

Addressing the Need to Outline Regulatory Guidance & Clarity for 3D Tissue Models



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TODAY'S AGENDA



**Existing
Guidance &
Standards**



**Importance
of COU**



**Consensus-
Based Guidance
& Best Practices**

**NA3RsC mission is to advance science,
innovation, & research animal welfare.**



**Refine.
Reduce.
Replace.**



NA3RsC collaborates with experts across the field.



NA3RsC's strategy is to identify initiatives with

Strong Evidence

Big Impact

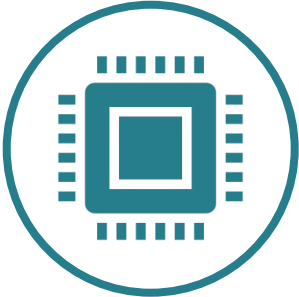
Real-World Practicality



We currently have six key 3Rs initiatives.



**Rodent Health
Monitoring**



**Microphysiological
Systems**



**Translational
Digital Biomarkers**



Refinement



**3Rs Certification
Course**



**Compassion
Fatigue Resiliency**

**Our MPS group is unique because it's
situated in an organization that
recognizes the value and necessity of
animal research.**

**We are committed to
advancing all three "Rs."**

The background of the slide is a complex, interconnected network of thin, glowing lines in shades of green, blue, and purple, resembling a microphysiological system or a neural network. The lines are dense and form a mesh-like structure against a dark background.

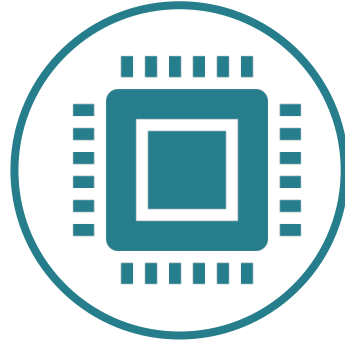
Microphysiological systems

Increasing industry adoption & regulatory acceptance to replace animals, where scientifically appropriate.

There are 3 key stakeholders for MPS.



Regulators



Developers



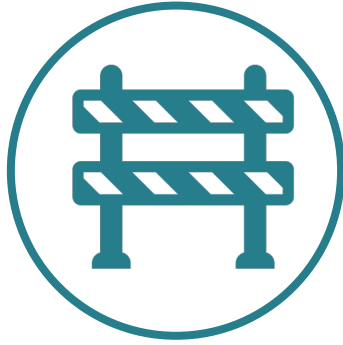
End-Users

**Our group is unique because it's
focused on developers with
commercially-available
systems.**

Developers are in a **key position** to guide & assist MPS use & acceptance.



Promise



Limitations



Tailored R&D

40 institutions (28 developers) are members.



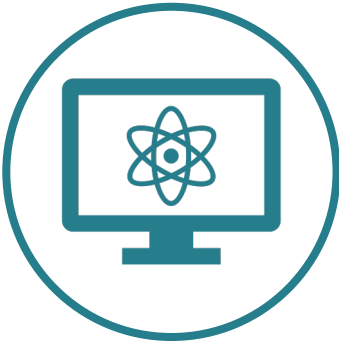
Our initiative focuses on **four key efforts.**



**End-user
Interfacing**



**Regulatory
Acceptance**

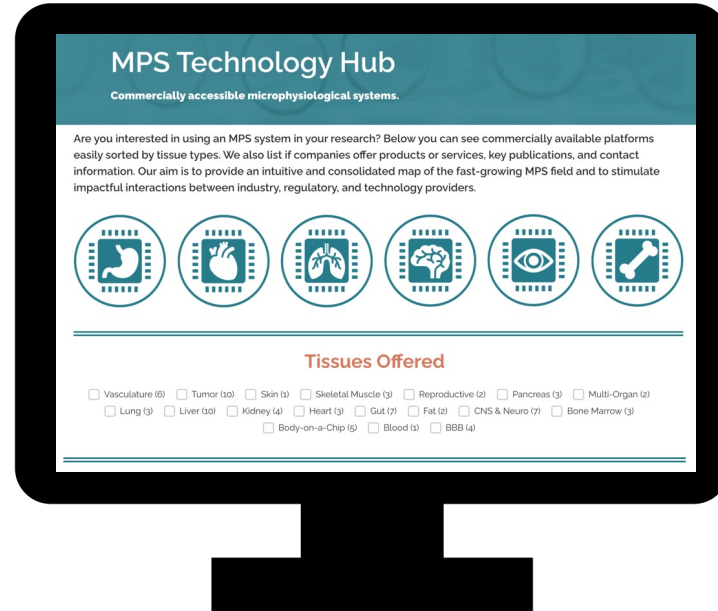


**Technology
Expo**



Education

NA3RsC has created a user-friendly technology hub



NA3RsC.org/mps-tech-hub/

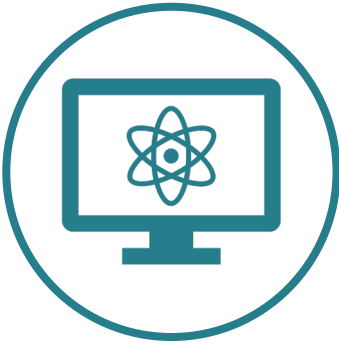
Our initiative focuses on **four key efforts.**



**End-user
Interfacing**



**Regulatory
Acceptance**



**Technology
Expo**



Education

TODAY'S AGENDA



**Existing
Guidance &
Standards**



**Importance
of COU**



**Consensus-
Based Guidance
& Best Practices**

Regulatory guidance on acceptance criteria is lacking.



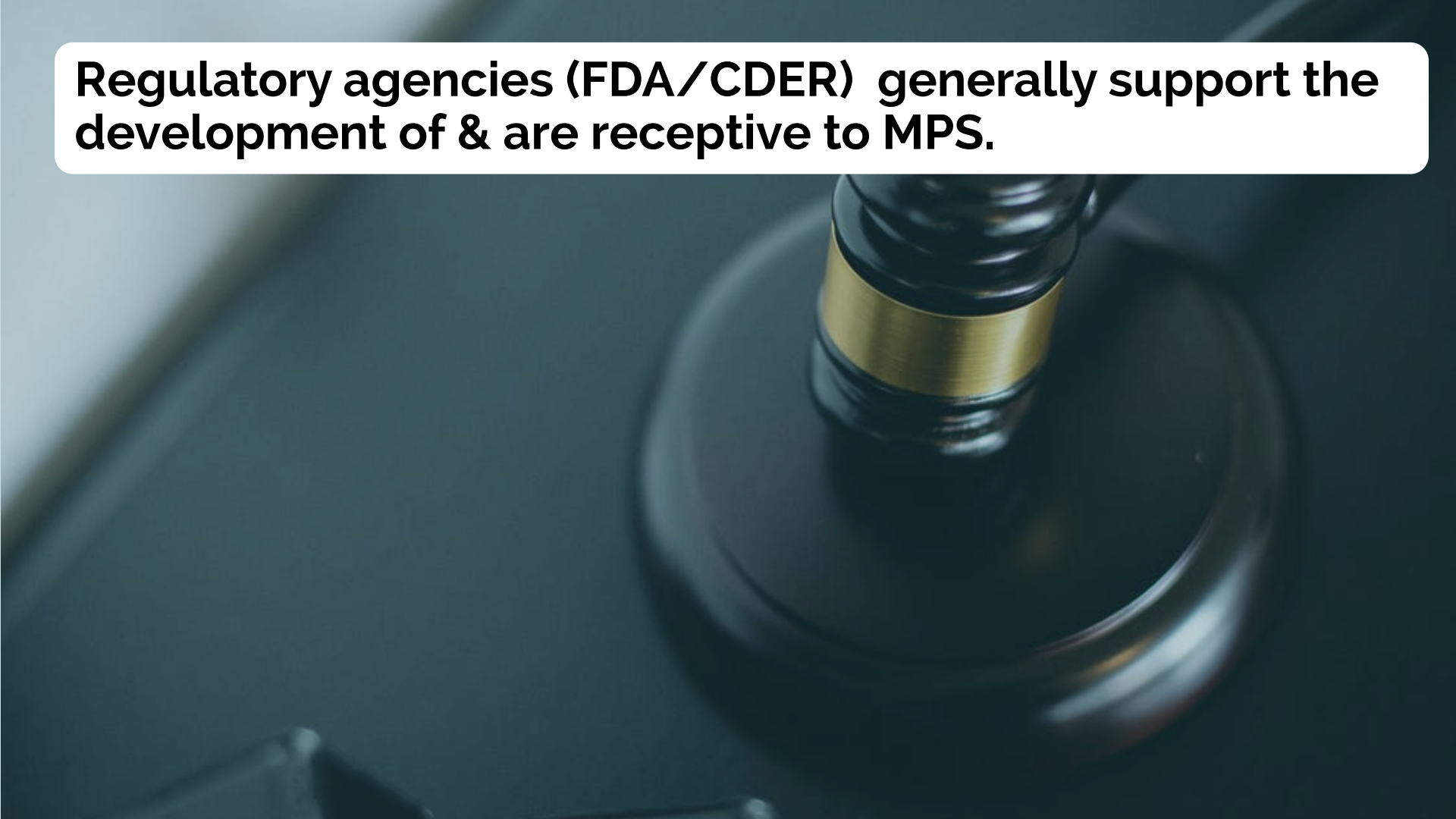
Historically, alternative methods have been evaluated based on comparison with *in vivo* test methods



MPS data currently complements traditional methods, rather than replacing it.



Regulatory agencies (FDA/CDER) generally support the development of & are receptive to MPS.




There are current regulatory efforts to advance the MPS field which may be applied to development of guidance & standards.



FDA
U.S. FOOD & DRUG
ADMINISTRATION

Advancing New Alternative
Methodologies at FDA

FDA Webinar Series on Alternative Methods:
Showcasing cutting-edge technologies for
disease modeling, efficacy, and safety




EPA
Environmental Protection Agency

**New Approach
Methods Work Plan**
Reducing use of animals in chemical testing

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Research and Development
Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention


June 2020



European
Commission

28-29 April 2021
Organ-on-chip
Putting Science into Standards

#Standards4oC




DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES • USA

A Strategic Roadmap for Establishing
New Approaches to Evaluate the Safety
of Chemicals and Medical Products
in the United States

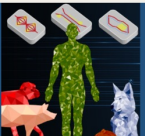
Utilization
Technology
Confidence

January 2018



NATIONAL ACADEMY
OF SCIENCES

Microphysiological Systems: Bridging Human and Animal
Research - A Workshop



EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH

Meeting Report:
First EMA workshop on non-animal approaches in support
of medicinal product development – challenges and
opportunities for use of micro-physiological systems
(EMA/CHMP/SWP/250438/2018)

5 October 2017, European Medicines Agency, London



NIH

MPSCoRe Spring Workshop
April 1, 2021
Session 1: MPS Models for Testing Therapeutics

FDA's Innovative Science & Technology Approaches for New Drugs (ISTAND) can be used for MPS.

- Allow developers to pre-qualify a new drug development tool (e.g., MPS) for a broad context of use
- Removes responsibility from end-user
- Once qualified, the tool will be seen as reliable for specific application and context of use within regulatory review



Launched in December 2020

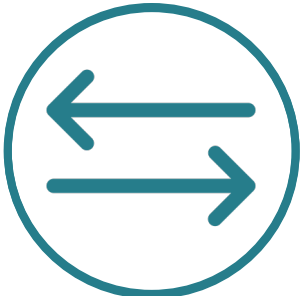
There are current regulatory efforts to advance the MPS field which may be applied to development of guidance & standards.



Publications
(NAMS, etc.)



Research



ICH Guideline
Revision



Existing qualification &
Pilot initiatives



Conferences & Meetings
NAS, NIH, FDA, MS, PSIS, etc.

The FDA is actively evaluating MPS for a number of contexts of use.

Minireview

Microengineered systems with iPSC-derived cardiac and hepatic cells to evaluate drug adverse effects

Keri Dame and Alexandre JS Ribeiro

Division of Applied Regulatory Science, Office of Clinical Pharmacology, Office of Translation Sciences, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, US Food and Drug Administration, Silver Spring, MD 20993, USA
Corresponding author: Alexandre JS Ribeiro. Email: alexandre.ribeiro@fda.hhs.gov

Impact statement

Cardiac and hepatic adverse drug effects are among the leading causes of attrition in preclinical and clinical drug development programs as well as marketing withdrawals. The insufficiency of animal testing models has led to considerable interest in the employment of cardiac and hepatic models using human-induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs) for drug toxicity testing. However, current batches of iPSC-derived

Abstract

Hepatic and cardiac drug adverse effects are among the leading causes of attrition in drug development programs, in part due to predictive failures of current animal or in vitro models. Hepatocytes and cardiomyocytes differentiated from human-induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs) hold promise for predicting clinical drug effects, given their human-specific properties and their ability to harbor genetically determined characteristics that underlie inter-individual variations in drug response. Currently, the fetal-like properties and heterogeneity of hepatocytes and cardiomyocytes differentiated from iPSCs make them physiologically

Received: 11 August 2020 | Revised: 2 December 2020 | Accepted: 7 December 2020
DOI: 10.1111/cts.12969

ARTICLE

Characterizing the reproducibility in using a liver microphysiological system for assaying drug toxicity, metabolism, and accumulation

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Abstract

Liver microphysiological systems (MPSs) are promising models for predicting hepatic drug effects. Yet, after a decade since their introduction, MPSs are not routinely used in drug development due to lack of criteria for ensuring reproducibility of results. We characterized the feasibility of a liver MPS to yield reproducible outcomes of experiments assaying drug toxicity, metabolism, and intracellular accumulation. The ability of the liver MPS to reproduce hepatotoxic effects was assessed using acetaminophen

CTS Clinical and Translational Science

Article | Open Access | CC BY

Clinical Trial in a Dish: Personalized Stem Cell-Derived Cardiomyocyte Assay Compared With Clinical Trial Results for Two QT-Prolonging Drugs

Ksenia Blinova | Derek Schocken | Dakshesh Patel | Chathuri Daluwatte | Jose Vicente | Joseph C. Wu | David G. Strauss

First published: 22 July 2019 | <https://doi.org/10.1111/cts.12674> | Citations: 13

SECTIONS

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Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics

Review | Open Access | CC BY

Liver Microphysiological Systems for Predicting and Evaluating Drug Effects

Alexandre J. S. Ribeiro | Xinning Yang | Vikram Patel | Rajnikanth Madabushi | David G. Strauss

First published: 16 April 2019 | <https://doi.org/10.1002/cpt.1458> | Citations: 14

The copyright line for this article was changed on 18 July 2019 after original online publication.

SECTIONS

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Journal of Pharmacological and Toxicological Methods

Volume 105, September 2020, 106890



A general procedure to select calibration drugs for lab-specific validation and calibration of proarrhythmia risk prediction models: An illustrative example using the CiPA model

Xiaomei Han^a, Mohamadreza Samieegohar^a, Bradley J. Ridder^a, Wendy W. Wu^a, Aaron Randolph^a, Phu Tran^a, Jiansong Sheng^b, Sonja Stoelze-Feix^c, Nina Brinkwirth^c, Maria Giustina Rotordam^c, Nadine Becker^c, Soren Friis^c, Markus Rapedius^c, Tom A. Goetze^c, Tim Strassmaier^d, George Okeyo^d, James Kramer^e, Yuri Kuryshev^e, ... Zhihua Li^{a, f, g}



Journal of Pharmacological and Toxicological Methods

Volume 90, March–April 2018, Pages 39–47



Research article

Comparative analysis of media effects on human induced pluripotent stem cell-derived cardiomyocytes in proarrhythmia risk assessment

Derek Schocken^a, Jayna Stohman^a, Jose Vicente^b, Dulciana Chan^a, Dakshesh Patel^a, Murali Krishna Matta^c, Vikram Patel^c, Mathew Brock^d, Daniel Millard^d, James Ross^d, David G. Strauss^e, Ksenia Blinova^{a, f, g}

Current MPS use is far from its full potential.

**In-House
Screening**

**Case by
Case
Regulatory
Use**

**Formal
Acceptance
& Guideline
Driven
Pivotal
Studies**

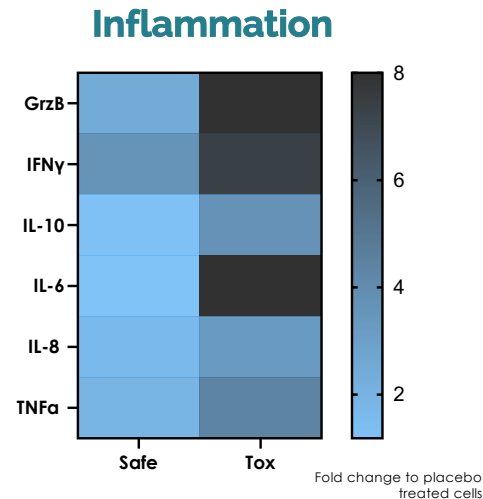
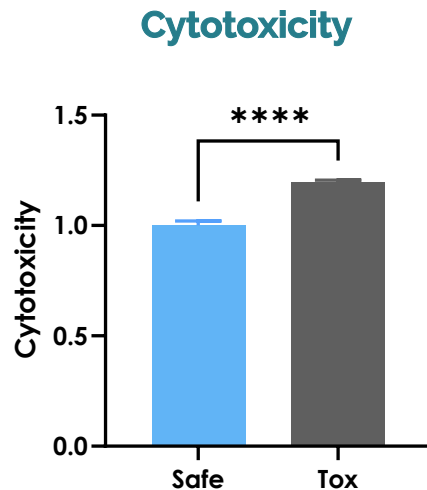
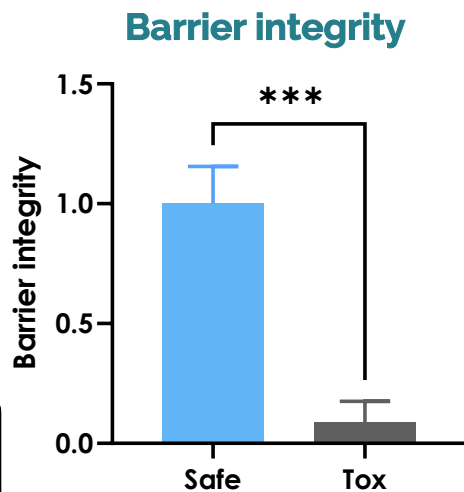
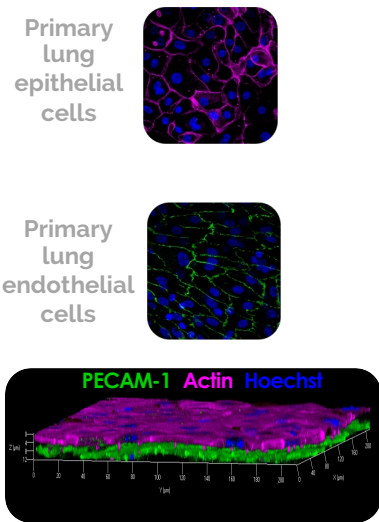


In-House Screening: End- Users are already being used for internal portfolio decision making.

MPS-based organ/tissue model	No. of cases	Area of use (drug development phase)	MPS-supplier	End user	Reference (if available)
Blood vessel, vasculature	5	Target identification, validation and compound selection	AIST	Daiichi-Sankyo	Satoh et al., 2016
		Discovery (scleroderma)	Mimetas	Galapagos	–
		Systems toxicology for consumer products	Mimetas	Philip Morris	Poussin et al., 2020
		Pharmacokinetics and pharmacology	Mimetas	undisclosed	–
		Target identification and validation	Mimetas	NovoNordisk	–
Bone marrow	4	Preclinical safety	TissUse	AstraZeneca	Sieber et al., 2018
		Preclinical safety	Emulate	AstraZeneca	Chou et al., 2018
		Preclinical safety	TissUse	Roche	–
		Preclinical safety	TissUse	Bayer	–
Gut epithelium	4	Discovery (inflammatory bowel disease)	Mimetas	Galapagos	Beaurivage et al., 2019
		Discovery	Mimetas	Roche	–
		Clinical development	Mimetas	Roche	–
		Preclinical safety	Emulate	Roche	–
Lung	3	Discovery (alveolus)	Wyss	undisclosed	Huh et al., 2012
		Drug efficacy (epithelium)	Wyss	Pfizer, Merck USA	Benam et al., 2016b
		Preclinical safety	Emulate	Roche	–
Liver	2	Pharmacological and toxicological effects	Emulate	AstraZeneca	Foster et al., 2019
		Preclinical safety – assessment of species (rat, dog & human)	Emulate	J&J, AstraZeneca	Jang et al., 2019
Ocular compartment	1	Discovery	Fh IGB / EKUT	Roche	Achberger et al., 2019
Kidney epithelium	1	Pharmacokinetics and pharmacology	Mimetas	undisclosed	Vormann et al., 2018
Liver-Pancreas	1	Target validation / identification	TissUse	AstraZeneca	Bauer et al., 2017
Liver-Thyroid	1	Preclinical safety – assessment of species-specificity (rat and human)	TissUse	Bayer	Kühnlenz et al., 2019
Skin-Tumor	1	Preclinical safety & efficacy	TissUse	Bayer	Hübner et al., 2019

Abbreviations: Wyss, Wyss Institute at Harvard, Boston, MA, USA; AIST, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Sciences, Tokyo, Japan; Fh IGB, Fraunhofer Institute for Interfacial Engineering and Biotechnology, Stuttgart, Germany; EKUT, Eberhard Karls University, Tübingen, Germany

MPS have successfully been used in several IND studies for large/small molecules & immunotherapeutics safety assessment

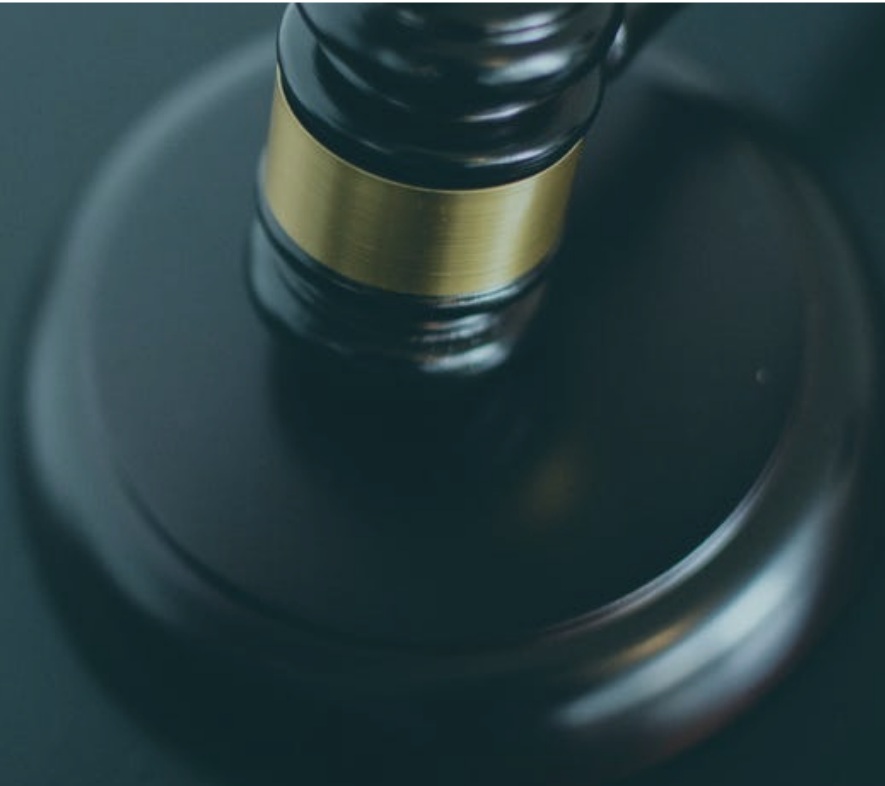


In these cases, animal tests are not useful due to species specificity

Case by Case: The FDA accepted label expansion using only MPS Data

- **Vertex Pharmaceuticals**
- **Treatment of cystic fibrosis**
- **Qualification for new genotypes of patients with mutations in the cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulatory (CFTR) gene**
- **MPS were used in a focused assay with defined electrophysiological alterations to evaluate efficacy of a drug**

Gaining consistent & clear regulatory acceptance is critical for the field.



TODAY'S AGENDA



**Existing
Guidance &
Standards**



**Importance
of Contexts
of Use (COU)**



**Consensus-
Based Guidance
& Best Practices**

Context of use is a concise definition of the **manner & purpose** of a MPS use.

- Determines how much “validation/qualification” is needed for a particular assay
- Defines the domain, boundaries, & limitations for acceptable use as justified by data



Manner



Purpose



Boundaries

Defining context of use is **essential** for regulatory acceptance of MPS.

- MPS are drug development tools
- As such, MPS could be qualified for a specific context of use across drug development programs which would...



Increase availability
of effective drugs



Accelerate the
drug development cycle



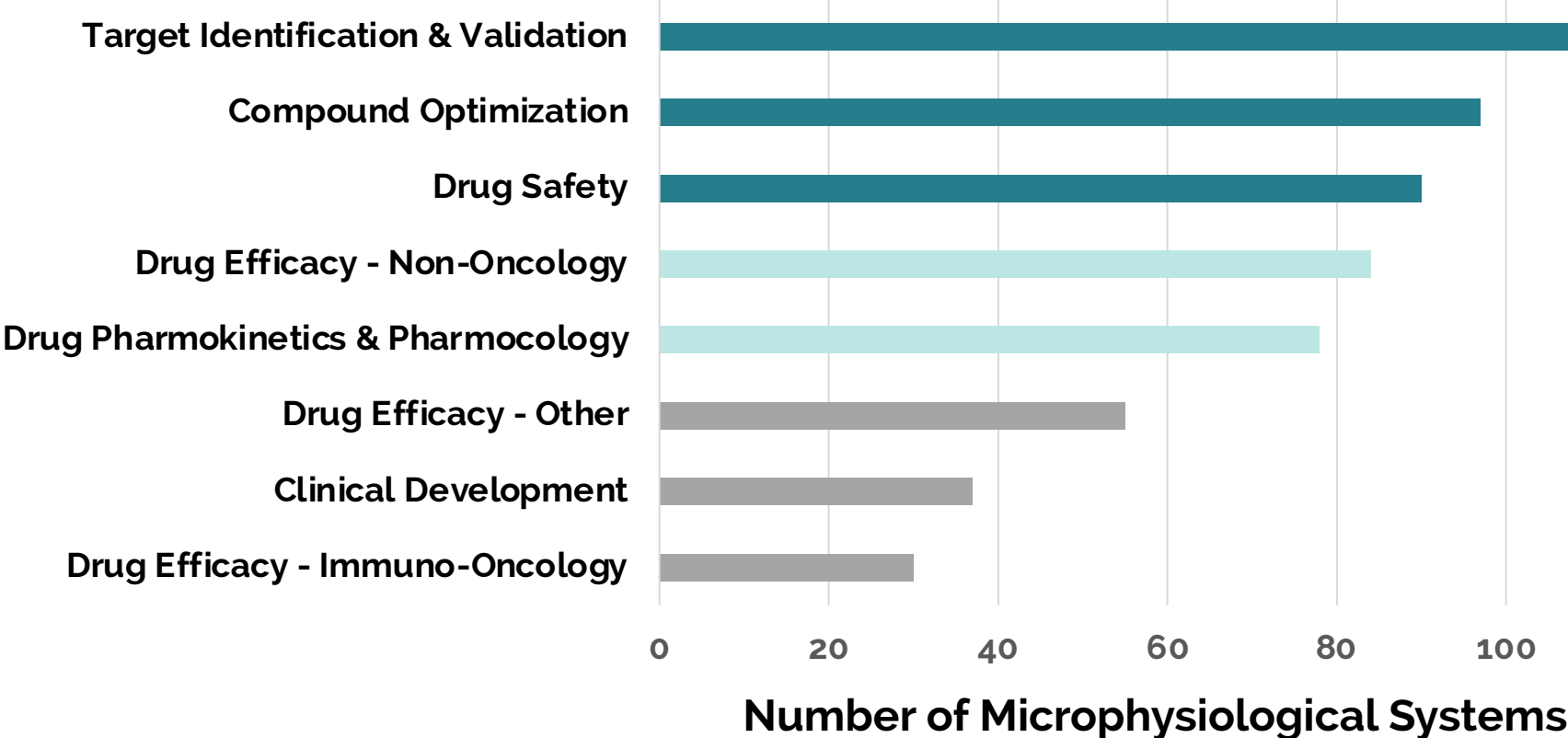
Enhance knowledge of
developed drugs

NA3RsC is collecting data on commercially available technologies.

#	Drug/Therapy Type	Supplier	Product Name	Date of Sale or Use	Unapproved			Approved			Investigational			Other
					Optimization	Validation	Other	Optimization	Validation	Other	Optimization	Validation	Other	
1	Cell	In Vitro ADMET Laboratories Inc.	ADMET		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2	Animal Biosystems	Animal Biosystems	WVD	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	
3	Human-like organ-on-chip	Human-like organ-on-chip	Human-like organ-on-chip		0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
4	Organ-on-chip	Organ-on-chip	Organ-on-chip		0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
5	Organ-on-chip	Organ-on-chip	Organ-on-chip		0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
6	Organ-on-chip	Organ-on-chip	Organ-on-chip		0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
7	Organ-on-chip	Organ-on-chip	Organ-on-chip		0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
8	Organ-on-chip	Organ-on-chip	Organ-on-chip		0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
9	Organ-on-chip	Organ-on-chip	Organ-on-chip		0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
10	Organ-on-chip	Organ-on-chip	Organ-on-chip		0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
11	Organ-on-chip	Organ-on-chip	Organ-on-chip		0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
12	Organ-on-chip	Organ-on-chip	Organ-on-chip		0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

Context of Use
Document

Commercial contexts of use are diverse



NA3RsC MPS Initiative Internal Data



**MPS Need
By COU**



**Urgent Drug
Development Areas**



**Gaps in Animal
Models**

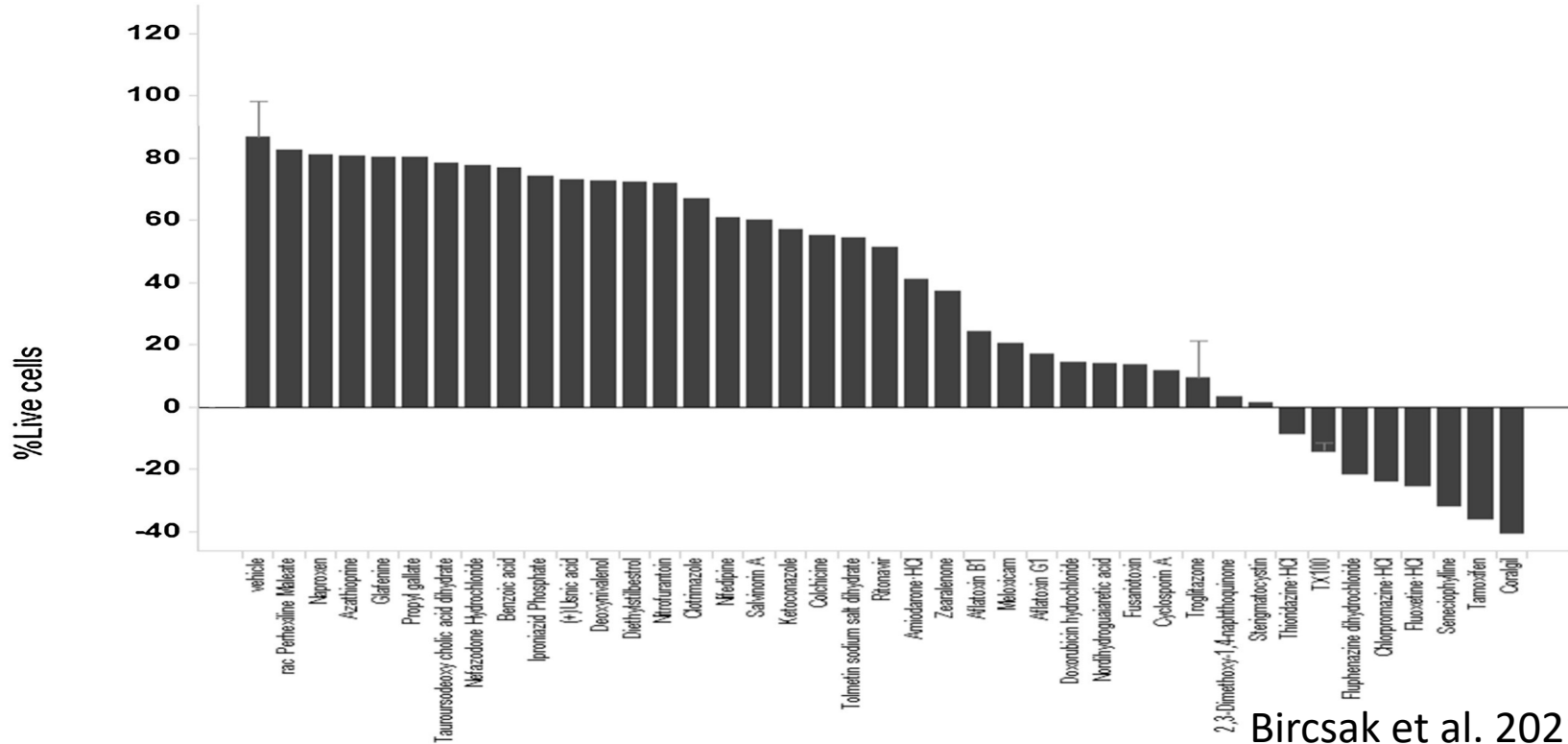
**Our goal is to identify a few greatly needed
COUs from end-users that
developers can commercially provide &
regulators support.**

Drug-Induced Liver Toxicity may be a key context of use to focus on (1) Due to high **species-specific physiology**

5 of 7 of the most important drug metabolizing enzymes are different between humans & animal models

The two that are the same only metabolize **5% of drugs**

Drug-Induced Liver Toxicity may be a key context of use to focus on (2) developers can provide fully human, highly complex, predictive MPS liver models



TODAY'S AGENDA



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**Consensus-
Based Guidance
& Best Practices**



This is an opportunity to create **clinically relevant**, built for purpose guidance that ultimately replaces some animal research.



**Write an opinion paper to guide regulators
from the **developers point of view.****

MPS can learn from animal models

- Animal model systems include variability between labs (species, strain, housing, husbandry, diet, measures, etc.) but little variability within labs (unlike a human population).
- Animal models are not necessarily reproducible or translational to humans. In part, reflects species-specific physiology
- Therefore, our stance is that animal model systems should not necessarily be held as the gold standard. Rather the gold standard should be response in human patients.

Animal models can be qualified via the FDA AMQP

- It is voluntary**
- Needs to support multiple IND programs**
- Need to show it is a suitable system with regards to the drugs mechanism of action and translatability to human**
- Ideally follows GLP regulations (good practice/QC aspect)**

There are two key areas to consider when qualifying MPS models.

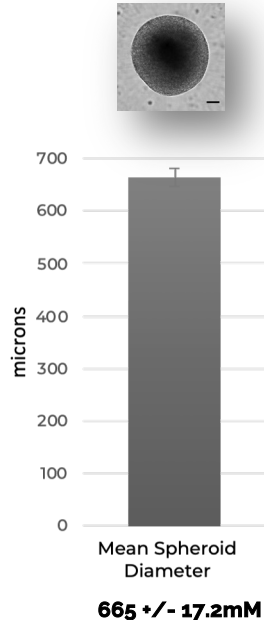
- **Replicability & Reproducibility** = consistent results within and between laboratories
- **Translation** = extent that test method correctly predicts *in vivo* effects
 - Animal MPS to animal *in vivo*
 - Human MPS to human *in vivo*
 - Mechanistically relevant human specific endpoints/biomarkers that allow for accurate prediction of human *in vivo* effects
 - Recapitulation of important *in vivo* physiological (e.g., morphology, function, proteome, metabolome) & pathophysiological conditions

MPS systems can have robust reproducibility.

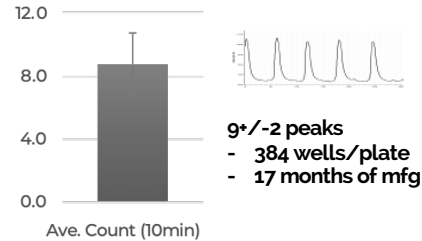
Quality control results from 17 months of manufacturing batches (thousands of organoids)

Structural Reproducibility

Spheroid diameter

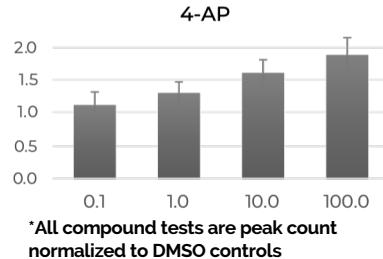


Consistent baseline activity



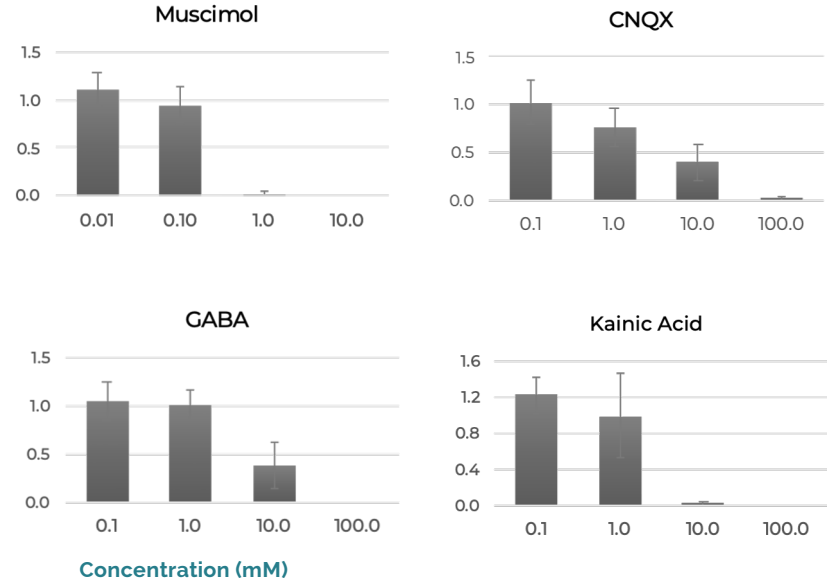
Consistent Pharmacology I

Ion channel activity



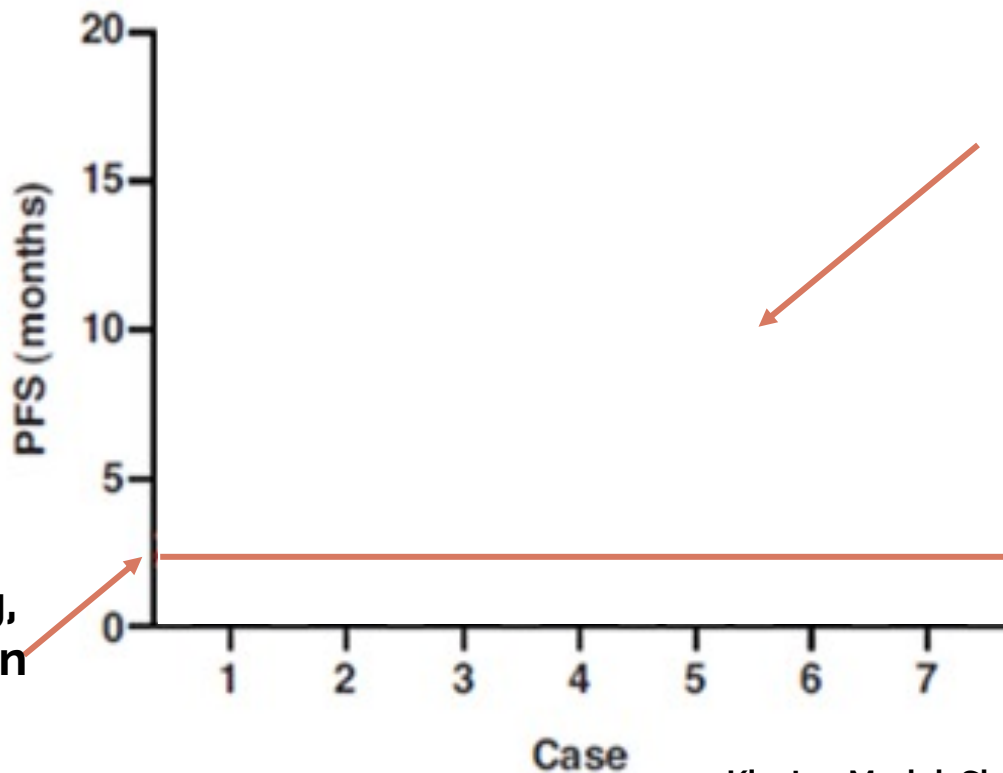
Consistent Pharmacology II

Key neurotransmitter responses



Reproducible longitudinal structural and functional QC demonstrate stable cellular processes across manufacturing batches

Human MPS to Human In Vivo translation has **increased patients' progression free survival (PFS) time**

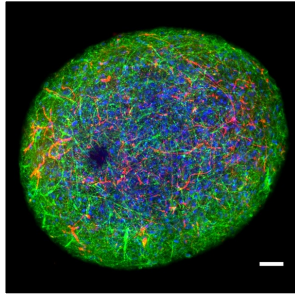


With MPS-aided decision making, all patient's PFS time more than doubled

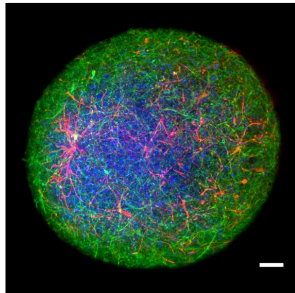
With traditional decision making, historical median PFS is ~2.5 months

Recapitulation of important in vivo physiological & pathophysiological conditions with human specific endpoints

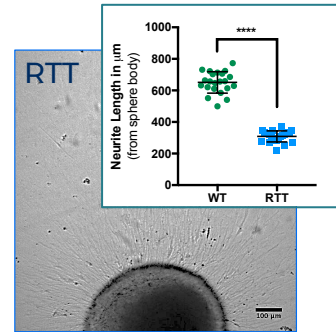
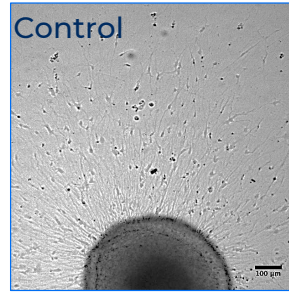
Control



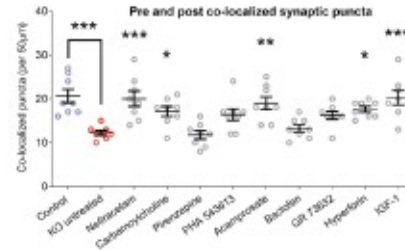
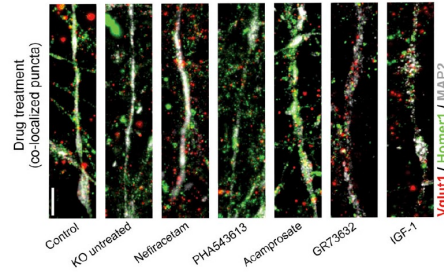
Rhett Disease



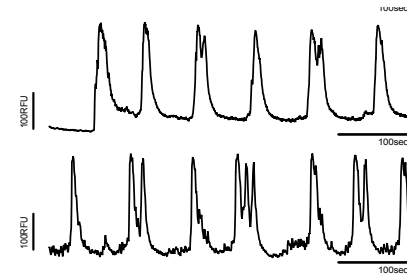
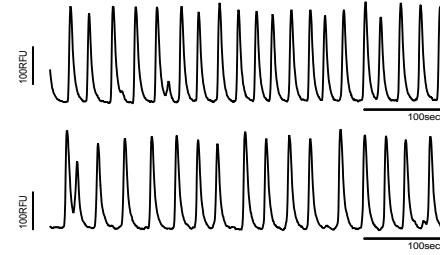
Neurite Outgrowth



Synapse Formation



Neural Function

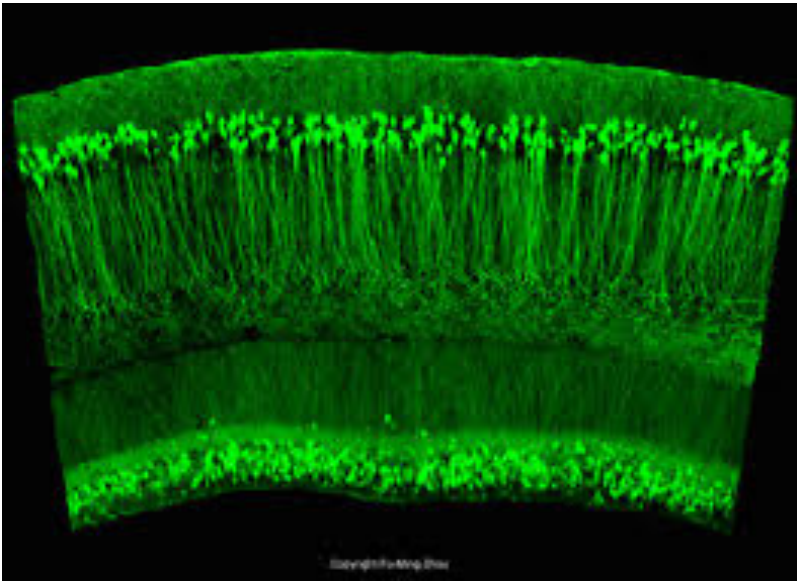


(Vyant Bio Model, Trujillo et al., 2020)

Qualification of MPS models

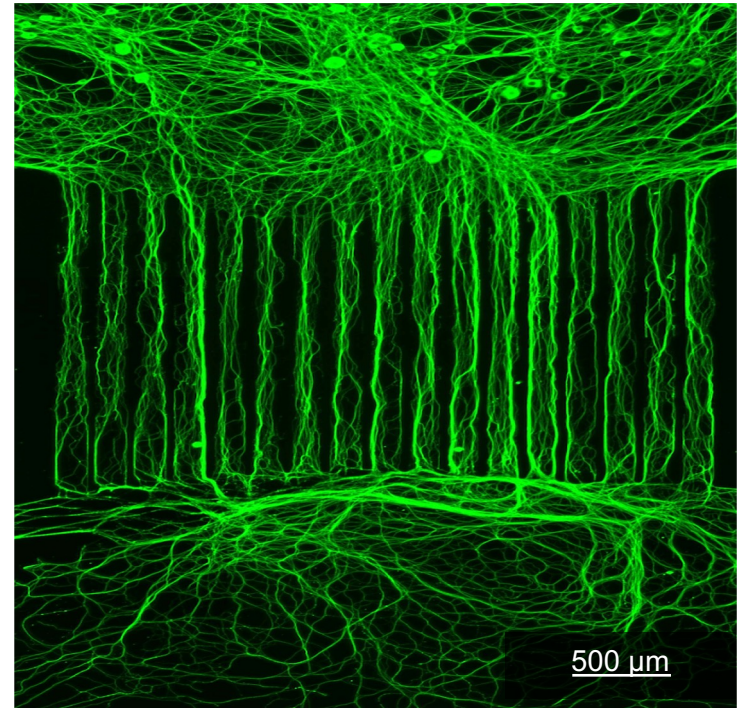
- **Biological characterization by structural and functional integrity. Define and evaluate criteria for physiological relevance and pathophysiology (identification of plausible biomarker)**
- **Qualification by reference compounds. Testing of in vivo positive and negative compounds. Comparison with in vitro data.**
- **Technical feasibility**
- **Testing assays for specific biomarker (e.g., clinical)**

Biological characterization by structural and functional integrity.



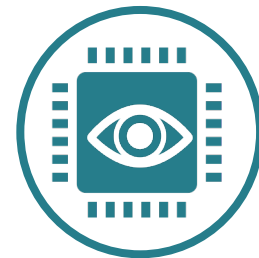
Brain Slice

← Soma →
← Axon →



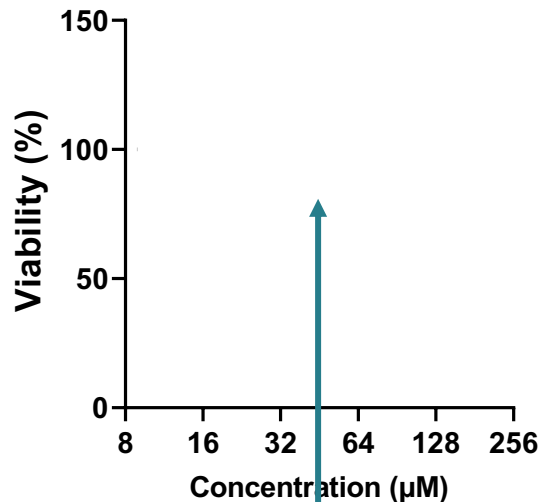
Cortical neurons on-a-chip

Qualification by reference compounds



Non-Cytotoxic

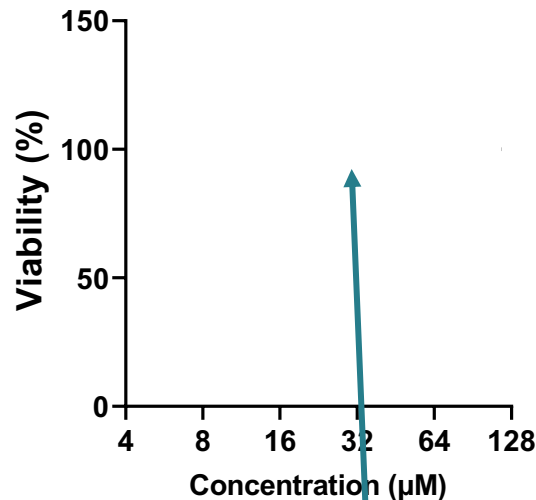
Ketorolac Tromethamine - 72 h



Cells remain viable at all concentrations even after 72 hours of incubation

Cytotoxic

Doxorubicin - 24 h



Cells viability decreases in a dose-dependent manner to known toxins

While qualifying MPS models, the following should be considered:

- High scalability enables pragmatic industrial application and data production**
- Validation by consortium (stakeholder from industry and/or academia)**
- Early Involvement of regulatory bodies/stakeholders (FDA, EMA, JRC ECVAM, NIEHS, etc)**

Guidance should follow
the *in vivo* model qualification criteria,
discussing **best practices**, &
MPS should be held to the
same standard as animal models.

A diverse group of five people (three women and two men) are gathered around a wooden table in a meeting room. They are all smiling and shaking hands over the table, suggesting a successful collaboration or agreement. The room has a corkboard with sticky notes on the wall and a potted plant in the background.

Next Step

Collaborate with current initiatives to reach harmonized global guidance.

Ultimately, our aim is to create global harmonized guidance for MPS to make this technology as regulatory accepted as in vivo methods.



Thank you to our current sponsors



Thank you to our MPS initiative members.



**Visit [NA3RsC.org](https://na3rsc.org) to learn more &
join us to further the 3Rs.**

Email me: meglafollette@na3rsc.org
