

# **Environmental, Health and Safety Considerations**

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2013 NNI Strategic Planning  
Stakeholder Workshop  
Washington, D.C.  
June 12, 2013

# Outline

- Brief historical perspective of Nanotoxicology
- Evaluating the EHS Hazards and Risks of Nanomaterials - Nano Risk Framework
- Pulmonary bioassay studies in rats with – Fine/Ultrafine (Nano) TiO<sub>2</sub> particle types;
- Developing *in vitro* assays for lung toxicity studies with fine and nanoscale particulates
- suggested Strategy for developing reliable and predictive high throughput screenings (HTS) assays for nanomaterial toxicity [addressing Tox21 issues]

# Common Perceptions on Pulmonary Toxicity of Nanoparticles

- Nanoparticles are more toxic (inflammogenic, tumorigenic) than fine-sized particles of identical composition.
- Concept generally based on 3 particle-types:
  - Titanium Dioxide particles
  - Carbon Black particles
  - Diesel Particles

# Take home points regarding the toxicity of ultrafine TiO<sub>2</sub> particles

- On a per mass basis, inhaled ultrafine particles are more inflammogenic, fibrogenic and tumorigenic than chemically identical fine particles in the lungs of rats.
- On a surface area basis, the potency of ultrafine particles to produce adverse pulmonary effects is similar to larger particles of similar composition.
- Unintended incidental exposures (occupational/consumers) vs. Intentional exposures (Nanomedicine/diagnostic apps.)

# Talking Points US Congress– Feb, 2008

- **No Novel Toxicity with NP**

- Current Risk Assessment methodologies appear to be adequate
  - Current hazard assessments can define the toxicity
    - Not a lot of data on NP
  - Importance of Particle Characterization
    - Particle Size vs. Surface Reactivity
- Proposed Risk Assessment Methodologies
  - Risk = Hazard + Exposure
  - Base Set concepts + Benchmarks

# **Environmental Health and Safety Considerations**

## **Practical Considerations for Developing Commercial Products**

# Nano Risk Framework

**Objective:** To develop and deliver a systematic and disciplined process for identifying, managing, and reducing potential environmental safety and health risks of engineered nanomaterials across all stages of a product's lifecycle.

**Scope:** Offers guidance on the **key questions** an organization should consider in developing applications of nanomaterials, and on the **information needed** to make sound risk evaluations and risk-management decisions.

**Audience:** Primary audiences are organizations such as companies and public and private research institutions that are **actively working** with nanomaterials and developing associated products and other applications. Framework can also be **useful to other stakeholders**, such as government officials, academia, financial institutions, and nongovernmental public-interest organizations.

# NANO

## Risk Framework

Environmental Defense - DuPont  
Nano Partnership

June 2007



*The miracles of science™*

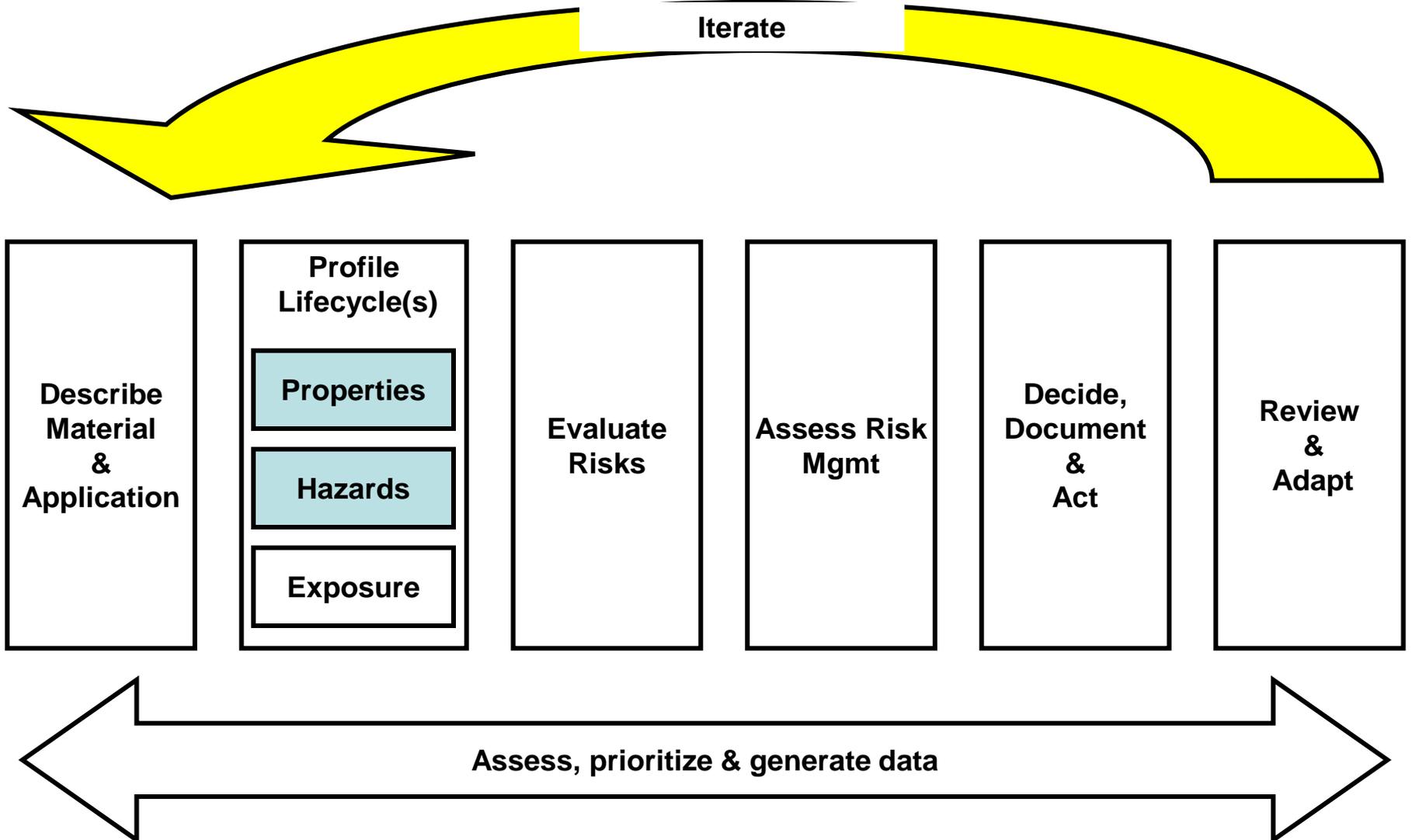
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ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE

finding the ways that work

[www.NanoRiskFramework.com](http://www.NanoRiskFramework.com)

# Nano Risk Framework Draft Outline



**Development of a base set  
of toxicity tests using ultrafine  
TiO<sub>2</sub> particles as a component of  
nanoparticle risk management**

*(Warheit et al. Tox Letters 171: 99-110, 2007)*

# **Justification for the base set hazard tests rests on the following criteria**

- 1) Potential routes of exposures related to human health effects (i.e., pulmonary, dermal, oral and/or ocular);
- 2) Screening for potential carcinogenic effects (i.e., utilizing well established mutational and chromosomal aberration screening assays);
- 3) Screening for potential toxic effects in representative aquatic organisms (i.e., exposures of nanomaterials to rainbow trout, Daphnia, and algae)

# Base Set – Guidelines and Methods

- Pulmonary Bioassay - + full histopathology + NM Charact – BALF + BrdU + histopath
- Skin Irritation Test – OECD 404
- Skin Sensitization – LLNA- OECD 429
- Acute Oral Toxicity Test – OECD 425
- Eye Irritation Test – OECD 405
- Genotoxicity Tests (2) - Ames – OECD 471  
Chromosomal Ab Study – OECD 473
- Aquatic Battery (3) - Rainbow Trout – OECD 203; Daphnid – OECD 202; Green Algae – OECD 201

# Ultrafine TiO<sub>2</sub> Studies

# Minimum Base Set – Tox Results

- Pulmonary Bioassay - low toxicity
- Acute Oral Toxicity Test – low toxicity
- Skin Irritation Test – not a skin irritant
- Skin Sensitization – LLNA – not a sensitizer
- Genotoxicity Tests - Ames – negative  
Chromosomal Ab Study - negative
- Aquatic Battery - Rainbow Trout – low hazard
- Daphnia - low hazard concern
- Algae- medium concern
- Eye Irritation – minor ocular conjunctival redness

# **Studies to Assess Pulmonary Hazards to Nanoparticulates**

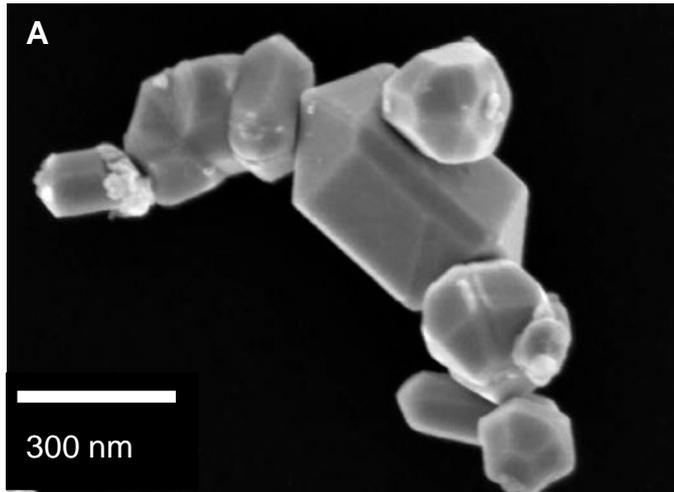
- **Key Features of Nanotoxicology Studies**

- 1) Rigorous physicochemical characterization of particle-types
- 2) Dose response characteristics
- 3) Time course experimental protocol
- 4) Utilization of benchmark particulate controls (positive and/or negative)

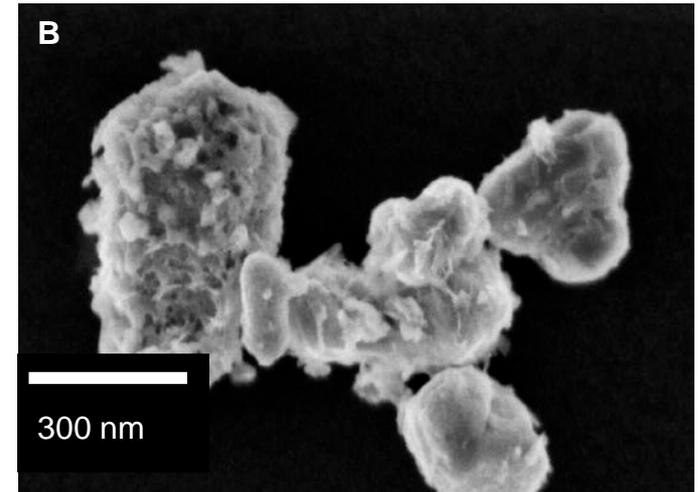
**Pulmonary Toxicity Study in  
Rats with Three Forms of  
ultrafine-TiO<sub>2</sub> Particles:  
Differential Responses related  
to Surface Properties**

**Warheit *et al.*, Toxicology 230: 90-104, 2007**

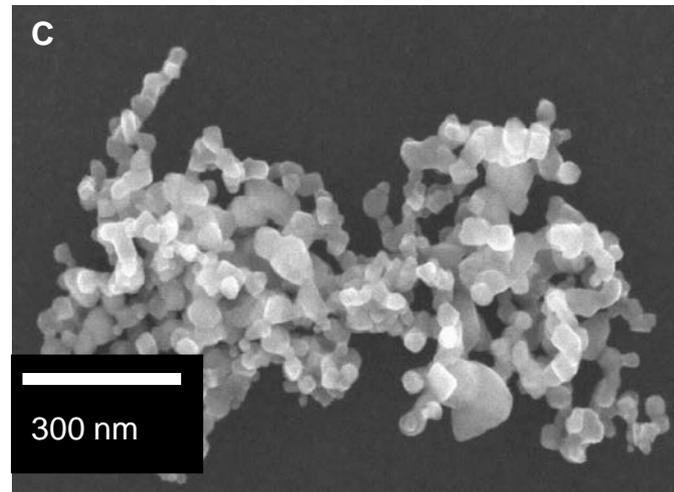
# Characterization of Ultrafine TiO<sub>2</sub> Particle-types - 1



**uf-1**



**uf-2**

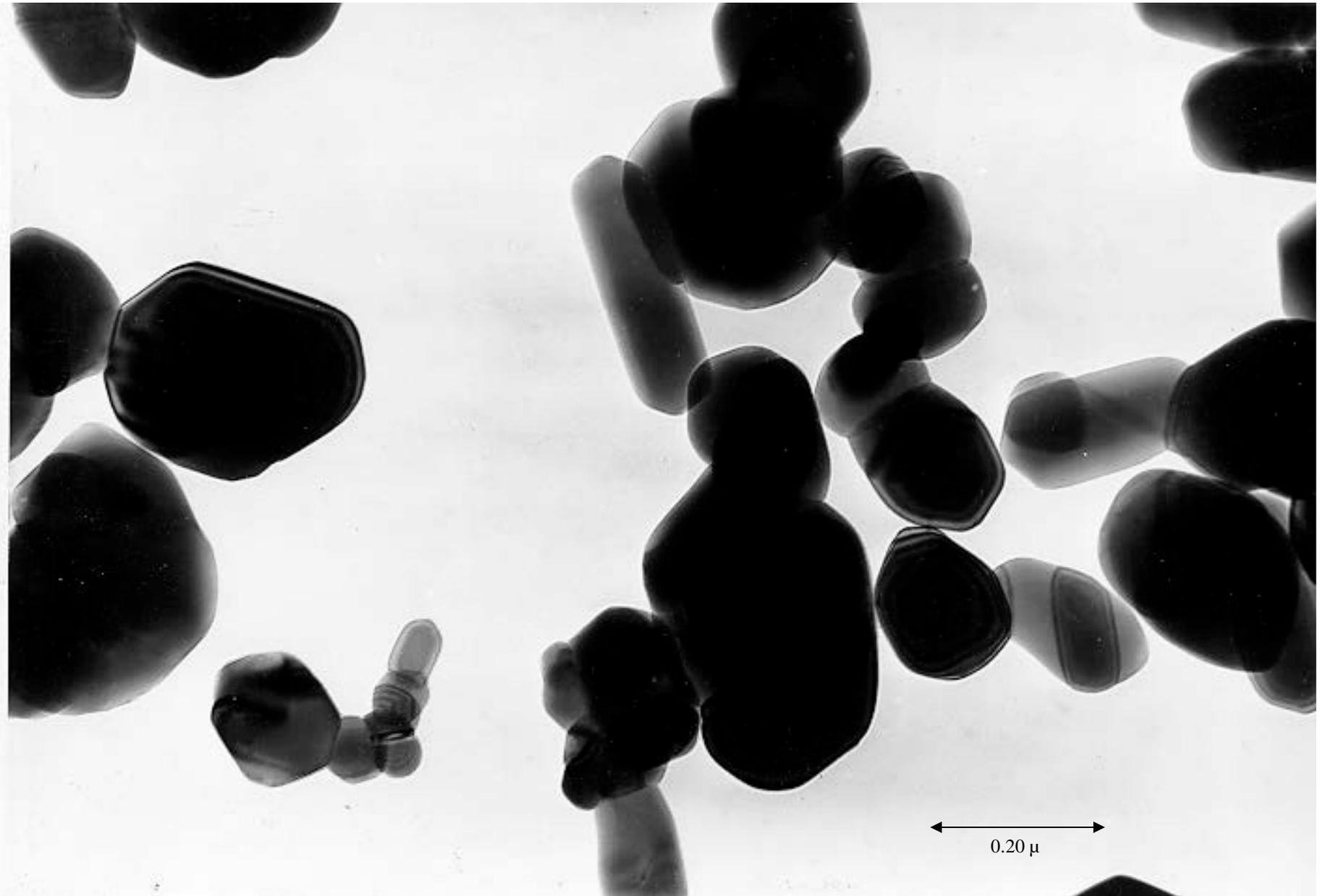


**uf-3**



Ti-Pure®  
titanium dioxide

# TiPure® R-100



0.20  $\mu$

# Characterization of Ultrafine TiO<sub>2</sub> Particle-types - 2

Sample	Crystalline phase	Median size and width distribution (nm)		Surface area (m <sup>2</sup> /g)	pH		Chemical reactivity delta b*
		in water*	in PBS		deionized water	in PBS	
F-1	rutile	382.0 ± 36%	2667.2 ± 35%	5.8	7.49	6.75	0.4
uf-1	rutile	136.0 ± 35%	2144.3 ± 45%	18.2	5.64	6.78	10.1
uf-2	rutile	149.4 ± 50%	2890.7 ± 31%	35.7	7.14	6.78	1.2
uf-3	80/20 anatase/ rutile	129.4 ± 44%	2691.7 ± 31%	53.0	3.28	6.70	23.8

# Protocol for ultrafine TiO<sub>2</sub> Pulmonary Bioassay Study

## Exposure Groups

- PBS (vehicle control)
- Particle-types (1 and 5 mg/kg)
  - rutile-types uf-1 TiO<sub>2</sub>
  - rutile-type uf-2 TiO<sub>2</sub>
  - anatase/rutile-type uf-3 TiO<sub>2</sub>
  - rutile-type F-1 fine TiO<sub>2</sub> (negative control)
  - α-Quartz particles (positive control)

Instillation  
Exposure

Postexposure Evaluation via BAL and Lung Tissue

24 hr

1 wk

1 mo

3 mo

# RESULTS

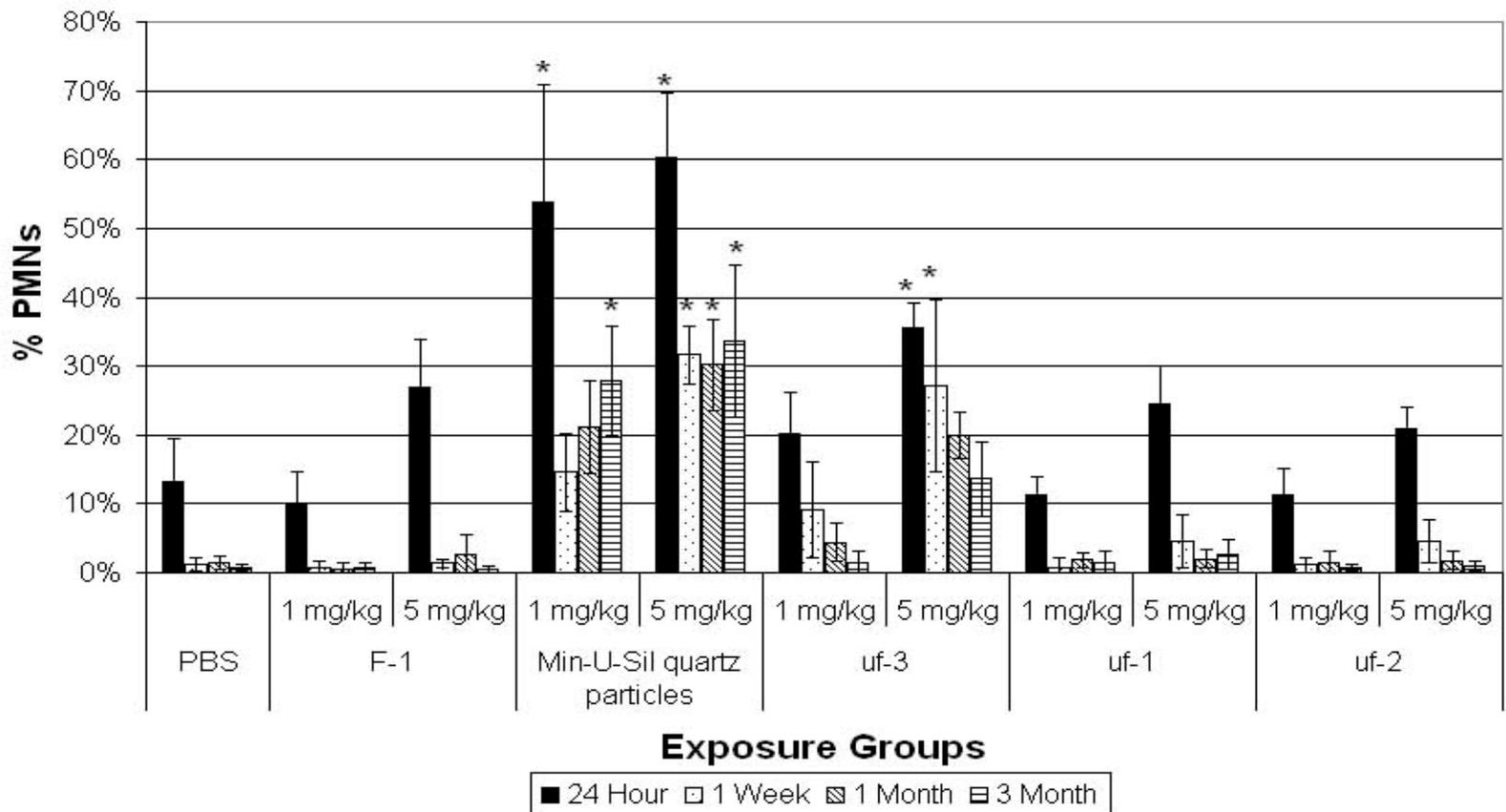
## Biomarkers

Pulmonary Inflammation

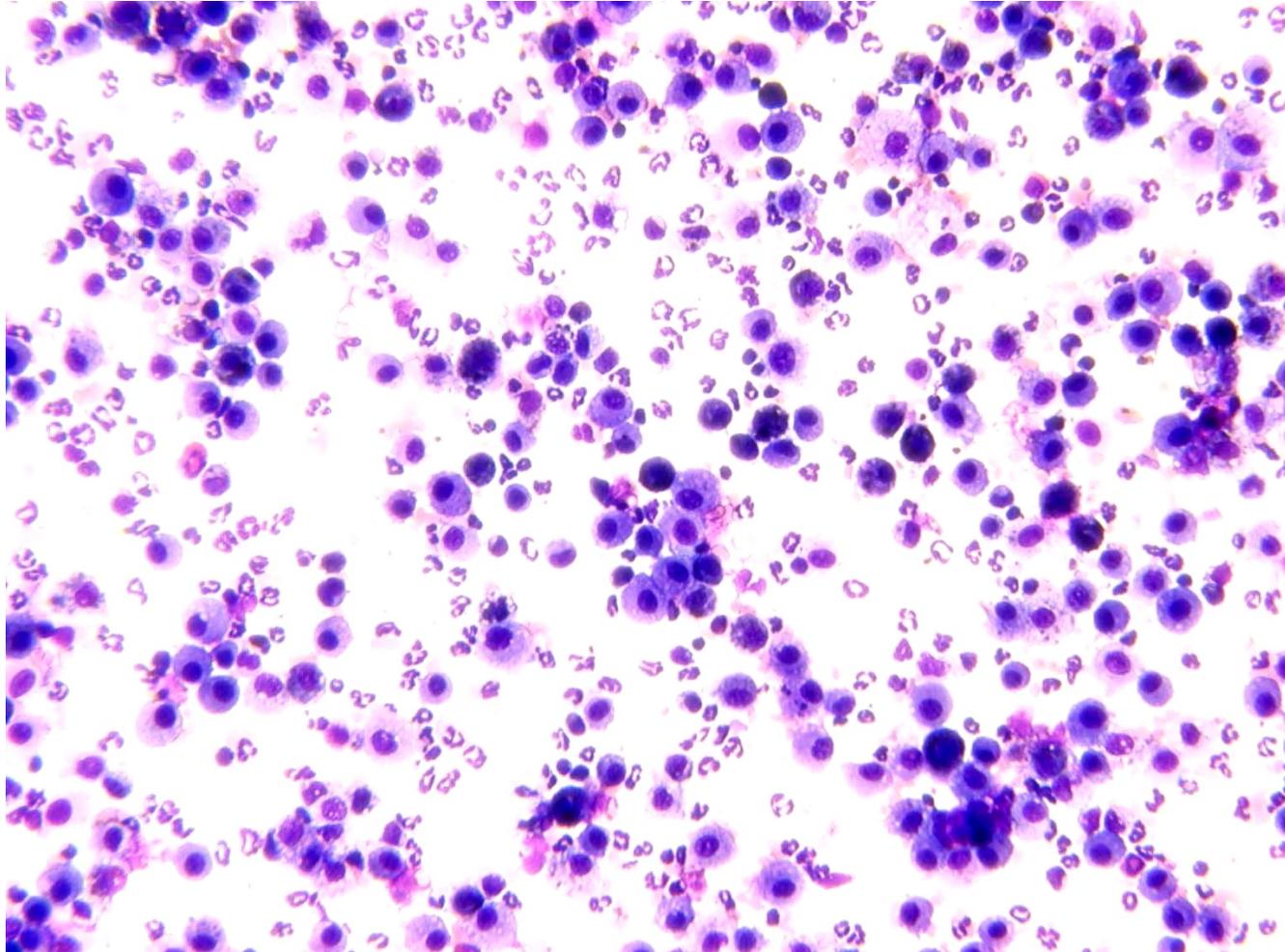
Pulmonary Cytotoxicity

# Pulmonary Inflammation

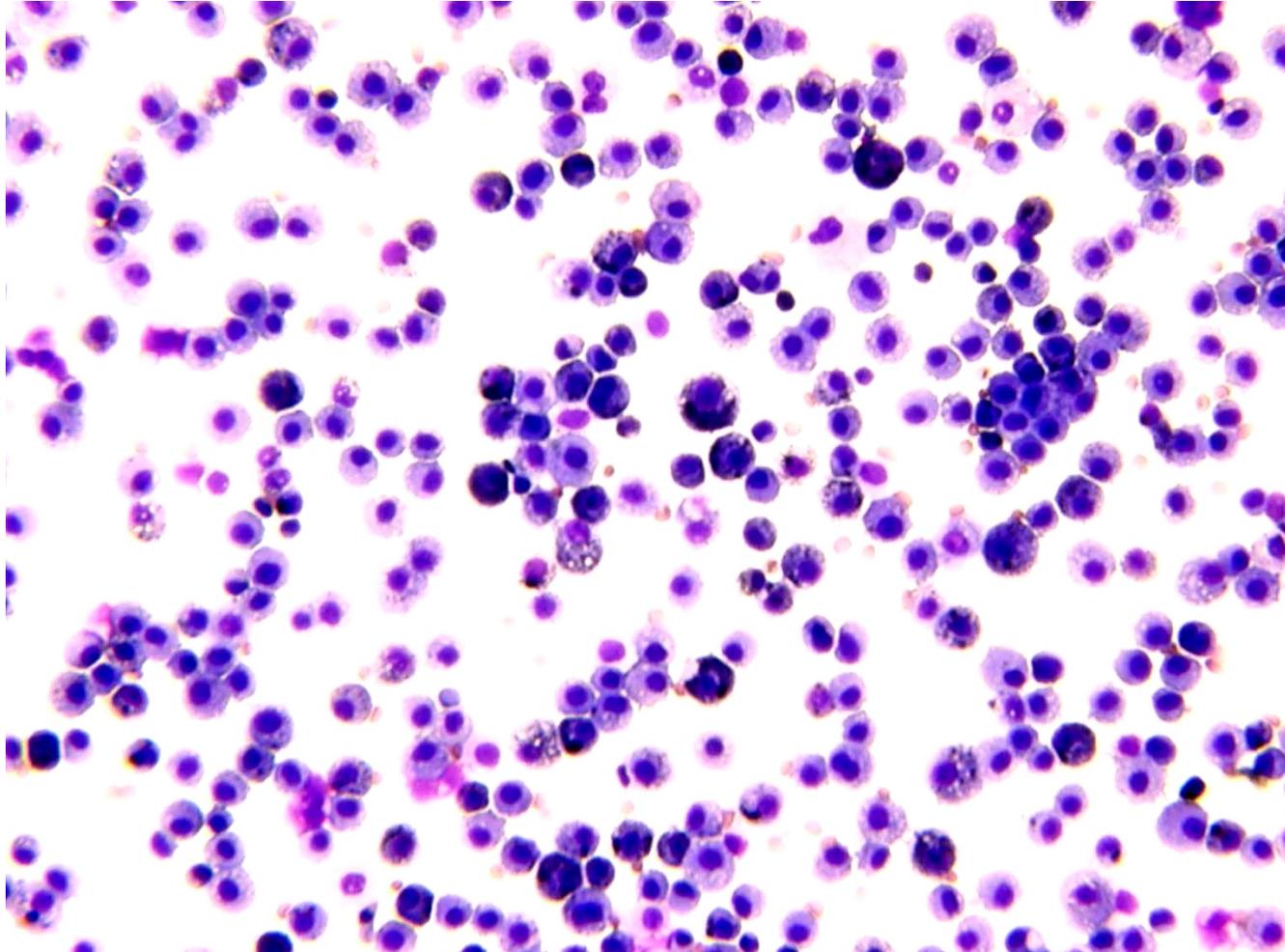
**Percent Neutrophils in BAL Fluids of Rats exposed to Fine or Ultrafine-TiO<sub>2</sub> Particulates**



# Cytocentrifuge Prep of BALF Cells - Rat Exposed to Nanoscale TiO<sub>2</sub> Dots -24 hr pe

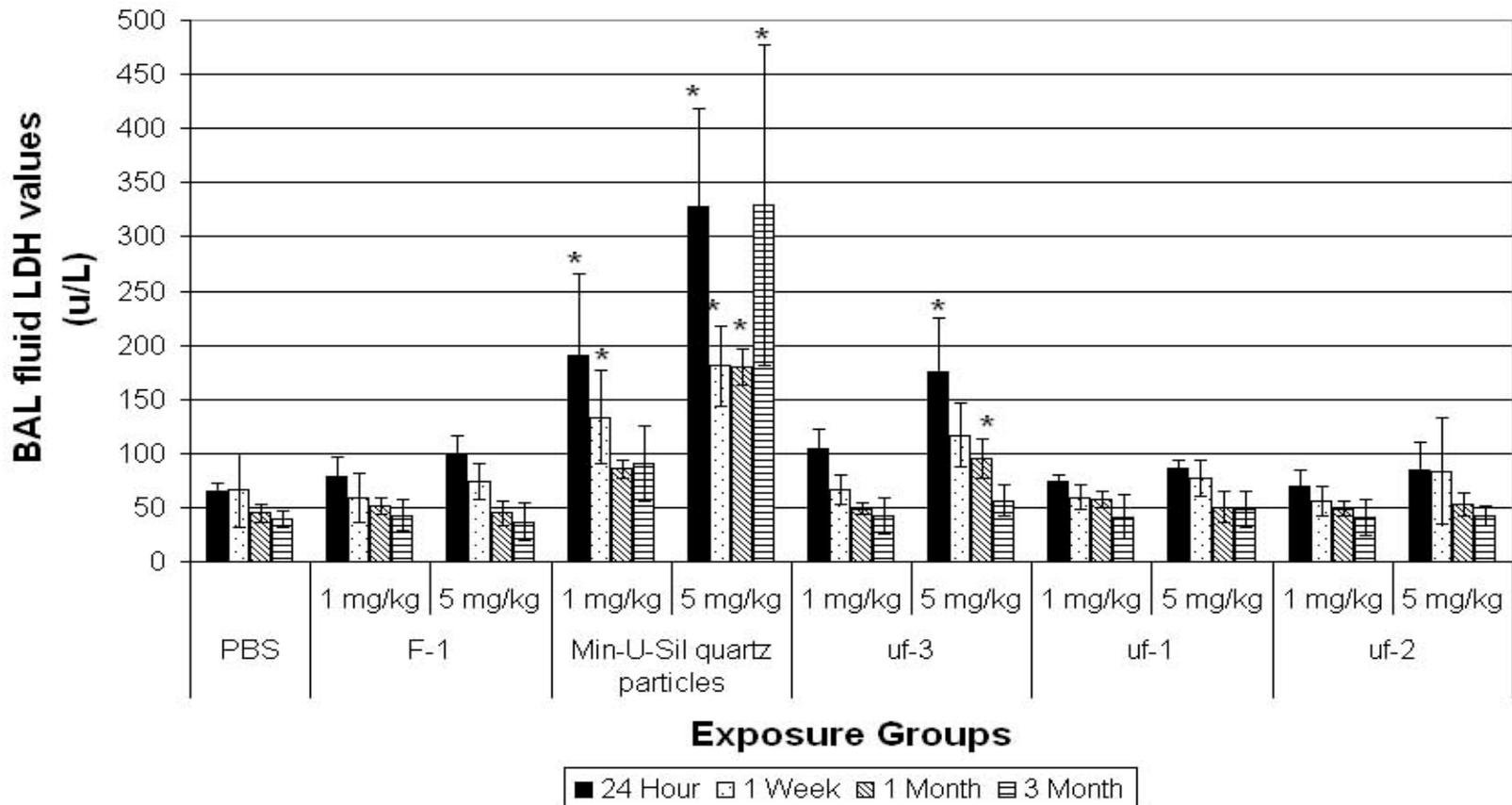


# Cytocentrifuge Prep of BALF-derived Cells From a Rat Exposed to Nanoscale TiO<sub>2</sub> Dots-1 wk pe

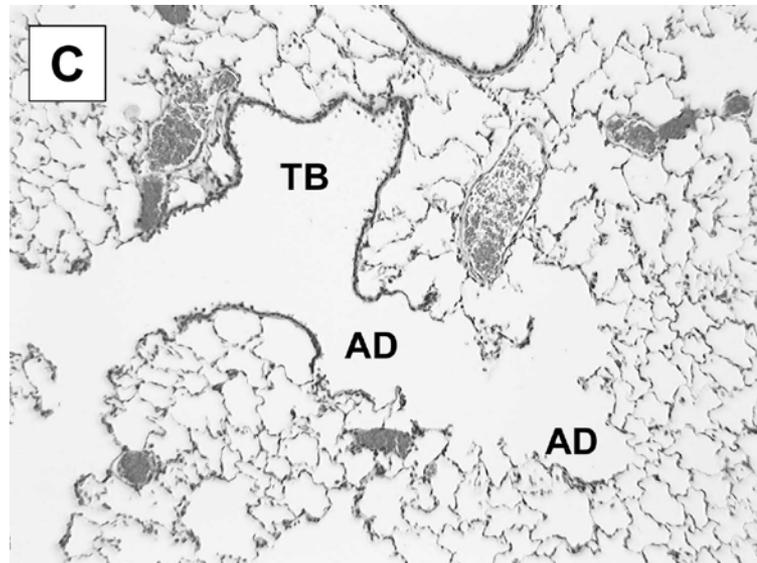
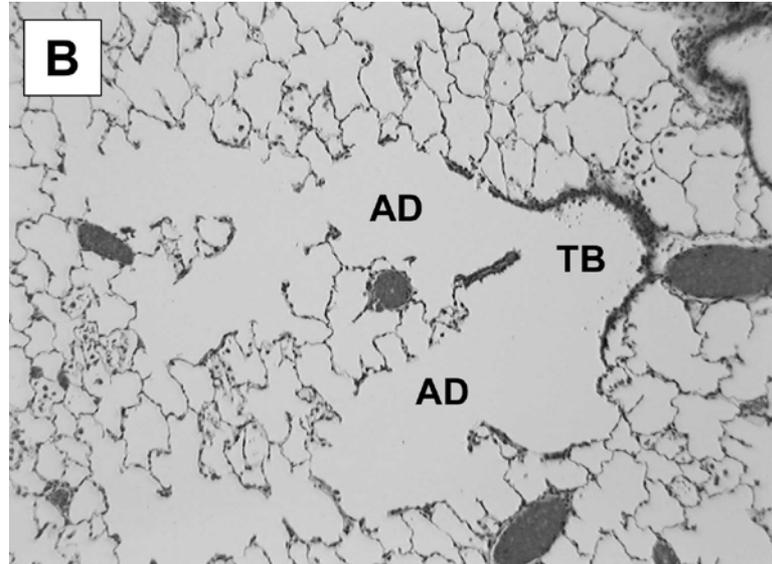
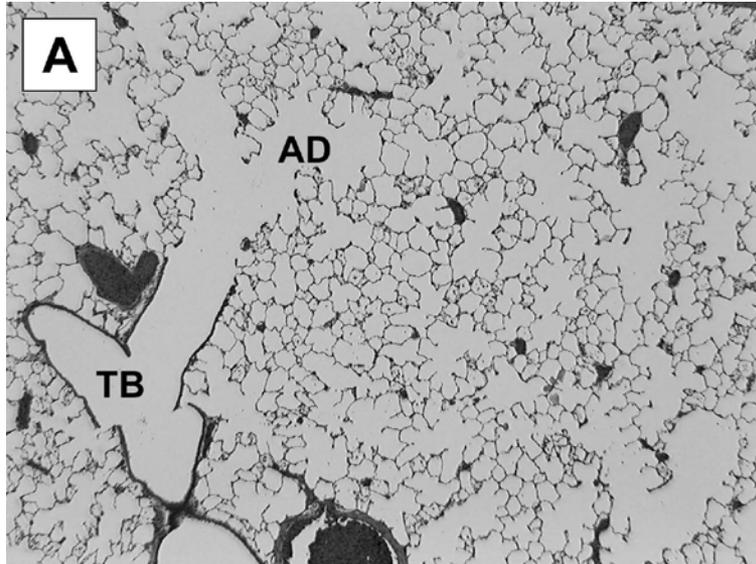


# BAL Fluid LDH Values (cytotoxicity)

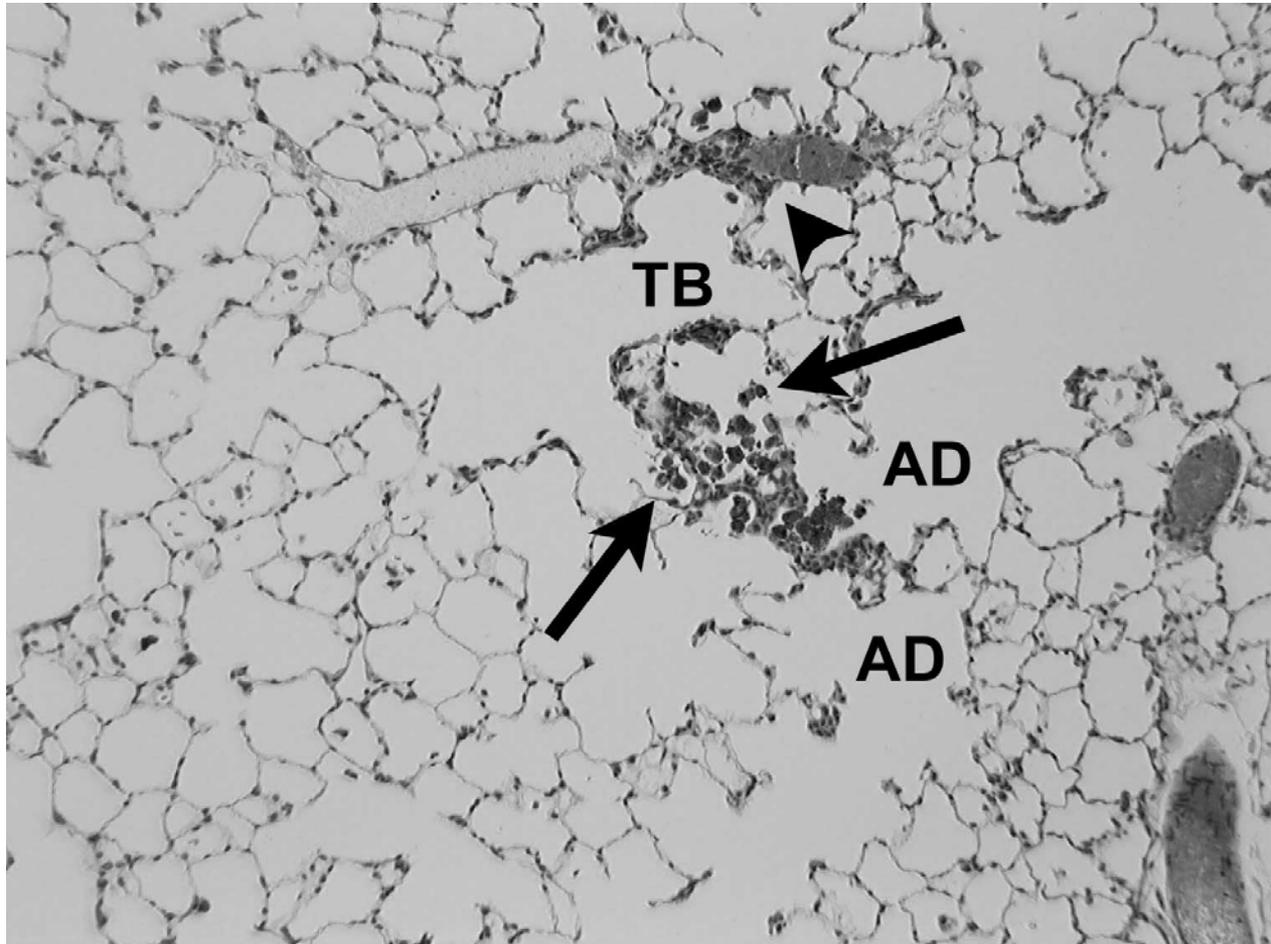
**BAL Fluid LDH Values in Rats exposed to Fine or Ultrafine-TiO<sub>2</sub> Particulates**



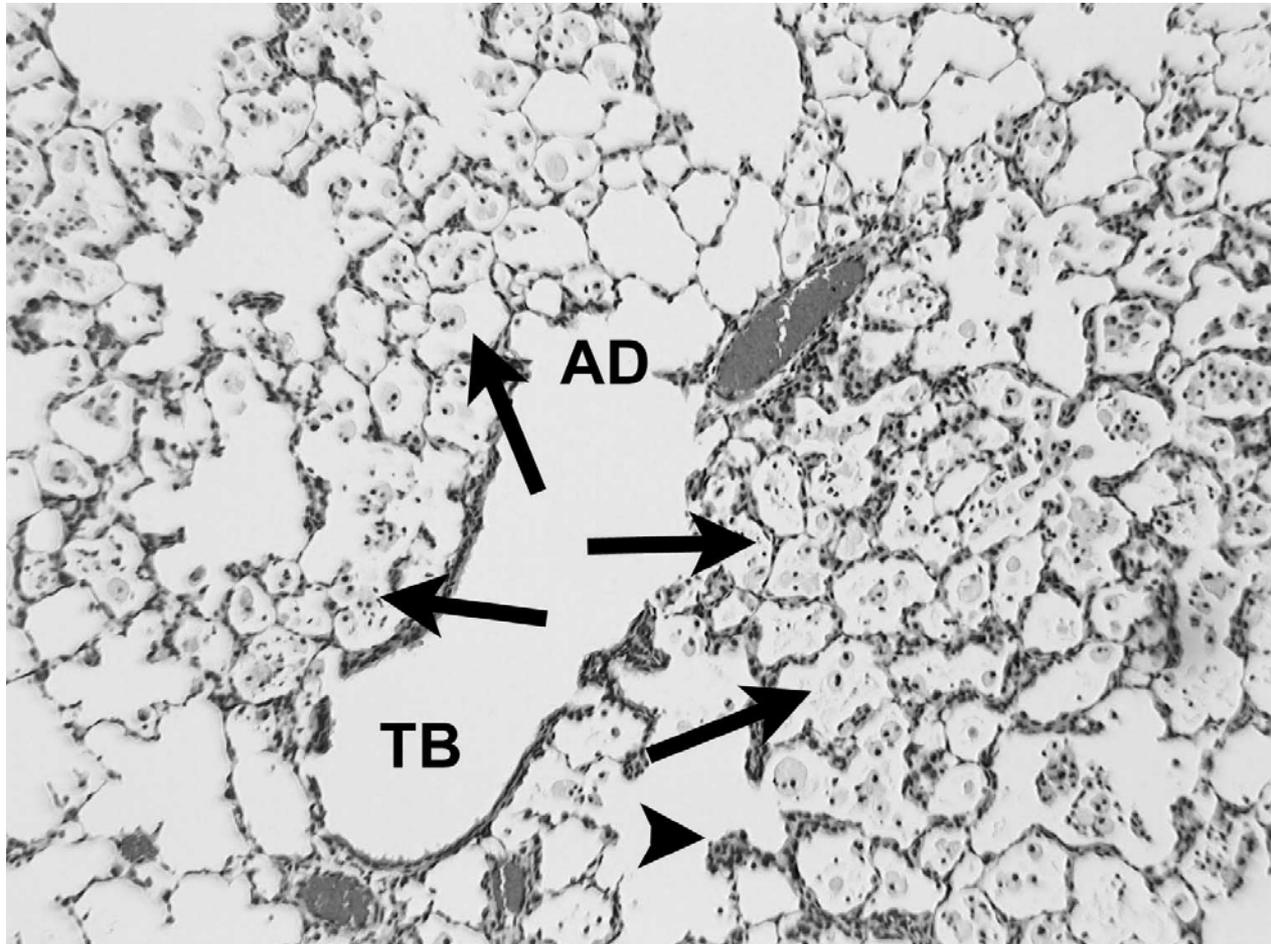
# Lung Sections of Rats exposed to uf-1 (A); uf-2 (B); or F-1 (C)- 3 months pe



# Lung Section of Rat exposed to uf-3 @ 3 months postexposure



# Lung Section of Rat exposed to Quartz particles @ 3 months postexposure



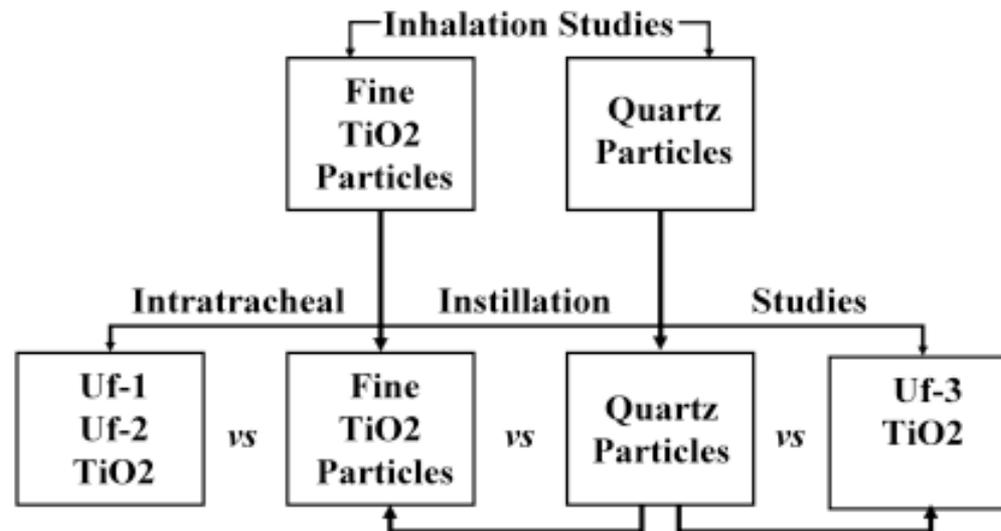
# Summary - Important Particle Characteristics

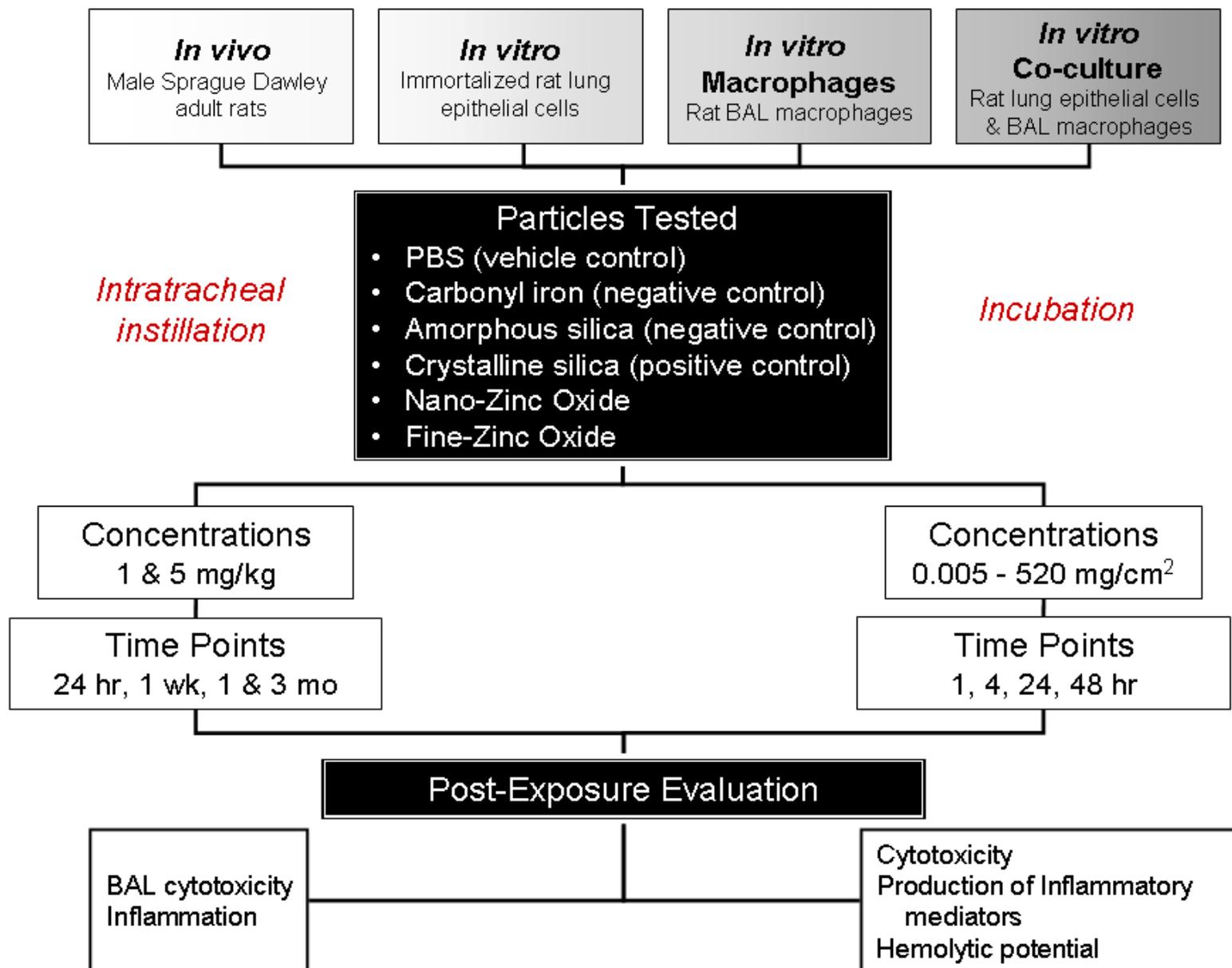
- Primary particle size
- Particle shape (SEM)
- Surface area
- Surface charge
- Composition- e.g., crystalline vs. amorphous
- Surface Coatings
- Aggregation status
- **Particle surface reactivity**

# Conclusions

- The ultrafine TiO<sub>2</sub> particle-types used in these base set hazard tests generally have a low hazard potential.
- Risk = Hazard x Exposure
- Played a significant role in the commercialization of DuPont DLS-210 ultrafine/nano TiO<sub>2</sub>.

## *Pulmonary Bioassay Bridging Studies*

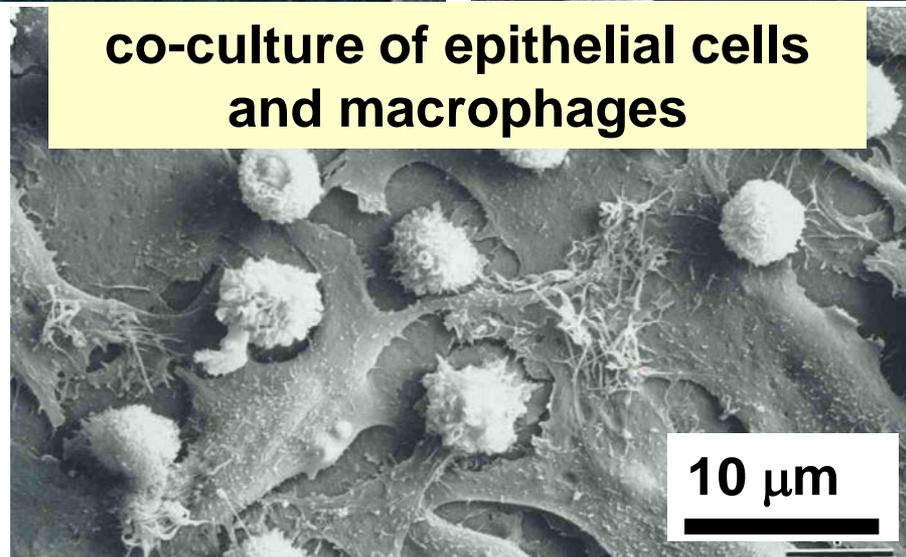
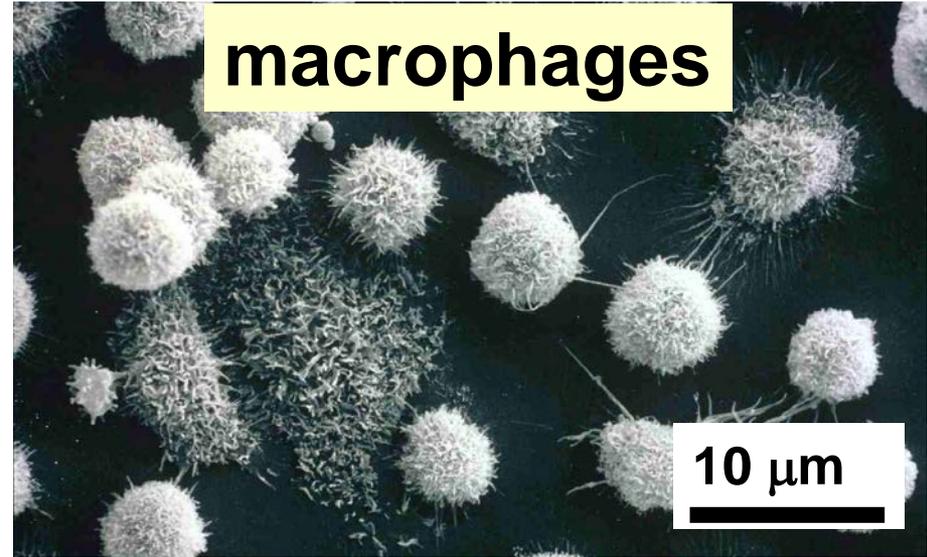
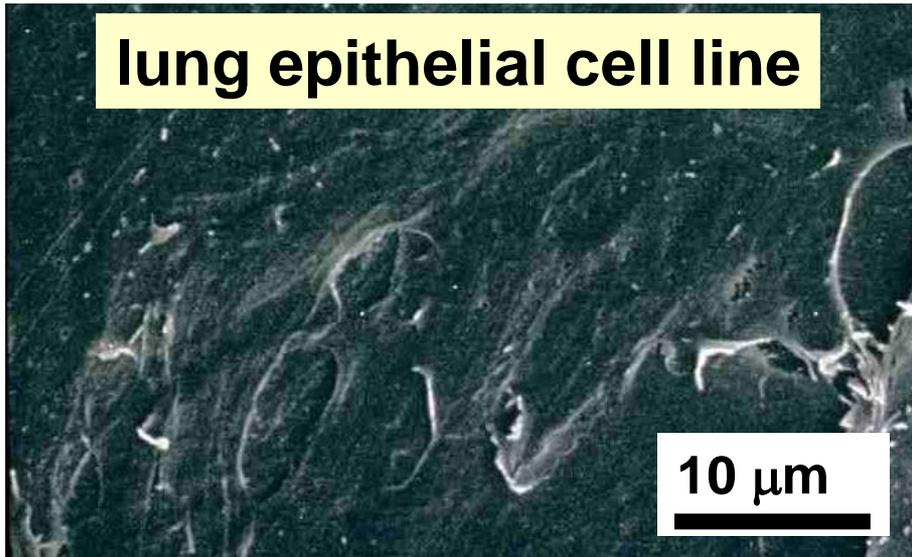




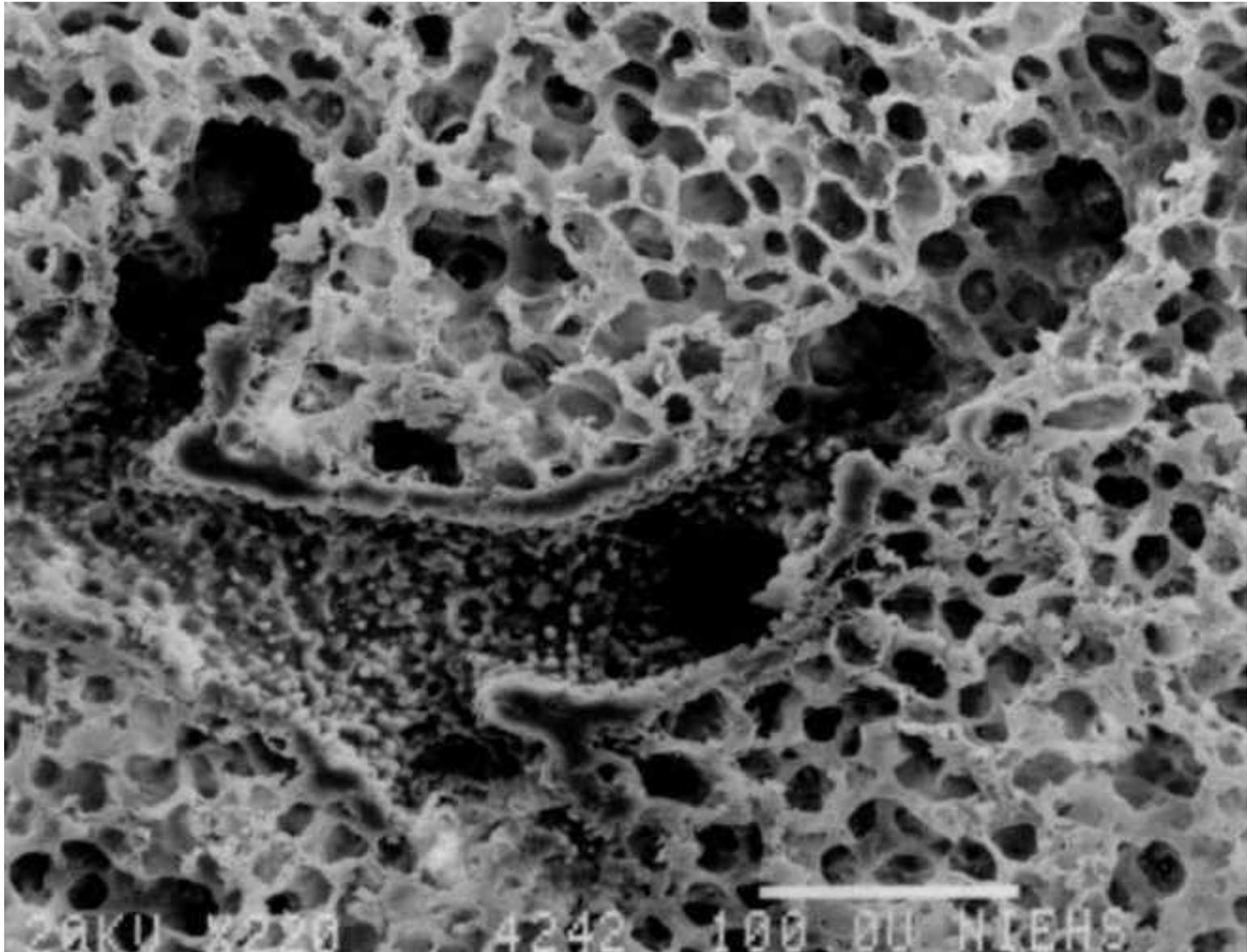
# Variables assessed in this *in vitro* vs. *in vivo* study

- 5 different fine and nanoscale particle-types
- Time course studies – 1, 4, 24, or 48 hrs
- Cell-types utilized *in vitro* – epithelial, macrophage, and epithelial/M $\Phi$  co-culture
- Endpoints – inflammation and cytotoxicity
- *In vivo* biomarkers – BALF LDH and PMNs
- *In vitro* biomarkers – LDH and MTT (cytotox)
- *In vitro* biomarkers – MIP-2, TNF- $\alpha$ , IL-6

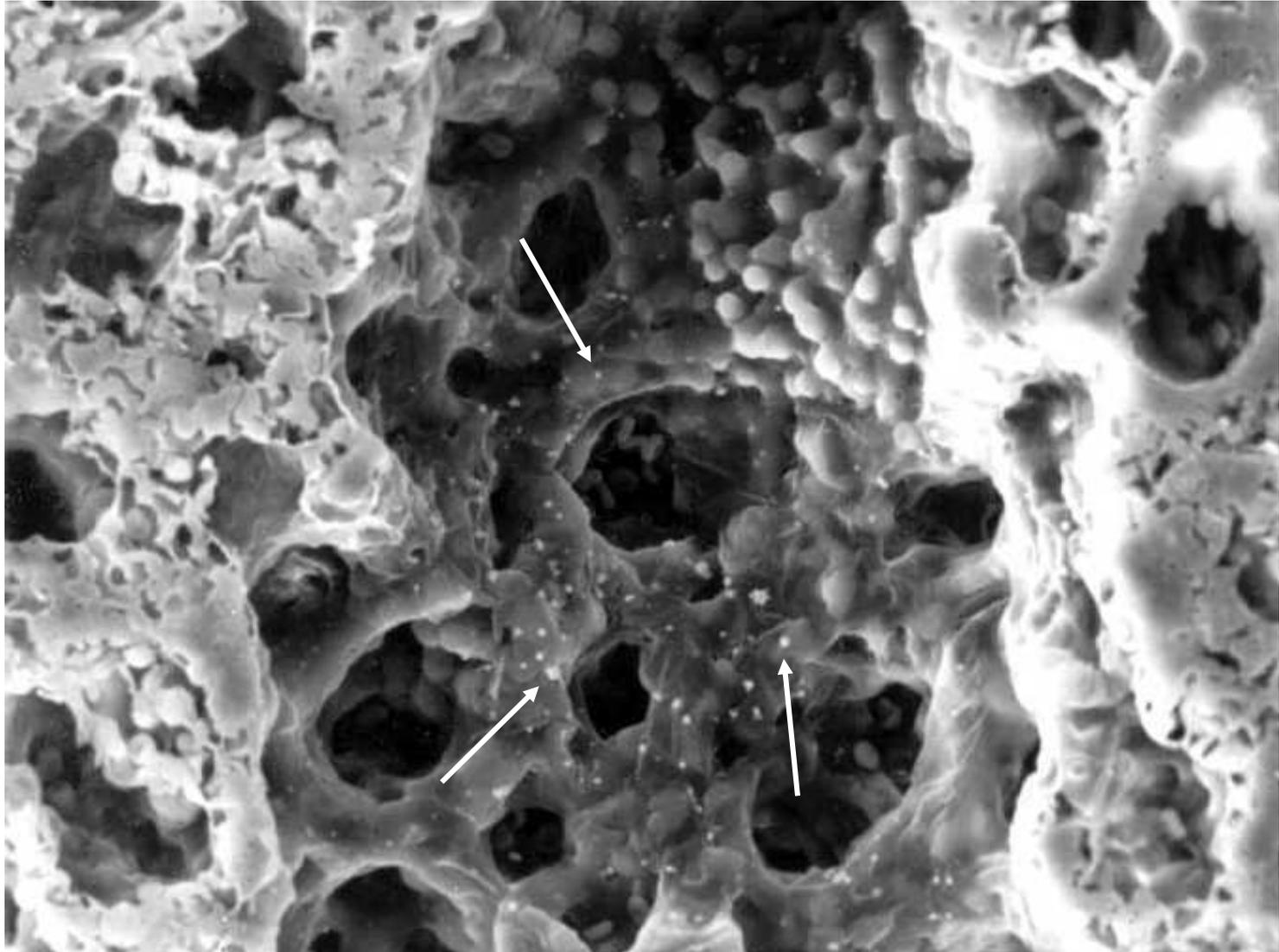
# Case Study 1: *in vitro* vs. *in vivo*



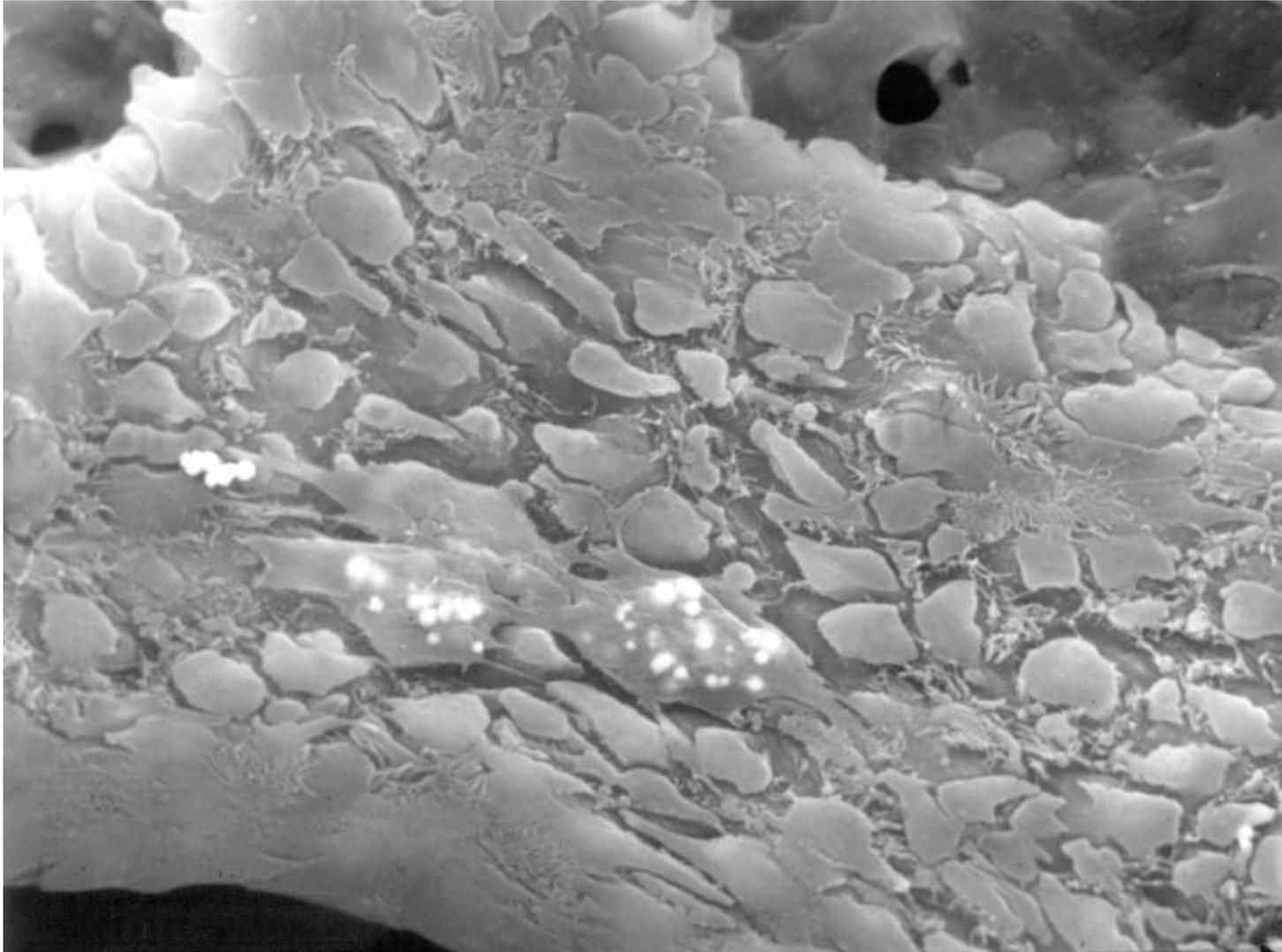
# Rat Lung Tissue Dissected to Demonstrate the Junction of the Terminal Airway and Proximal Alveolar Region



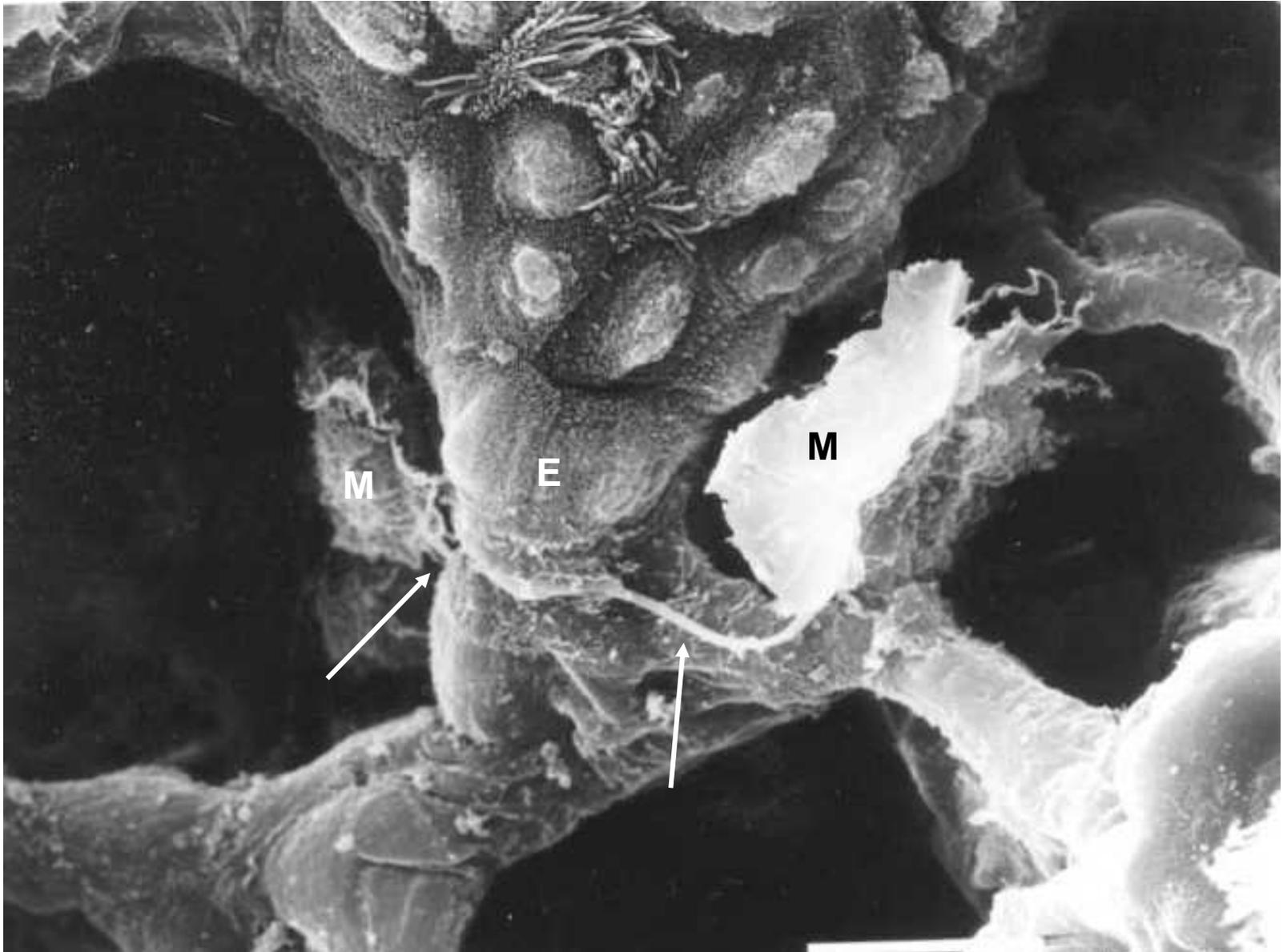
# Iron Particle (↑) Deposition in the Lungs of Exposed Rats



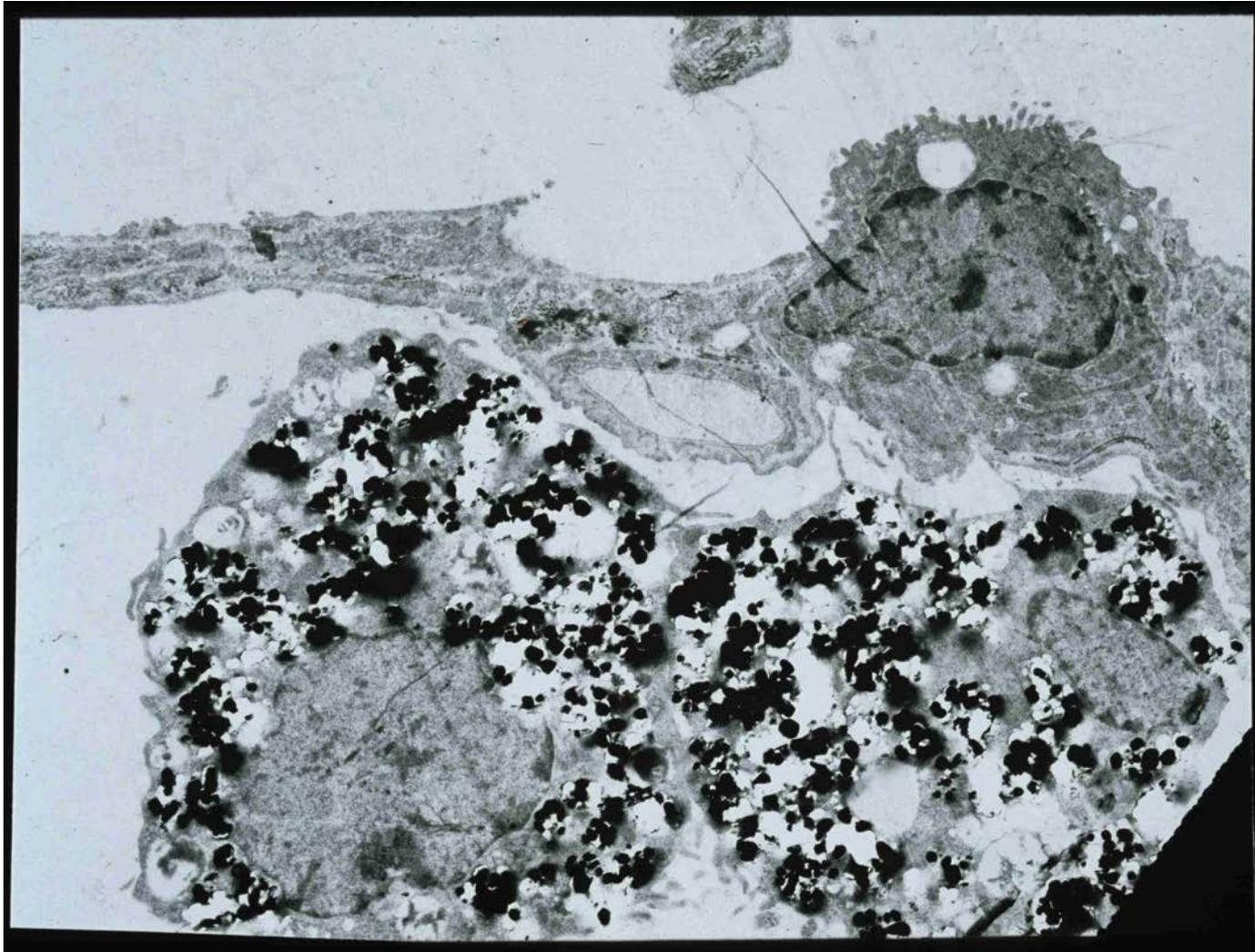
# Alveolar Macrophage Migration to Iron Particle Deposition and Phagocytosis

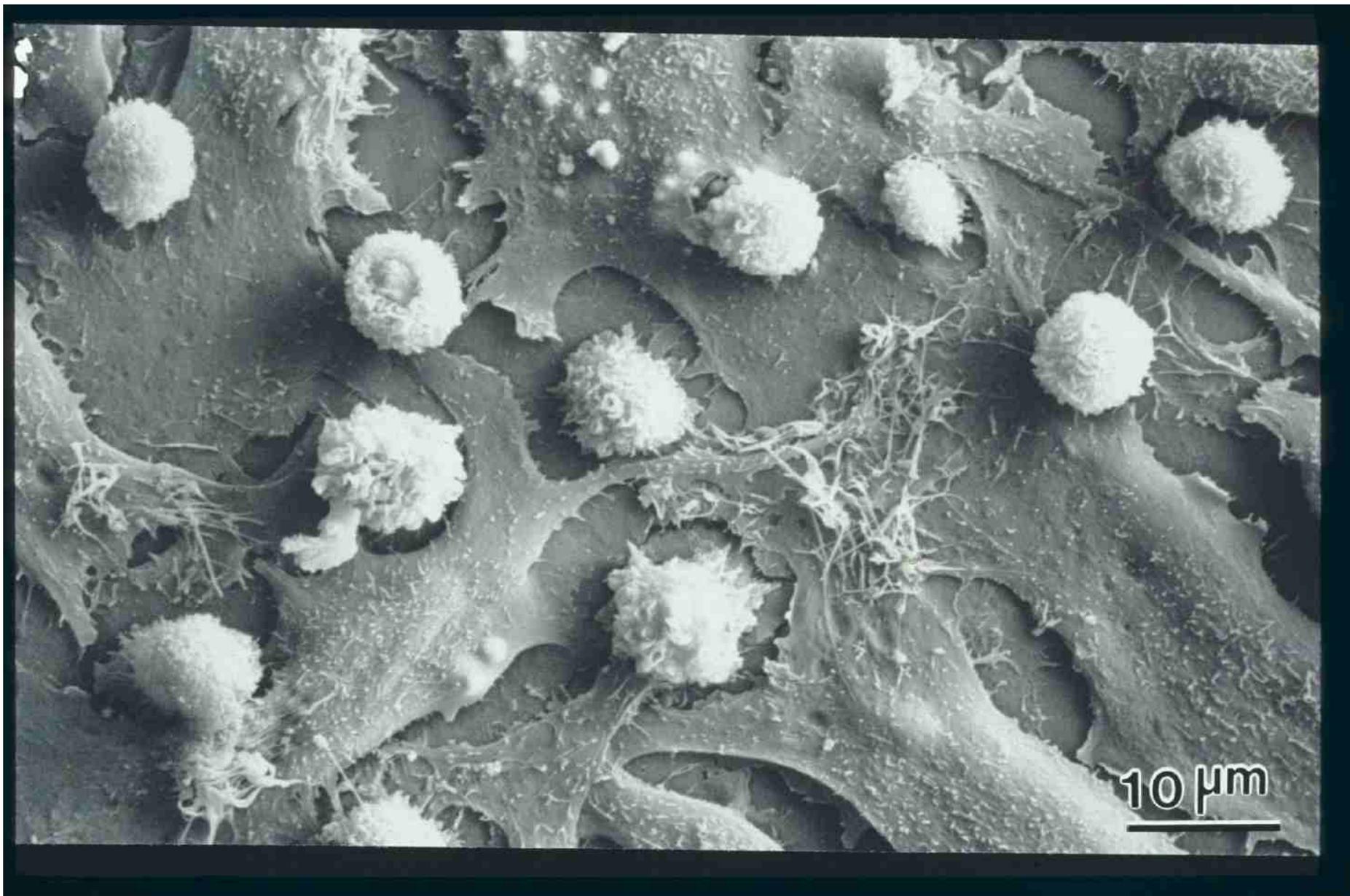


# Alveolar MΦs (M) Sharing a Chrysotile Asbestos Fiber (↑) with an Alveolar Epithelial Cell (E)



# Macrophage phagocytosis of $\text{TiO}_2$ particles





# Comparisons of *in vivo* and *in vitro* toxicity results using the same particle-types – Sayes *et al.* 2007

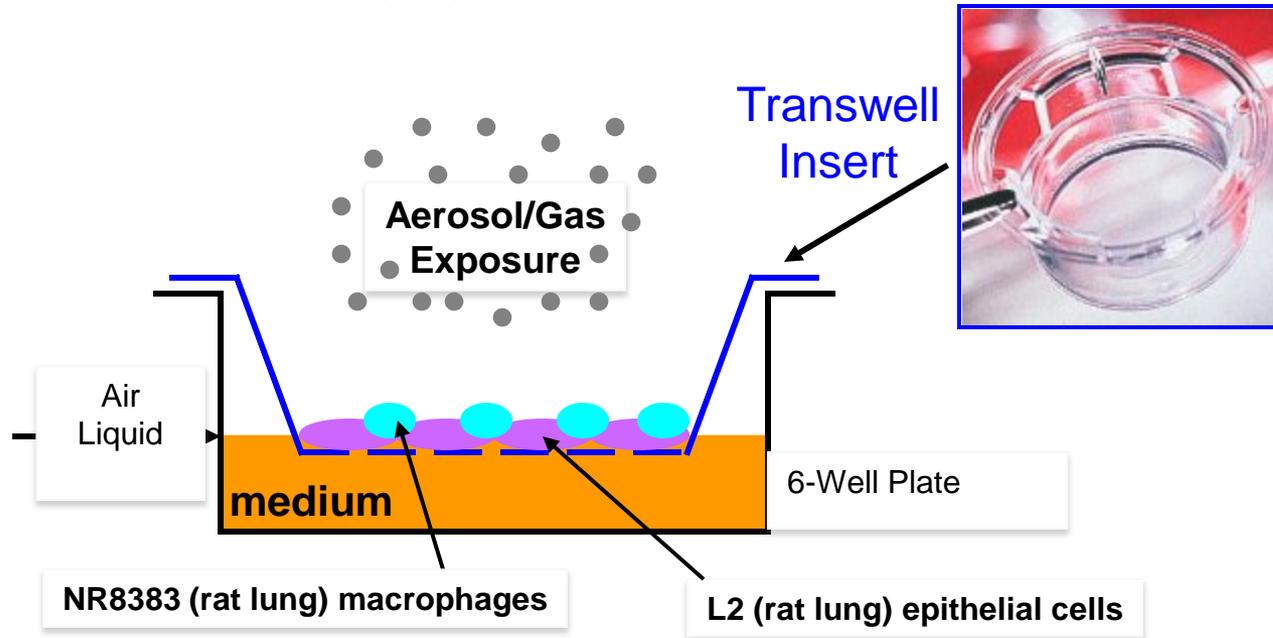
- In two separate studies assessing the capacity of *in vitro* studies to predict the pulmonary toxicity of particles *in vivo* – the tests systems utilized were not accurate screens for inflammatory potential or cytotoxic effects *in vivo*.
- *In vitro* studies may be more suitable for mechanistic toxicity studies wherein hypotheses are being tested.
- Utilization of *in vitro* studies to serve as predictive toxicity screens need further development and validation.

**How can we improve on  
the predictive value for  
developing *in vitro*  
pulmonary screening  
assays to assess toxicity  
of particulates?**

**S Ng and DB Warheit**

# Revising the *In vitro* strategy

- Need for *In vitro* cell-based assays for pulmonary toxicity tests / screening
- Conventional submerged system
- vs. Air-Liquid Interface (ALI)



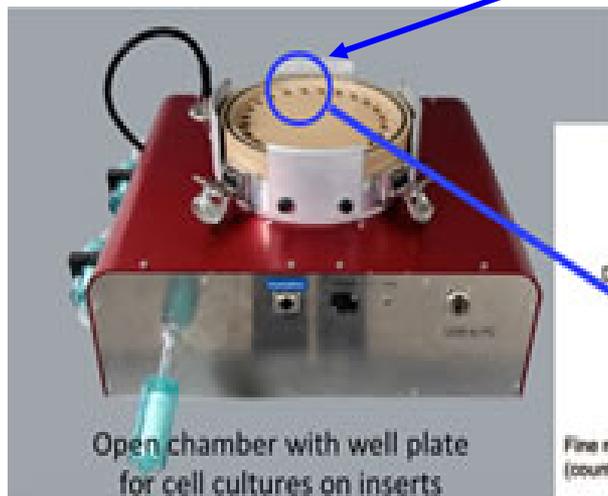
- Aims:**
- (1) Optimize Cell Growth/Assay Conditions and Parameters
  - (2) Develop Toxicity End-points/Assays Applicable to ALI Co-Cultures
  - (3) Purchase & Set-up the In Vitro Aerosol Exposure Chamber

# Nano-Aerosol Chamber for In Vitro Toxicology

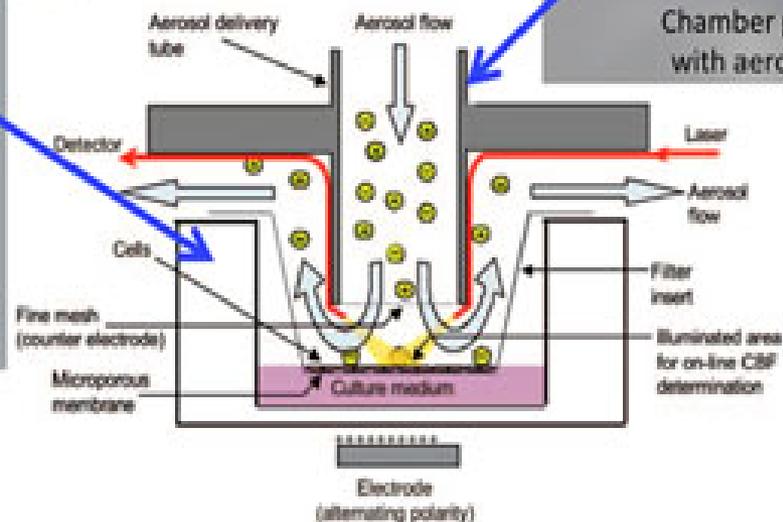
## Features:

- Internal heater & humidifier
- RH & T sensors
- Integrated pumps & flow control
- Aerosol charger

Savi et al., *Environ. Sci. Technol.*, 42, 5667–5674, 2008



## Air-Liquid Interface (ALI) Co-Cultures



# Aims / Method:

**24-hr exposures to ZnO fine particles, applied in suspension, cells maintained on ALI**

## **1. Optimization:**

**(a) Cell seeding density (0.25 or 0.5 x 10<sup>5</sup> total cells/cm<sup>2</sup>)**

**(b) L2 (epithelial) to NR8383 (macrophage) ratio**

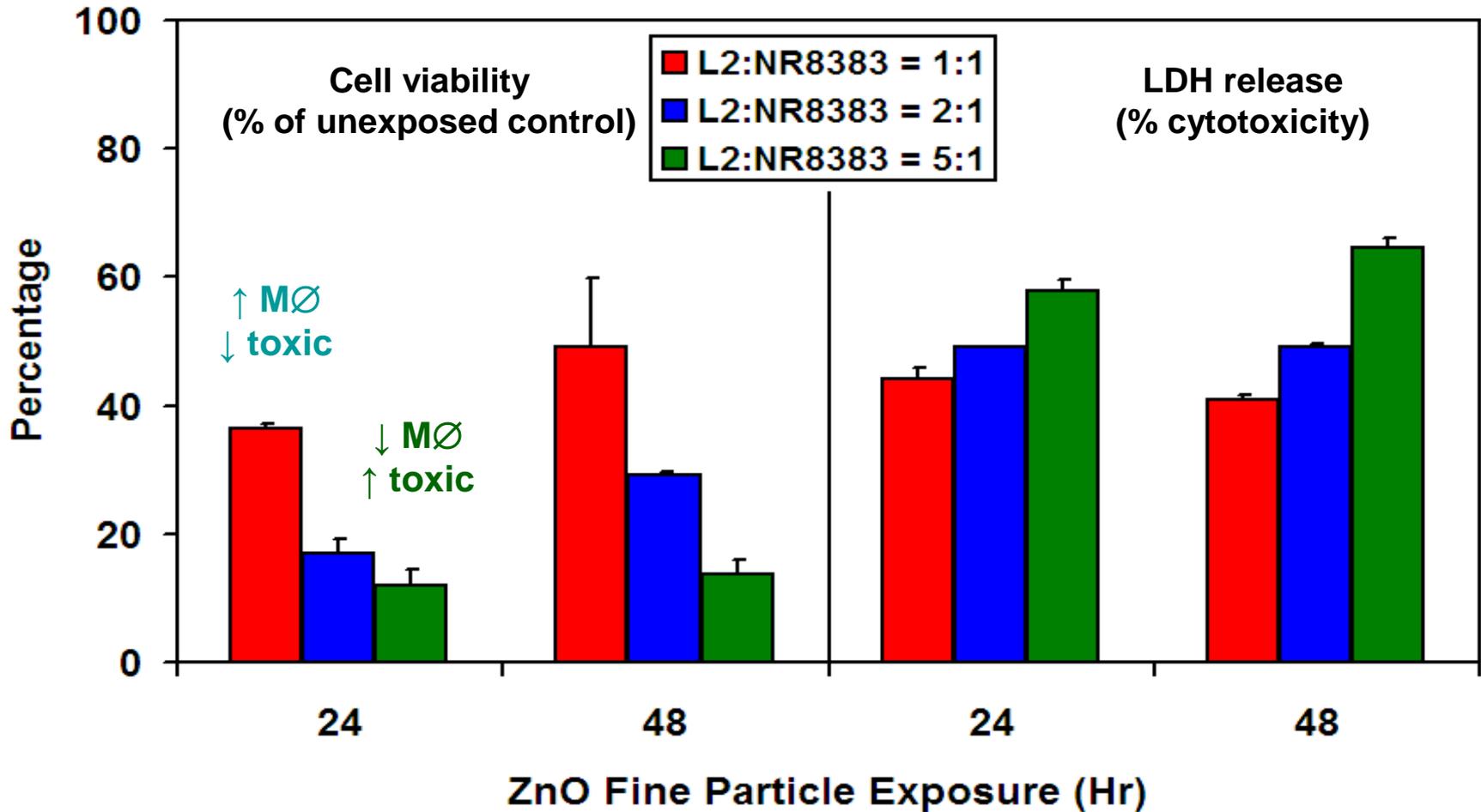
**1:1, 2:1 (↓ MØ), 5:1 (↓↓ MØ)**

**(c) Immortalized NR8383 macrophages vs. MØ from rat lungs**  
**- biologically relevant substitute**

## **• 2. Develop Toxicity End-points / Assays:**

- - [XTT viability assay](#) – metabolism (mitochondrial dehydrogenase)**
- - [LDH release assay](#) – cell lysis (lactate dehydrogenase)**
- - [Cytokines](#): IL-6, TNF-a, MIP-2**

**Result : Percent cell viability and cytotoxicity of 20  $\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$  fine-sized ZnO particle exposure varied with L2(epithelial):NR8383(M $\emptyset$ ) cell ratios**



Mean (n=2)  $\pm$  SD; Seeding density =  $0.25 \times 10^5$  total cells/cm $^2$

# Developing Reliable High Throughput Screening (HTS) Assays- How do we get there? [a suggested pathway]

- Absence of validated screening tools
- Many of the current published study designs incorporate high-dose overload acute exposures to single cells concomitant with a single postexposure time period and do not consider that underlying mechanisms are dose-dependent or time-course related.

## How do we get there? (2) – suggested template

- Reliable *in vivo* data – as a foundation
- Currently – a paucity of useful *in vivo* hazard data to establish a foundation for development of better screening tools
- Need development of relevant *in vivo* hazard data based upon simulation of relevant routes of exposure and realistic exposure conditions as a starting point

## How do we get there (3)

- Suggest building a relevant *in vivo* database of 5 – 10 representative nanomaterial-types and then benchmarking *in vitro* and *in silico* methodologies vs. the *in vivo* results for a particular simulated exposure route.

# How do we get there (4)

- *In vitro* studies need to focus on more complex experimental design issues:
- More robust nanomaterial characterization;
- Relevant dose and dosimetry;
- Dose response and time course characteristics;
- Appropriate target cells;
- Development of standardized reference materials or benchmark (positive) controls.