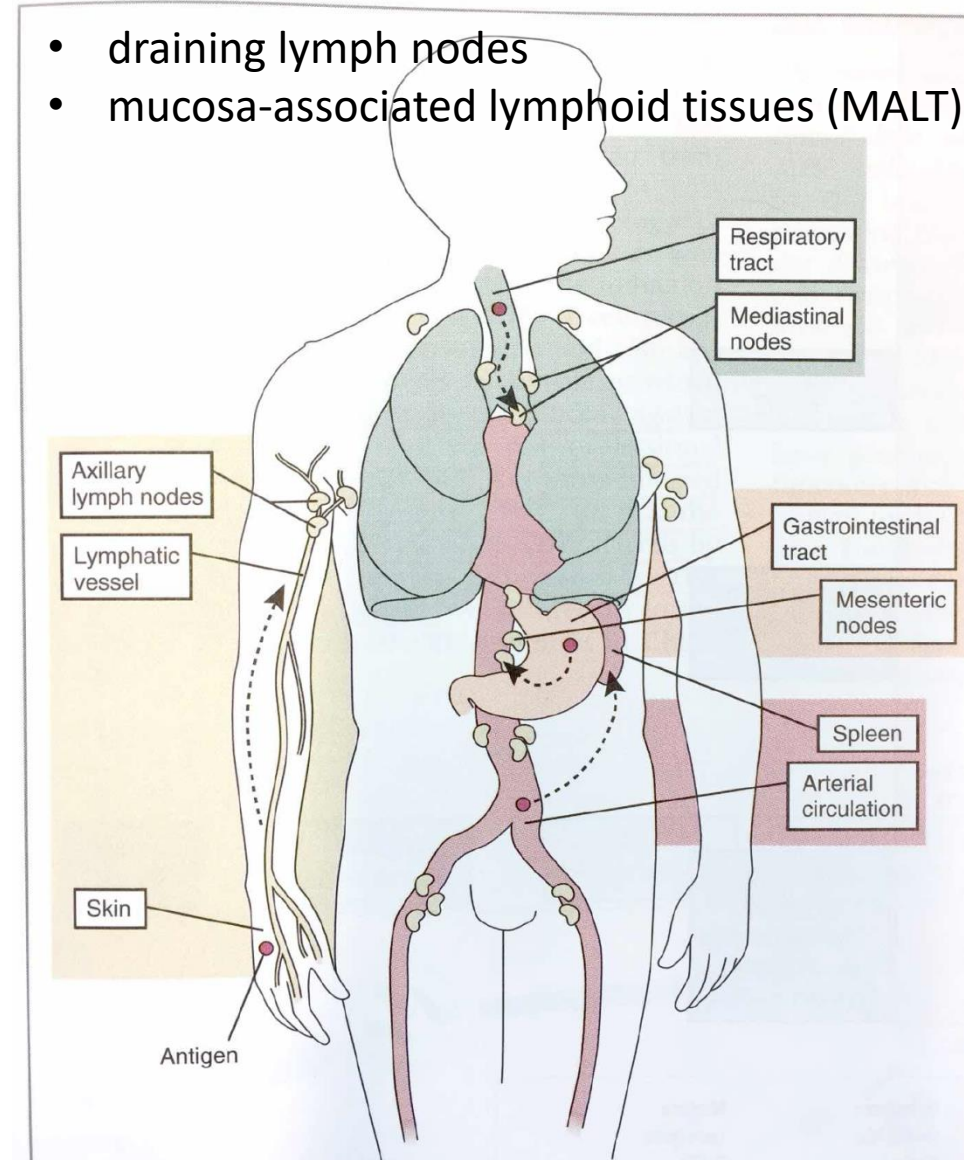
2. Control the antigen presentation process



Overcoming tissue barriers for vaccines with biomaterial engineering

1. Cutaneous immunization: Target Vaccines to Lymph Nodes

2. Mucosal immunization

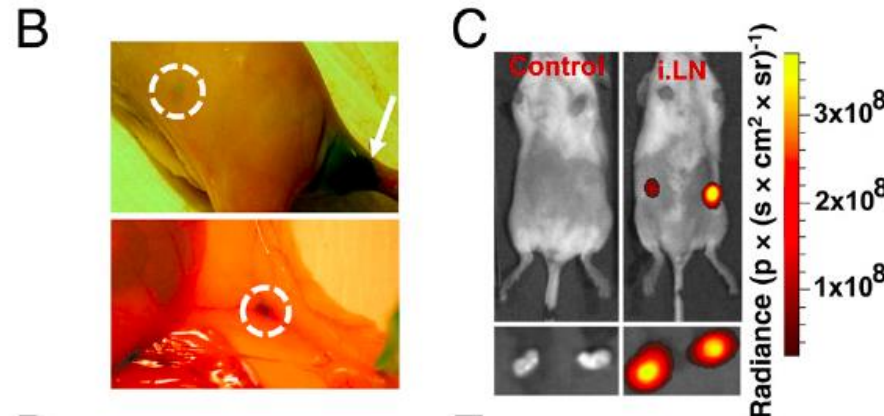
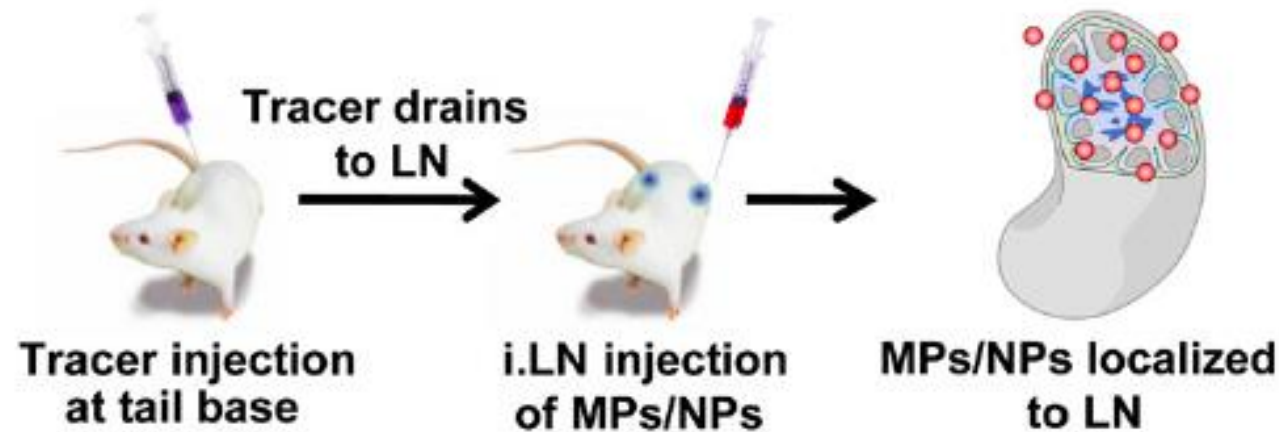


Intranodal administration of particles

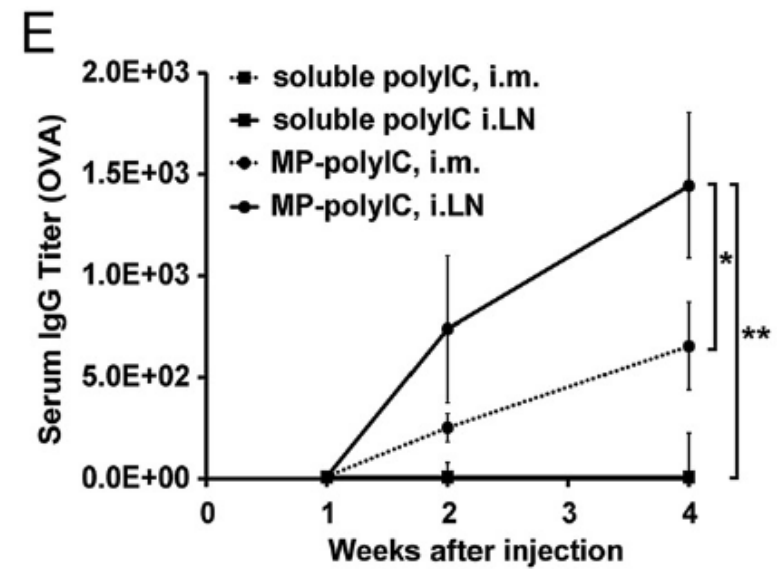
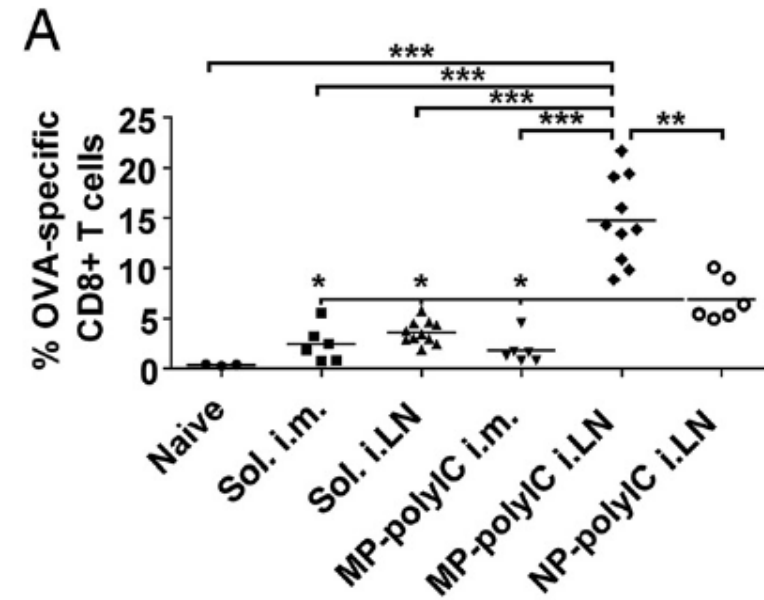
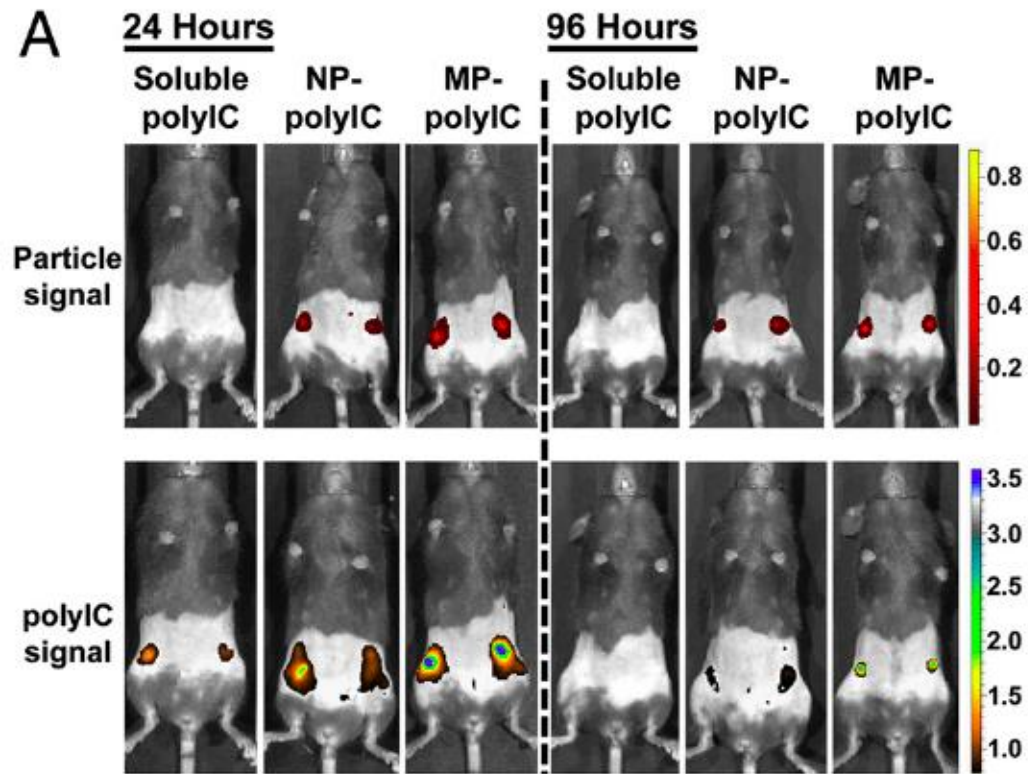
Ultrasound-guided intranodal administration of immunotherapies has been used in multiple phase 1 clinical trials

e.g., Melan-A/MART-1 DNA Plasmid Vaccine in Patients with Stage IV Melanoma

J. Immunother. 31, 215–223



Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. **108**, 15745-15750 (2011)



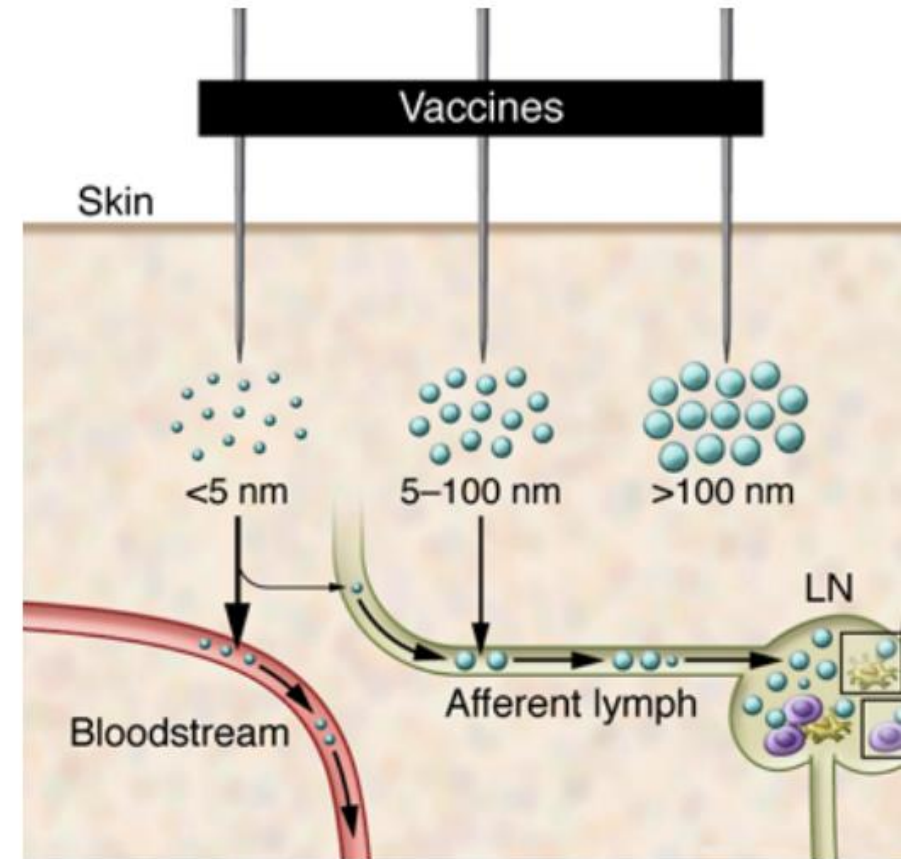
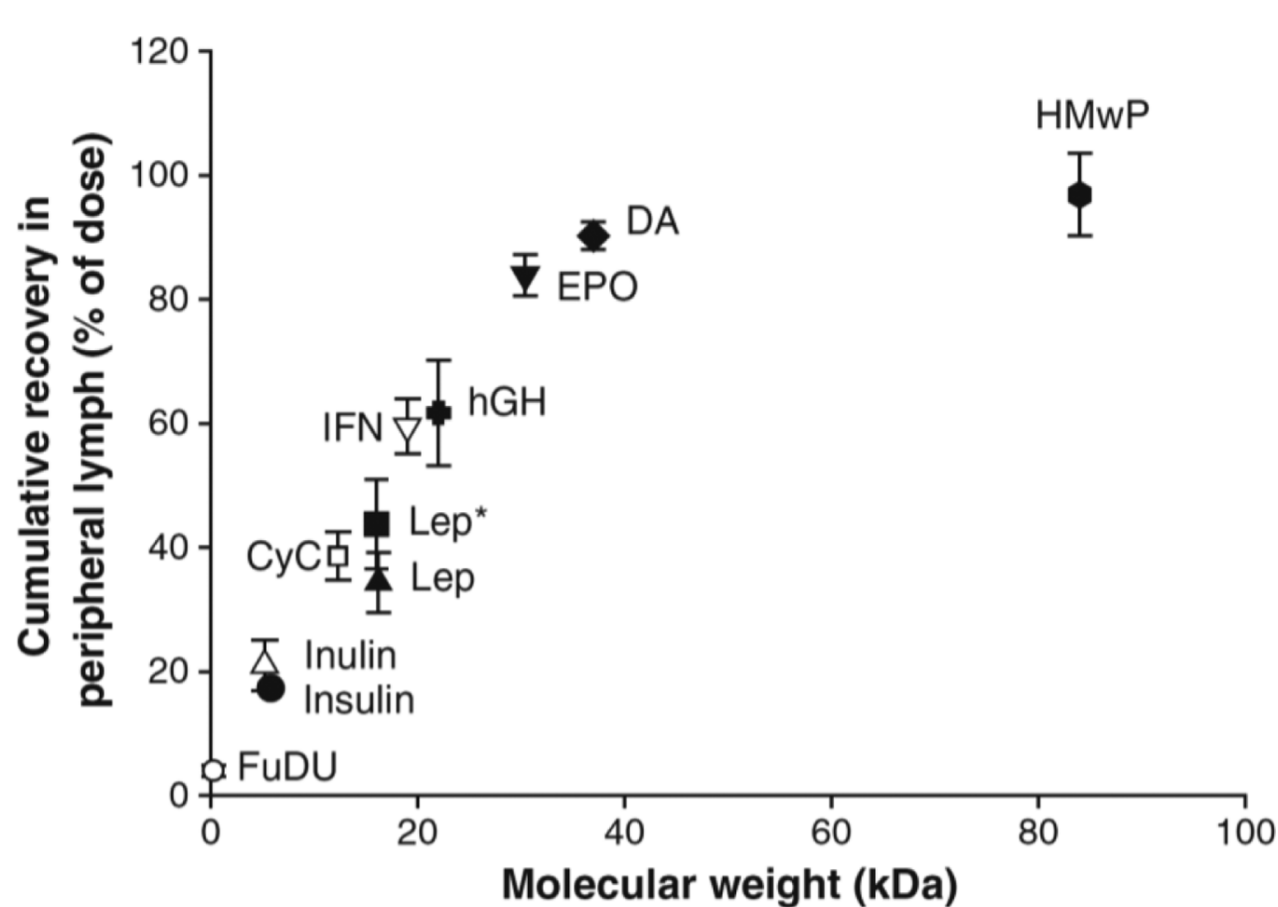
1. intranodal injection of the Toll-like receptor-3 (**TLR-3**) **agonists** poly(inosinic:cytidylic acid) (polyIC) in **micro-particulate (MP)** form substantially prolonged persistence of polyIC in lymph nodes when compared to soluble polyIC
2. intranodal injection of vaccines in MP induced much stronger humoral and cellular immune responses than intranodal injection of soluble vaccines

The antibody titer is a test that detects the presence and measures the amount of antibodies within a person's blood.

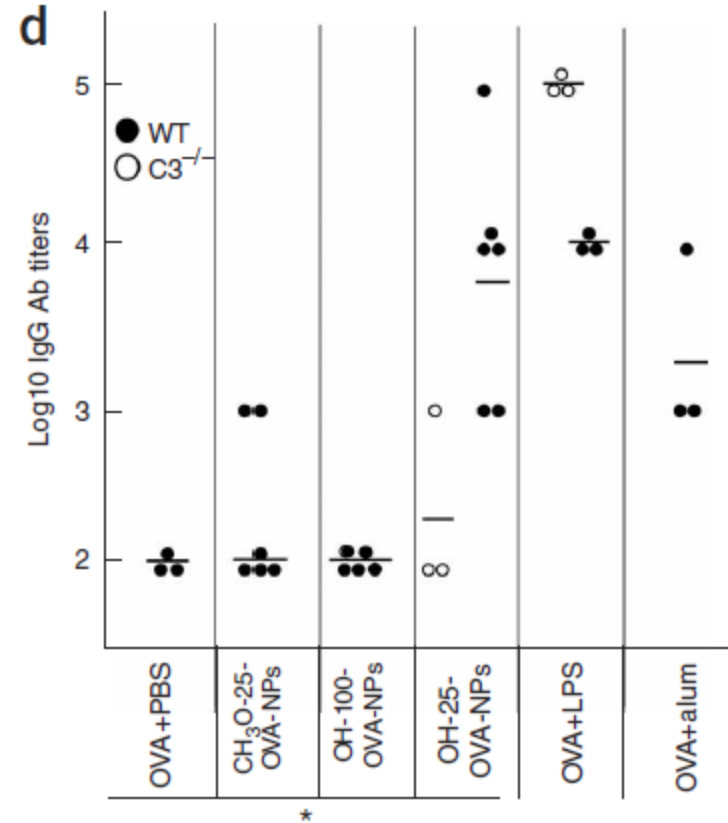
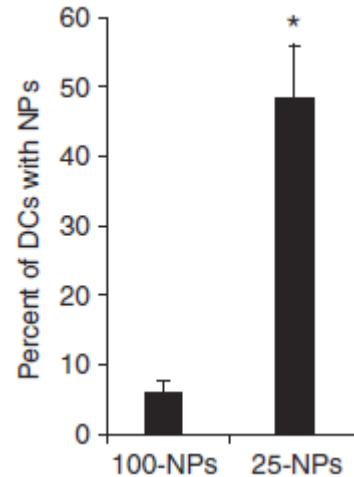
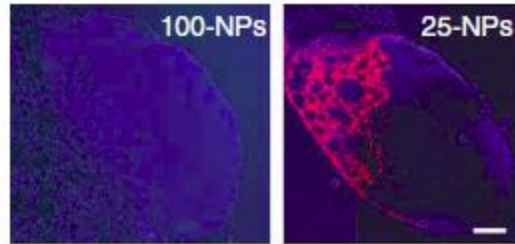
An **antibody titer** is a measurement of how much [antibody](#) an organism has produced that recognizes a particular [epitope](#), expressed as the inverse of the greatest dilution (in a [serial dilution](#)) that still gives a positive result. [ELISA](#) is a common means of determining antibody titers.

Size-Based LN Targeting

In general, materials larger than approximately 9 nm in diameter preferentially drain to lymphatics, whereas molecules/particles smaller than ~6 nm drain to the blood.



Size-Based LN Targeting

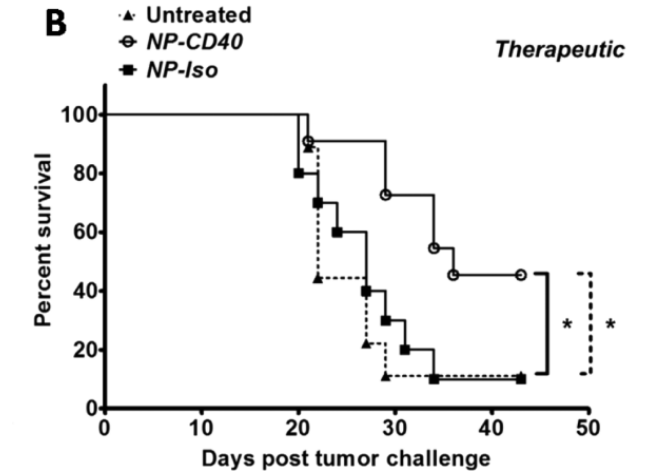
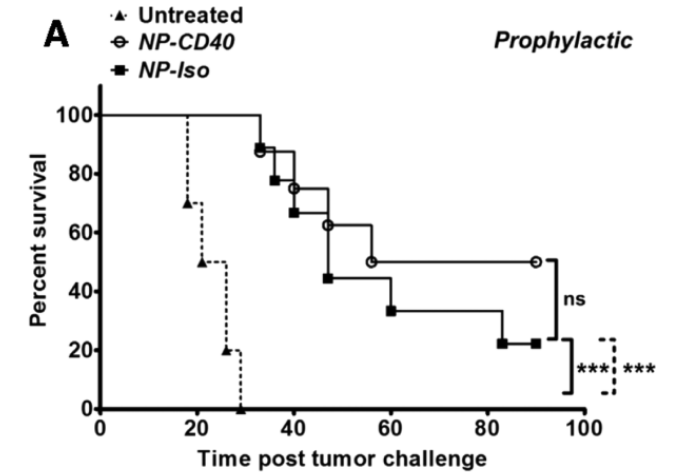
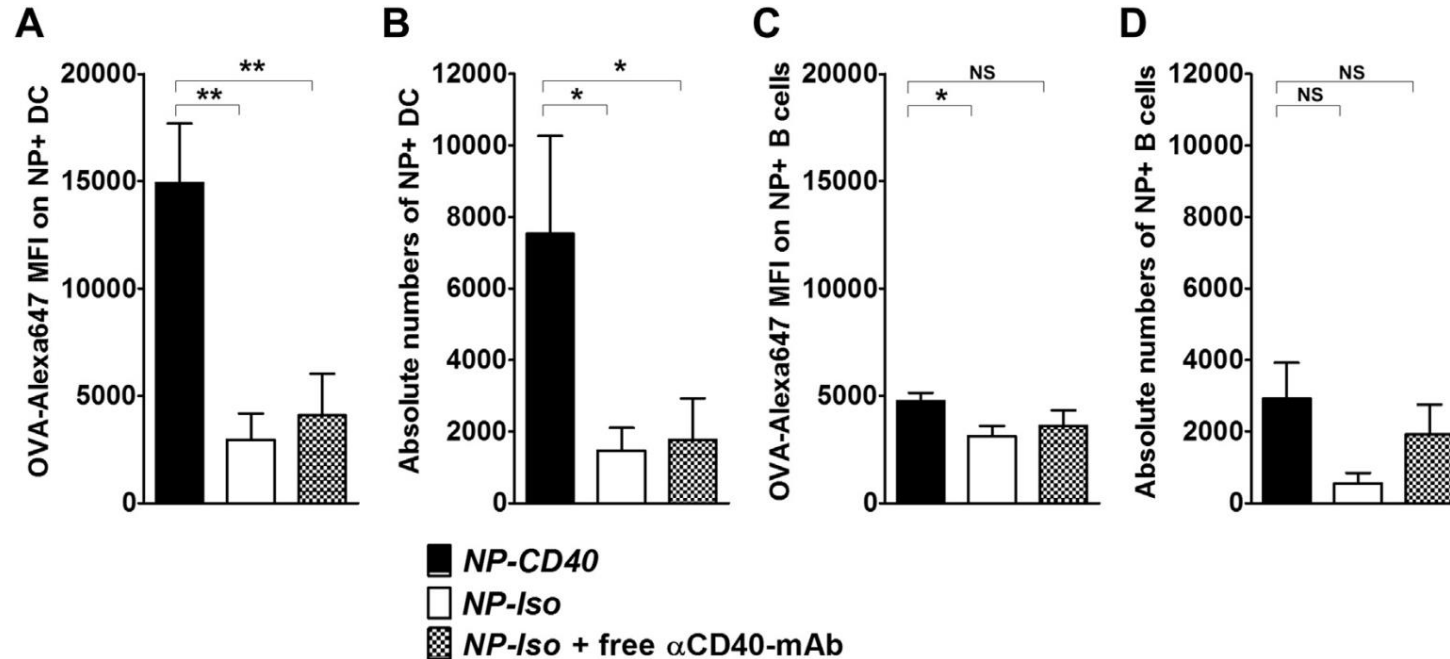


Larger particles with mean diameters of 100 nm were only 10% as efficient as the 25-nm particles at draining to lymph nodes, and 25-nm diameter particles subsequently induced the strongest immune responses

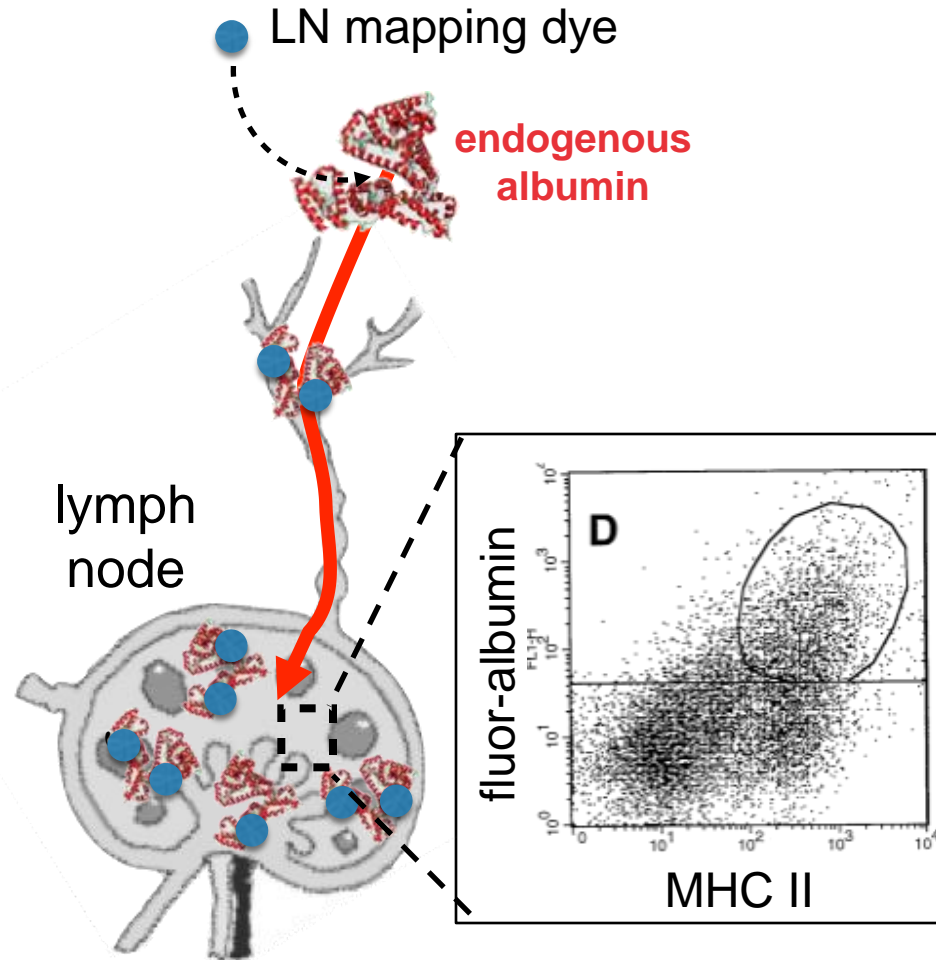
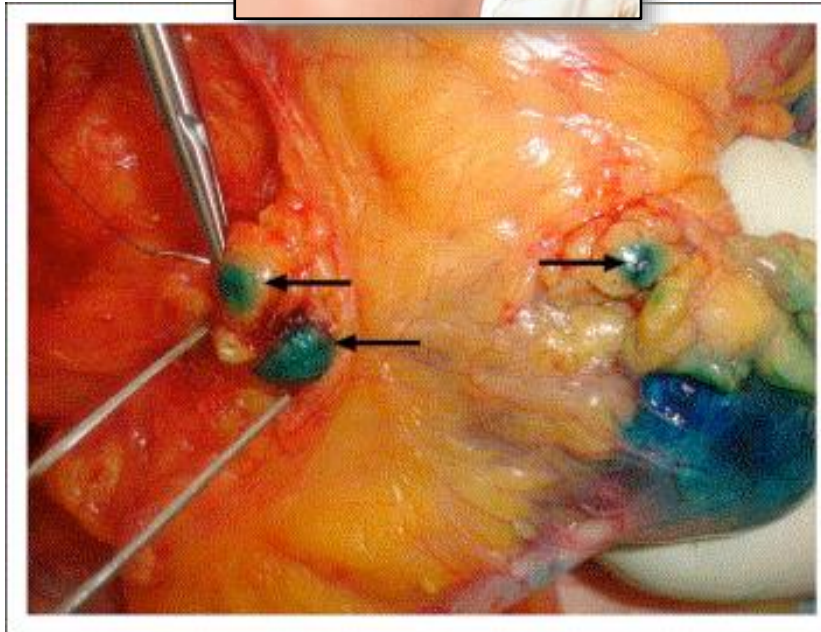
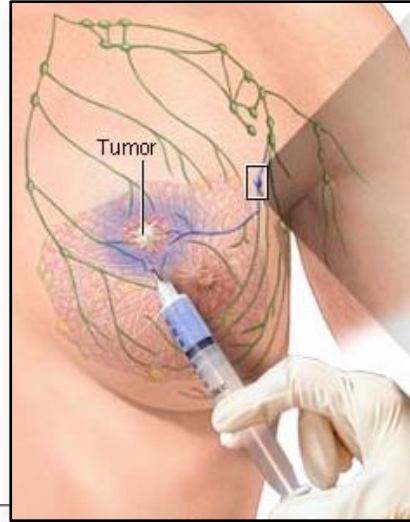
Promoting Vaccine Capture in Lymph Nodes

Incorporate targeting ligands for DCs, e.g.:

- Mannose
- Anti-CD40
- Anti-DEC-205
- Anti-CD11c



A clinically-validated strategy for LN targeting: sentinel lymph node mapping

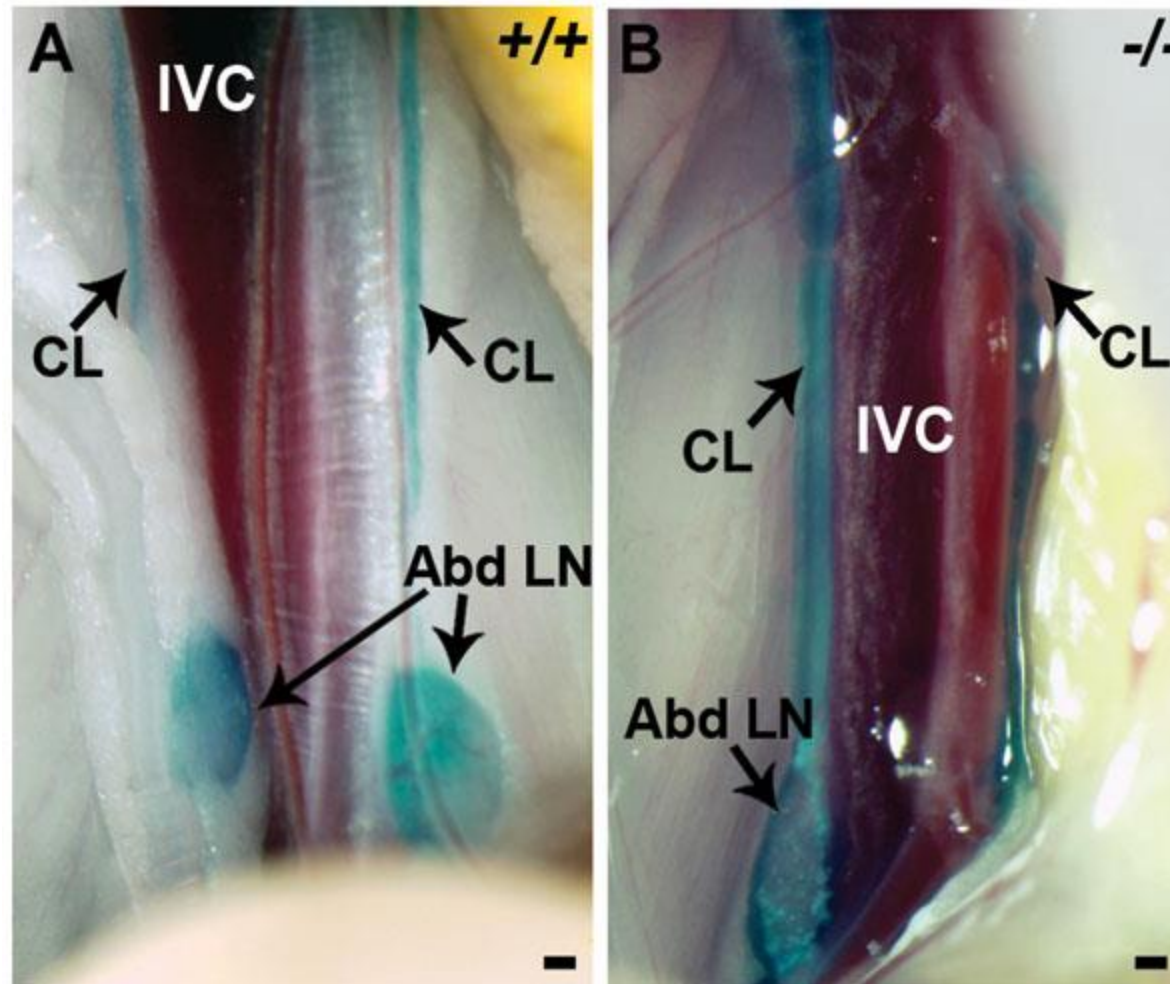


Tsopelas, C. & Sutton, R. *J. Nucl. Med.* **43**, 1377–1382 (2002);
Faries, M. B. *et al. Ann. Surg. Oncol.* **7**, 98–105 (2000).

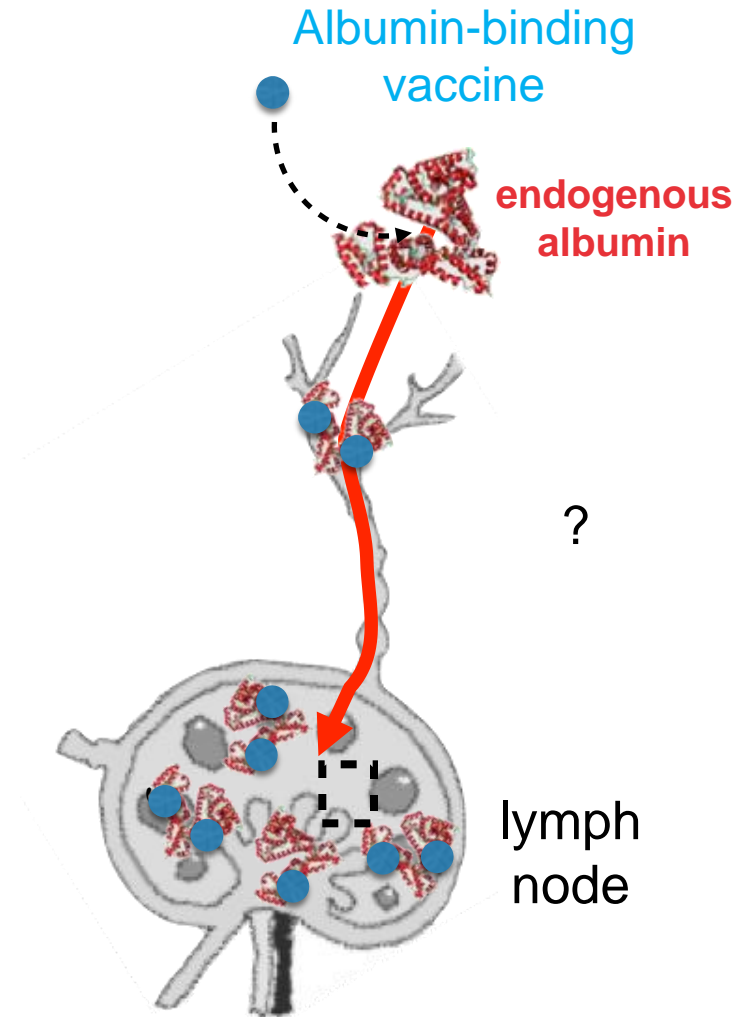
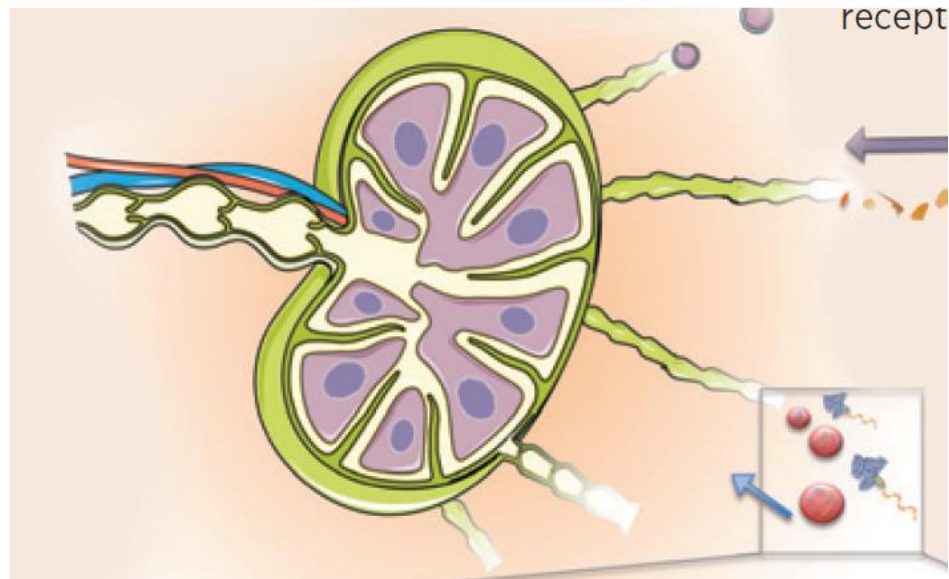
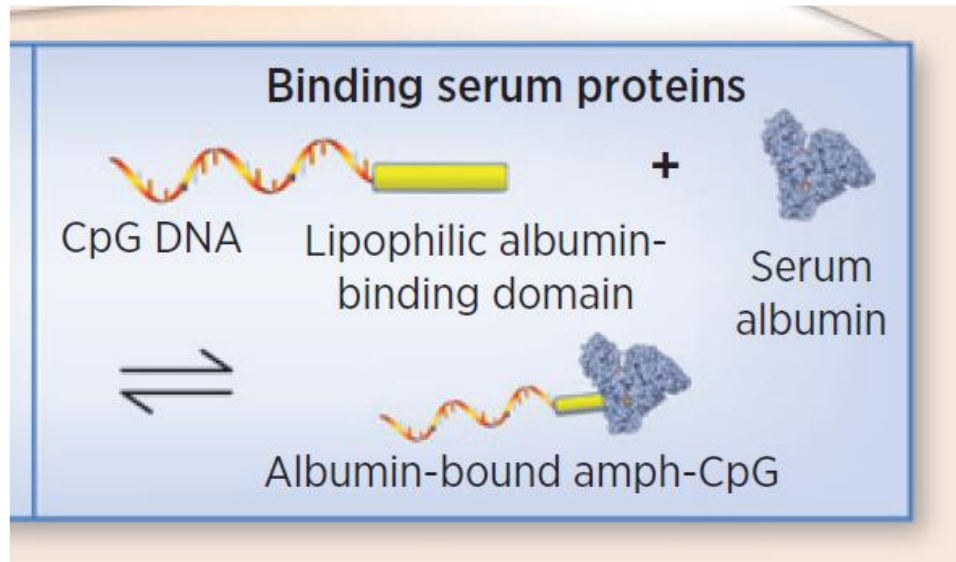
Saha, S. *et al. Am. J. Surg.* **191**, 305–310 (2006) 26

Lymph node mapping with albumin hitchhiking dyes

Evan's blue dye binds albumin and clearly map the lymph nodes



“albumin hitchhiking” vaccine target lymph nodes?



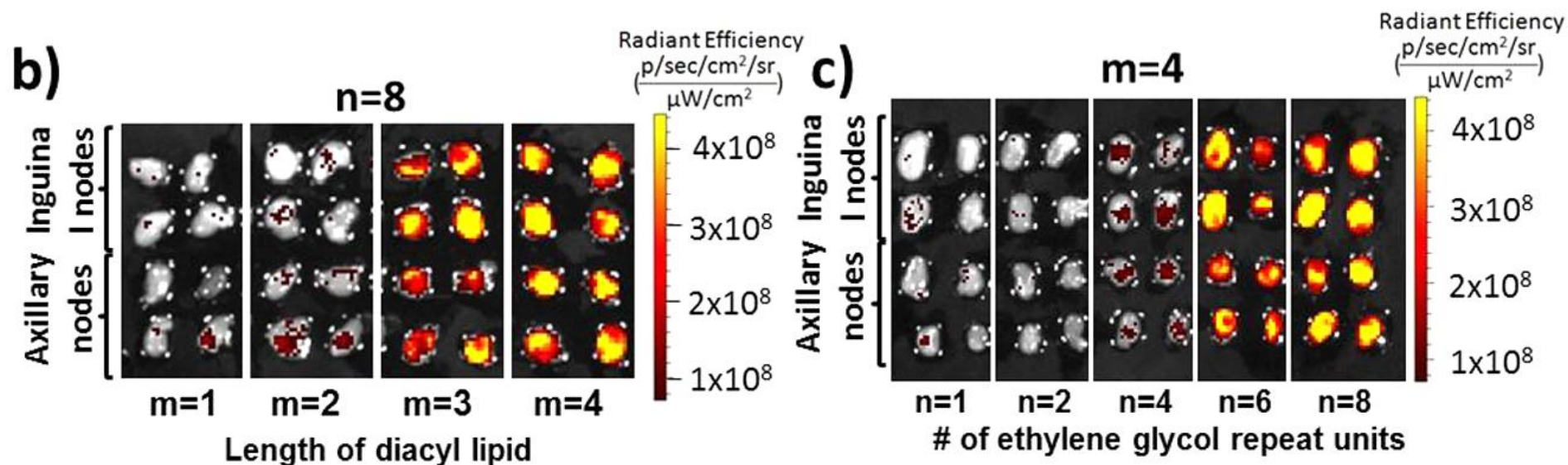
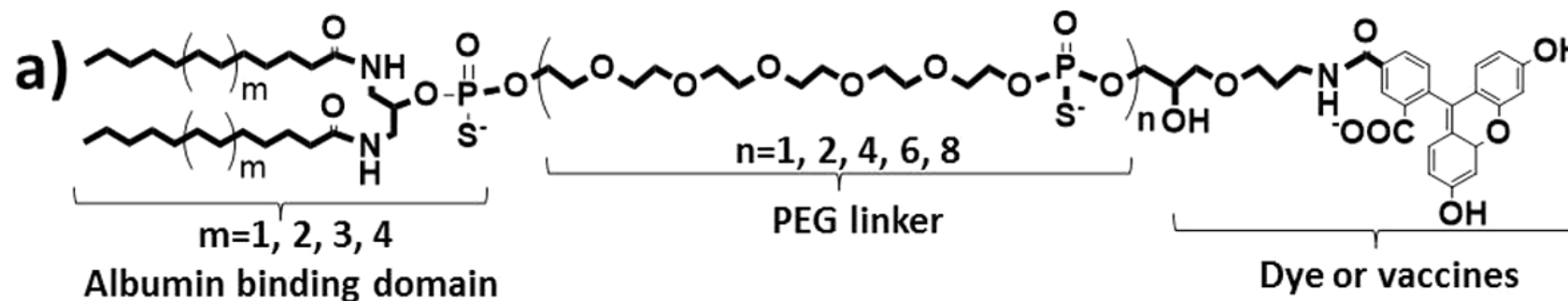
Tsopelas, C. & Sutton, R. *J. Nucl. Med.* **43**, 1377–1382 (2002);
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Saha, S. *et al. Am. J. Surg.* **191**, 305–310 (2006)

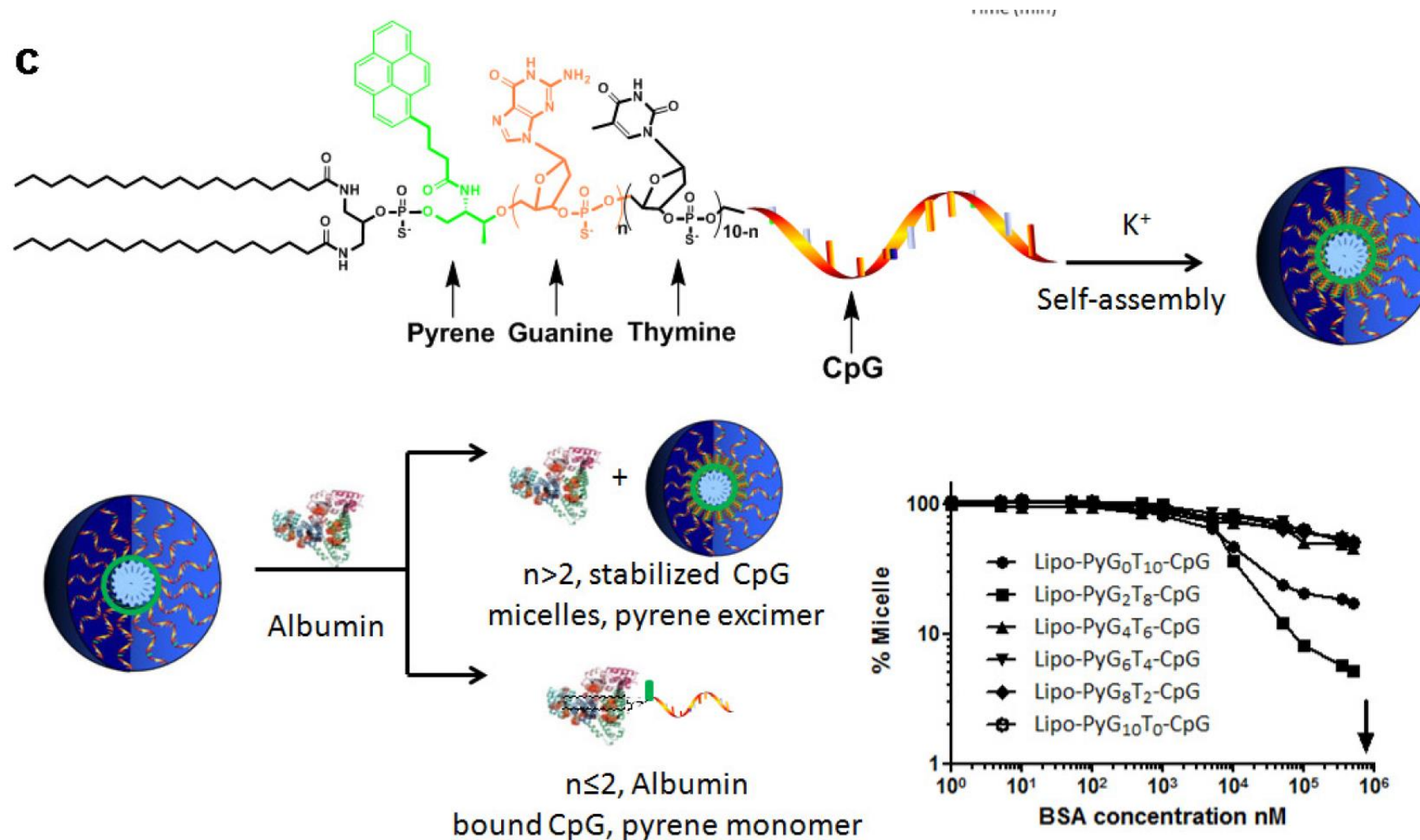
“albumin hitchhiking” vaccines

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antigens or molecular adjuvants are covalently linked to a lipophilic albumin binding domain

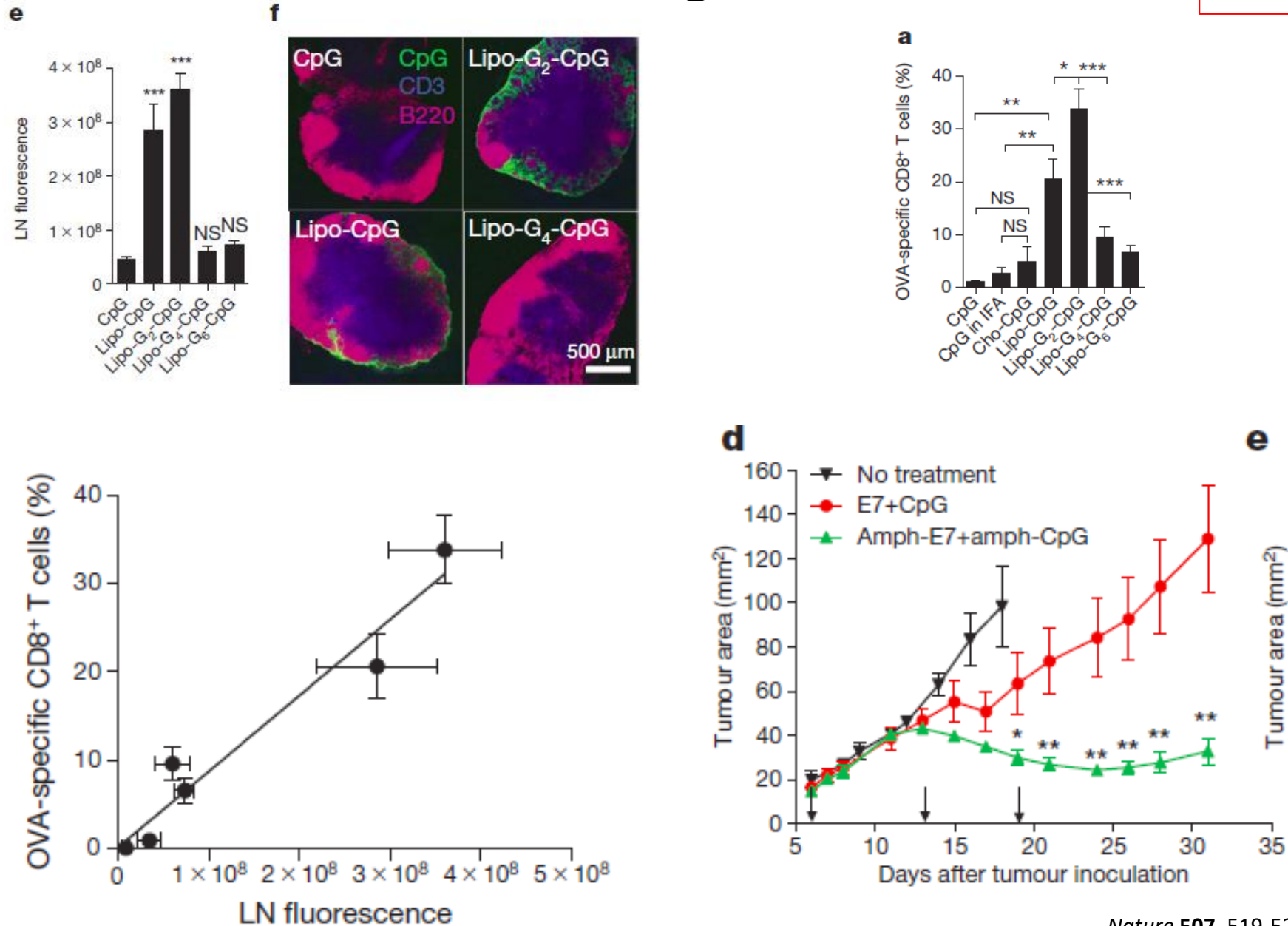


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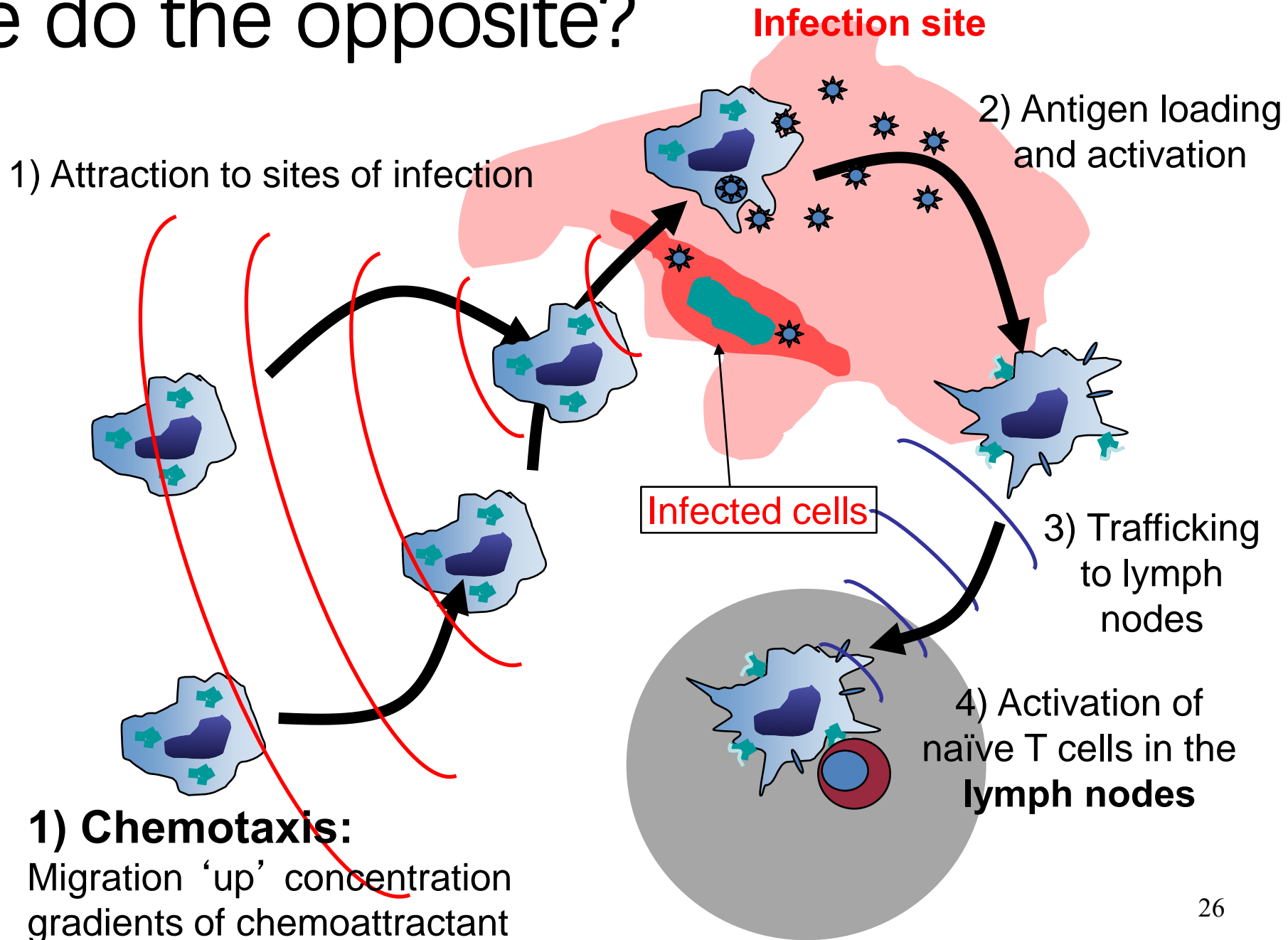


“albumin hitchhiking” vaccines

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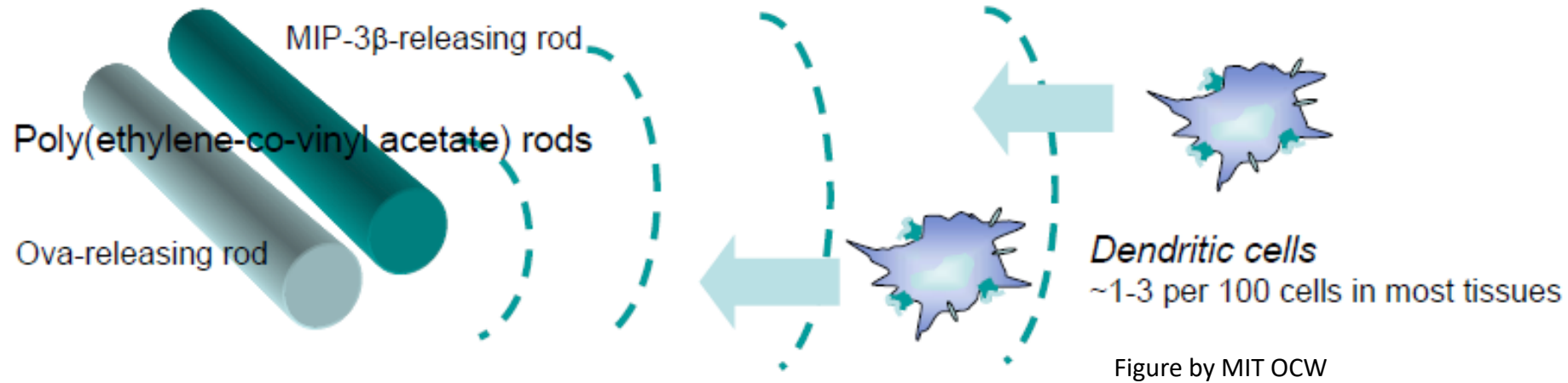


Can we do the opposite?



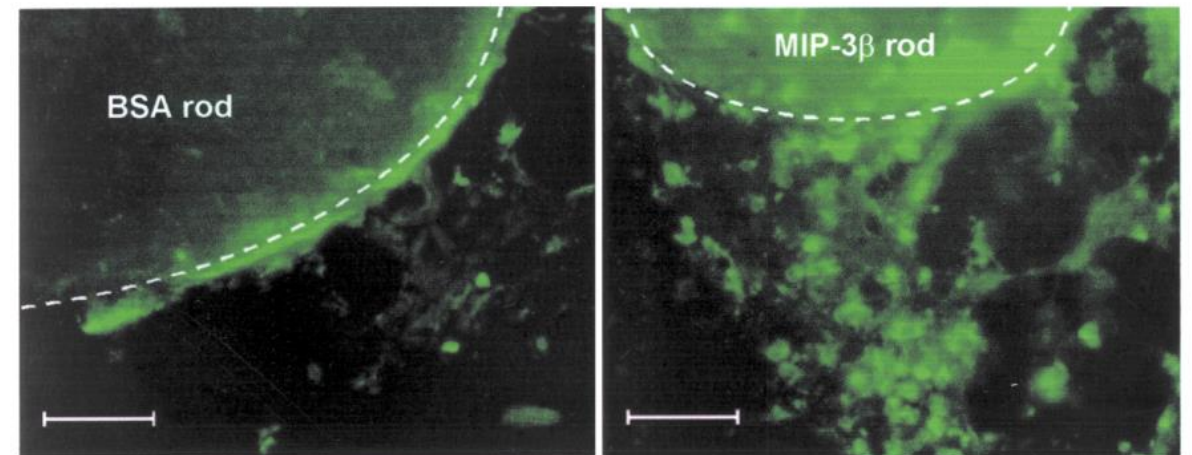
Recruiting DCs to vaccine-loaded biomaterials

Attraction of target cells to device via chemotaxis

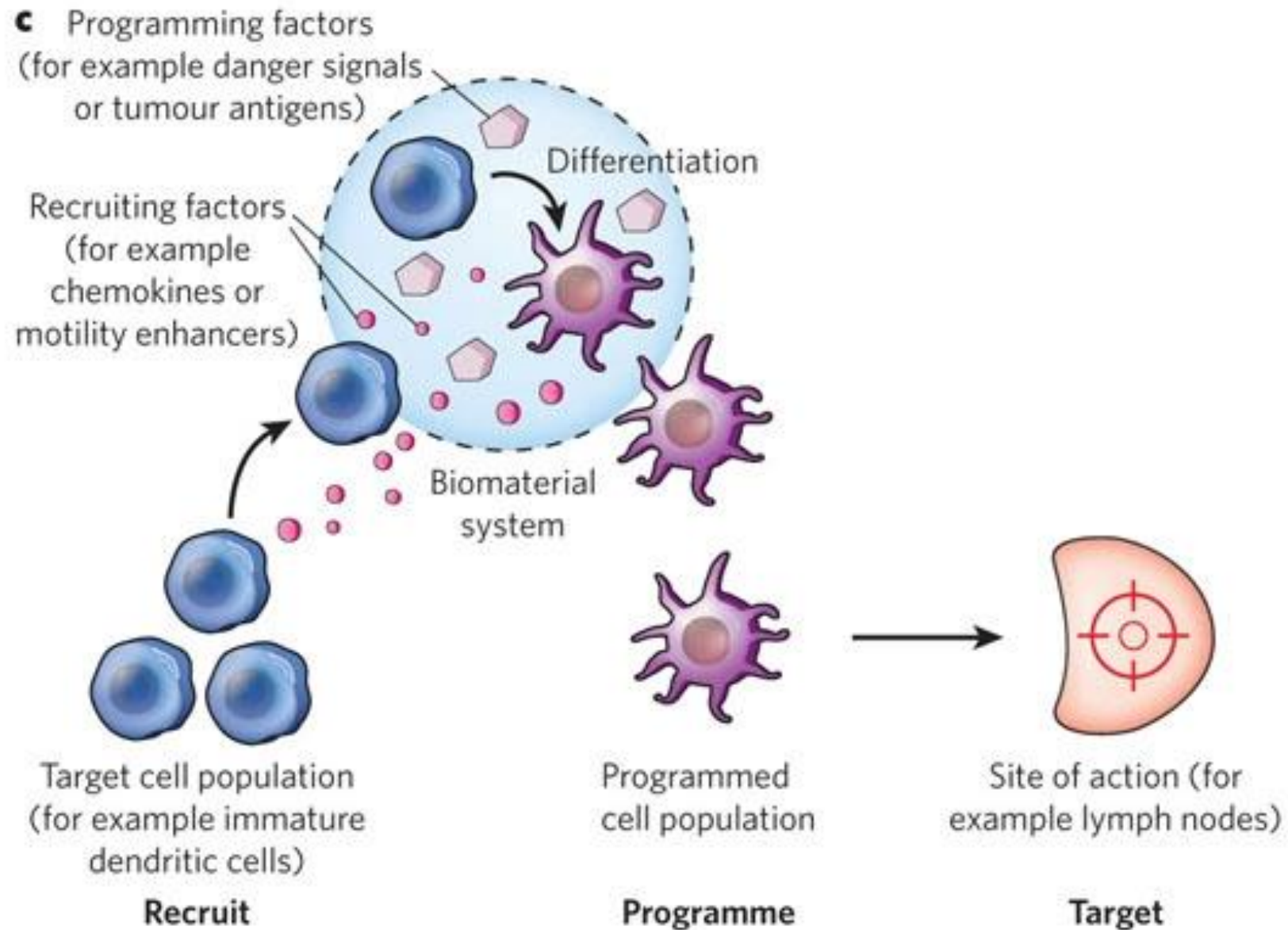


Attraction of target cells to device via chemotaxis:

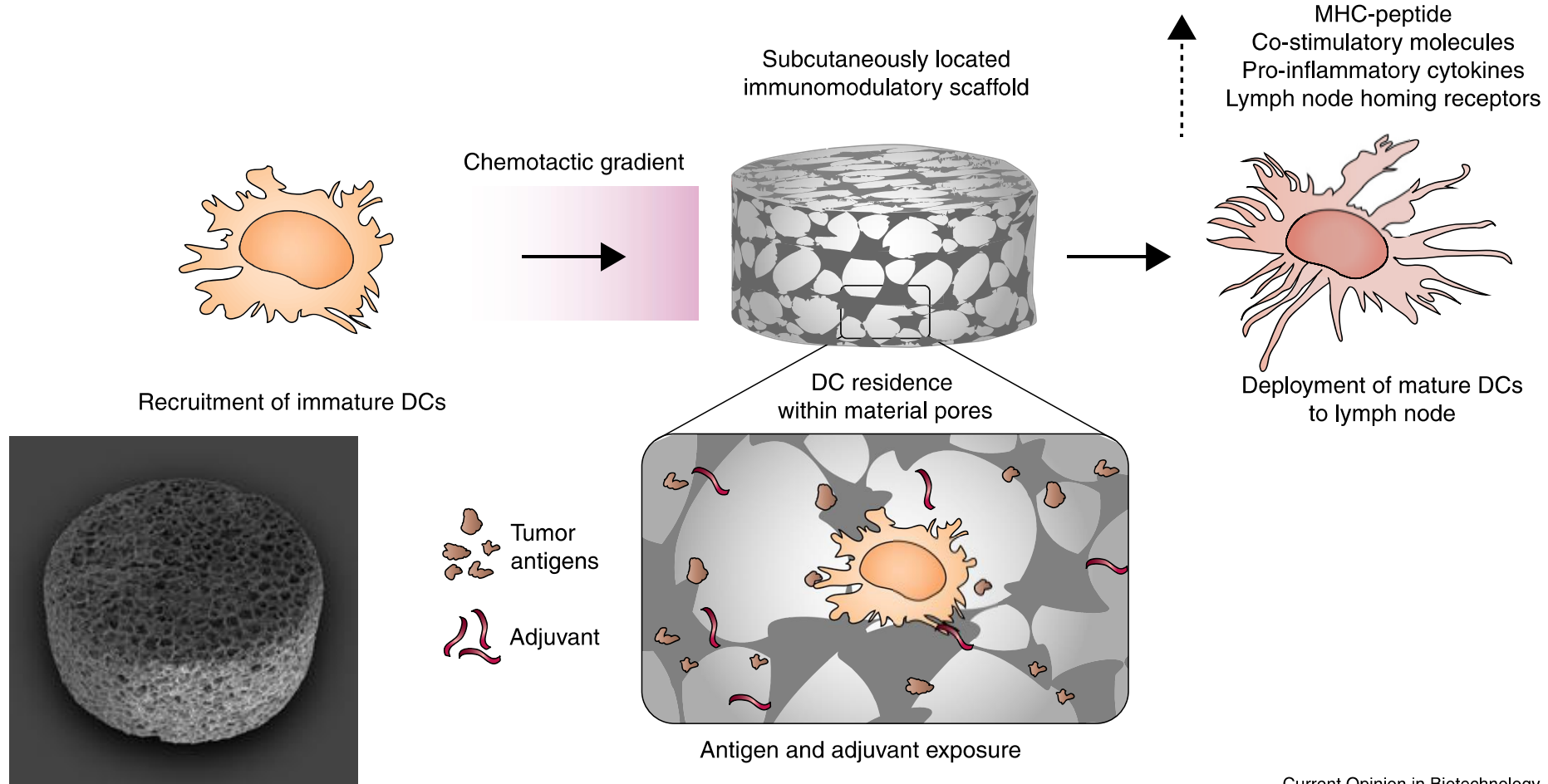
1. Free chemokines are quickly cleared
2. Engineered concentration gradient of chemokines



Recruit DCs to vaccines

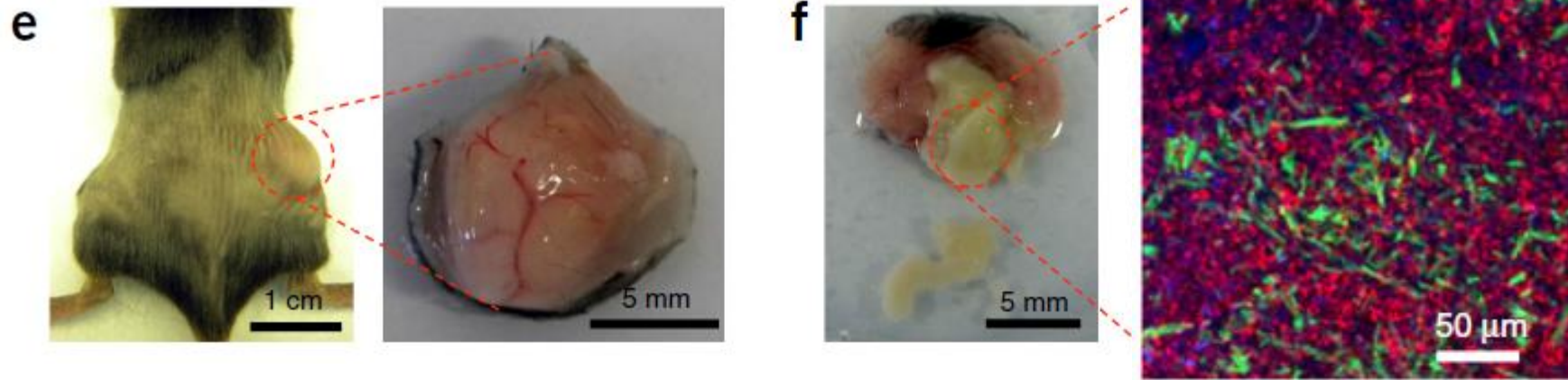


Improving DC vaccines: engineering DC generation, antigen loading, and activation in vivo

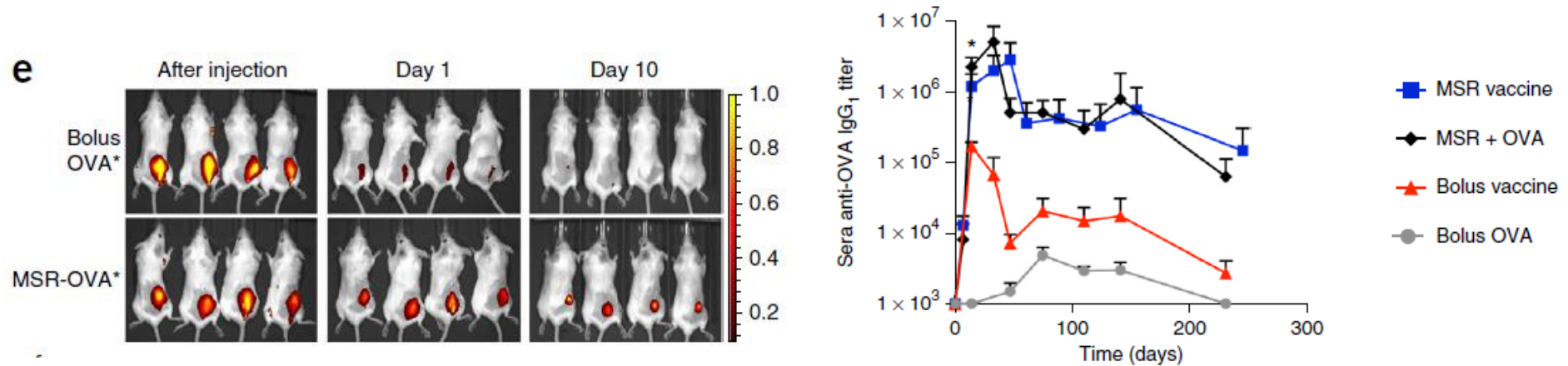


Current Opinion in Biotechnology

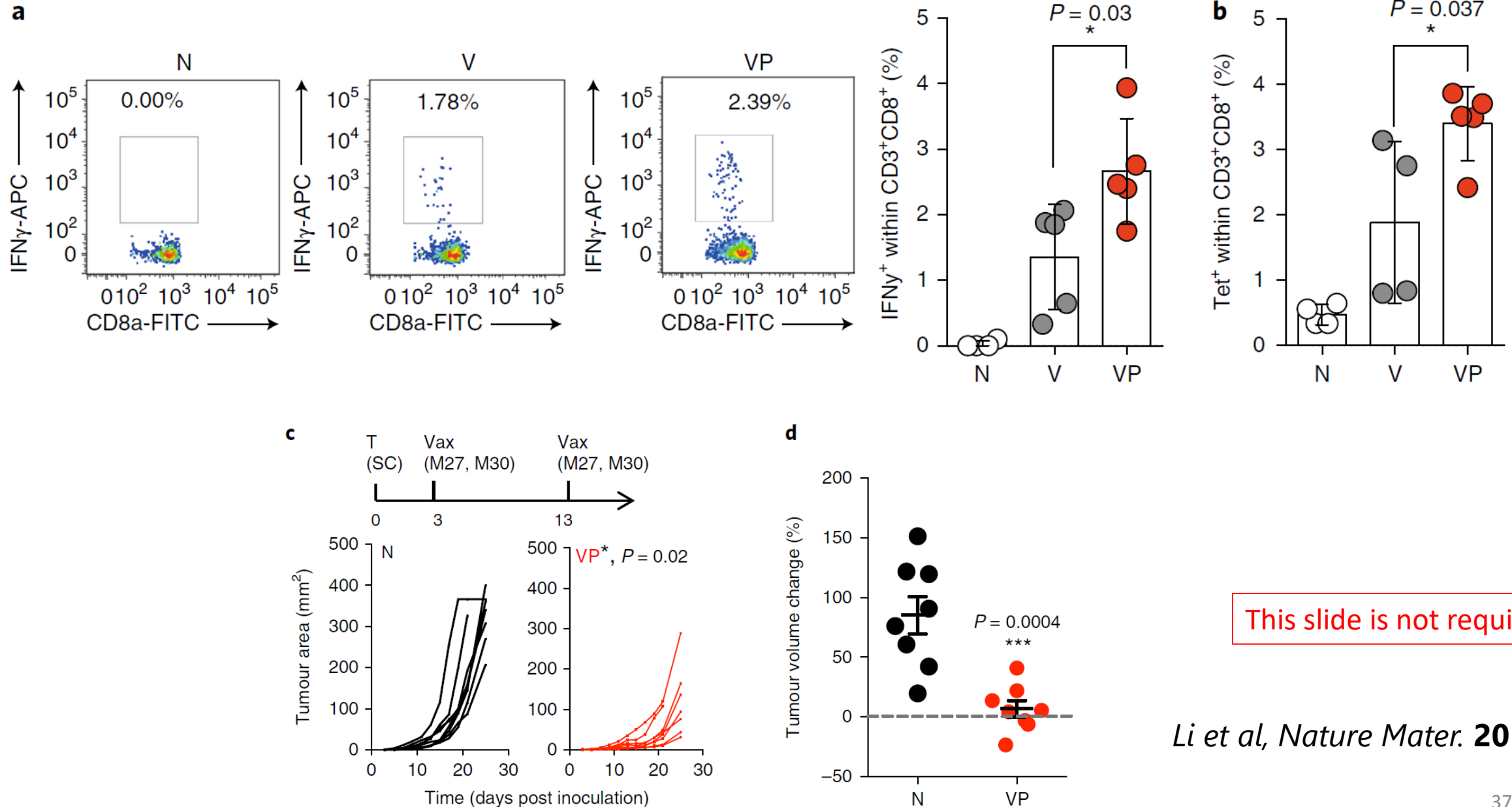
Recruit DCs to vaccines



GM-CSF, CpG and OVA



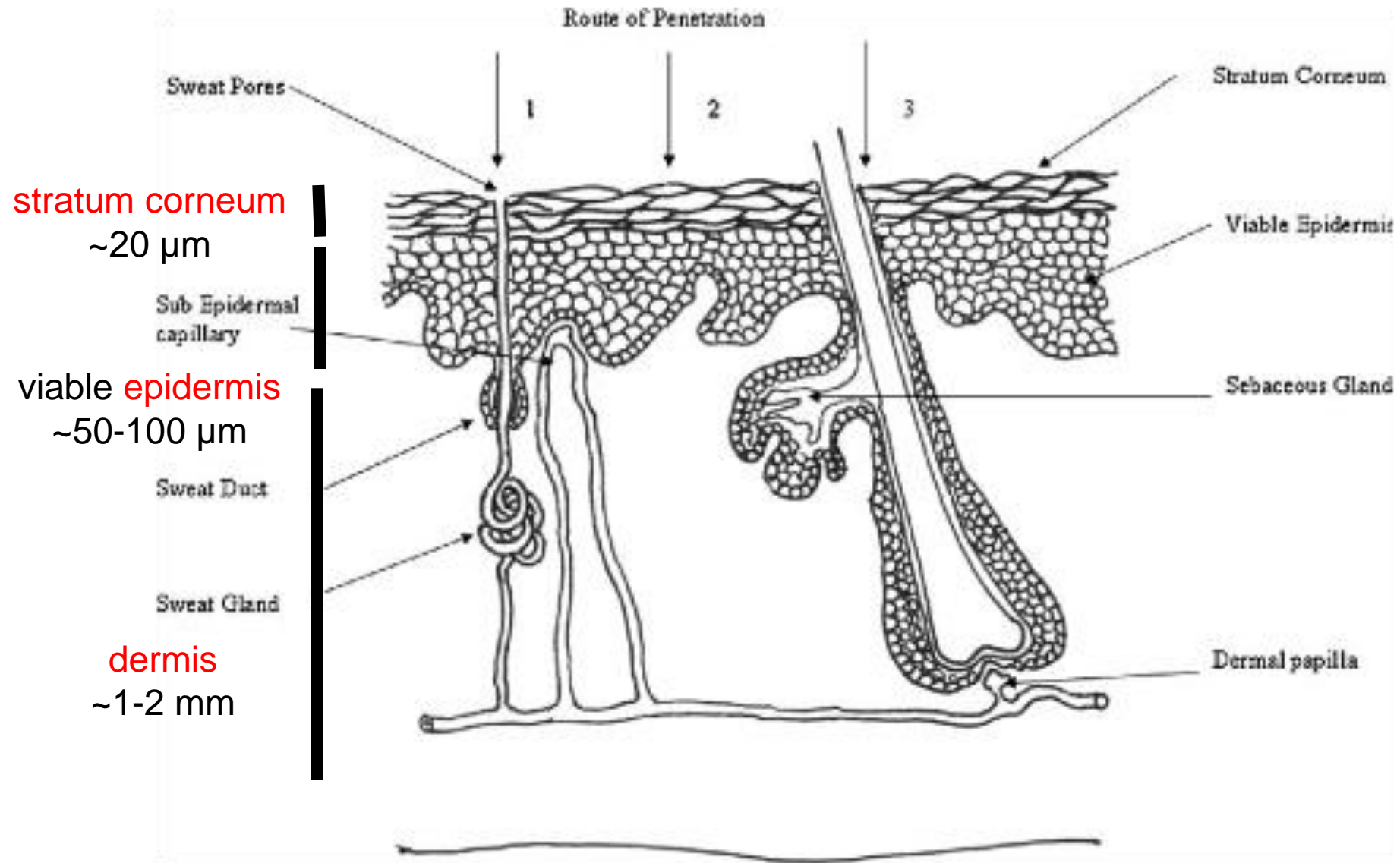
Recruit DCs to vaccines



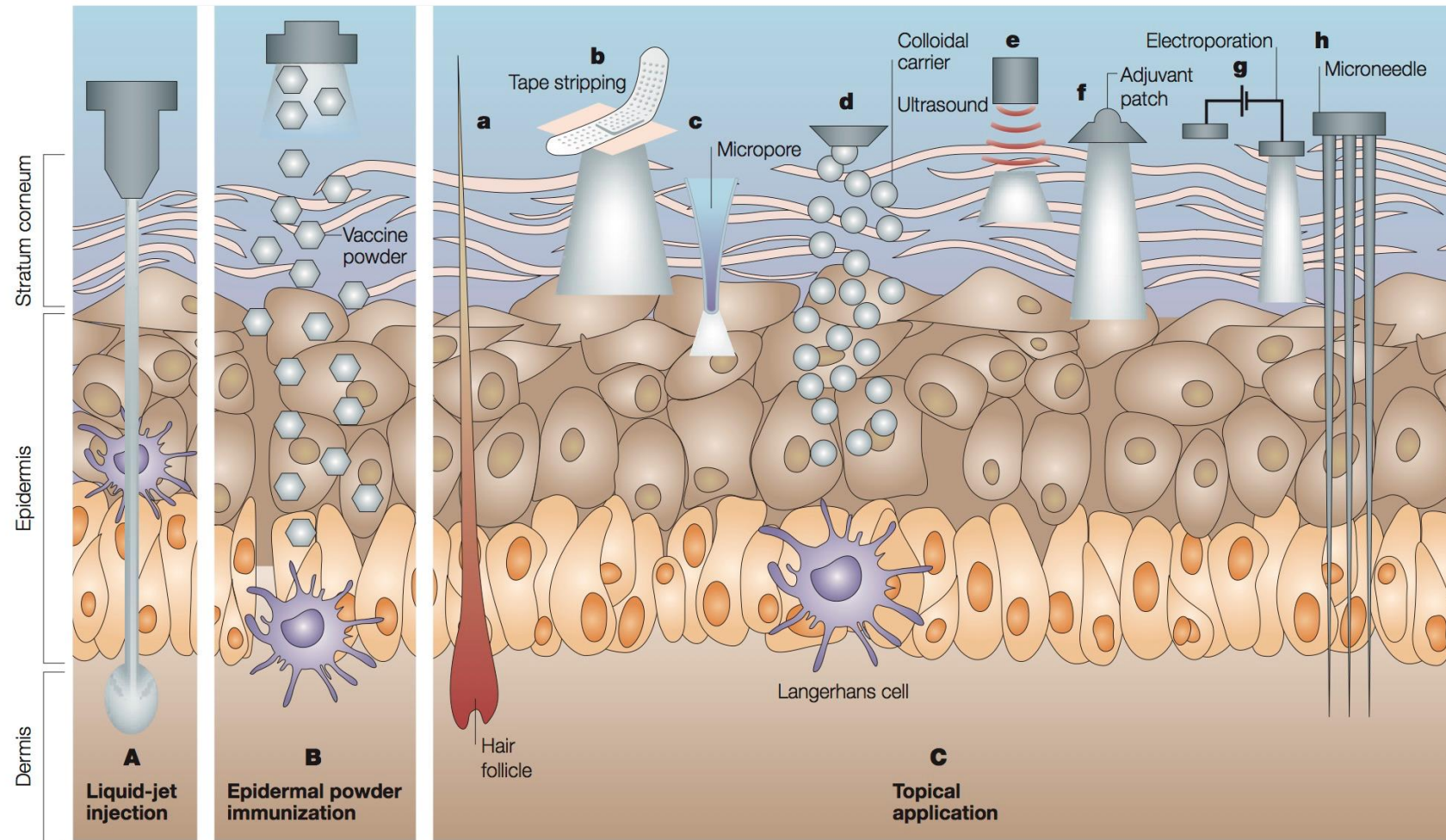
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Li et al, *Nature Mater.* **2018.**

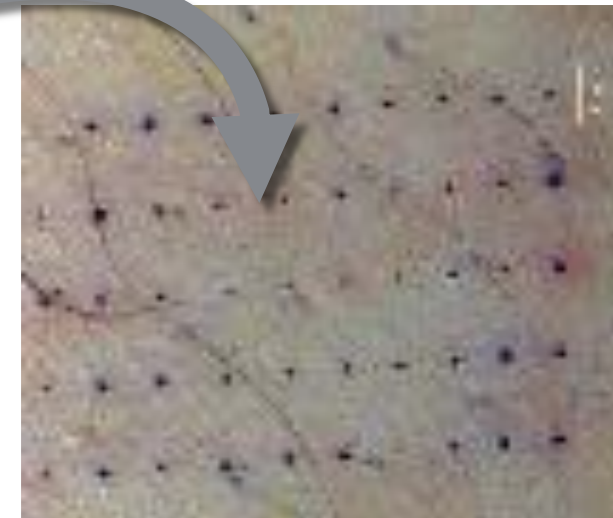
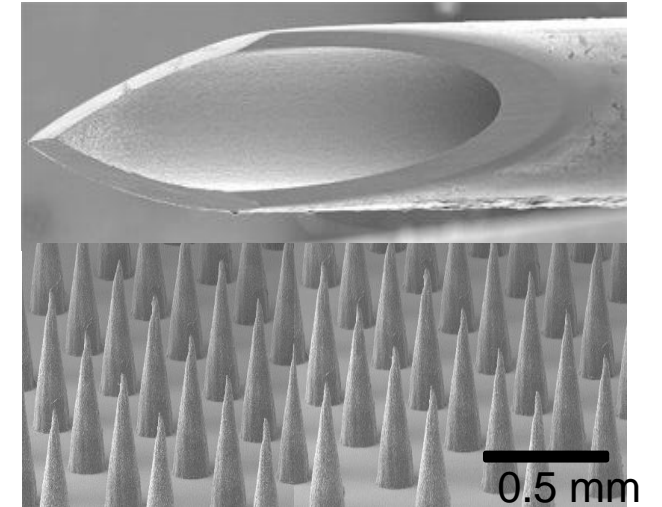
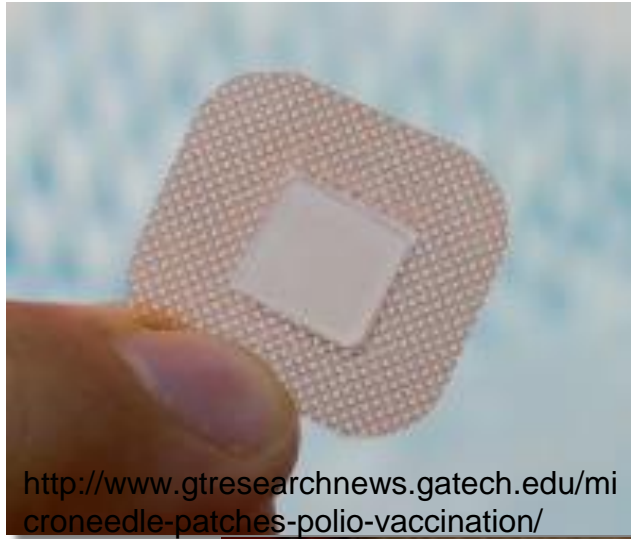
Delivering vaccines across skin:



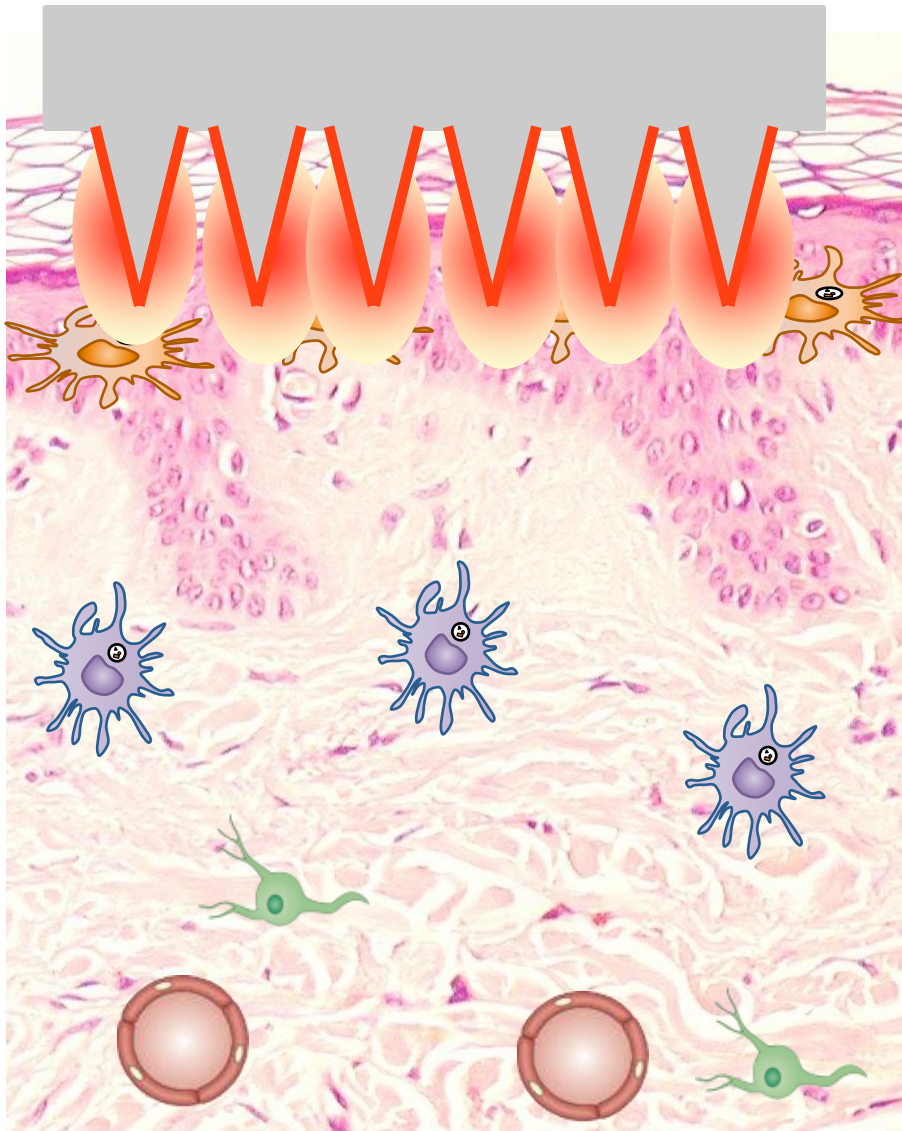
Vaccine strategies for crossing the stratum corneum



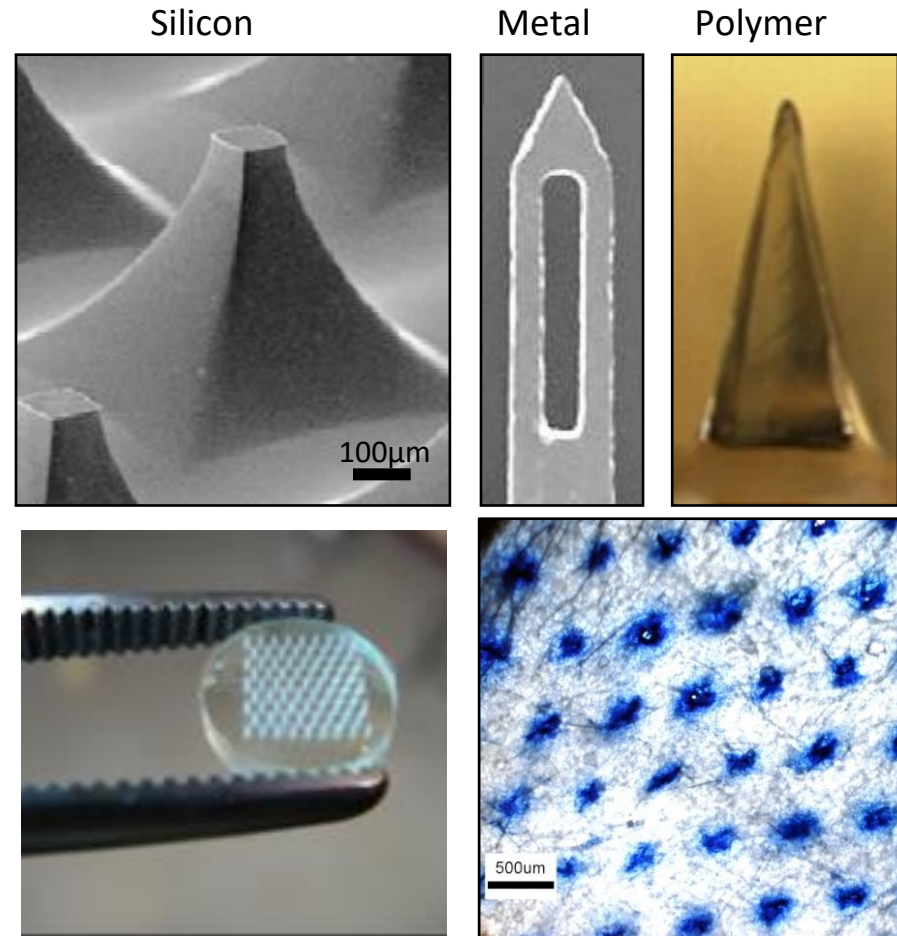
Accessing the skin or mucosal surfaces using “microneedle” patches



Microneedles for noninvasive, pain-free delivery to the skin



Arrays of dry-coated microprojections:

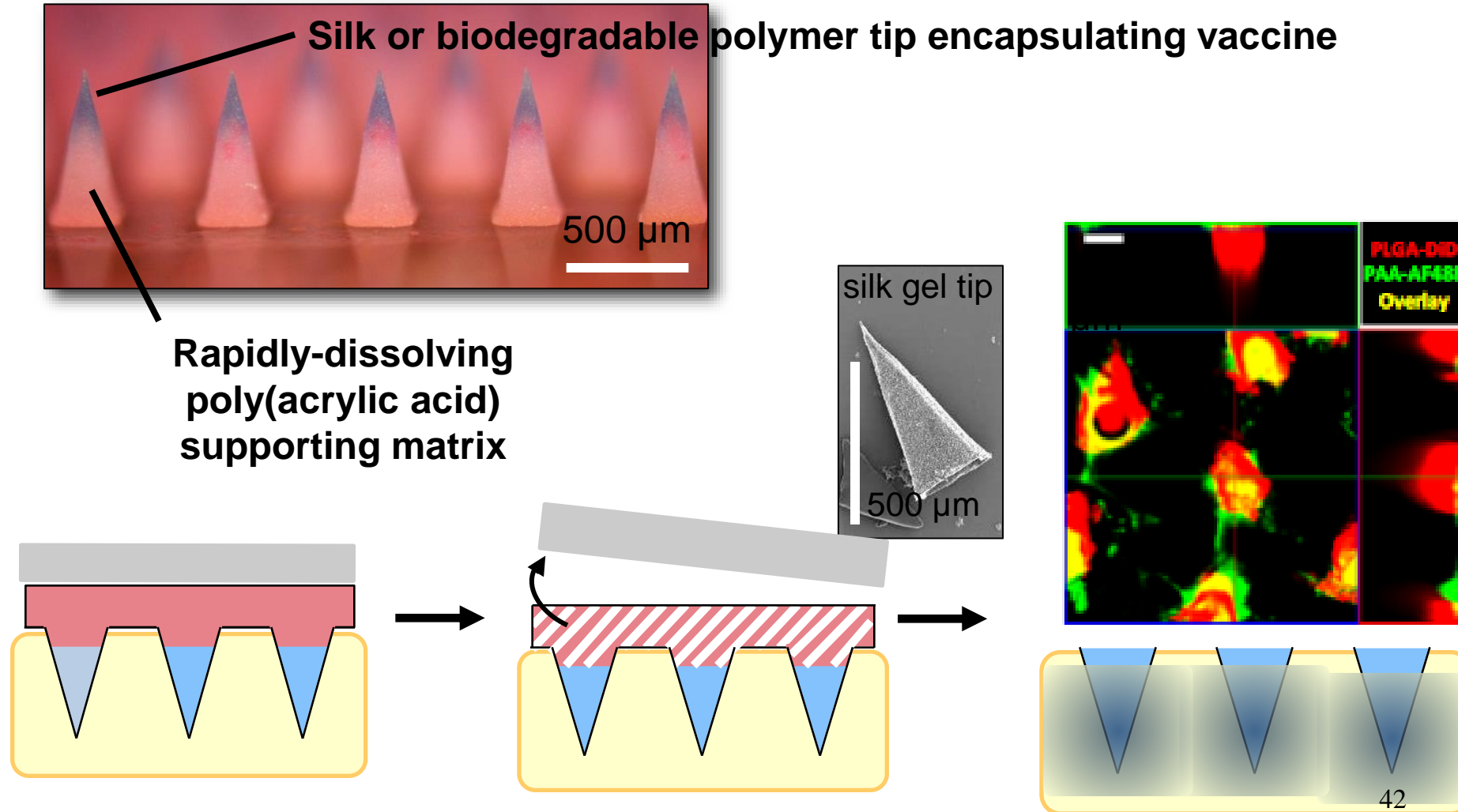


Sullivan, S.P. et al. (2010) *Nature Medicine*, 16: 915-920

Lee J.W. et al. (2008) *Biomaterials*, 29: 2113-2124

Gill, H.S. et al. (2007) *Pharm. Res.*, 24: 1369-1380

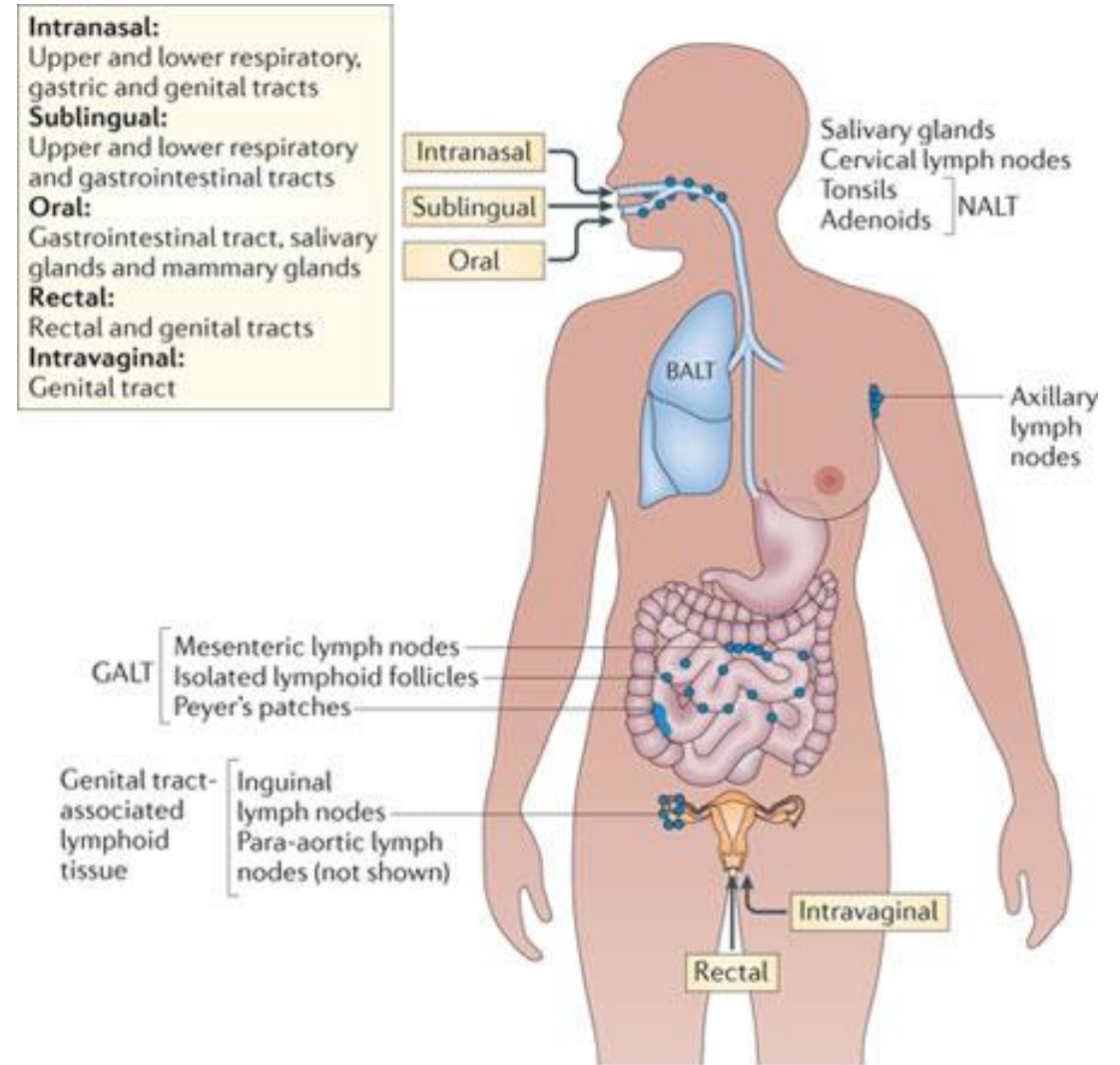
Implantable microneedles for sustained vaccine kinetics from a rapid-application skin patch



(DeMuth et al., *Adv. Funct. Mater.* 2013; *Adv. Healthcare Mater.* 2014)

Mucosal immunization

- ❑ Most pathogens infect through mucosal tissues
- ❑ the establishment of mucosa-homing T cells and B cells through mucosal immunization can be a key component of vaccine efficacy
- ❑ Nanoparticles are attractive mucosal vaccine/immunotherapy delivery vehicles
 - enhanced uptake by APCs of particulate antigen
 - the preferential draining of nanoparticles to lymphatics rather than to the bloodstream
 - the ability of nanoparticles to diffuse through mucus and cross mucosal barriers



Nature Reviews | Immunology

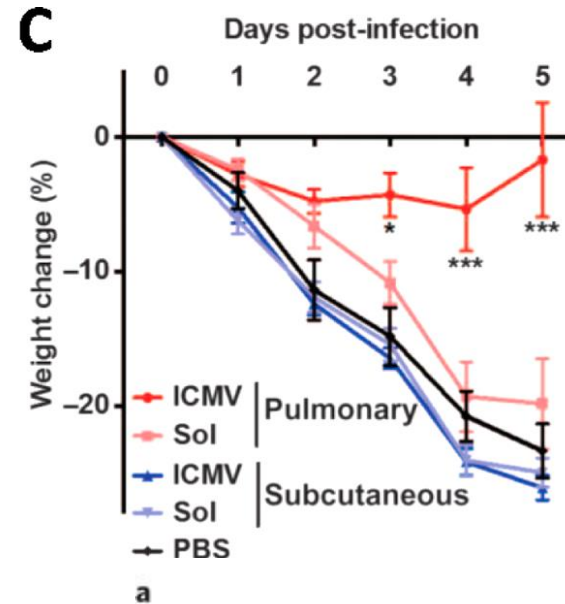
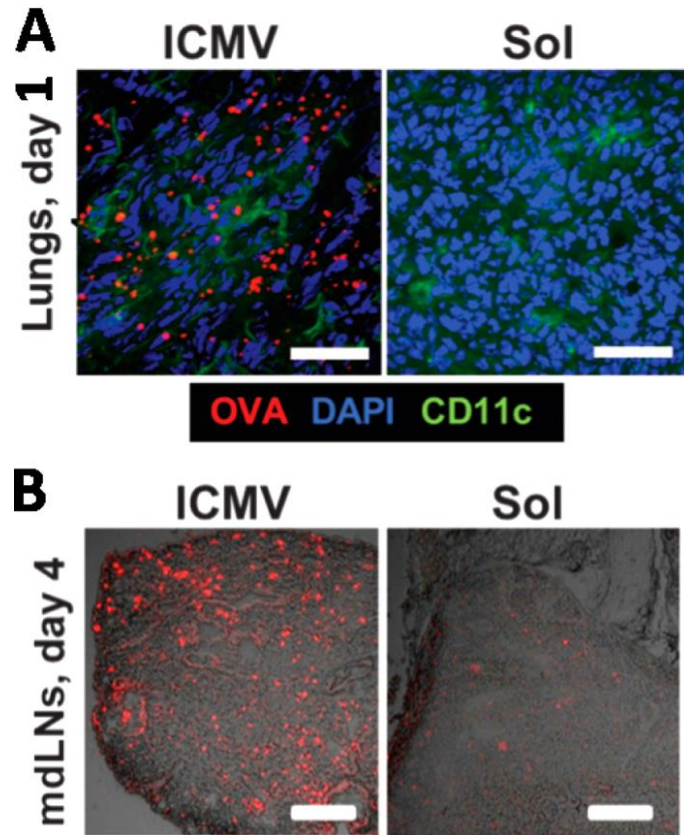
lymphocyte homing is templated by the site of antigen exposure



immune memory is shaped to match
portal of entry that needs protection

44

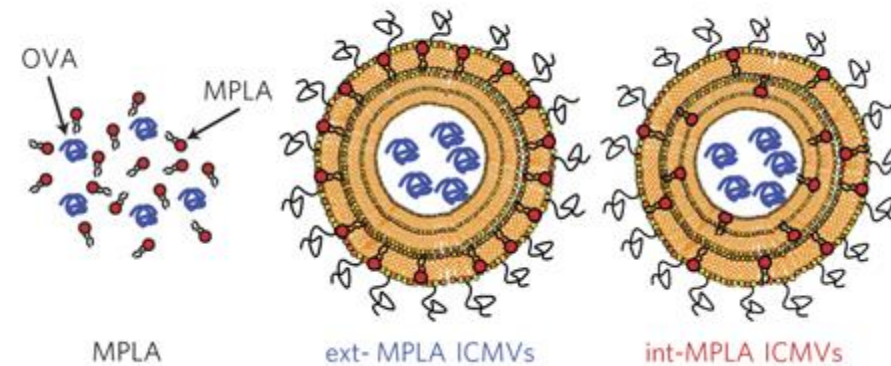
Airways and Nasal Mucosa



intratracheal
immunization



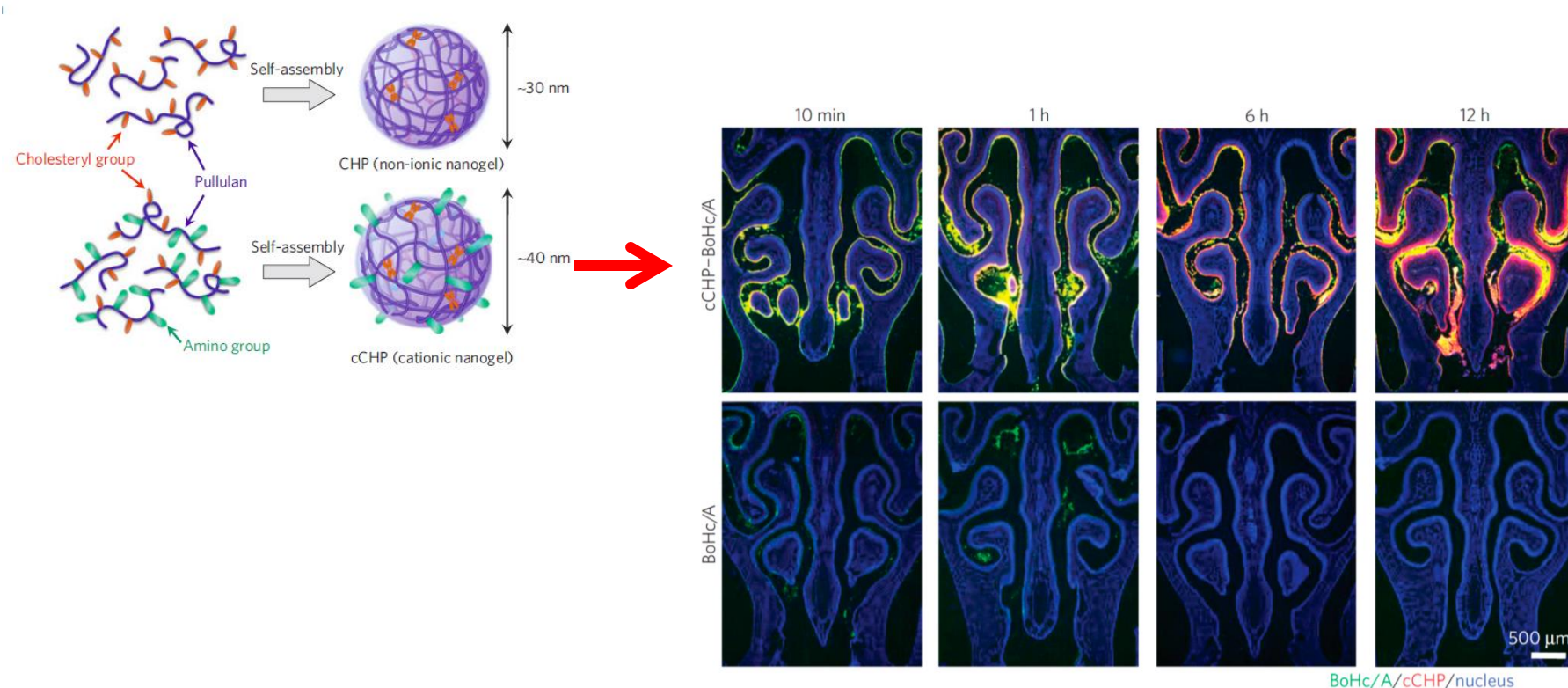
http://www.scielo.br/scielo.php?script=sci_arttext&pid=S1676-24442015000300183



Using cross-link-stabilized lipid nanocapsules loaded with antigen and TLR agonist adjuvants, for greatly increased and prolonged antigen presentation in lung-draining lymph nodes and transformed an antigen/adjuvant combination that was completely nonprotective against a viral challenge as a soluble formulation to a 100% protective vaccine

Airways and Nasal Mucosa

employ nanoparticles that are muco-adhesive to increase the particles' residence time at the epithelial surface.



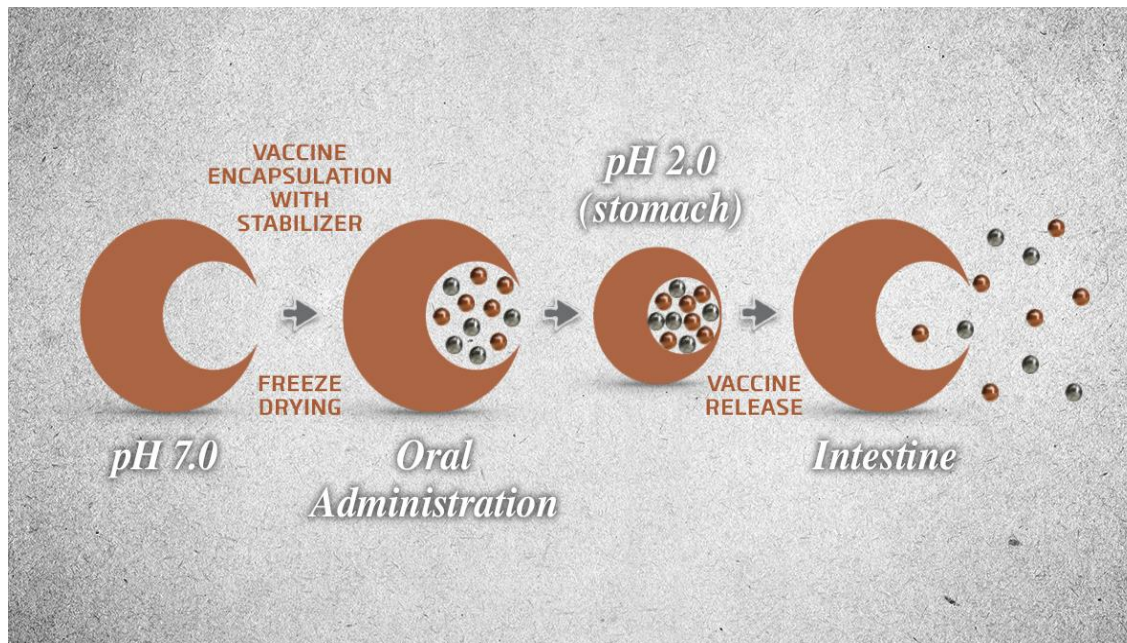
- cationic cholesteryl pullulan nanogels (cCHPs) as vaccine carriers
- increased retention in the nasal mucosa and uptake of antigen by mucosal dendritic cells
- enhanced antigen delivery translated to significantly increased mucosal antibody responses and protection from *Clostridium botulinum* challenge

Gastrointestinal (GI) Tract

The oral delivery route offers a multitude of advantages for vaccines and immunotherapy treatment:

- dispense with risks from needle use (or reuse)
- amenable to self-administration with high patient compliance
- lead to the induction of both systemic and mucosal immunity

oral immunomodulators must first survive exposure to the **stomach pH**, proteolytic **enzymes**, and **bile salts** in the gastrointestinal (GI) tract and then transit through **mucus** and the **gut epithelium** to reach the gut-associated lymphoid tissue (GALT).



Biomaterials?

Protect vaccines/immunotherapeutics from degradation and effectively transport particles across the intestinal lumen

Delivering vaccines to gut mucosa

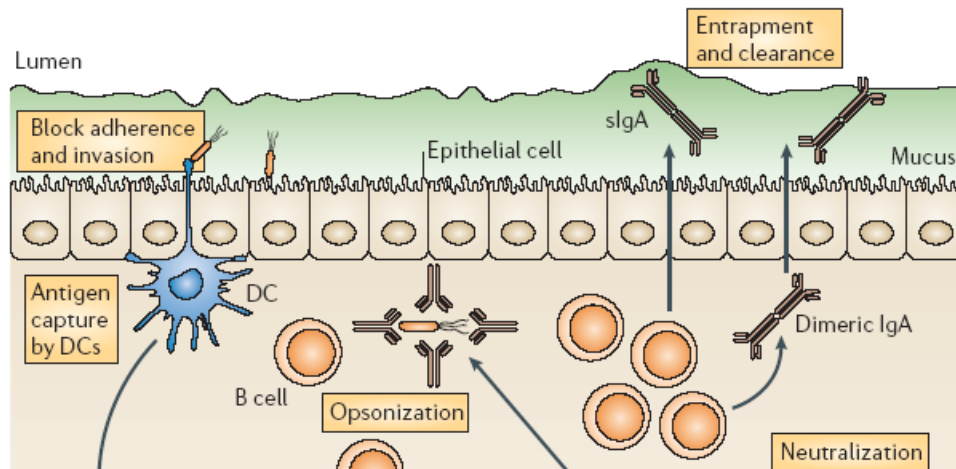
challenges:

gut pH

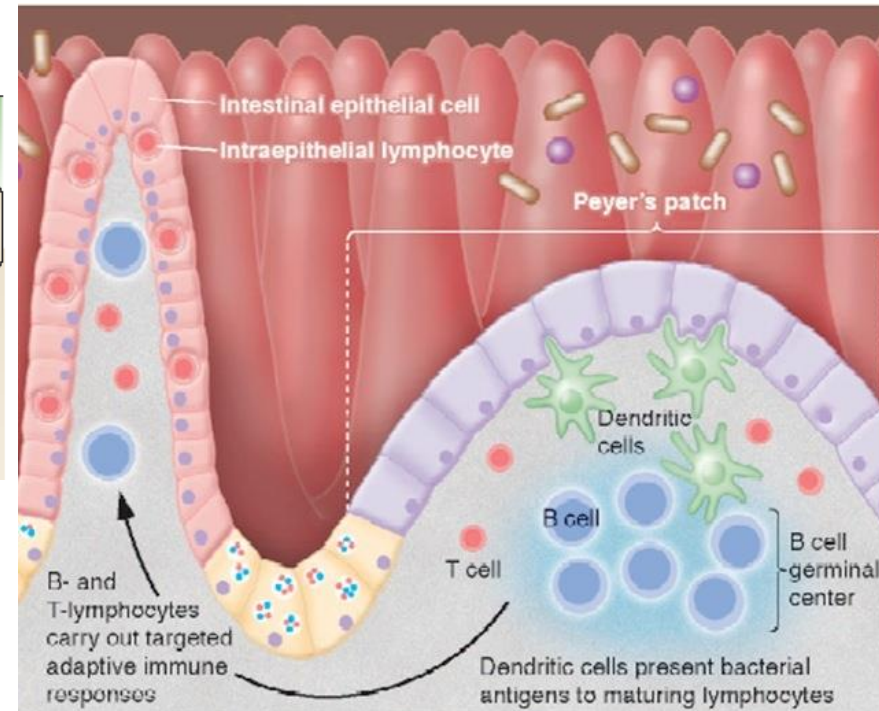
lipases, degradative
enzymes in gut lumen

rapid transit time...

Poor uptake at
inductive sites



(Neutra and Kozlowski, *Nat. Rev. Immunol.* **6** 148-158 (2006))

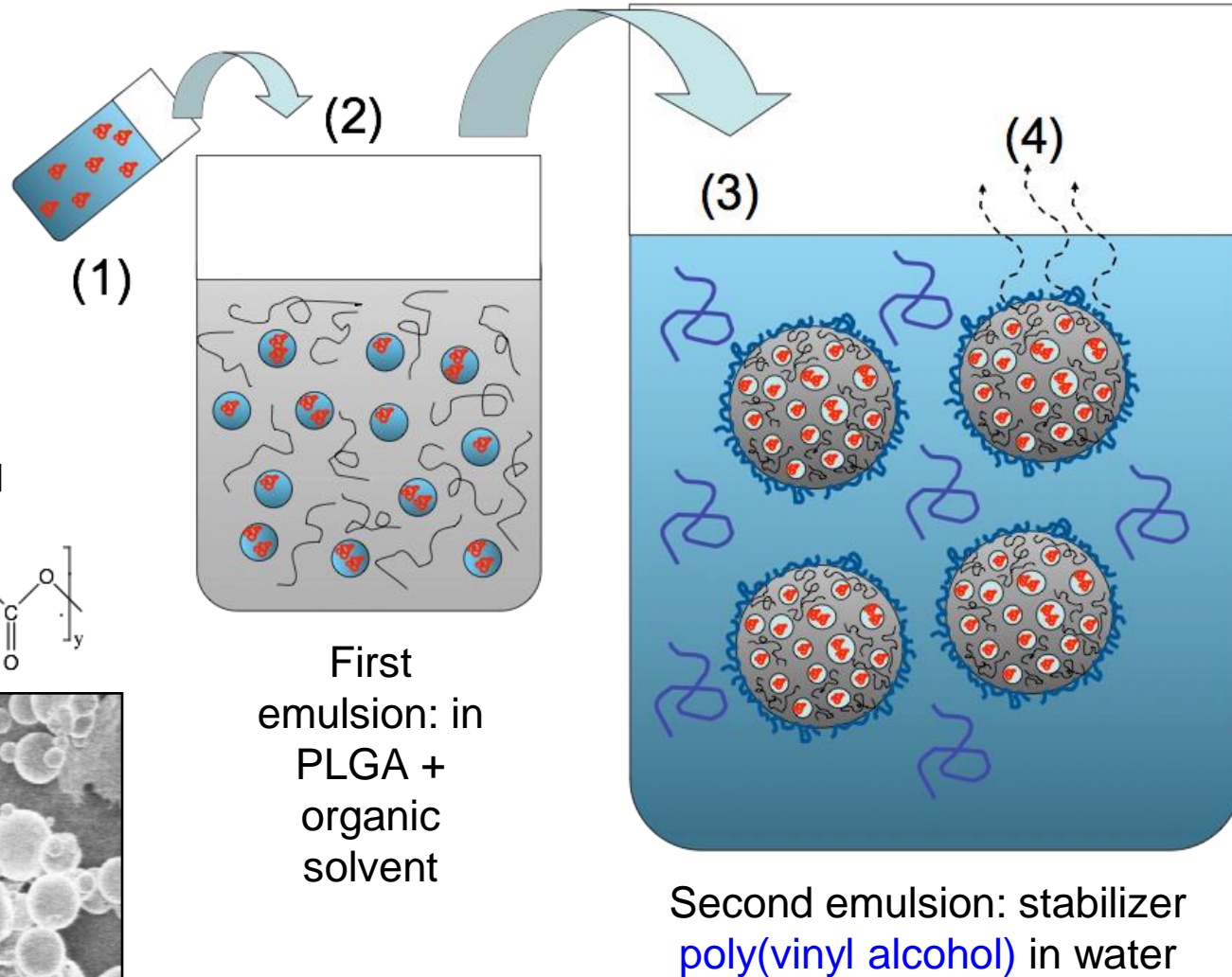
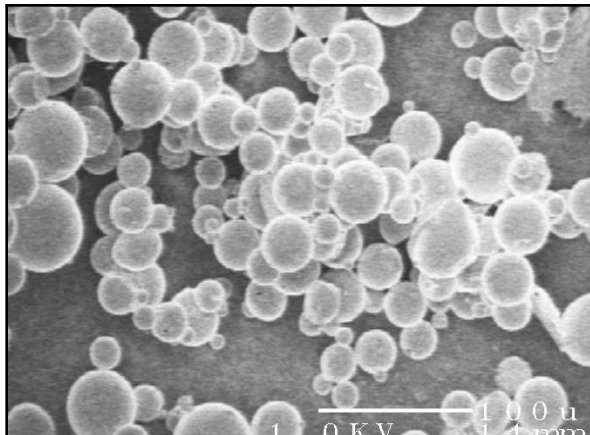
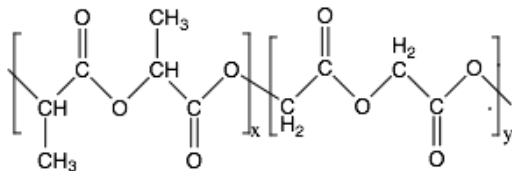


How to protect antigens for transit to Gut-Associated Lymphoid Tissue?

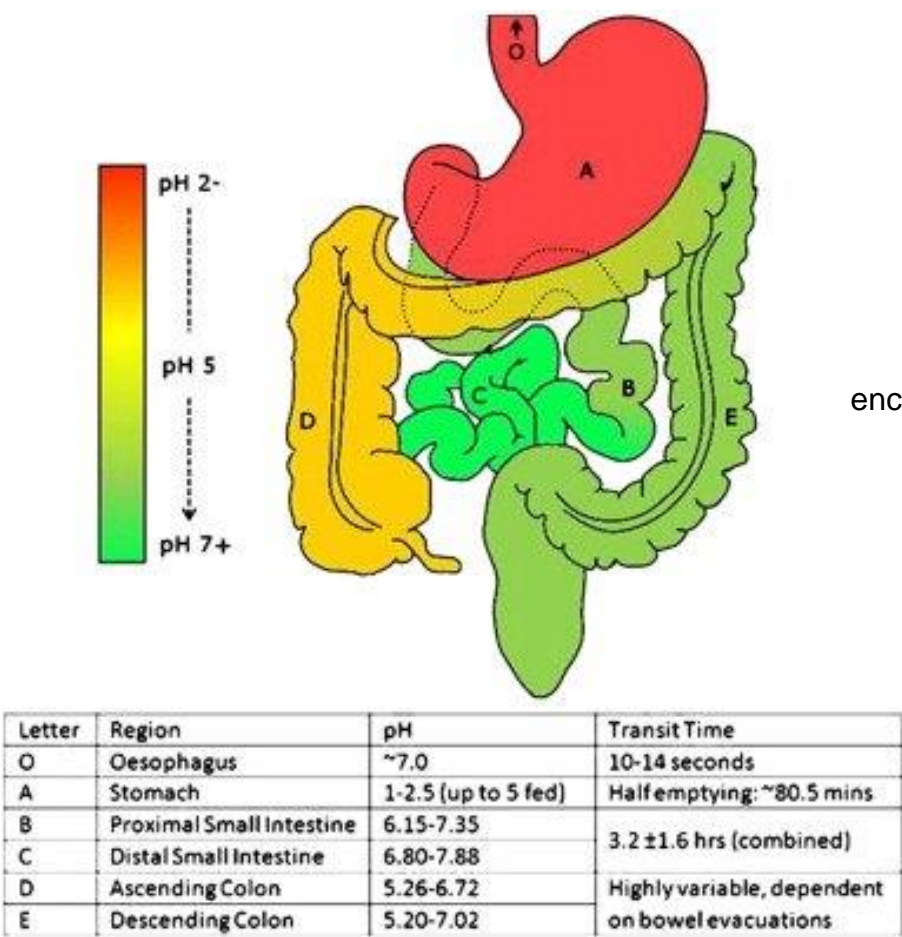
antigen encapsulation in biodegradable polymer microspheres:
protection of antigen;
sustained release...

Antigen in aqueous solution

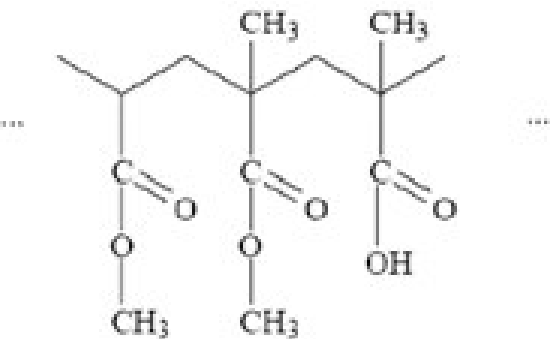
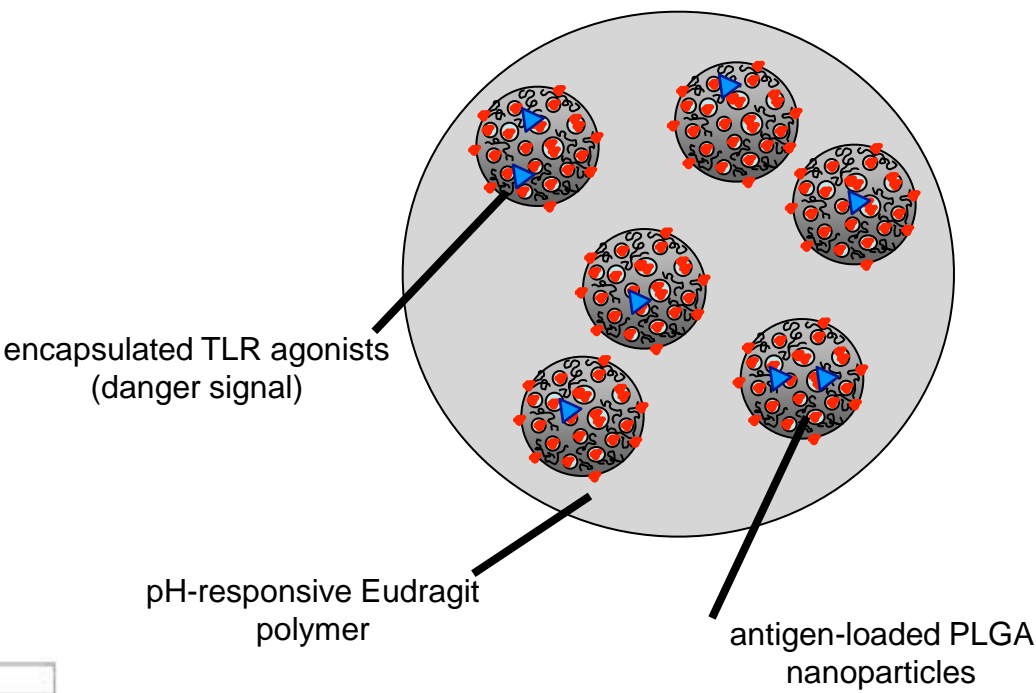
poly(lactide-co-glycolide) [PLGA]



How to protect antigens for transit to Gut-Associated Lymphoid Tissue?



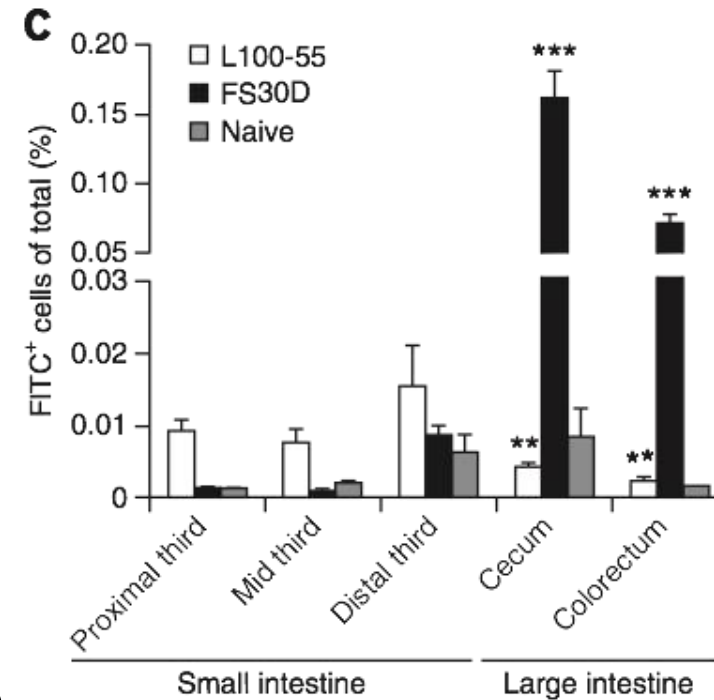
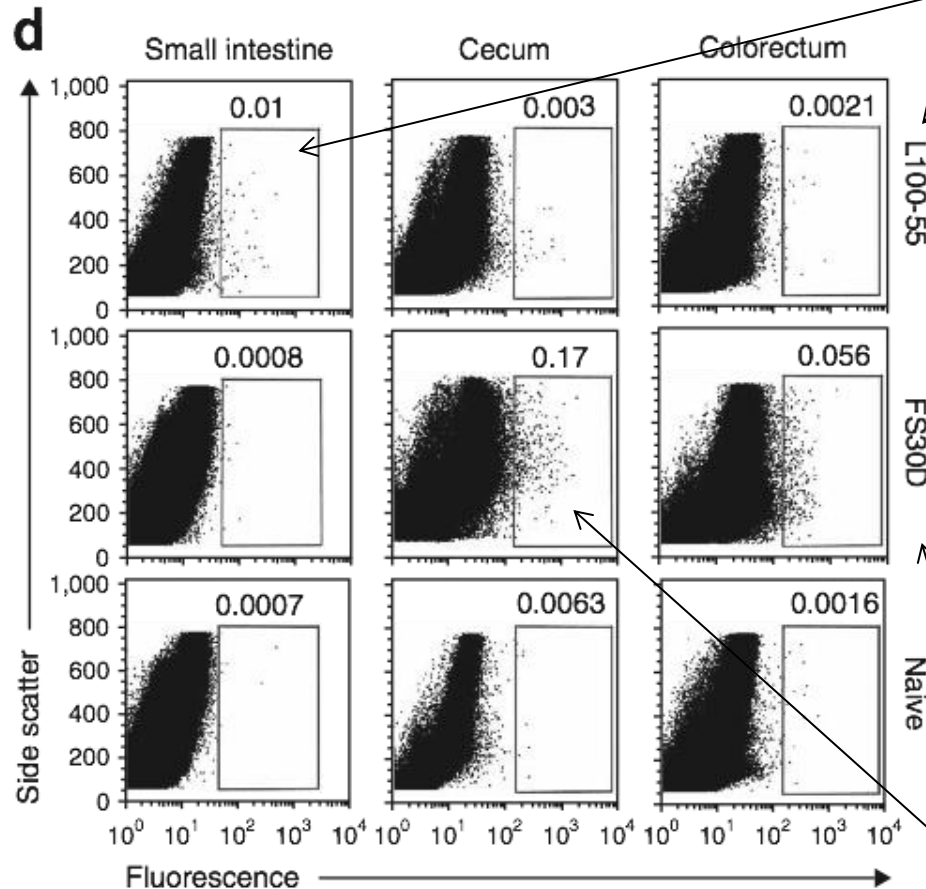
two-stage delivery capsules:



Targeting of vaccines to the large intestine

Eudragit polymer that dissolves at pH > 5.5

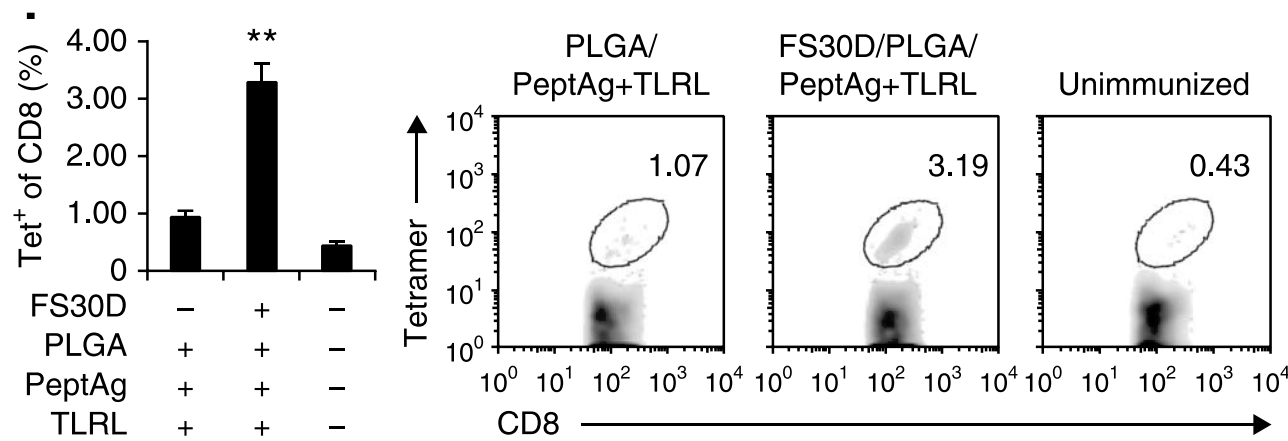
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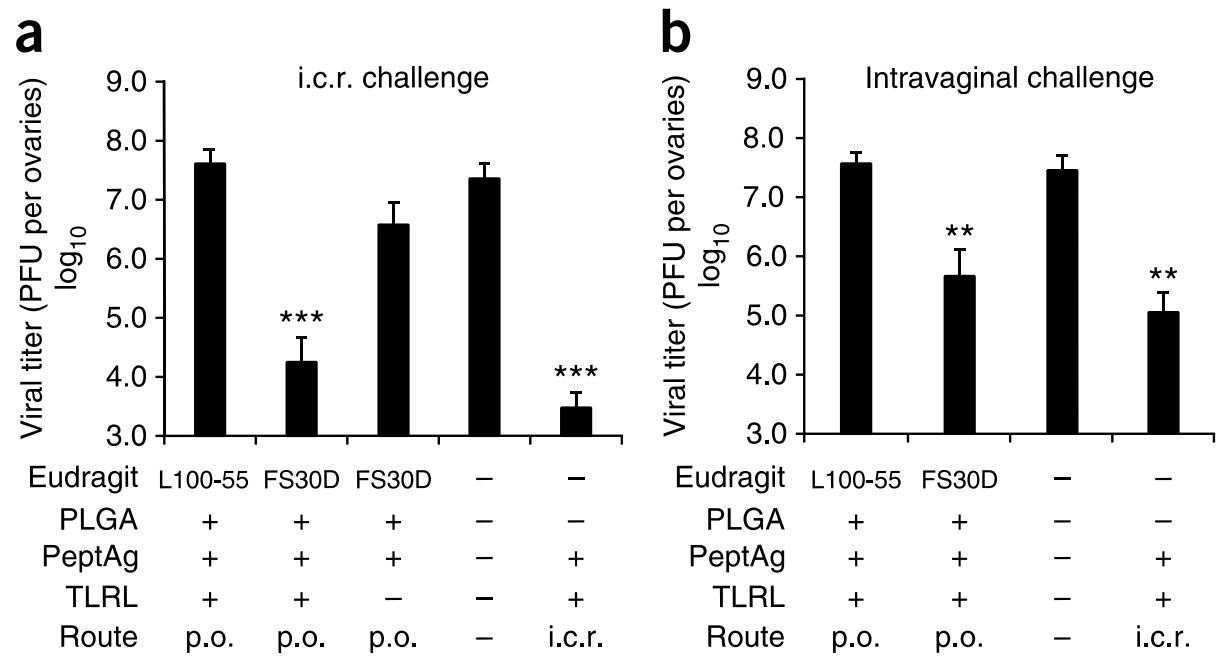
Eudragit polymer that dissolves at pH > 7.0
(only reached in terminal ileum)

Targeting of vaccines to the large intestine

Orally delivered FS30D-coated PLGA nanoparticle peptide vaccine

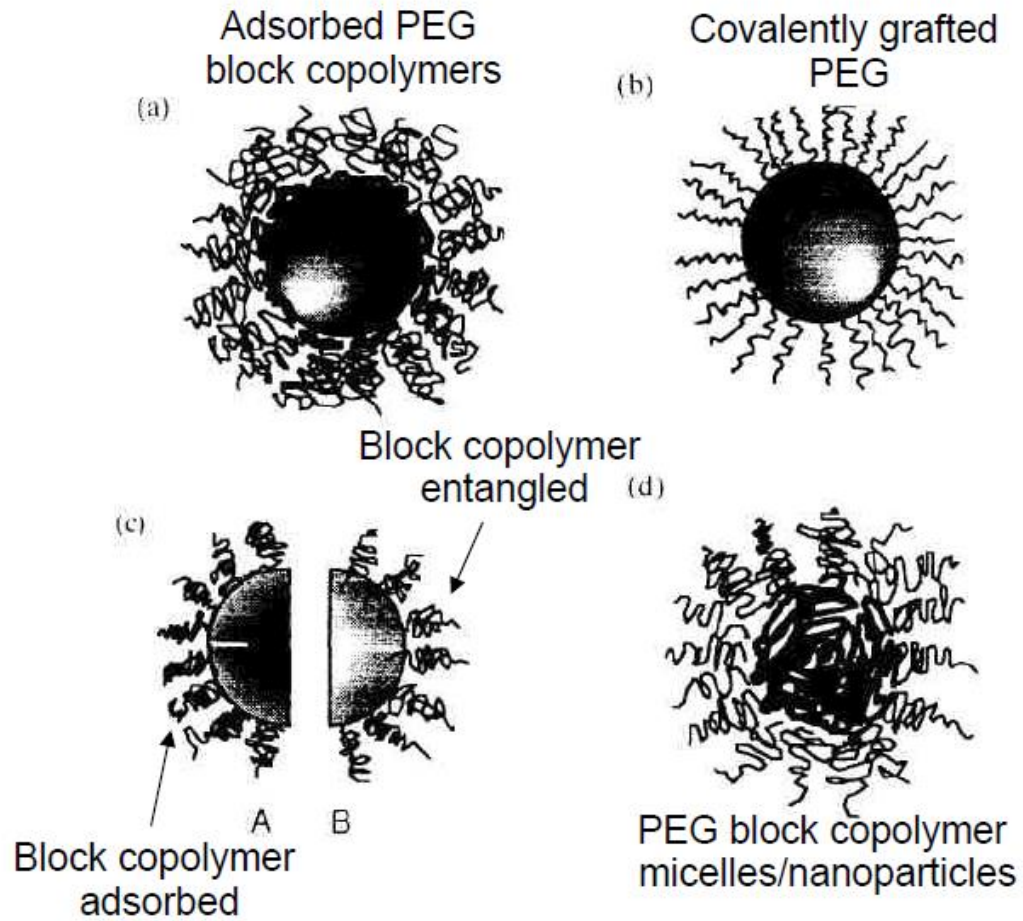


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- direct intracolorectal (i.c.r.) administration
- p.o., per os (oral)

PEGylation of nanoparticles



Stolnik et al. 1995

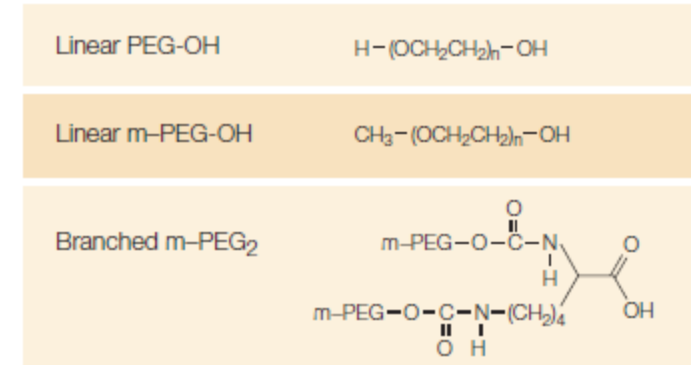
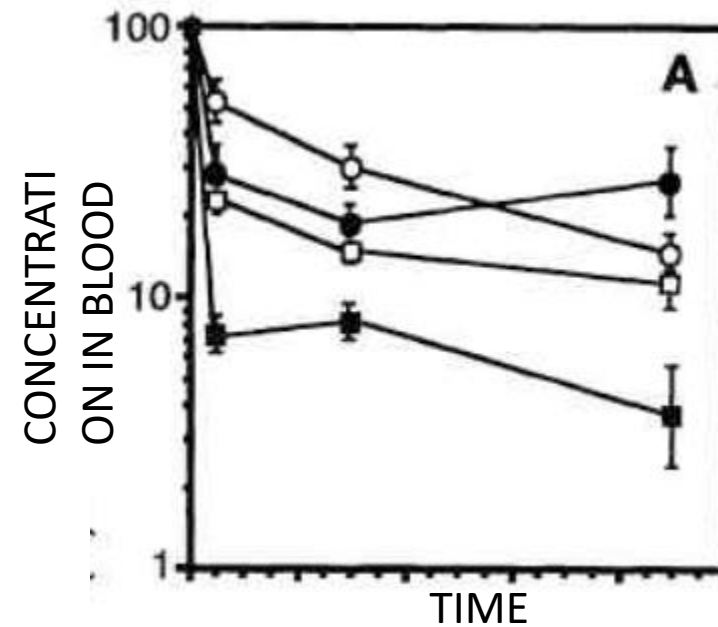


Figure 1 | Structural formulae of polyethylene glycol (PEG) molecules. m-PEG, monomethoxy-PEG.

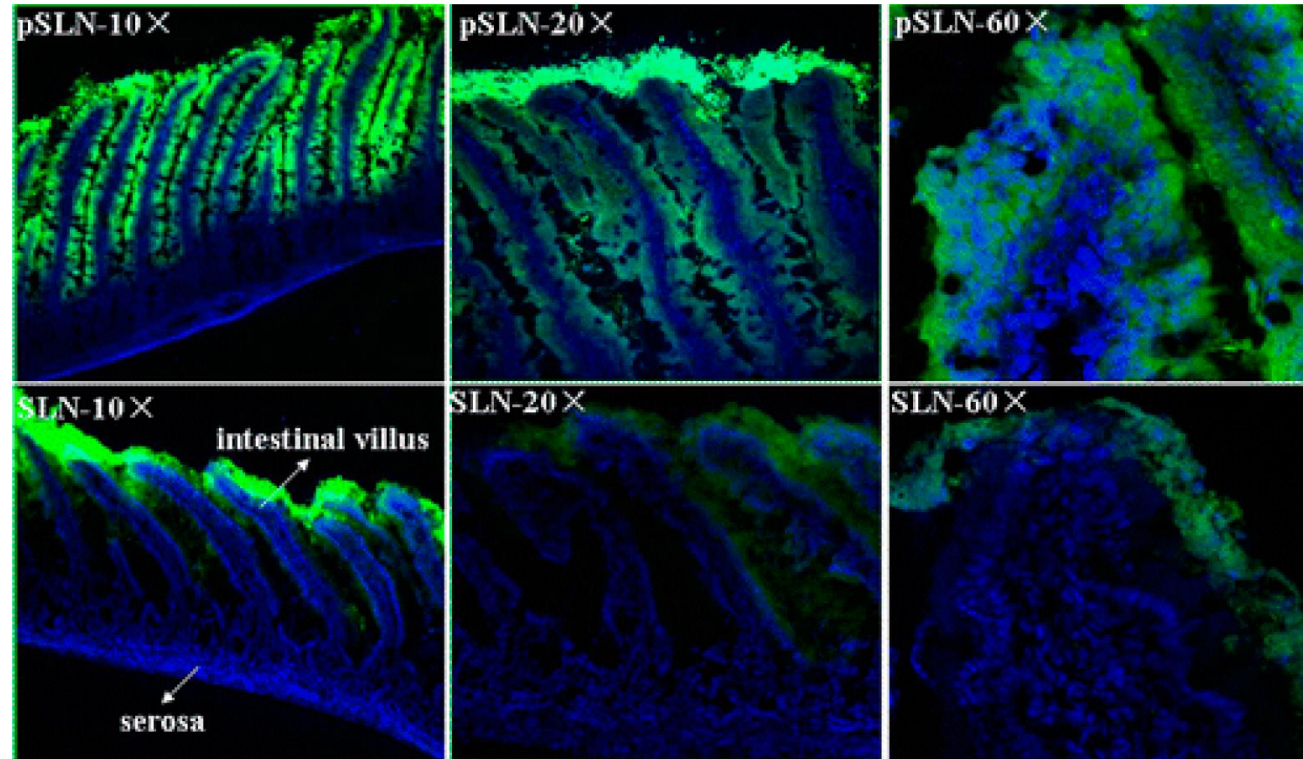
Nat. Rev. Drug Discov. **7**, 771-782 (2008).



Greg, Langer et al. *Science* 263 1600-1603 (1994)

Gastrointestinal Tract

PEGylated
nanoparticles



PEGylation of polystyrene nanoparticles enabled widespread nanoparticle penetration of the intestinal tract in both healthy and ulcerative colitis mouse models

PEGylation has also been demonstrated to enhance the intestinal tract permeation of solid lipid nanoparticles (SLNs).

Oral vaccines



Table 1 | **Licensed mucosal vaccines**

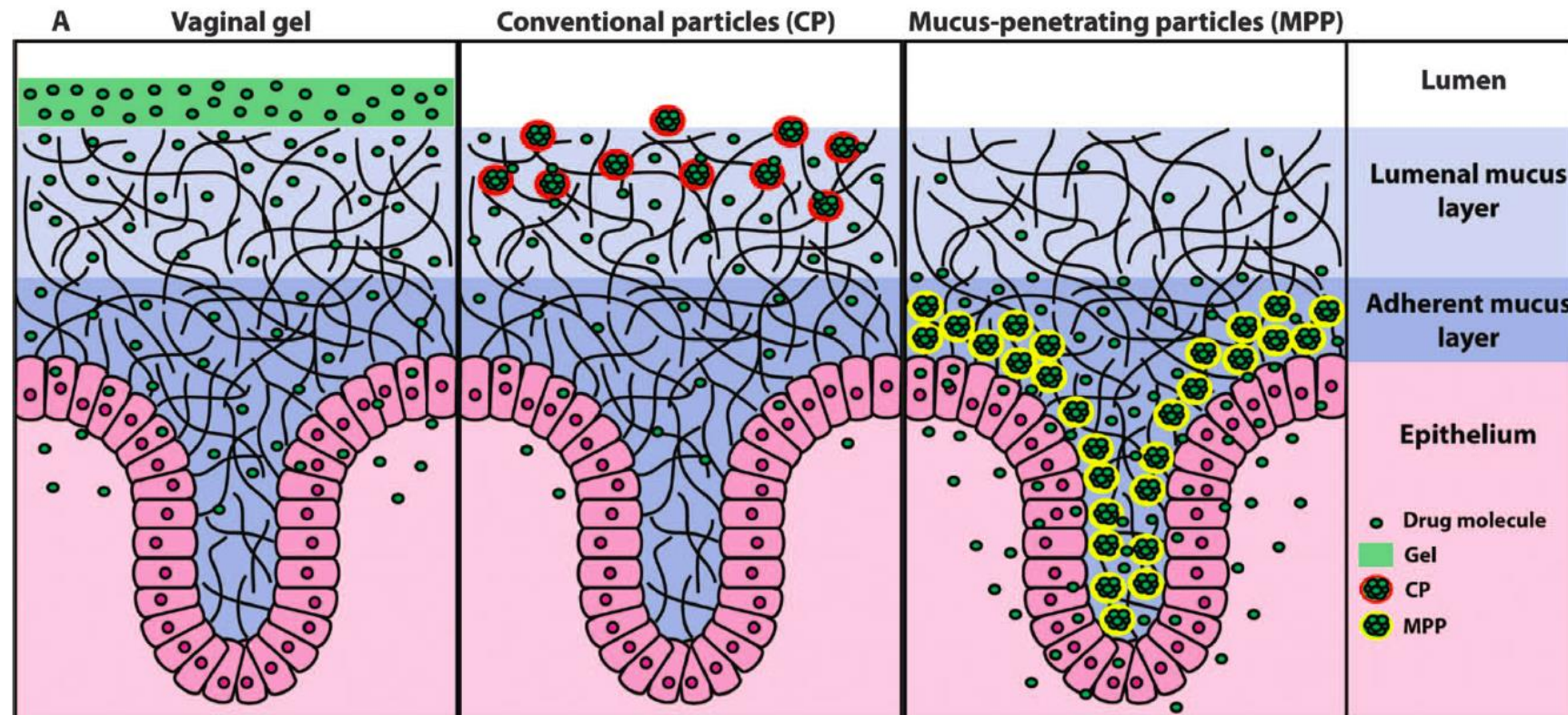
Vaccine	Trade name (developer)	Composition	Dosage and formulation	Mechanism of protection	Efficacy	Refs
Influenza type A and B viruses	FluMist (MedImmune)	Live viral reassortant with trivalent mix of H1, H3 and B strains of haemagglutinin and neuraminidase genes in an attenuated donor strain	Intranasal in young children, 2 doses	Haemagglutinin- and neuraminidase-specific mucosal IgA and systemic IgG responses; possibly a role for cell-mediated immunity; heterotypic protection effective in children	>85% in children, variable in adults	9,34, 37,81
H1N1 influenza virus (swine flu)	NASOVAC (Serum Institute of India)	Monovalent live attenuated vaccine	Intranasal spray, 1–2 doses	Haemagglutinin- and neuraminidase-specific mucosal IgA and serum IgG antibodies; possibly cell-mediated immunity	Unavailable	148
Rotavirus	RotaTeq (Merck); Rotarix (GlaxoSmithKline)	Monovalent, live attenuated human rotavirus and multivalent animal-human reassortant rotavirus	Oral, 3 doses	Mucosal IgA and systemic neutralizing IgG antibodies specific for homotypic or heterotypic VP4 and VP7 antigens	>70–90% against severe disease	27,38, 39,42
Poliovirus	Many	Trivalent, bivalent and monovalent vaccines	Oral, 3 doses	Mucosal IgA and systemic IgG neutralizing antibodies	>90% in most of the world	25,149, 150
<i>Salmonella</i> Typhi	Vivotif (Crucell); Ty21A	Live attenuated <i>S. Typhi</i> (Ty21A)	Oral, 3–4 doses of Ty21A	Mucosal IgA and systemic IgG antibody responses and CTL responses	Variable, but >50%	3,4,25,29, 35,48,151
<i>Vibrio cholerae</i>	Orochol (Crucell)	Live recombinant vaccine lacking CTA (CVD 103HgR)	Oral, single dose	Vibriocidal antibodies (possibly not the main effector mechanism but correlate well with protection)	Poor effect in a field trial	4,5,22,36, 43–47,114
Cholera	Dukoral (Crucell); Shanchol (Shantha Biotechnics)	Whole killed <i>Vibrio cholerae</i> O1 classical and El Tor biotypes with (Dukoral) or without (Shanchol) CTB	Oral, 2–3 doses	Gut antitoxin- and CTB-specific IgA and antibacterial and LPS-specific antibodies	Strong herd protection; >85% short term; >60% 3–5 years	4,5,22,36, 43–47,114

CTA, cholera toxin subunit A; CTB, cholera toxin subunit B; CTL, cytotoxic T lymphocyte; LPS, lipopolysaccharide.

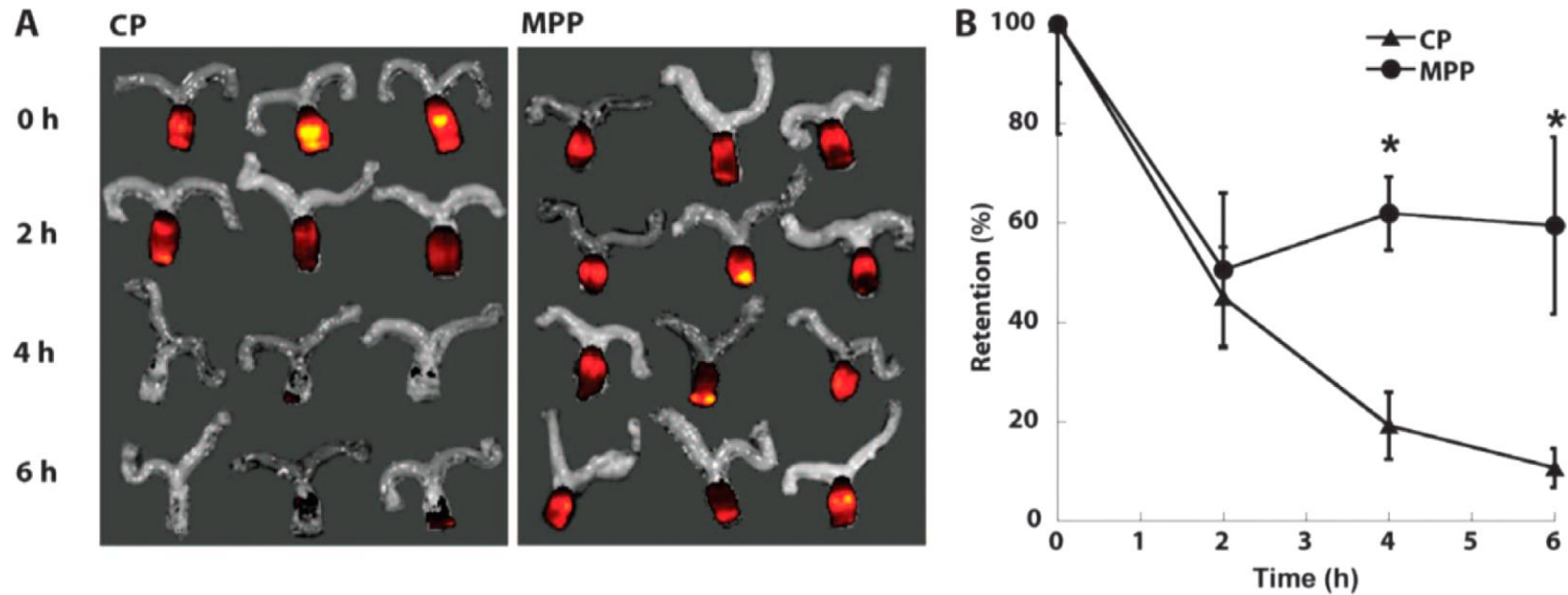
Reproductive Tract

There are three significant barriers to effective vaginal delivery of immunotherapies:

- penetrating mucus
- crossing the epithelial layer
- subsequently trafficking to the draining lymph node



Reproductive Tract



- low molecular weight PEG at high surface-coating densities penetrates cervical–vaginal mucus (CVM), but high molecular weight PEG adheres to CVM in vitro
- conventional **polystyrene nanoparticles (CPs)** Vs. CPs with a **high-density coating of low molecular weight PEG** to be mucus-penetrating particles (MPPS)
- MPPs were uniformly distributed across the murine vaginal epithelium, while CPs were aggregated in vaginal mucus.
- MPPs were retained in the cervicovaginal tract, whereas CPs were almost entirely flushed out in 6 h

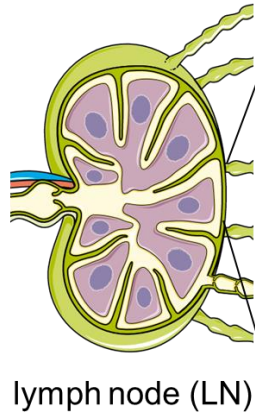
To achieve an effective vaccine with engineered biomaterials

Using Biomaterials to control the trafficking of vaccines for APC targeting

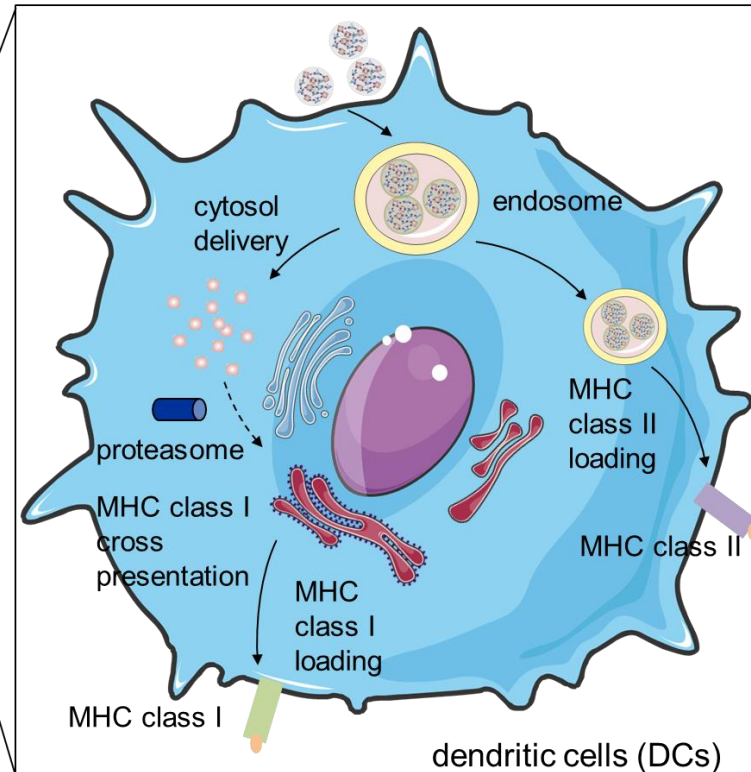
Using Biomaterials to control intracellular delivery and antigen presentation

vaccines

1. APC targeting

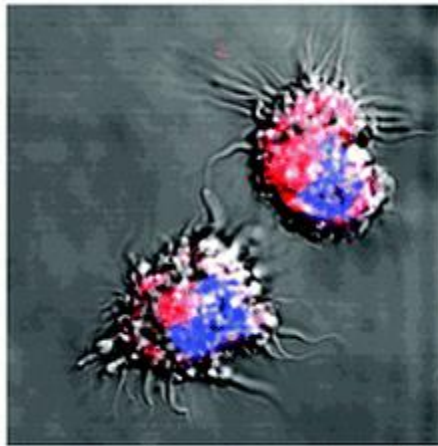
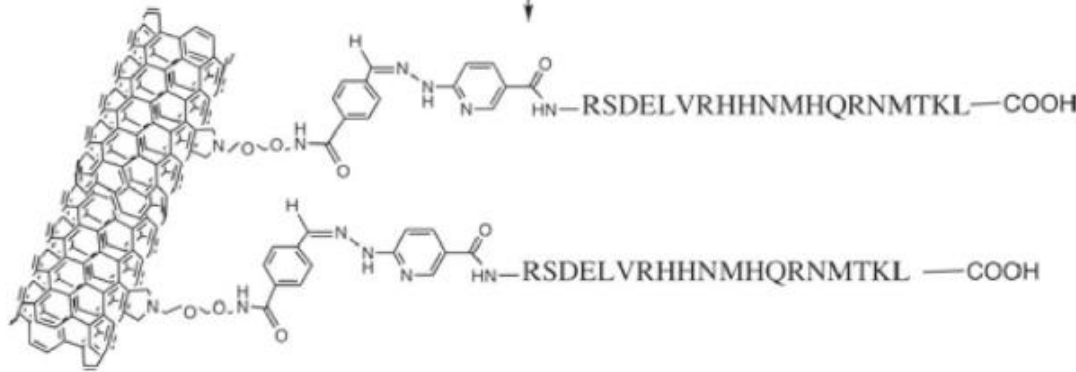


2. Control the antigen presentation process



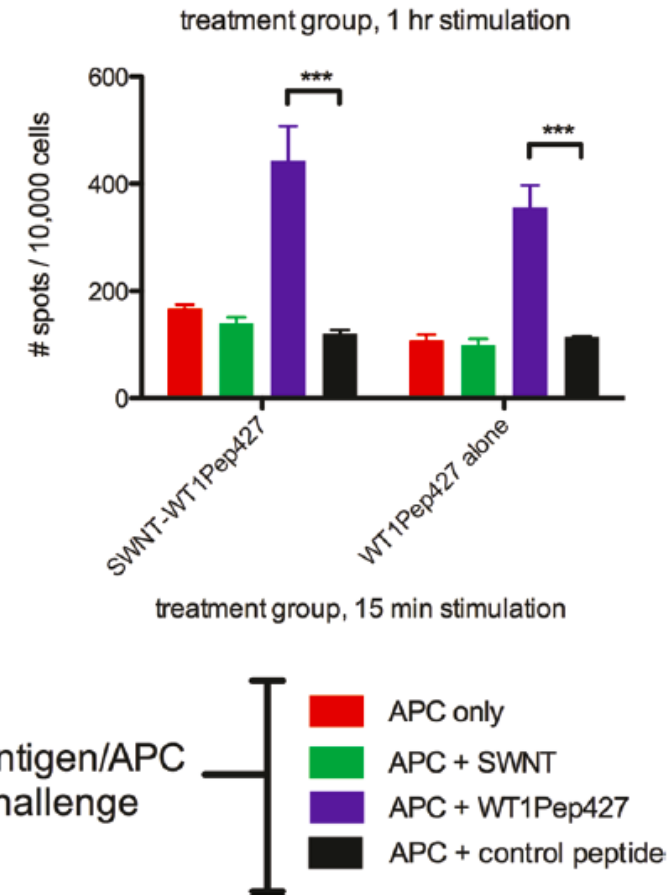
Enhancing Antigen Presentation to CD4+ T Cells

nanoparticle carriers can promote antigen delivery to APCs for CD4+ T cell priming



single-walled carbon nanotubes (SWNT): Mice immunized with 50–400 nm peptide conjugated carbon nanotubes along with a water-in-oil emulsion adjuvant induced peptide-specific IgG responses that were not present following immunization with the peptide and adjuvant alone.

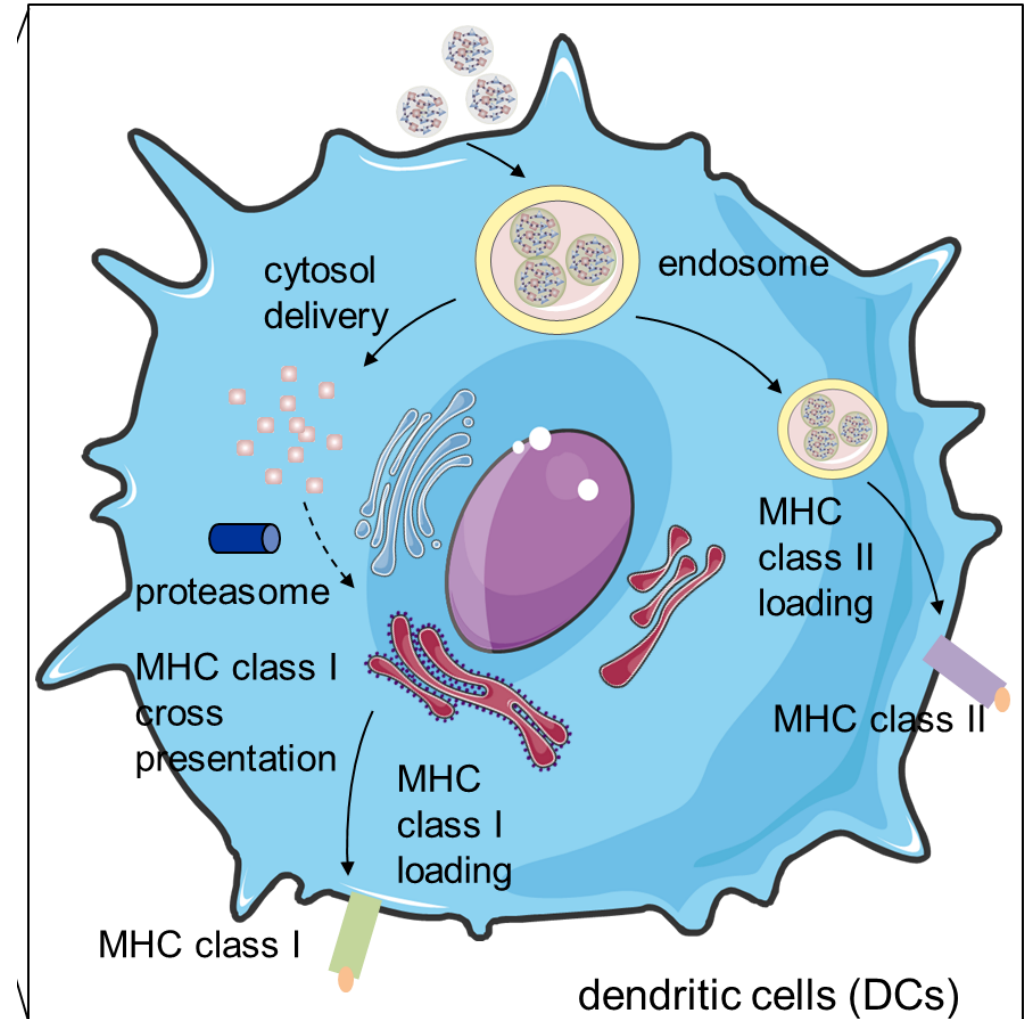
c



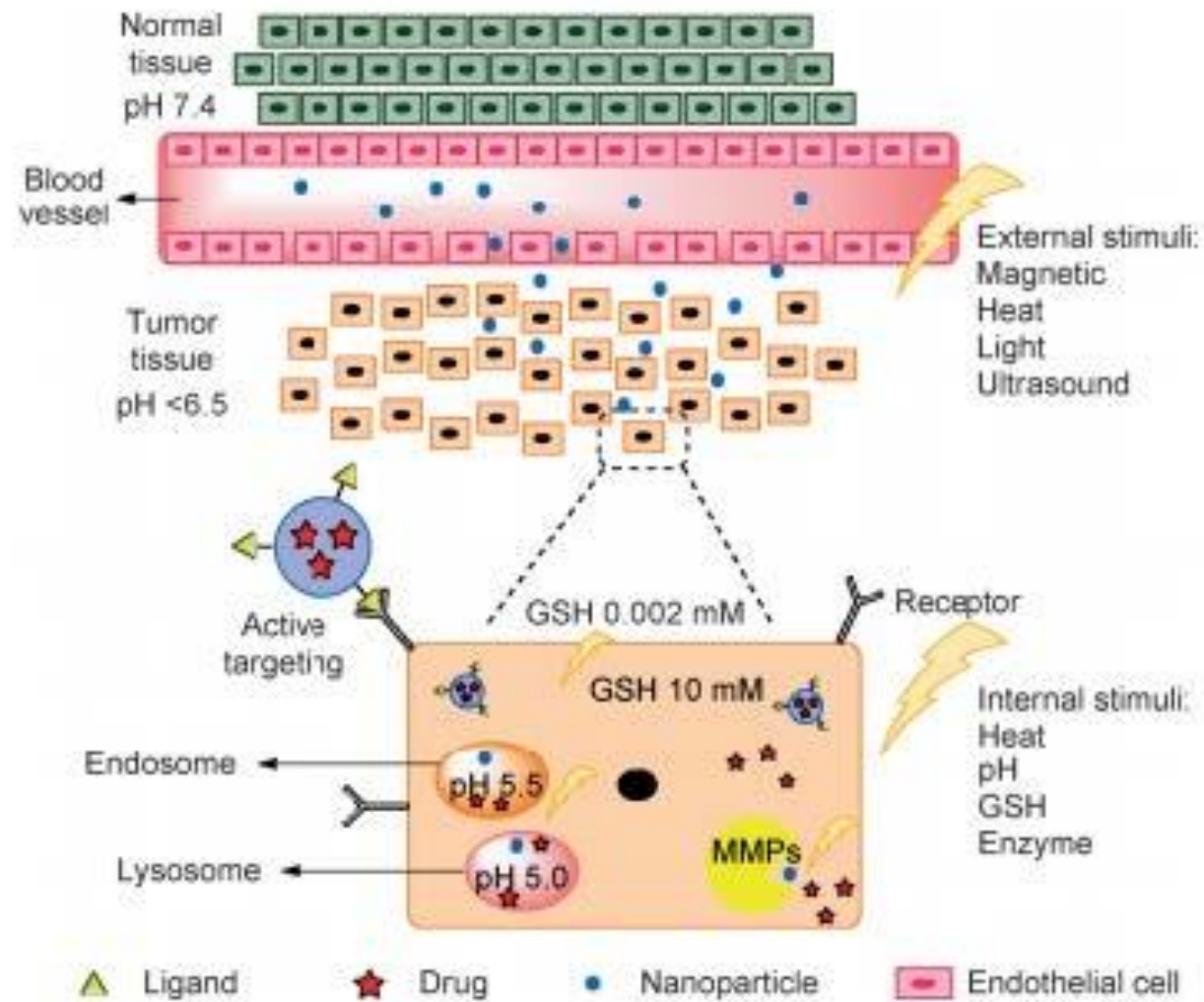
CD4 T cells from a healthy donor were stimulated twice with APCs that were pulsed with SWNTs, WT1Pep427, or WT1Pep427/SWNT

Enhancing cross presentation: Cytosolic delivery of large macromolecules

- CD8 T cell response is required to eradicate some infected cells (e.g., HIV) or tumors
- typically only live infections elicit strong CD8+ T cell priming
- class I MHC molecules that present peptides to CD8+ killer T cells are usually only loaded with antigens located in the cytosol of DCs
- **cross presentation:** APCs shuttle a fraction of the antigen to the **cytosol** or to deliver it to special vacuoles where class I MHC loading can occur



Intracellular vs. extracellular environment



Endosomal escape facilitated by biomaterials

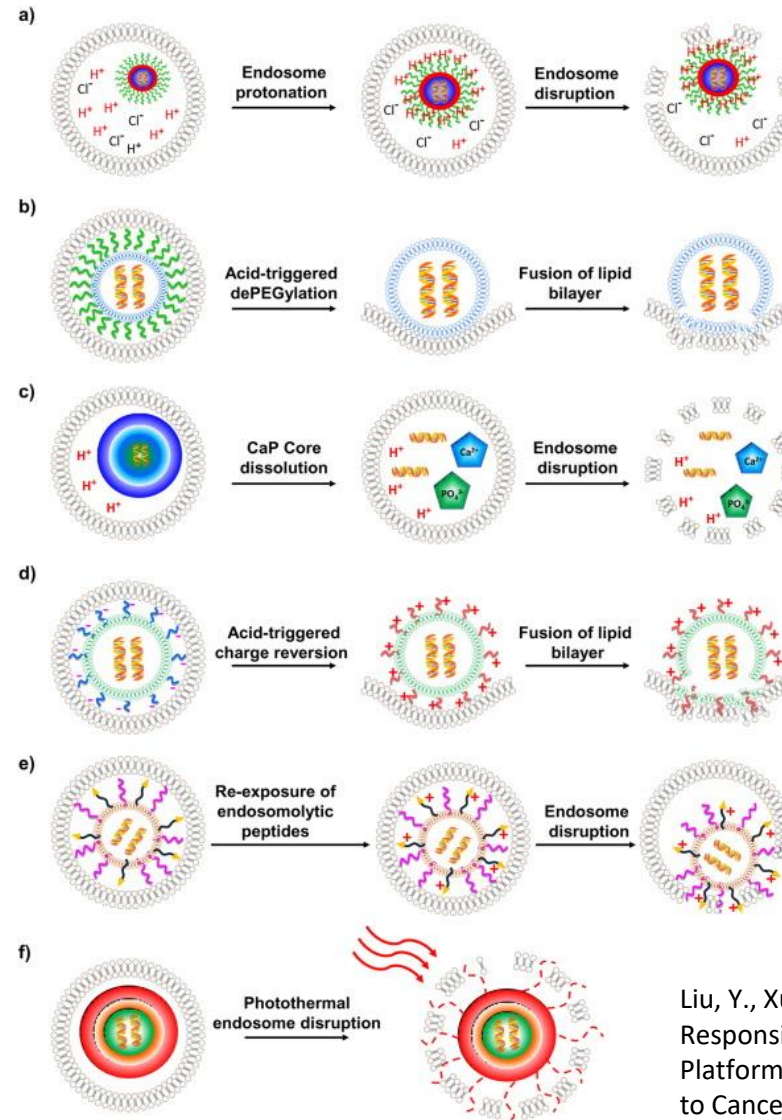
- pH-buffering effect (the proton sponge effect)
- direct membrane interactions: fusion or disruption

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Table 1

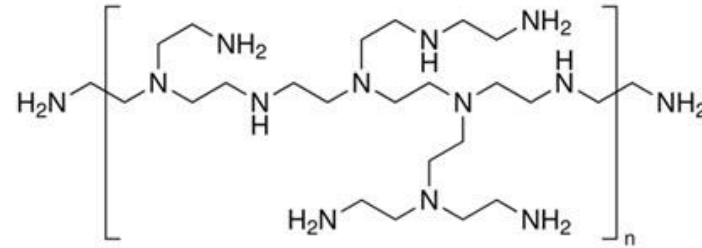
Endosomal escape agents

Category	Agent	Mechanism of endosomal escape
Proteins and peptides	Virus derived agents	
	haemagglutinin (HA2) [50-52]	Fusion
	(HA2)/poly (L-lysine) (PLL) [53]	Fusion
	diINF-7 [54-58]	Fusion
	penton base [59]	Pore
	gp41 [60,61]	Pore/fusion
	gp41/polyethylenimine (PEI) [62]	Pore/fusion/proton sponge
	TAT [63-68]	Unclear
	L2 from Papillomavirus [69]	Fusion
	envelope protein (E) of West Nile virus [70]	Fusion
	Bacteria derived agents	
	listeriolysin O (LLO) [72-78]	Pore
	Pneumococcal pneumolysin (PLO) [79]	Pore
	Streptococcal streptolysin O (SLO) [79]	Pore
	Diphtheria toxin (DT) [80-83]	Fusion
	<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> exotoxin A (ETA) [84-88]	Pore
	Shiga toxin [89]	Pore
	cholera toxin [90]	Pore
	Plant derived agents	
	Ricin [90,91]	Unclear
	Saporin [92-94]	Unclear
	Gelonin [92-94]	Unclear
	Human / animal derived agents	
	human calcitonin derived peptide, hCT [95-98]	Unclear
	fibroblast growth factors receptor (FGFR3) [99,100]	Unclear
	Melittin [101-106]	Pore
	Synthetic peptides	
	(R-Ahx-R)(4) AhxB [107-110]	Unclear
	glycoprotein H (gpH) from herpes simplex [111]	Fusion
	KALA [112-115]	Fusion
	GALA [116-120]	Fusion
	Synthetic surfactants [121,122]	Fusion
	Penetratin (pAntp) [123,124]	Unclear
	R6-Penetratin with arginine-residues [125]	Unclear
	EB1 [126]	Unclear
	bovine prion protein (bPrPp) [127-129]	Pore
	Poly (L-histidine) [130-134]	Proton sponge
	Sweet Arrow Peptide (SAP), proline-rich [135,136]	Fusion
Chemicals	polyethylenimine (PEI) [137]	Proton sponge
	Poly(amidoamine)s (PAAAs) [141-143]	Proton sponge
	poly(propylacrylic acid) (PPAA) [144]	Proton sponge
	ammonium chloride [145]	Proton sponge
	chloroquine [145]	Proton sponge
	methylaniline [145]	Proton sponge

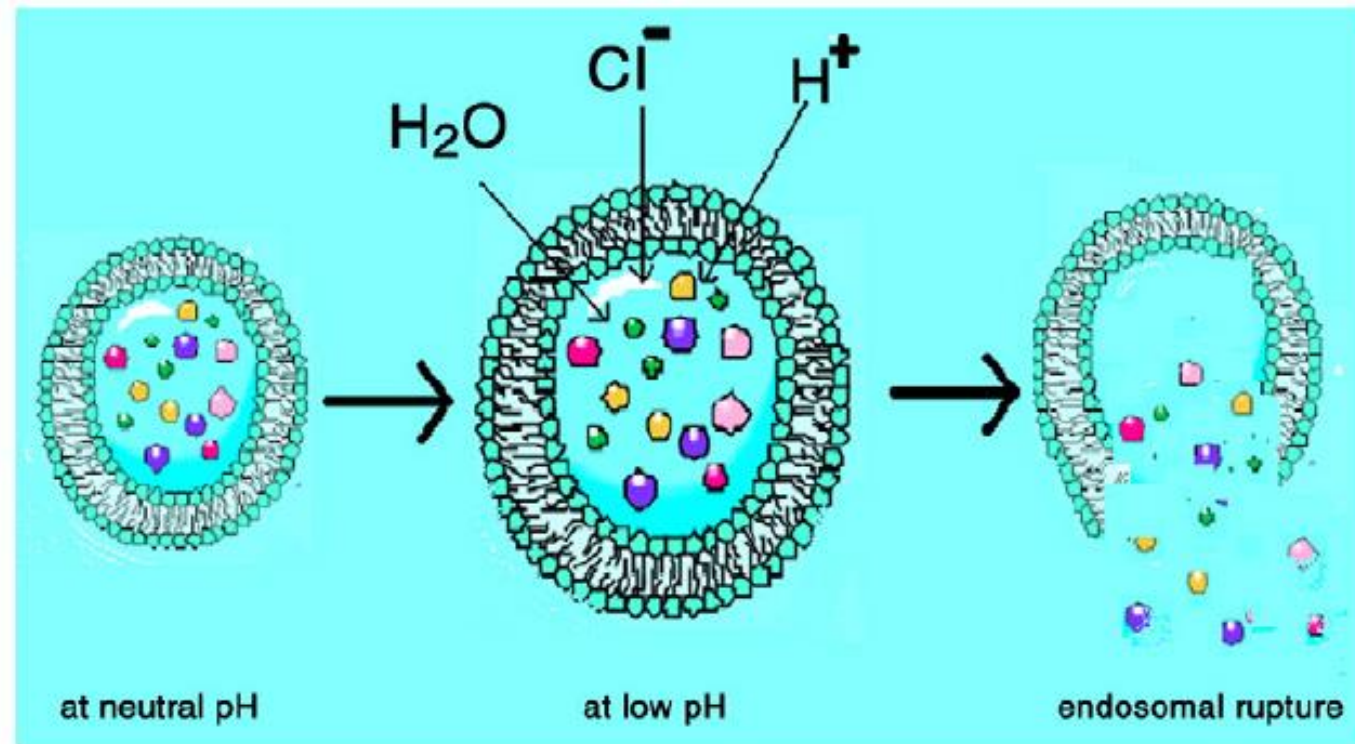


Liu, Y., Xu, C.-F., Iqbal, S., Yang, X.-Z. & Wang, J. Responsive Nanocarriers as an Emerging Platform for Cascaded Delivery of Nucleic Acids to Cancer. *Adv. Drug Deliv. Rev.* 2017

Endosomal escape facilitated by biomaterials



“proton sponge” effect

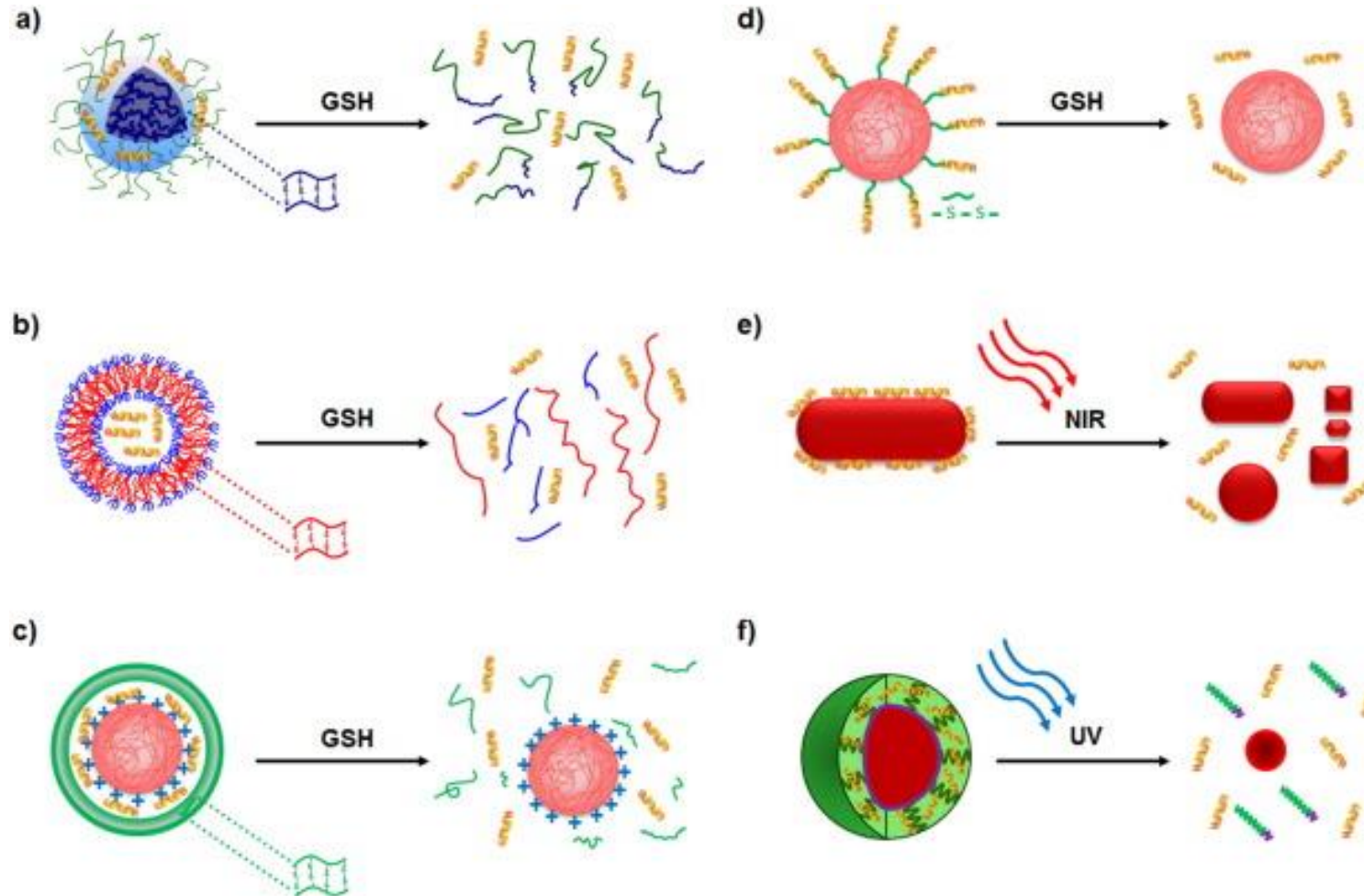


Osmotic pressure change



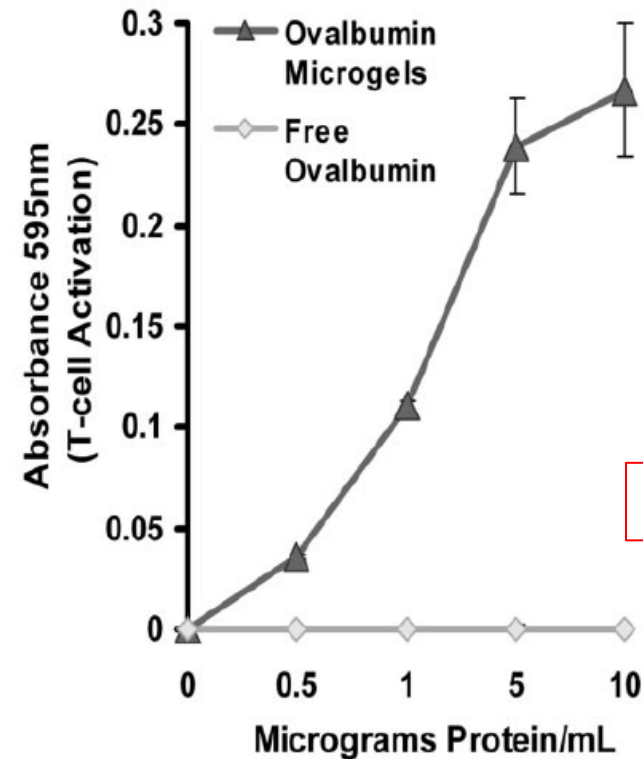
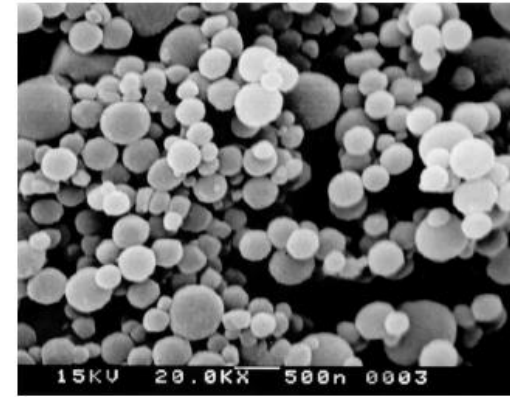
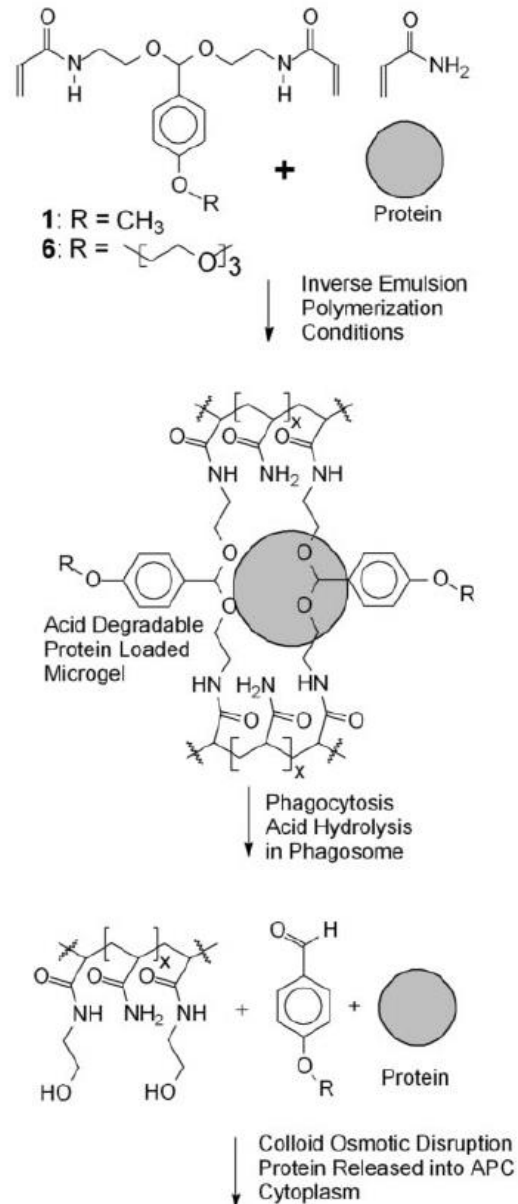
Intracellular release of cargos

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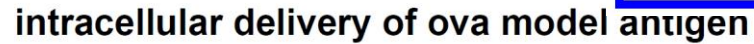
Liu, Y., Xu, C.-F., Iqbal, S., Yang, X.-Z. & Wang, J.
Responsive Nanocarriers as an Emerging
Platform for Cascaded Delivery of Nucleic Acids
to Cancer. *Adv. Drug Deliv. Rev.* 2017

Endosomal escape facilitated by biomaterials


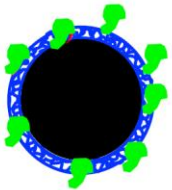


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**Alexa-ova
adsorbed to
pH-insensitive
NPs**

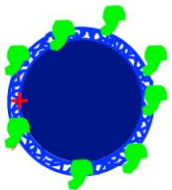


10 μ m

D

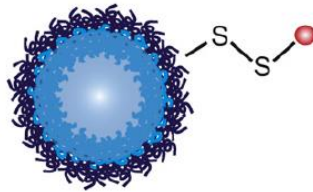
PMMA-core NPs +
OVA

**Alexa-ova
adsorbed to
pH-responsive
NPs**



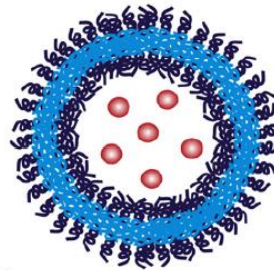
Nanoparticles promote cross presentation for vaccines

Solid-core nanoparticle



30 nm diameter
Chemical conjugation required
Antigen attached on surface
Reduction-triggered release

Polymersome



125 nm diameter
No chemical conjugation required
Antigen encapsulated within interior
Oxidation-triggered release

PEG PPS OVA

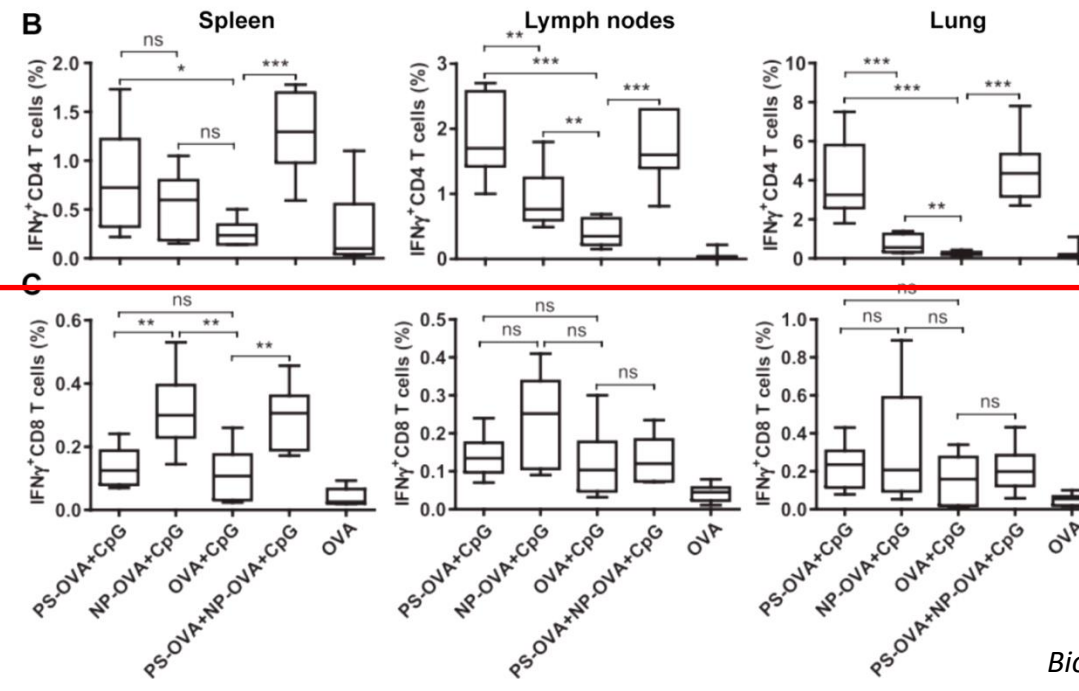
OVA alone

OVA and CpG (OVA + CpG)

OVA loaded in PSs (PS-OVA + CpG)

OVA conjugated onto NPs (NP-OVA + CpG)

a mixture of both (PS-OVA + NPeOVA + CpG)



cross presentation