

Precision-cut Lung Slices (PCLS): Long-term evaluation of Nanoparticles



Holger P. Behrsing, Ph.D.
Principal Scientist
Respiratory Toxicology Program

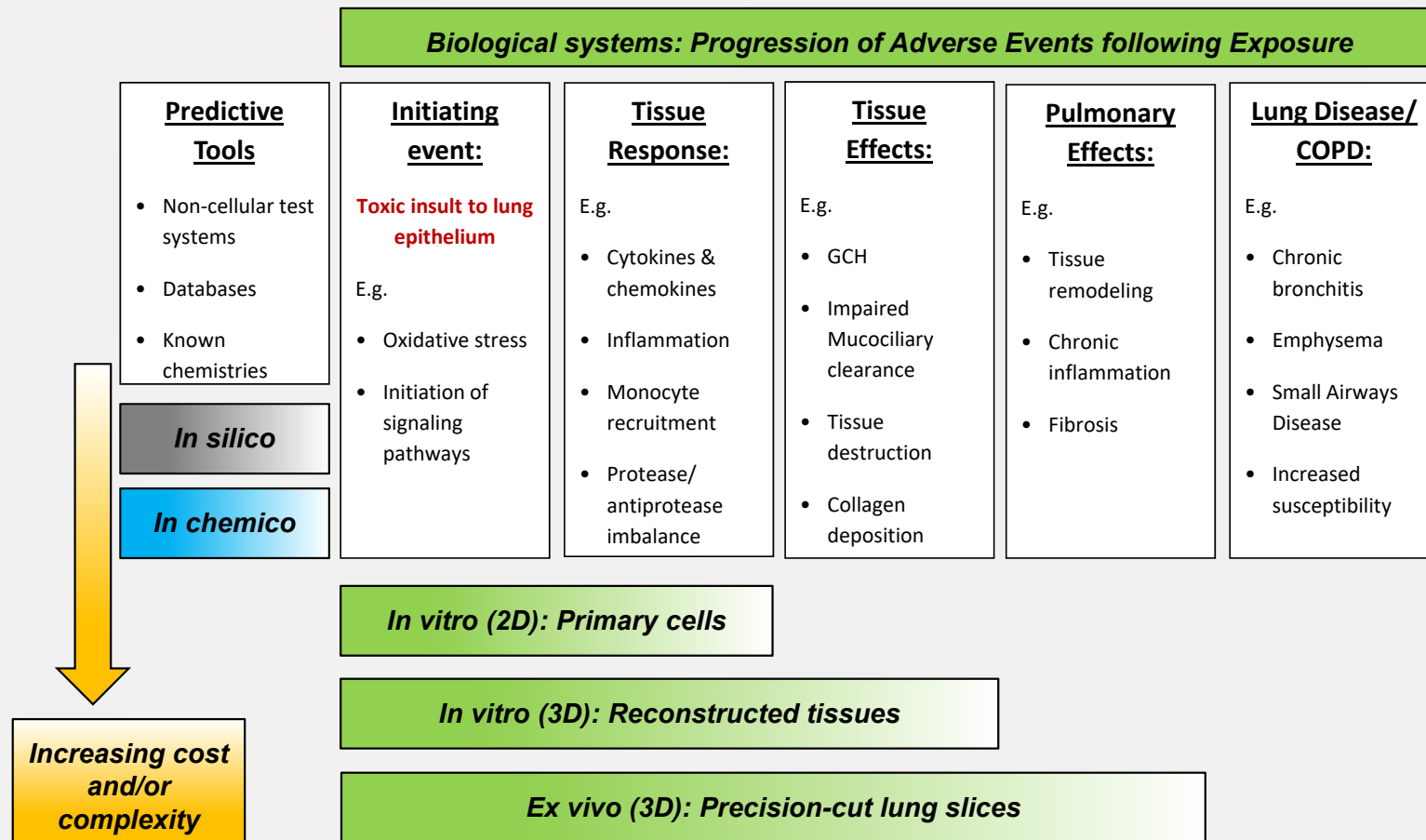


SCIENCE

EDUCATION

OUTREACH

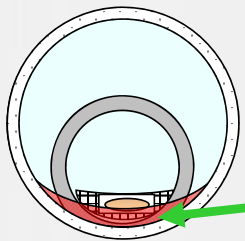
Adverse Respiratory Events & Choice of System



Exposure Methods: Solubles & Aerosols

Solubilized material, applied to PCLS

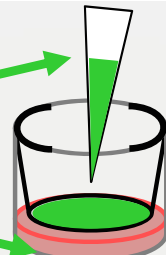
Roller culture



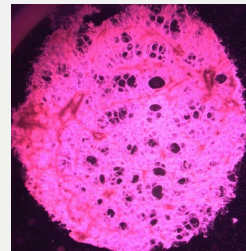
ALI/submersion culture

Apical or Basolateral Delivery

Medium Delivery



Tissue insert at air liquid interface (ALI)



Novel: Digital Dispensing

TECAN/HP D300



ALI/submersion culture

3 nL droplets

Accurate delivery to ALI



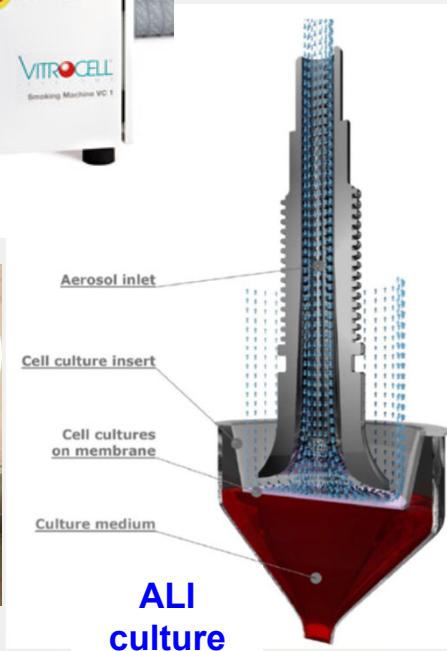
- Hybrid technology?
- DMSO or aqueous-based solutions
- Minimal volume delivery

Smoke/Aerosol /Gas Delivery

VITROCELL® VC-1

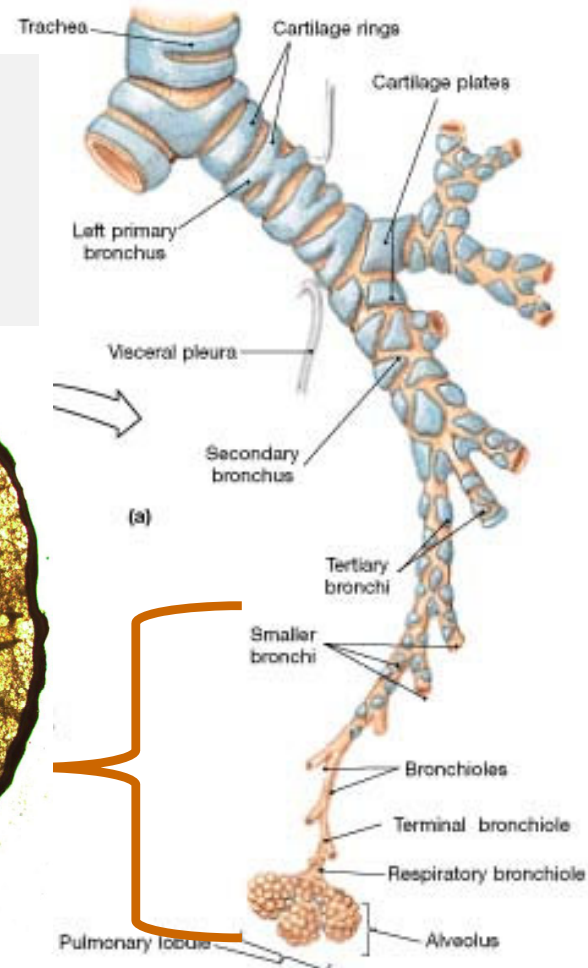
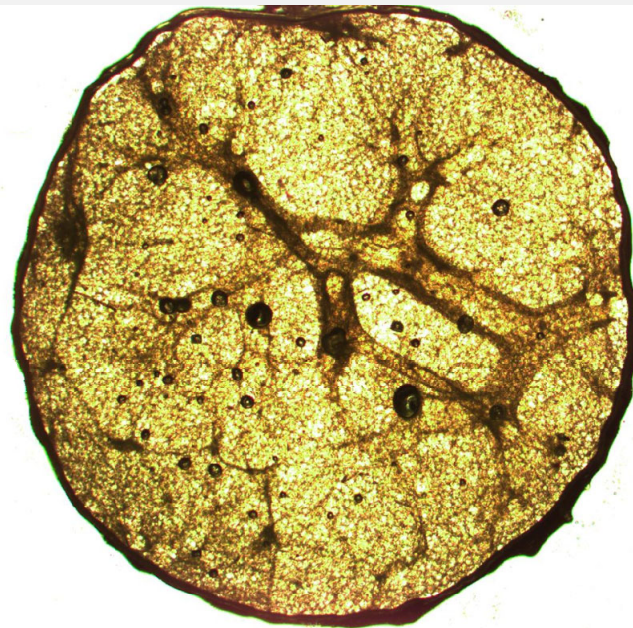


- Most relevant!
- Dosimetry?
- Cost!

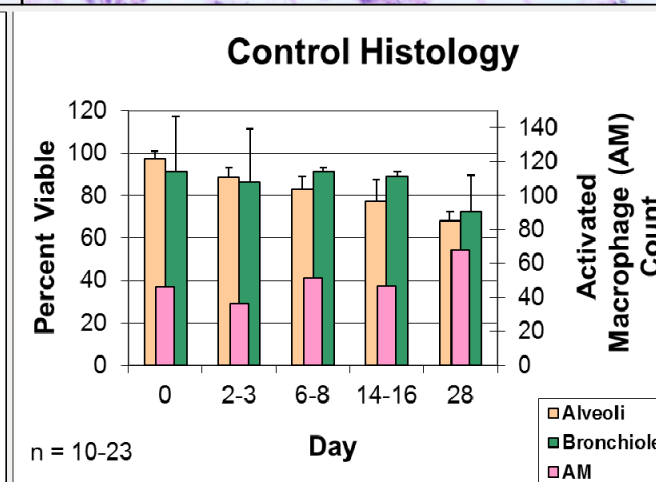
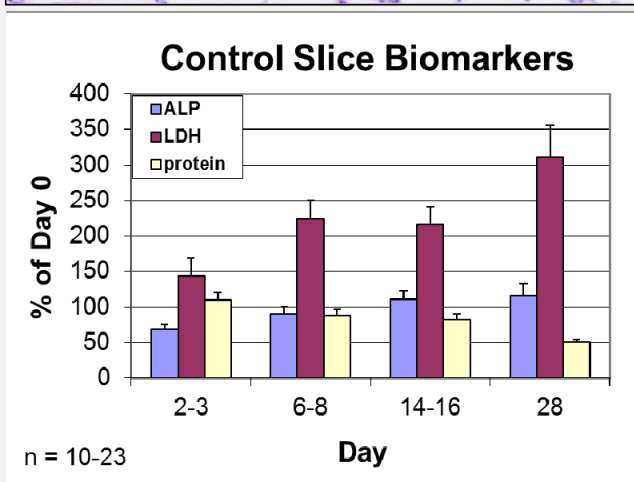
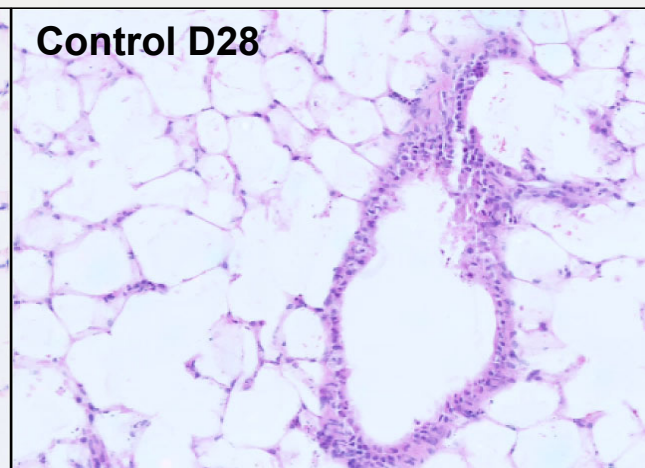
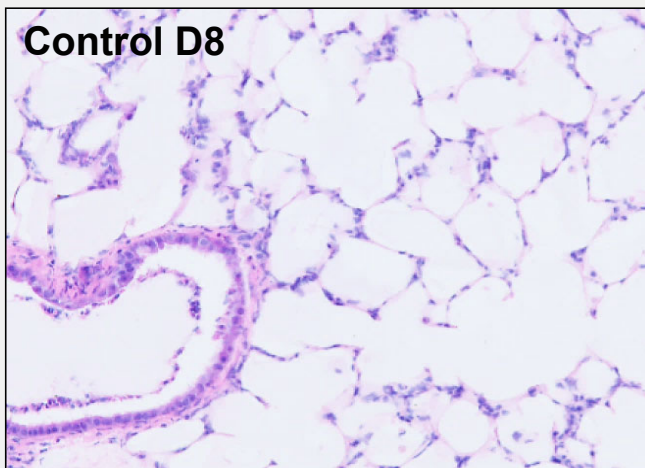


In Vitro/Ex vivo Models: PCLS

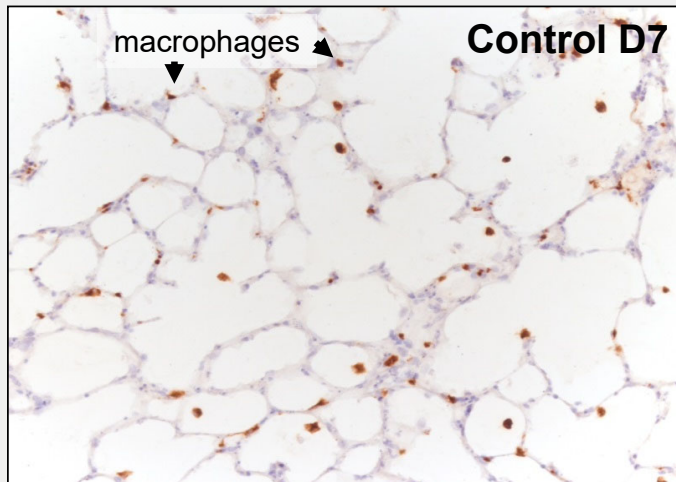
PCLS can represent all lung regions present in tissue source



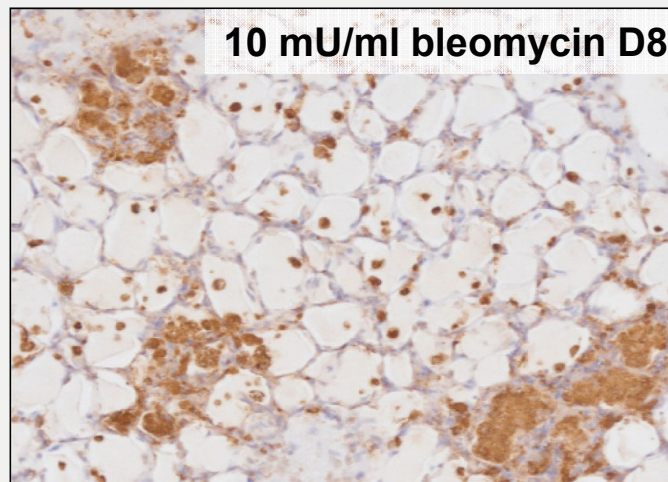
PCLS: Long Term Culture (e.g. rat PCLS)



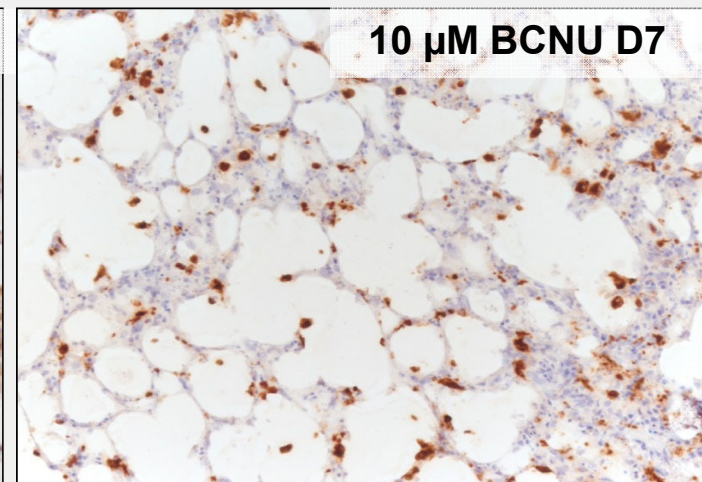
PCLS: Compound-induced Macrophage Activation



Negative control PCLS exhibit a **baseline ED-1 staining of macrophages**. Macrophages are maintained in cultures for 28 or more days



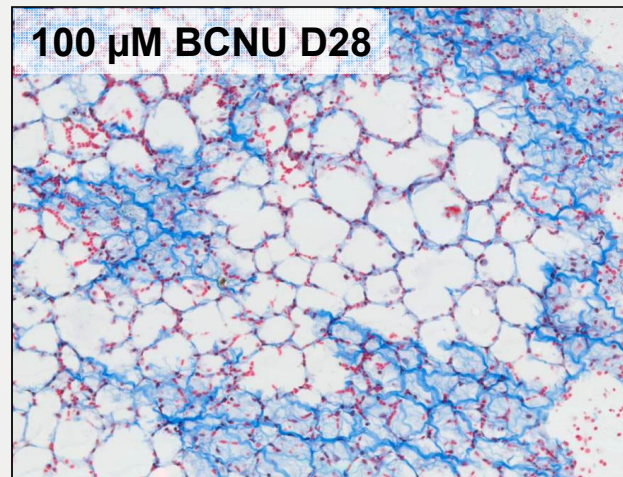
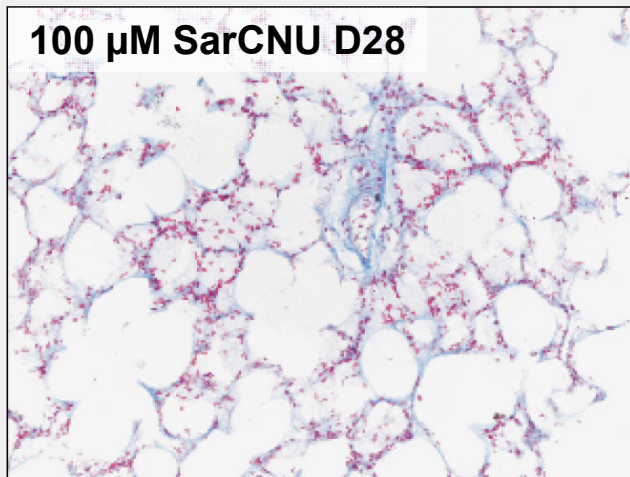
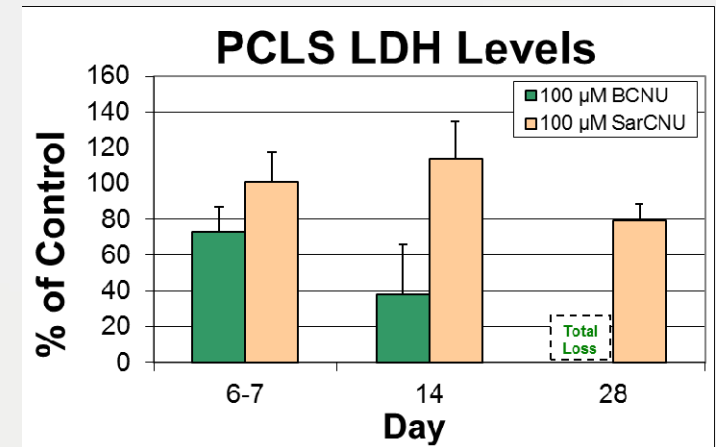
Bleomycin treatment results in **patches of activated macrophages filling alveolar spaces**; many solitary macrophages also seen



BCNU (carmustine) exposure shows **numerous macrophages**, many of which have **infiltrated alveolar walls** mimicking interstitial pneumonitis

PCLS (rat): BCNU vs SarCNU Comparison

- **BCNU** has been reported to cause **lung damage and fibrosis** in 20-30% of the patients receiving it (Weiss, Poster et al. 1981)...
- More recently an analog of BCNU, 2-Chloroethyl-3-sarcosinamide-1-nitrosurea (**SarCNU**), has been shown to be well-tolerated, more effective, and **less toxic**...



Activated Macrophages in Lung Slices				
Compound	μM	Counts ^a		
		Day 6-7	Day 14	Day 28
Vehicle	0	52	48	59
BCNU	1	60	94*	-
	10	67*	71*	-
	100	66	102**	81*
SarCNU	1	56	52	-
	10	61	57	-
	100	69*	76*	71

^a Means of 3 measurements on 3-4 replicates
 * p<0.05 ** p<0.01

Quartz Silica and Silicosis



<https://www.greenscreenchemicals.org/gs-assessments/chemical/14808-60-7>

MIN-U-SIL® 5 GROUND SILICA CAS# 14808-60-7

CHARACTERISTICS:

MIN-U-SIL® 5 is a natural, fine ground silica with high purity. The consistent pH and narrow size distribution of MIN-U-SIL® 5 allows very high loading with minimal effect on viscosity and cure rate. MIN-U-SIL® 5 is inert, and offers increased shore durometer, reduced shrinkage, improved thermal conductivity, increased density, improved oil resistance, and high dielectric strength.

Specifications:

Particle Size	
*5 microns or less	96%
Median Size	1.6 microns
*Retained on 325 mesh	.004%

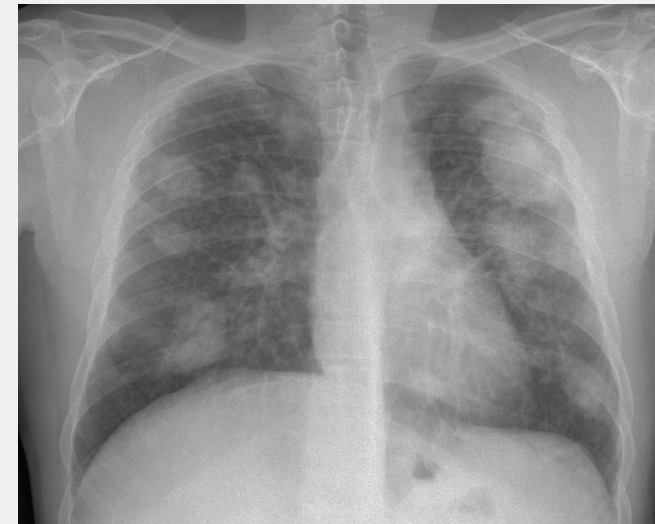
<http://www.wrchem.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/MIN-U-Sil-5-Ground-Silica-TDS.pdf>

- CAS#: 14808-60-7
- Chemical Name: **Quartz**
- Primary Applications: Hydraulic Fracturing, Processing Aids and Additives
- Quartz is a chemical that has many uses, including in glass manufacturing, ceramics, foundry, abrasives, hydraulic fracturing, furnaces, fillers, paints, and filtration.

Effects of Silicosis

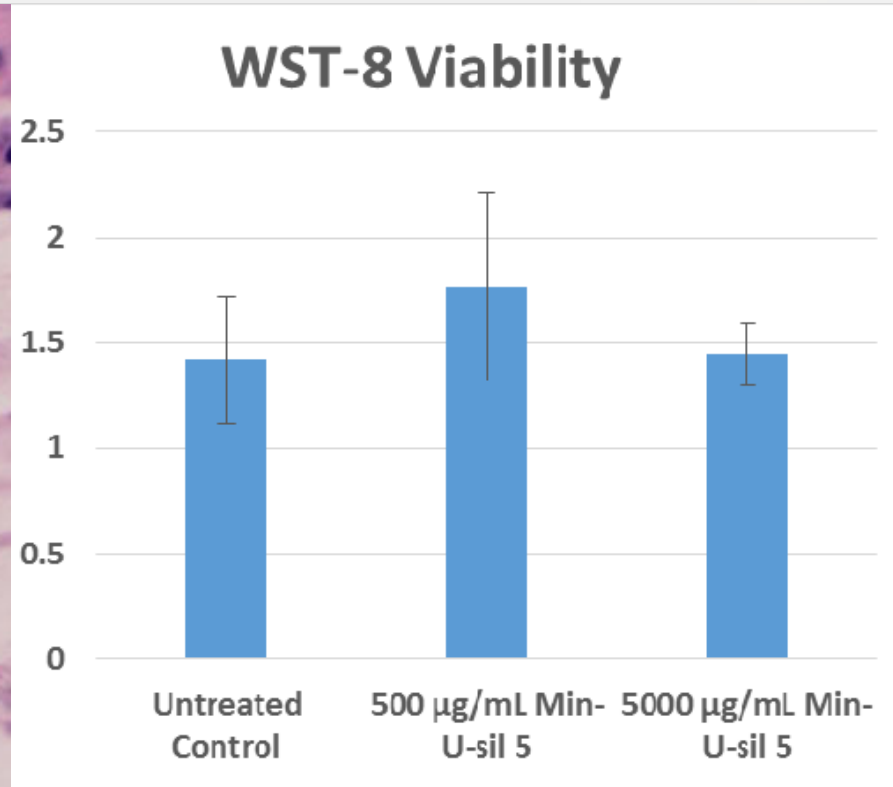
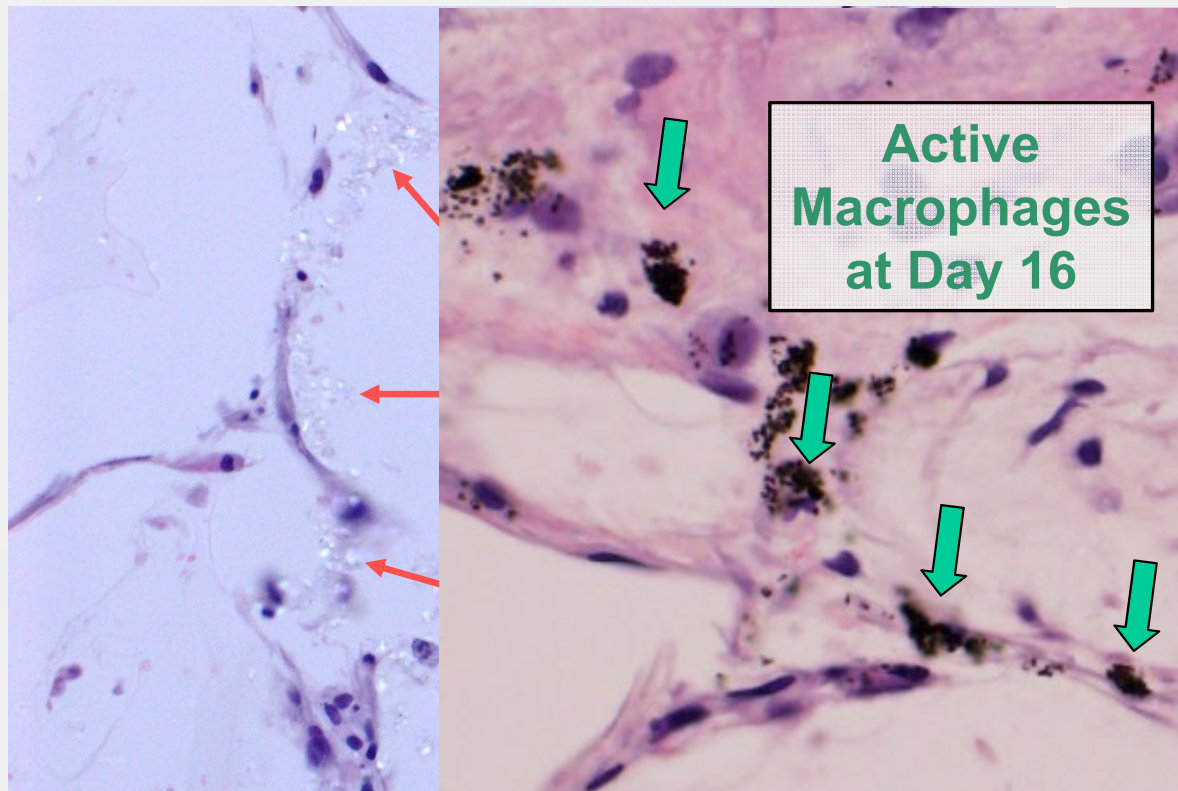
- **Lung cancer** – Silica has been classified as a human lung carcinogen.
- **Bronchitis/Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disorder.**
- **Tuberculosis** – Silicosis makes an individual more susceptible to TB.
- **Scleroderma** – a disease affecting skin, blood vessels, joints and skeletal muscles.
- Possible renal disease.
- Respiratory failure, which may eventually lead to death.

<https://www.osha.gov/Publications/silicosis.html>



Pilot Study: Min-U-sil 5 Exposure to HuPCLS

500 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ Min-U-sil 5, 16 days (daily refeedings)

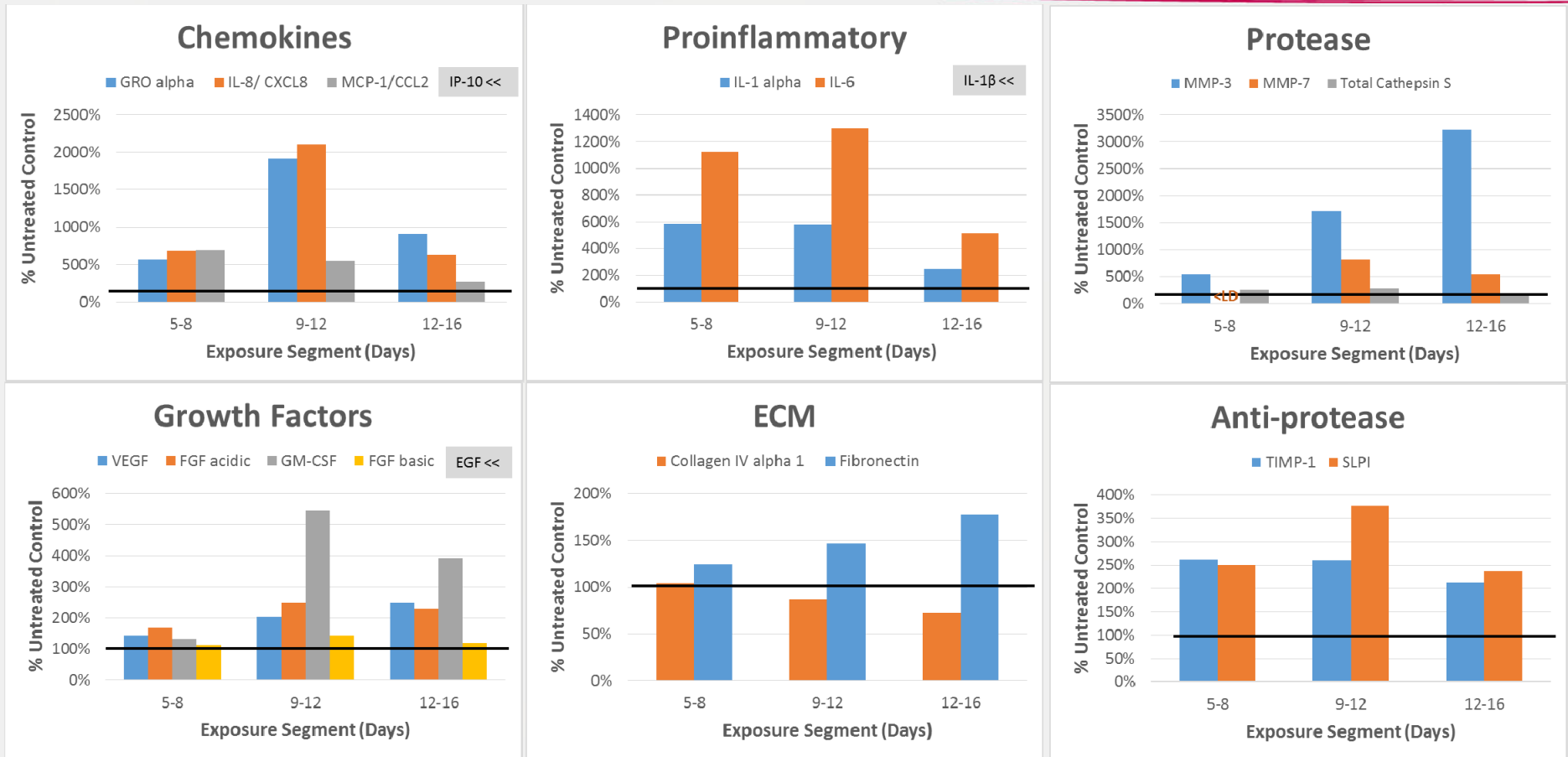


Pathologist:

- Particles seemingly inert
- No macrophages engulfing
- No overt toxic events seen

No overt viability loss

500 µg/mL Min-U-sil 5 Exposure to HuPCLS



Note: values above the highest standard were extrapolated by Luminex xPonent software



Summary

- **PCLS can be maintained for weeks, allowing chronic exposure and evaluation of long-term effects**
 - Native architecture for histological observations
- **Demonstrated utility:**
 - Differences in species sensitivity (not shown) and analog potency
 - Concentration-dependent reversibility of inflammation (not shown)
- **Response to silica exposure**
- Prolonged PCLS exposure to MinUsil 5 resulted in prolonged elevation of inflammatory markers, but no loss of overall viability yet offering the processes such as chronic inflammation
- Nanoparticle risk scenarios include repeat and/or prolonged exposures that may result in chronic inflammatory states – potentially leading to pulmonary fibrosis.
- The PCLS test system offers a long-term culture period during which multiple, immune-competent cell types, and chronic inflammatory processes can be monitored to study the effects of nanoparticles.

