

4-4-2016

# 15 years of commercializing nanomedicine into real medical products

Thomas J. Webster

*Northeastern University, Chemical Engineering, USA, th.webster@neu.edu*

Follow this and additional works at: [http://dc.engconfintl.org/nanotech\\_med](http://dc.engconfintl.org/nanotech_med)



Part of the [Engineering Commons](#)

---

## Recommended Citation

Thomas J. Webster, "15 years of commercializing nanomedicine into real medical products" in "Nanotechnology in Medicine: From Molecules to Humans", Prof. Lola Eniola-Adefeso, Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Michigan, USA Prof. Paolo Decuzzi, Italian Institute of Technology, Italy Eds, ECI Symposium Series, (2016). [http://dc.engconfintl.org/nanotech\\_med/3](http://dc.engconfintl.org/nanotech_med/3)

This Abstract and Presentation is brought to you for free and open access by the Proceedings at ECI Digital Archives. It has been accepted for inclusion in Nanotechnology in Medicine: From Molecules to Humans by an authorized administrator of ECI Digital Archives. For more information, please contact [franco@bepress.com](mailto:franco@bepress.com).

# 15 Years of Commercializing Medical Devices Using Nanotechnology

**Thomas J. Webster, Ph.D.**

The Arthur W. Zafiropoulo Professor and Department Chair

Department of Chemical Engineering

Northeastern University, Boston, MA 02115 USA

1<sup>st</sup> Past-President, U.S. Society For Biomaterials

Editor, *International Journal of Nanomedicine*

th.webster@neu.edu

# Disclosures

- I have a financial interest in some of the material to be presented via my involvement in:
  - Nanovis, LLC
  - Audax, Inc.
  - Perios, Inc.
  - NanoFe, Inc.
  - NanoSeleno, Inc.
  - NanoVault, Inc.
  - SensoNano, Inc.
  - Tyber Medical, Inc.
  - Stryker
  - Amedica
  - Vexti

# Current Problems in Healthcare



- Medical devices that fail
- Treating every patient the same
- Increasing costs
- Increasing patients
- Reactionary versus predictive
- And the list goes on...

What is the answer ?

# 15 Years Ago We Turned to Nanomedicine for Some Answers

**Nanotechnology:** The use of materials whose components exhibit significantly changed properties by gaining control of structures at the atomic, molecular, and supramolecular levels.

**Nanomedicine:** Applications of nanotechnology in medicine.

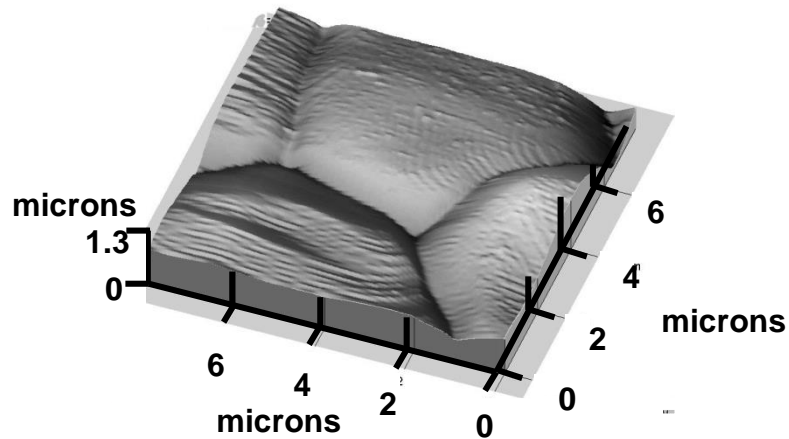
# **Why Use Nanotechnology In Medicine ?????**

# Nano-structured Medical Materials

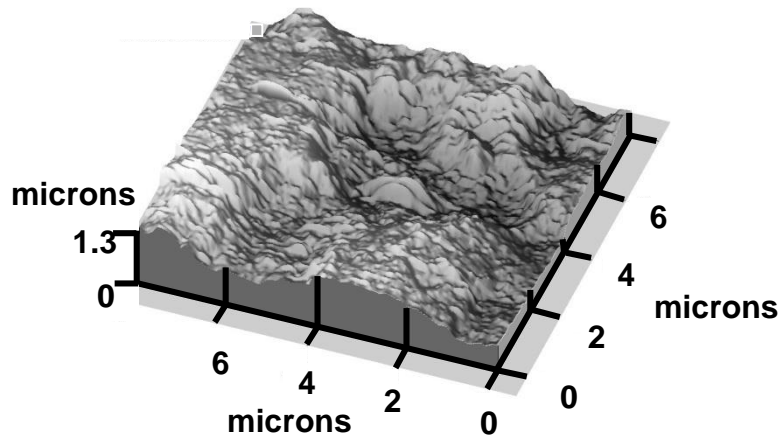
Compared to today's implant materials, nano-structured materials possess enhanced:

- surface area
- radio-opacity
- catalytic,
- optical,
- mechanical,
- electrical, and
- surface

properties that may improve existing biomedical implant applications.

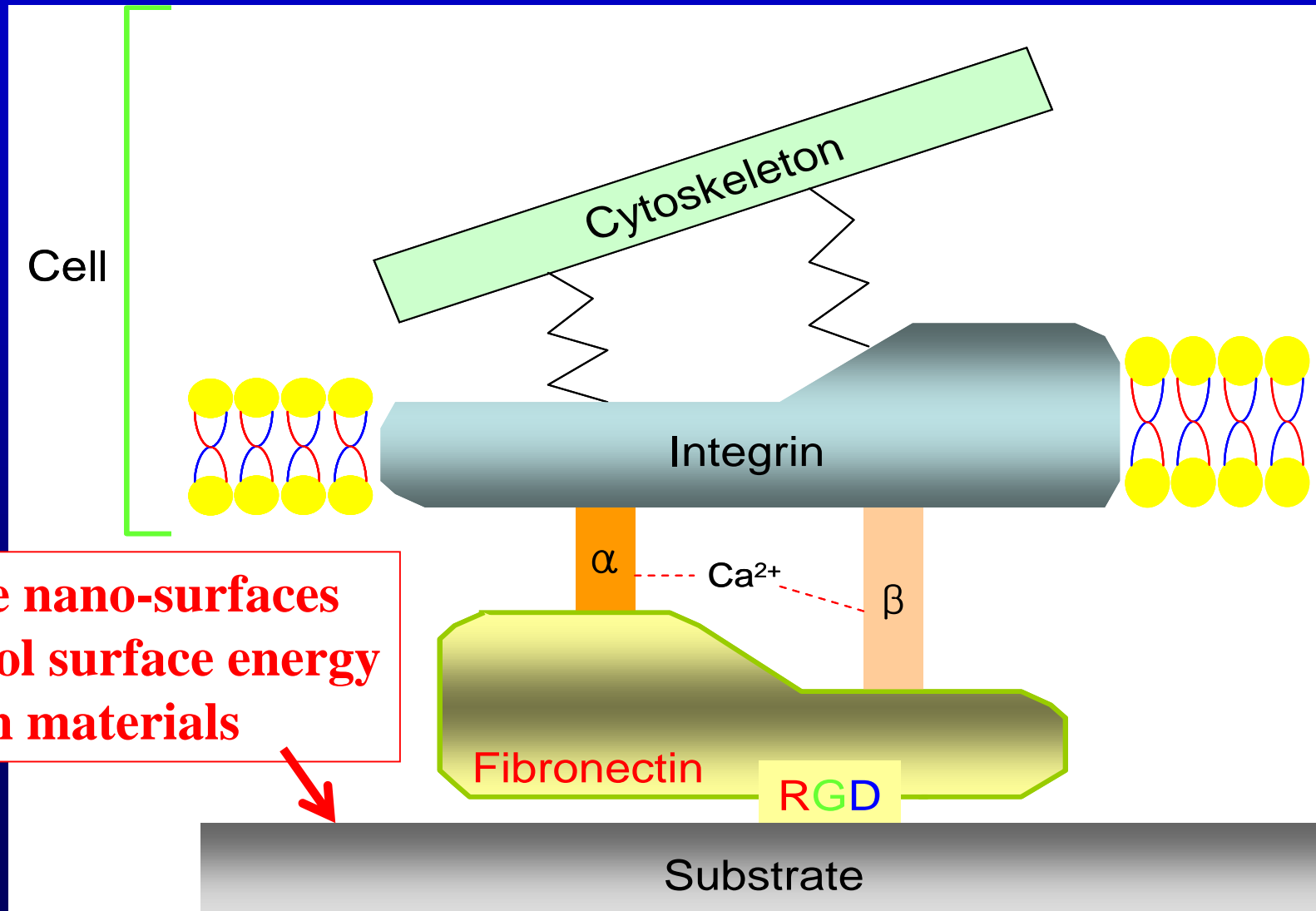


**Today's Implant**



**Nano-structured Implant**

# Initial Protein Coatings on Biomaterials Control Everything



**Create nano-surfaces  
to control surface energy  
on materials**

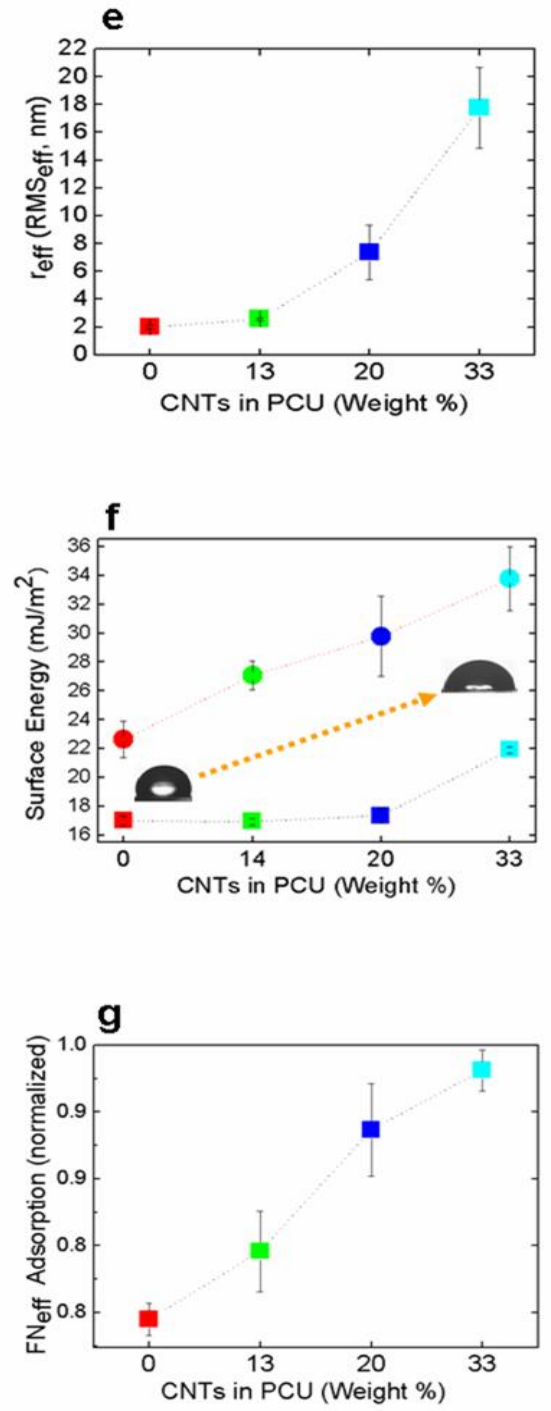
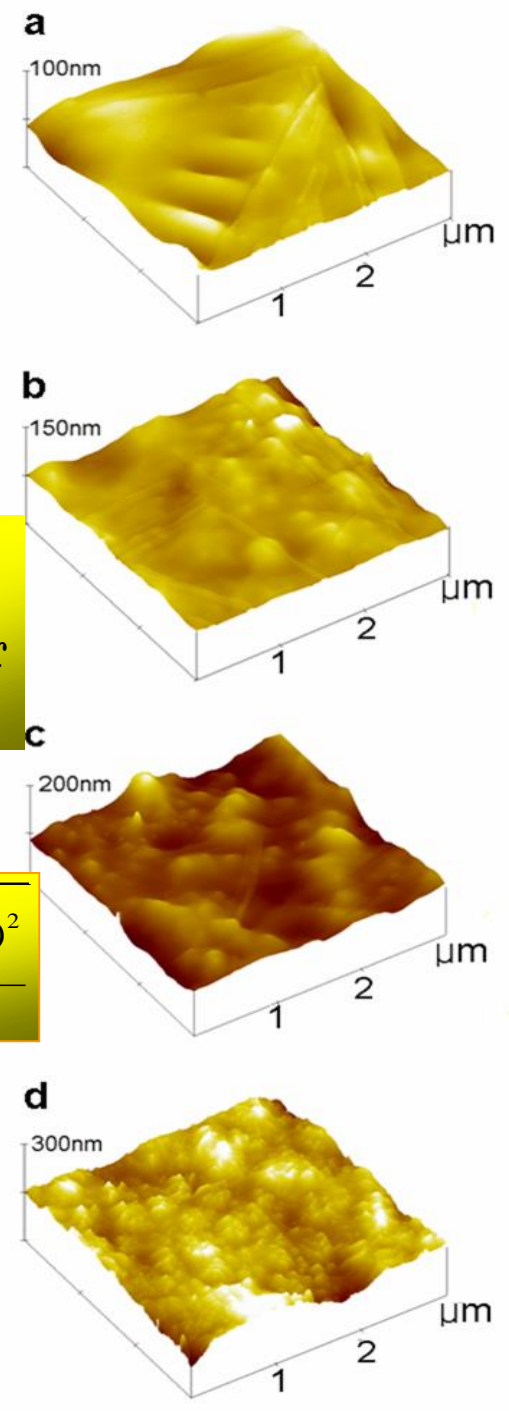
Substrate



# Results

$$E_s(r_{eff}) = E_{0,s} + \rho r_{eff}$$

$$r_{eff} = \frac{S_{unit}}{S_{measured}} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (Z_{i,filtered} - Z_{ave,filtered})^2}{N}}$$



We can increase nanoscale roughness and not change chemistry to control protein adsorption

and the FDA likes this !

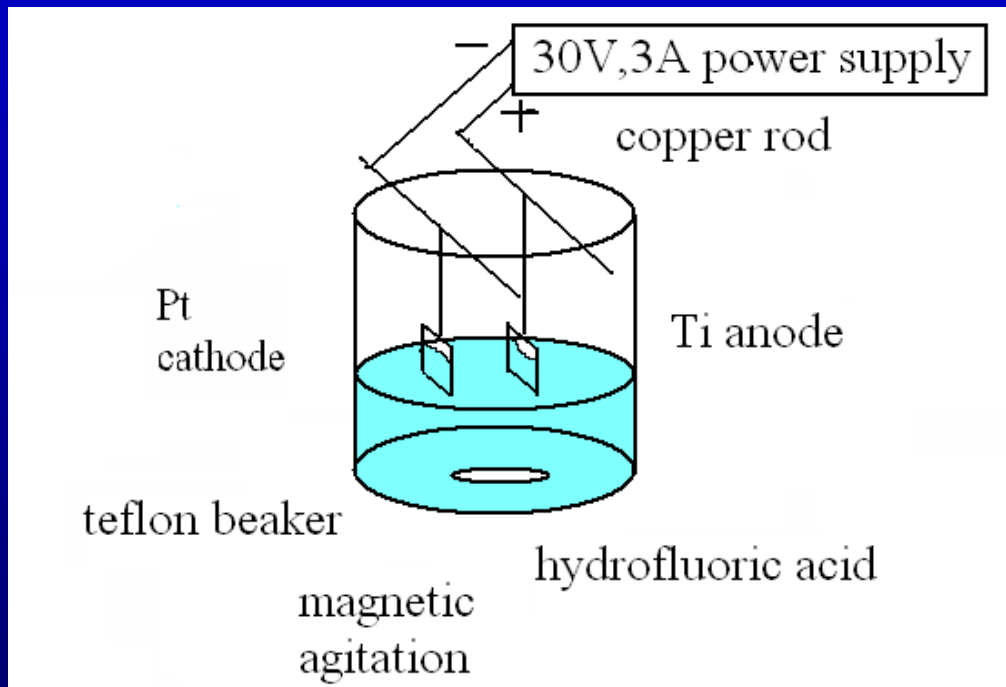
**Challenge #1: We need to establish more quantitative models to predict material-protein interactions that control cell behavior.**

**Challenge #2: Do not give up on  
“old” materials, there are ways  
to modify them to make them  
“new” and obtain quick  
FDA approval**

**The following are projects which  
have all received FDA approval  
with significant help from  
start-up companies.....**

# Commercialized by Nanovis, LLC

## **Anodized Titanium**



**Sketch map of anodization system**

### PROCEDURES:

Pretreatment: chemical polishing using HF/HNO<sub>3</sub> mixture

Anodization: 0.5 or 1.5%HF

Voltage: 20V

Time: 20 min

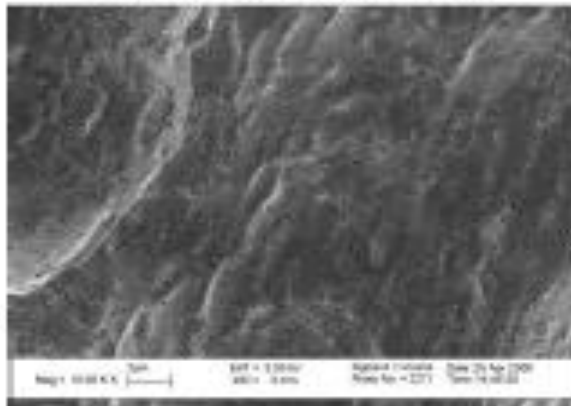
Rinse and dry

Clean: acetone and ethanol

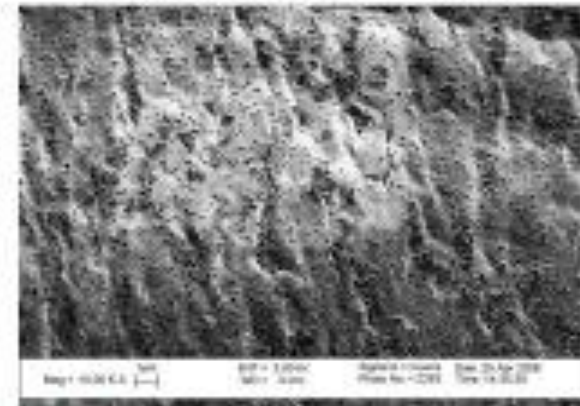
Sterilize

# Anodized Ti Nanotubular Screws

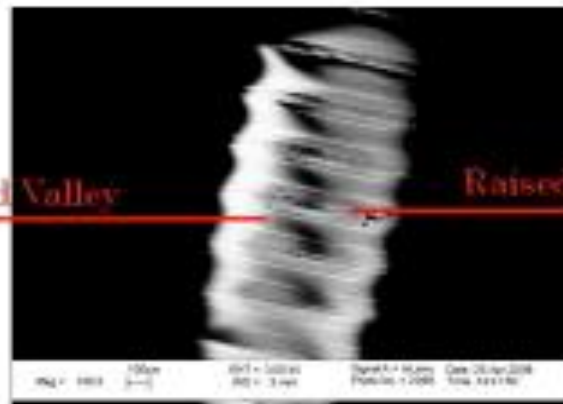
Low Magnification (10K)



Low Magnification (10K)



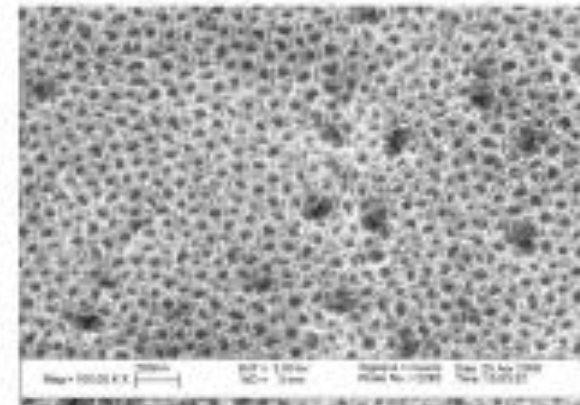
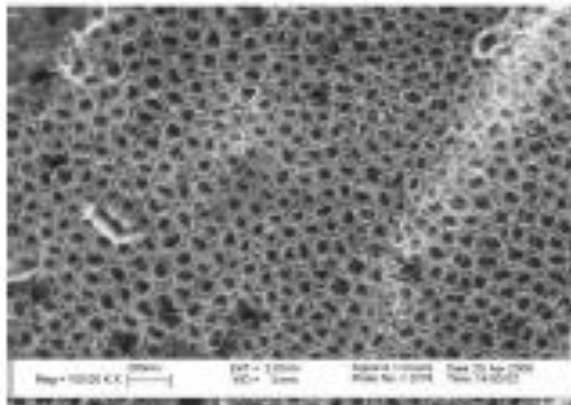
Nanotubular Pin



Grooved Valley

Raised Peak

Anodization

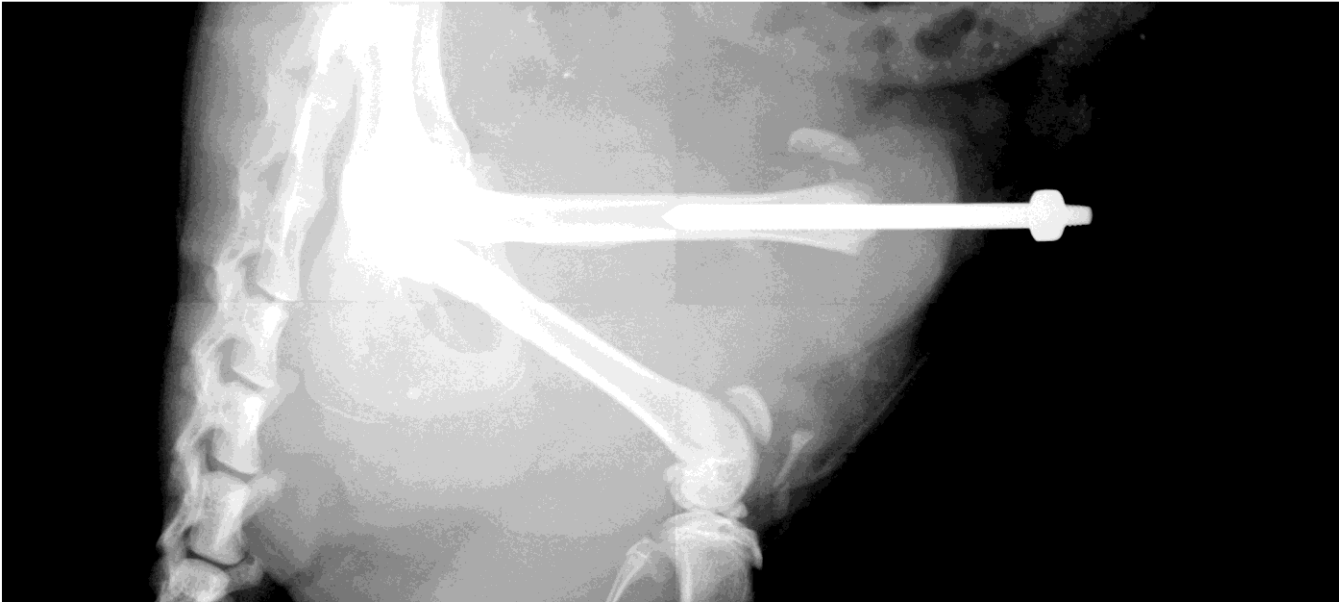


High Magnification (100K)

High Magnification (100K)

# Anodized Titanium Amputee Rat Model

[PatientID]: J14, [Access#]: 052908\_D7\_4035, [Name]: PHASE\_1, TCOID, [Gender]: , [Time]: 2008/05/29 12:27:07  
[File]: I20080529122707, [StudyID]: , [Study]: , [Proc]: , [Position]:  
[Physician]: , [TechID]: , [Tech]: , [Station]: FAXITRON, [Institution]:



**Ti Screw Insertion**

# Rat Walking on Anodized Titanium Implant as Soon as 3 Days After Surgery

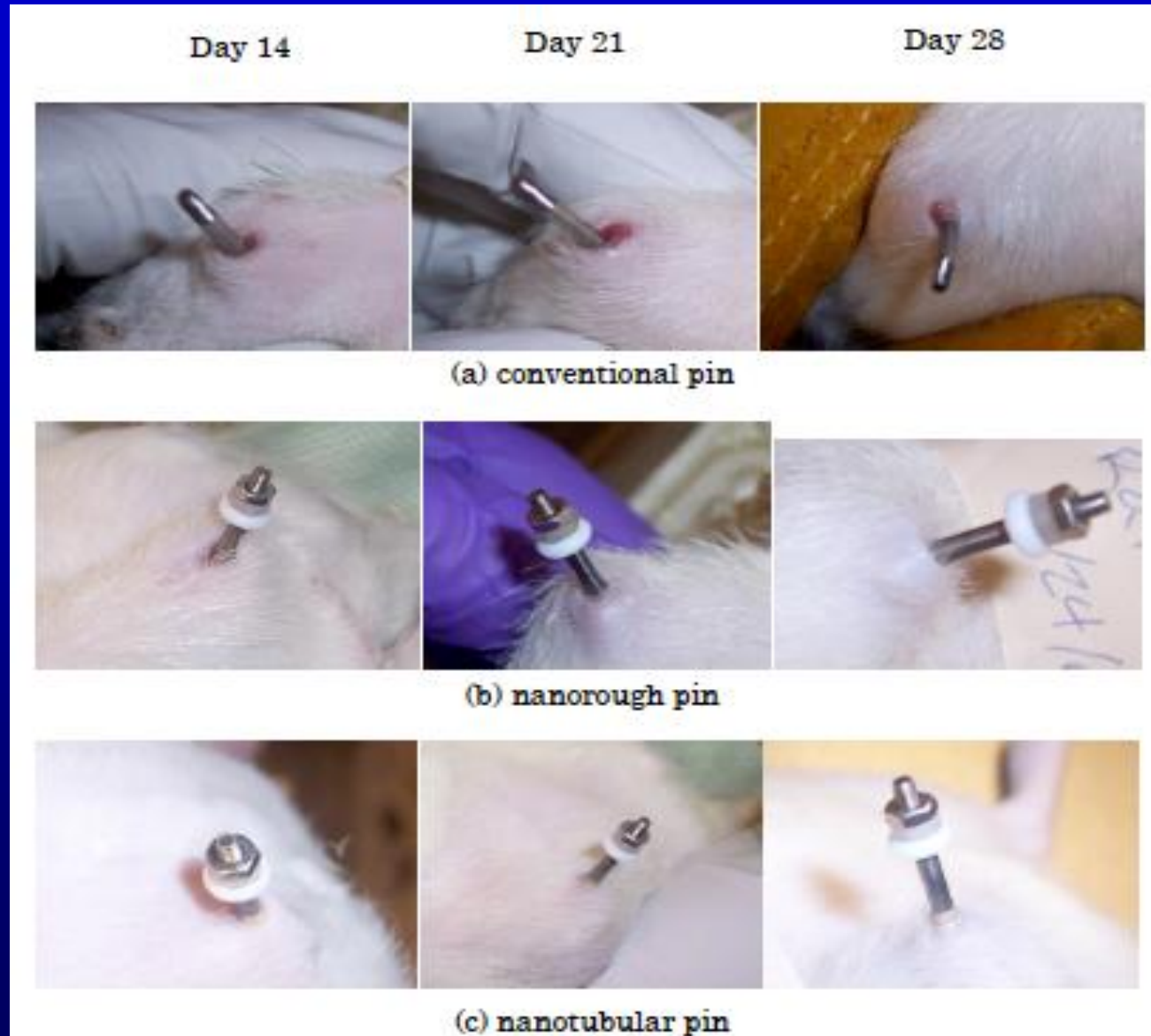




# Closed Wound with No Infection Surrounding Nanotextured Screws Only

Nanovis, LLC

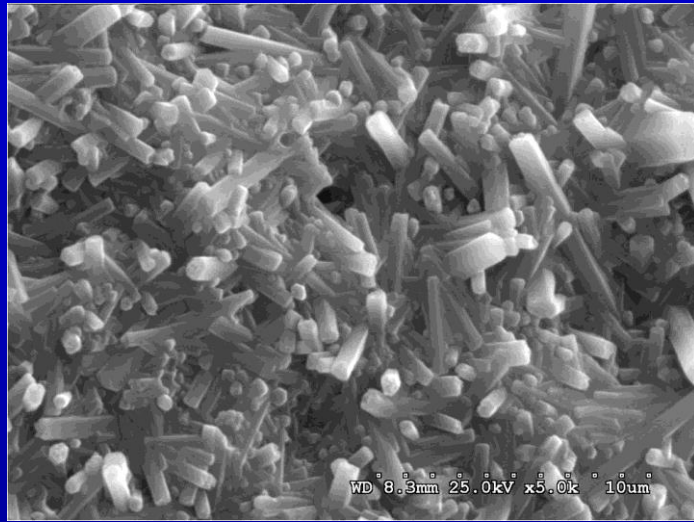
is now commercializing  
this as a pedical screw



**Challenge #3: We have an  
infection problem.**

**We need more biomaterial  
approaches that (without  
antibiotics) can inhibit bacteria  
functions but not kill  
mammalian cells.**

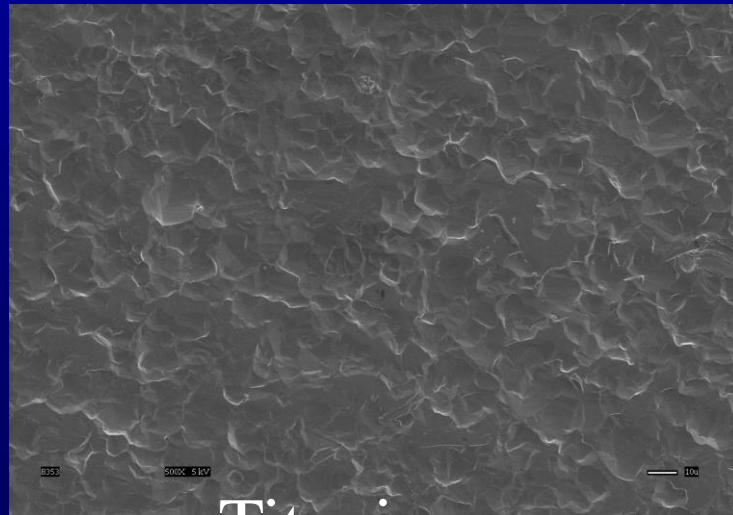
# Commercialized by Amedica: Nanostructured Silicon Nitride



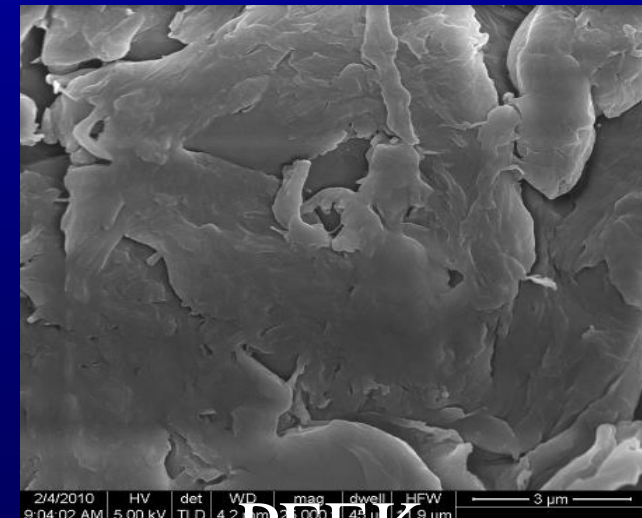
Nanorough Silicon Nitride



Smooth Silicon Nitride



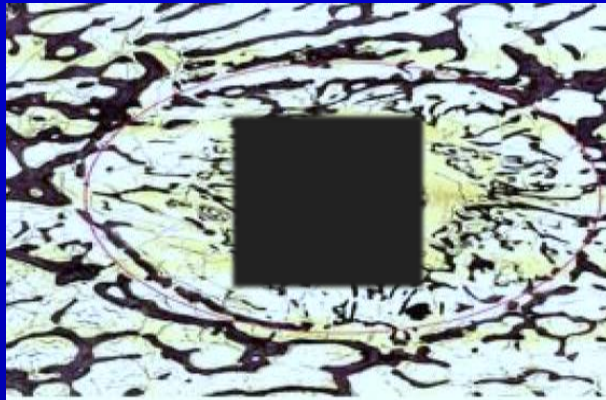
Titanium



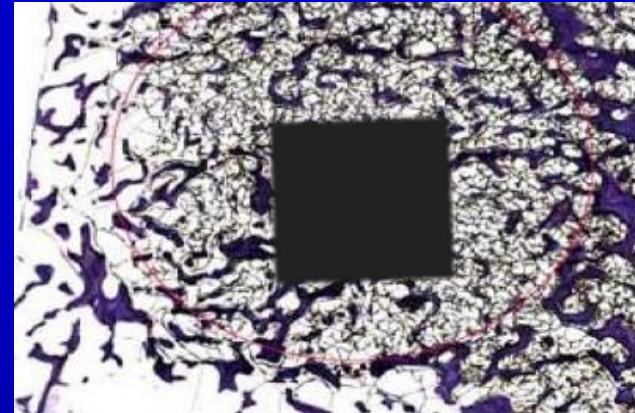
PEEK

# Silicon Nitride: 3 Months (bacteria inoculation)

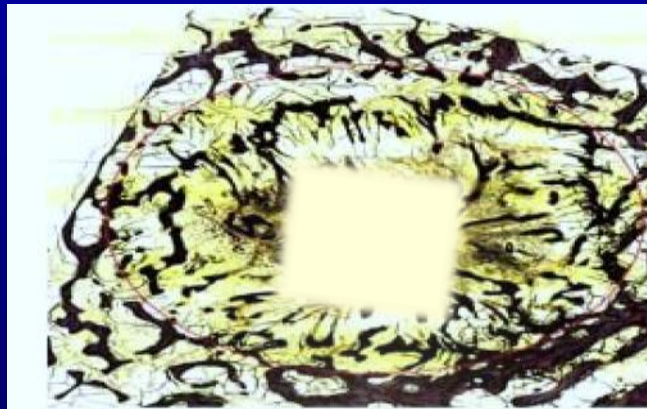
Rat calvaria  
model



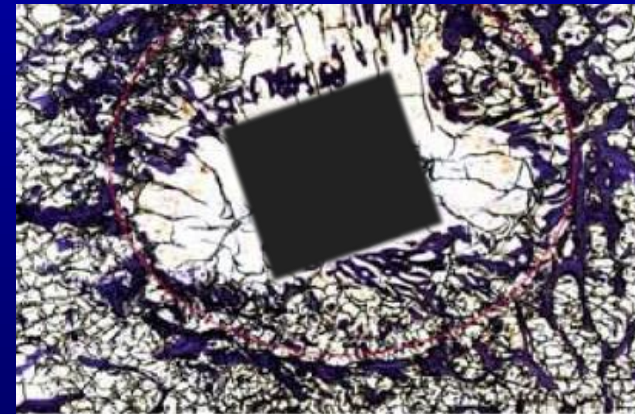
Titanium –  
9% bone-implant interface  
67% bacteria-implant interface  
26% of new bone growth in surgical area  
21% of bacteria growth in surgical area



Silicon Nitride (nano-rough) –  
41% bone-implant interface  
0% bacteria-implant interface  
42% of new bone growth in surgical area  
0% of bacteria growth in surgical area



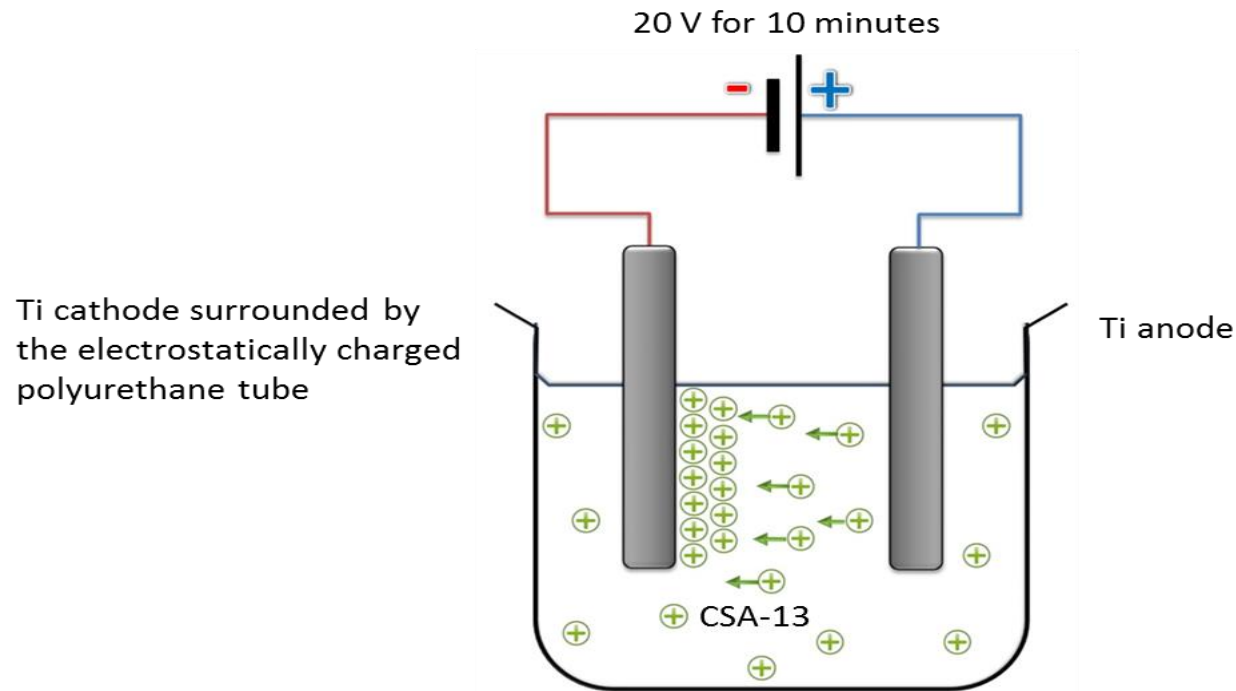
PEEK –  
5% bone-implant interface  
95% bacteria-implant interface  
21% of new bone growth in surgical area  
88% of bacteria growth in surgical area



Silicon Nitride (smooth) –  
15% bone-implant interface  
10% bacteria-implant interface  
29% of new bone growth in surgical area  
10% of bacteria growth in surgical area

# Commercialized by Tyber Medical: Nanostructured Orthopedic Coatings

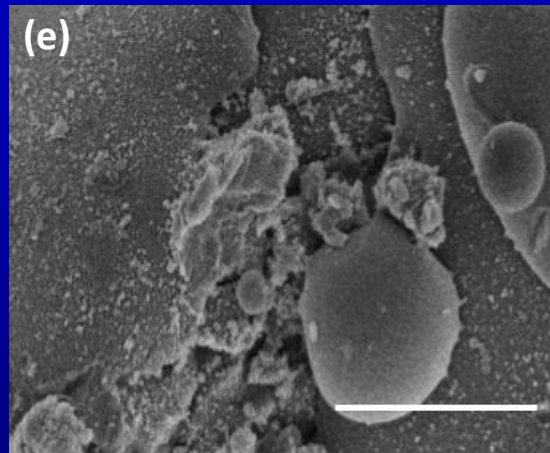
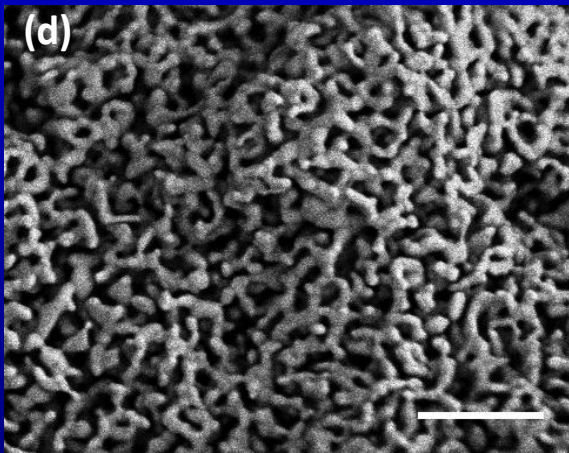
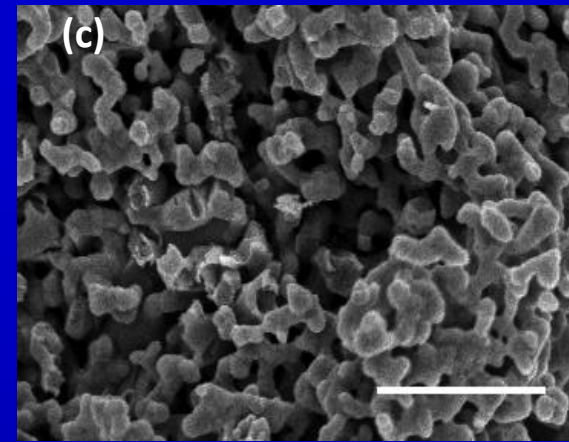
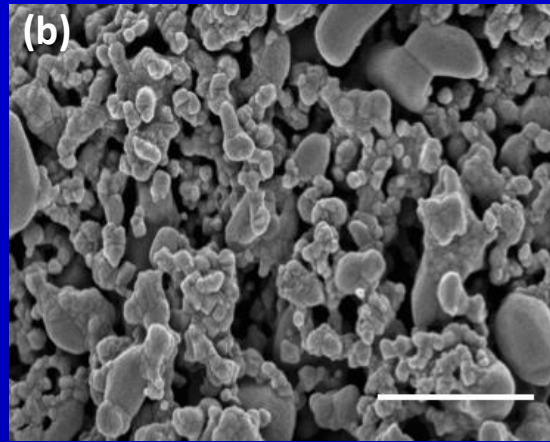
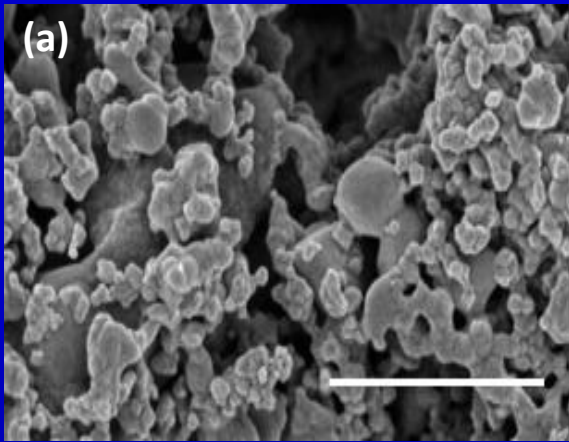
## Electrophoretic deposition



Previous studies  
have shown an  
ability to  
promote bone  
growth

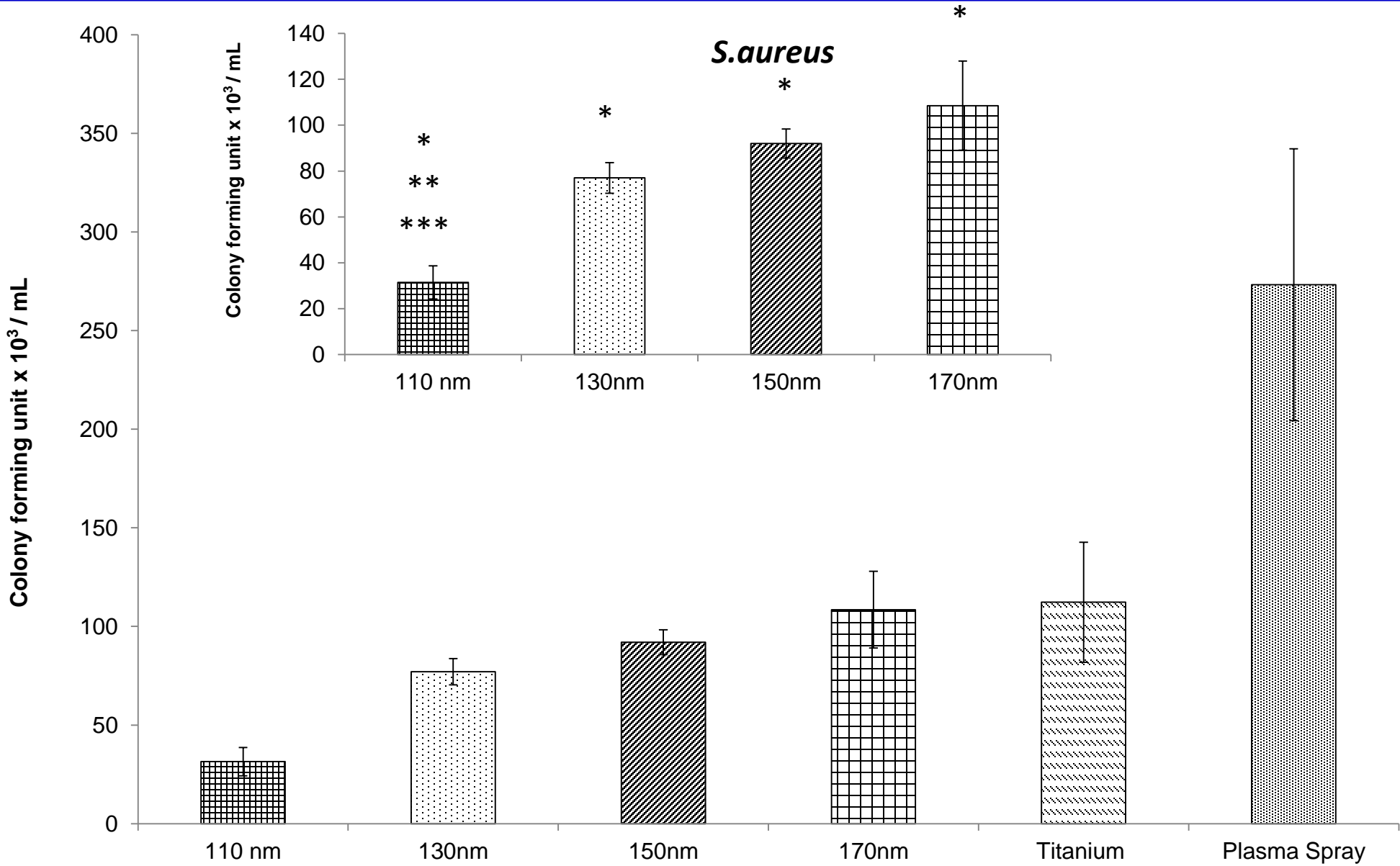
Advantages of the EPD process:

- Bioactivity of the protein is maintained.
- Uniform coating is achieved.
- Time and cost efficient.



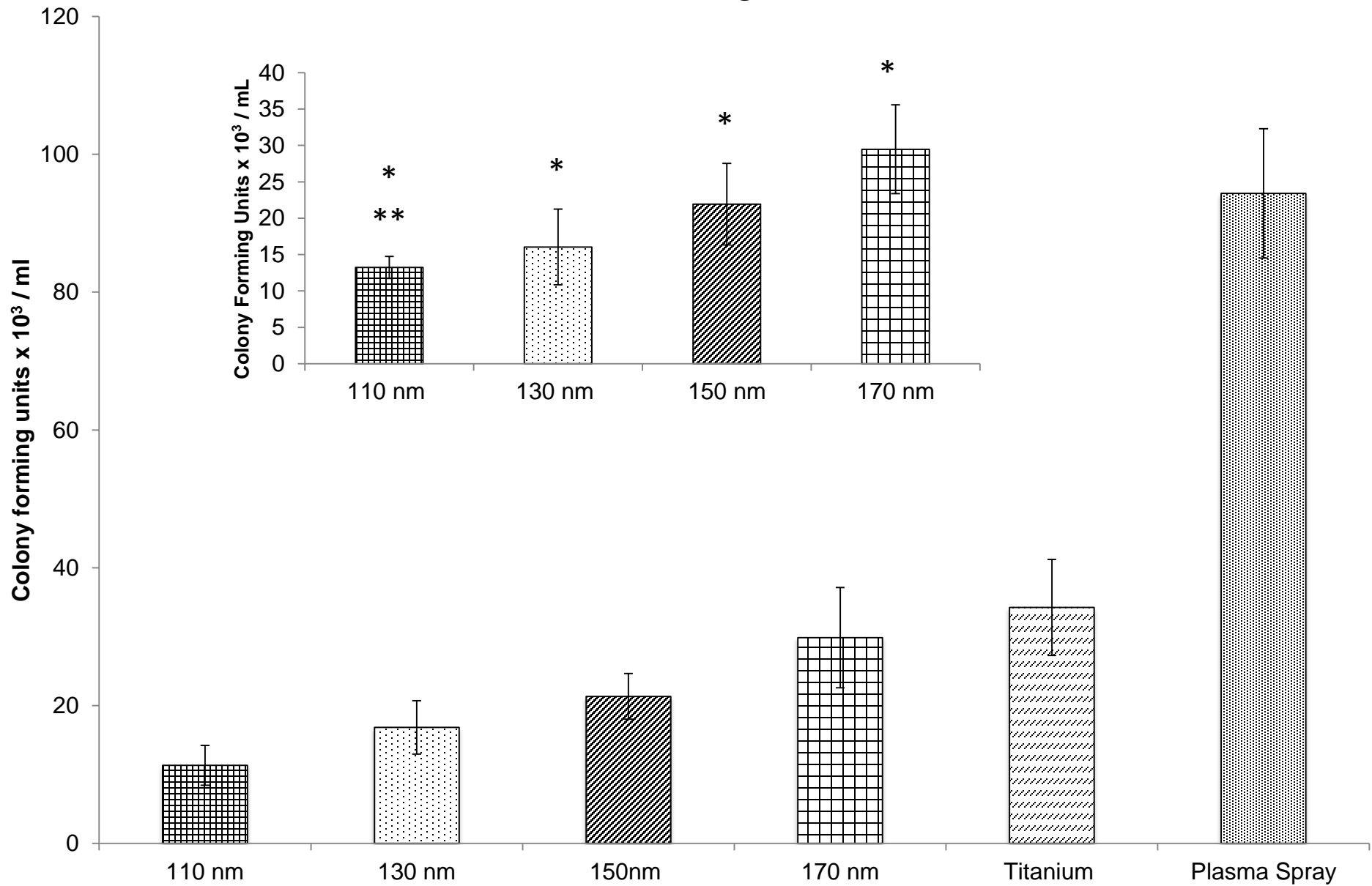
SEM images of the Ti surfaces coated with (a) 170 nm, (b) 150 nm, (c) 130 nm, (d) 110 nm hydroxyapatite powders, (e) plasma sprayed micron sized hydroxyapatite onto Ti and (f) plain Ti. Scale bar: 1 micrometer

*S.aureus*



\* P<0.01 compared with plasma-sprayed-deposited hydroxyapatite on Ti; \*\* P<0.01 compared with Ti (control); \*\*\*P <0.01 compared with samples coated with 170 nm hydroxyapatite by EPD.

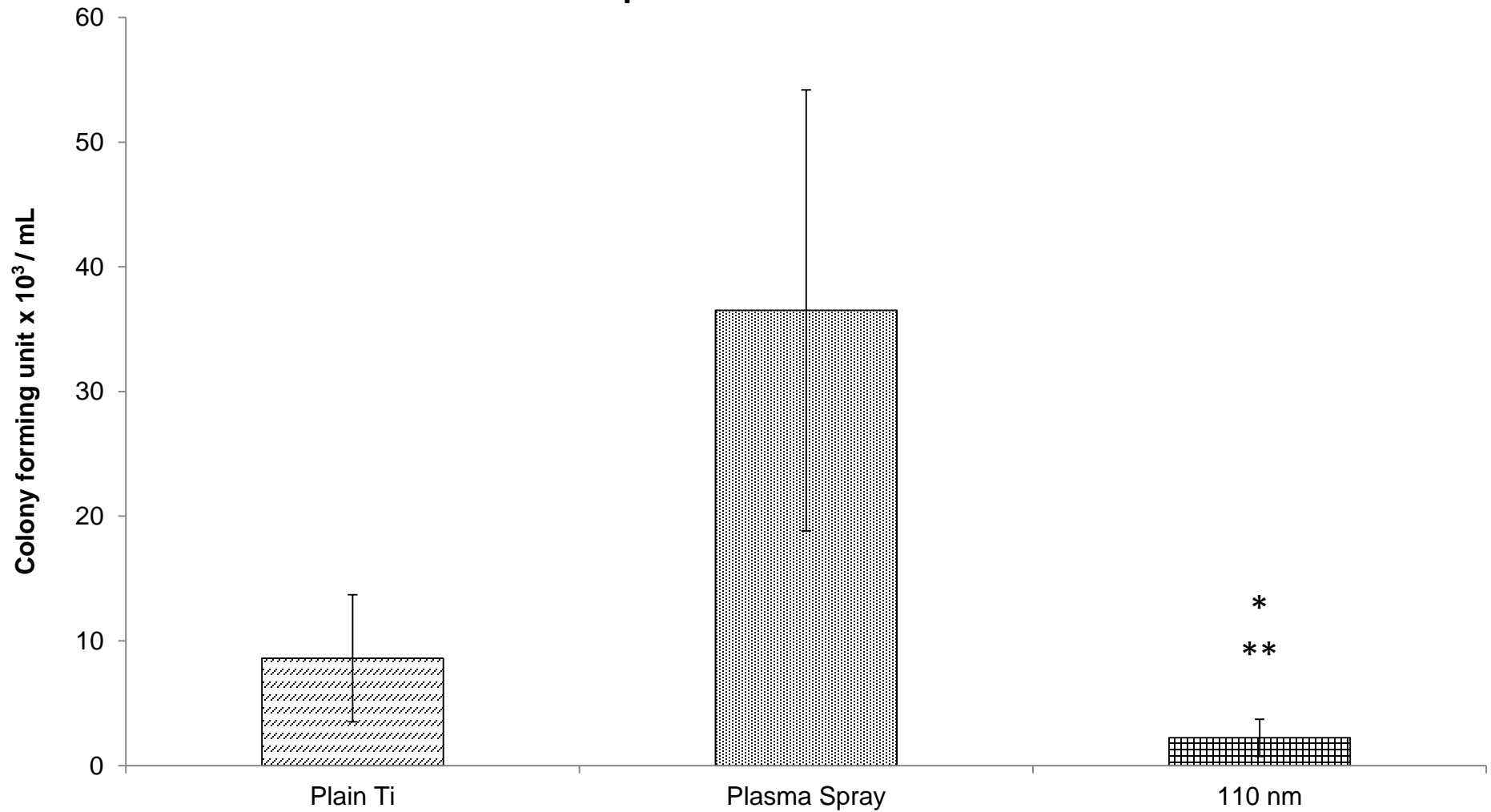
*P. aureginosa*



\*  $P < 0.01$  compared with Ti (control); \*\*  $P < 0.01$  compared with plasma-sprayed-deposited hydroxyapatite on Ti



## Ampicillin resistant *E. coli*

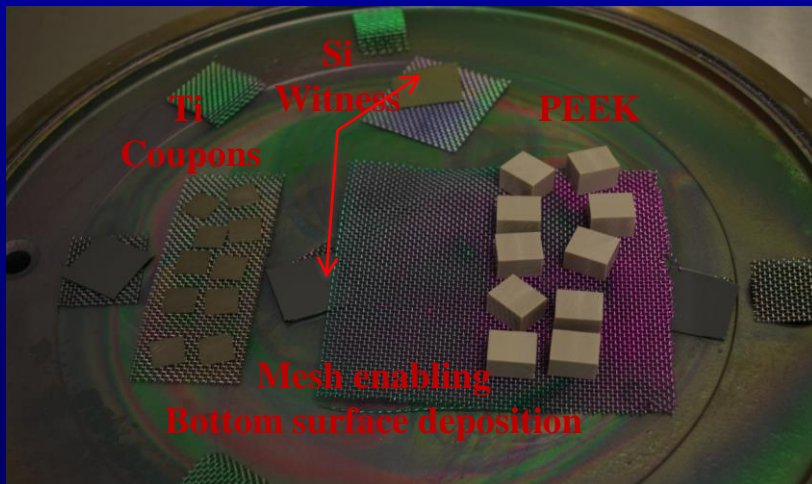


\*  $P < 0.01$  compared with Ti (control); \*\*  $P < 0.01$  compared with plasma-sprayed-deposited hydroxyapatite on Ti

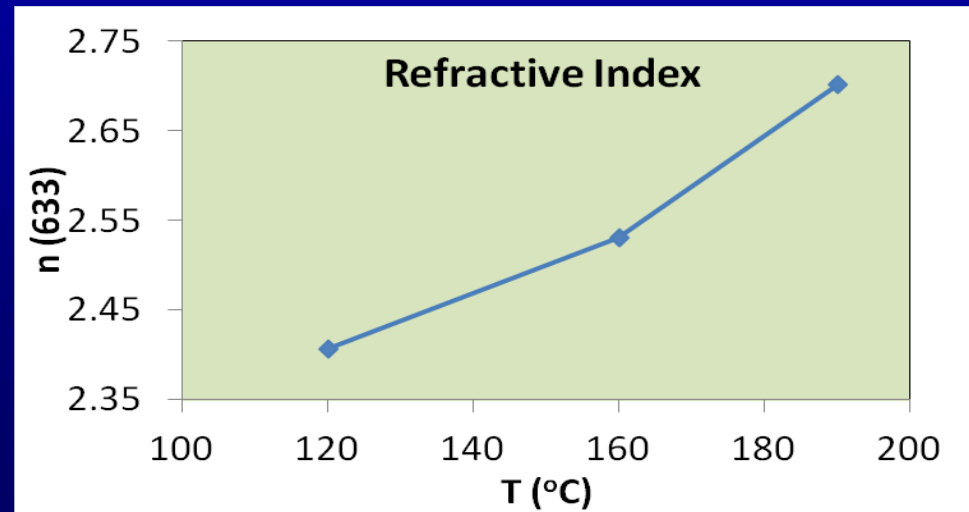
**Another FDA approved  
nanotechnology process.....**

# Atomic Layer Depositions

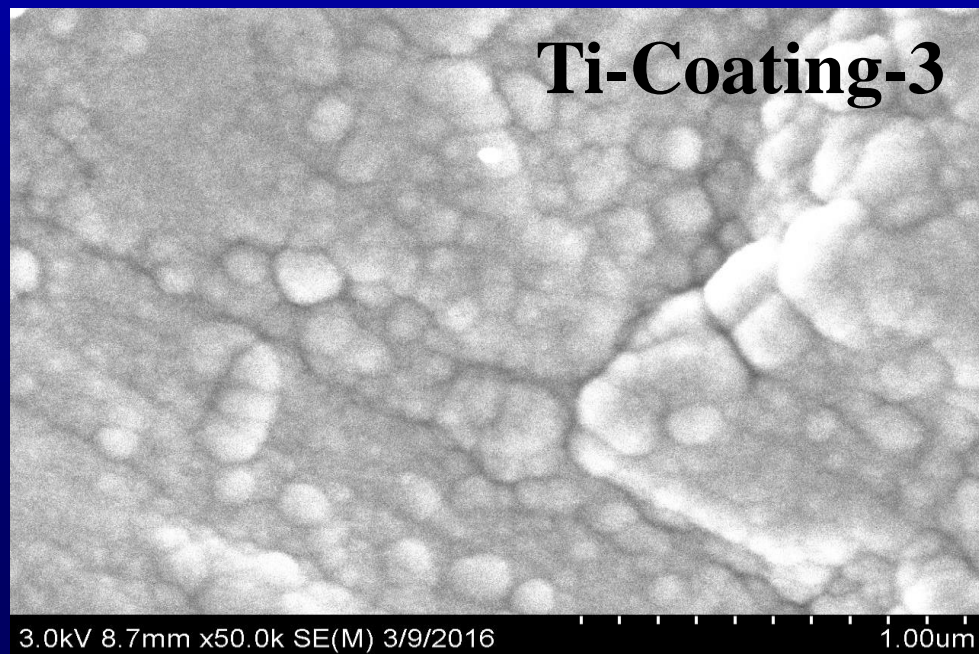
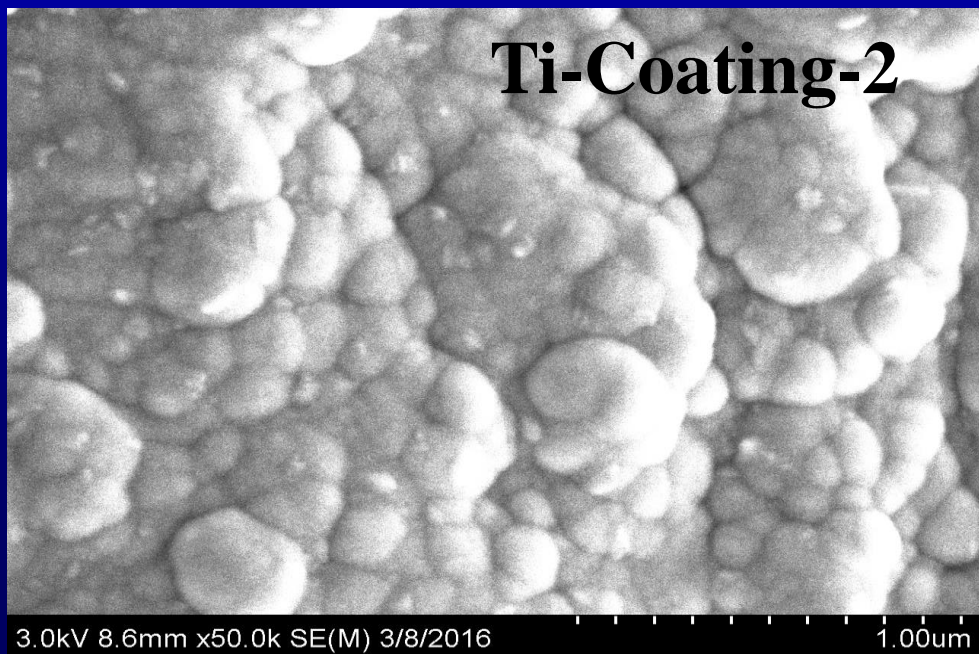
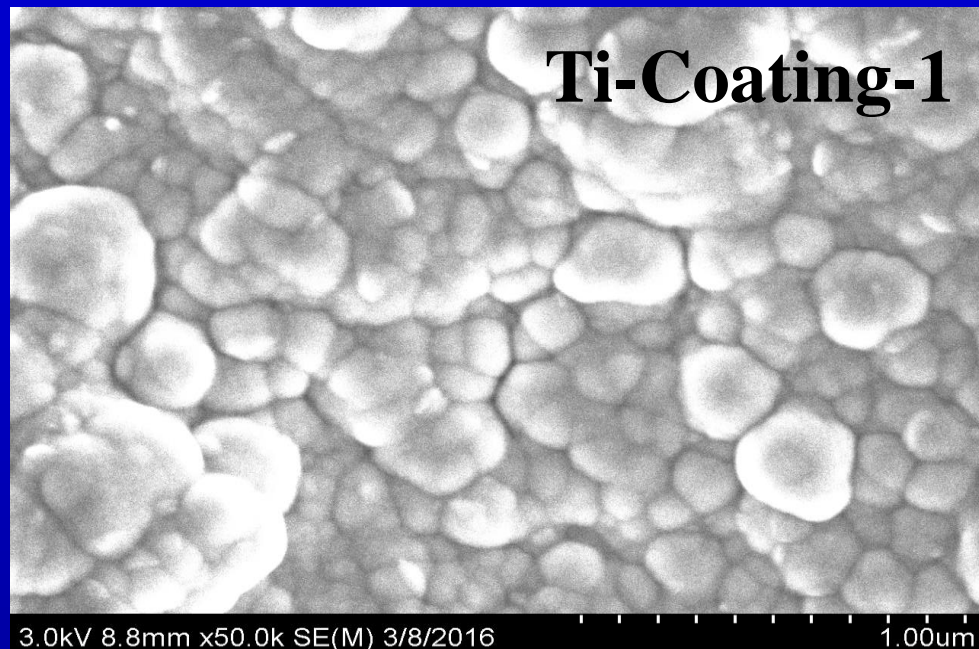
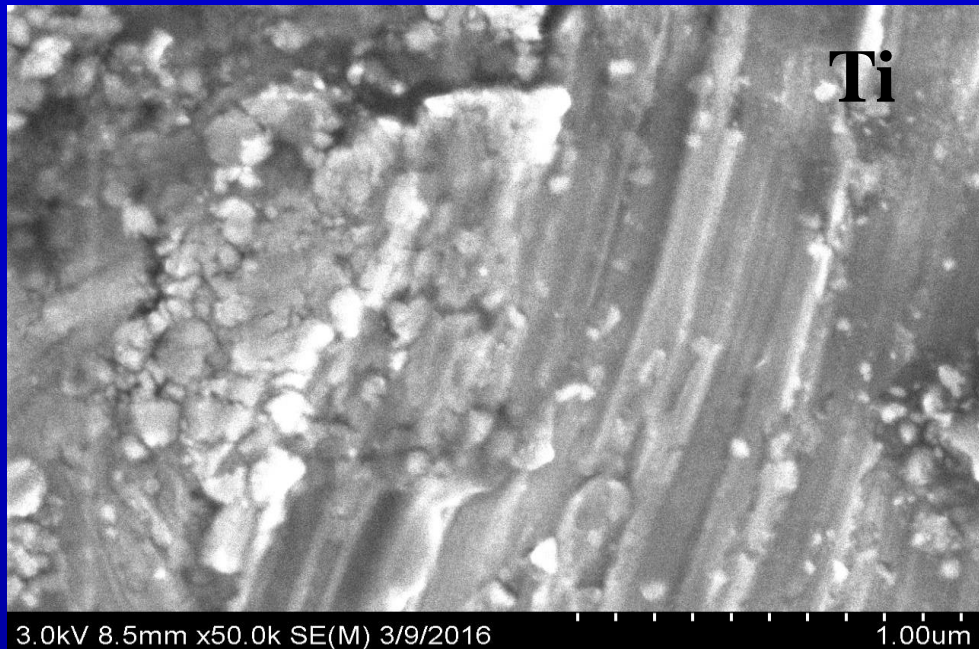
- ALD  $\text{TiO}_2$  at 190°C, 160°C, 120°C, 100nm thick
  - Crystallinity is temperature dependent: Amorphous < 140°C, degree of crystallinity (anatase) increasing with temperature
  - Morphology is temperature dependent
  - $T_g$  of PEEK is 143°C – adhesion of ALD film to PEEK is likely to be affected by temperature relative to  $T_g$
  - Thick (~ 100nm) film allows development of crystal structure
  - Thicker film is also important for wear oriented applications



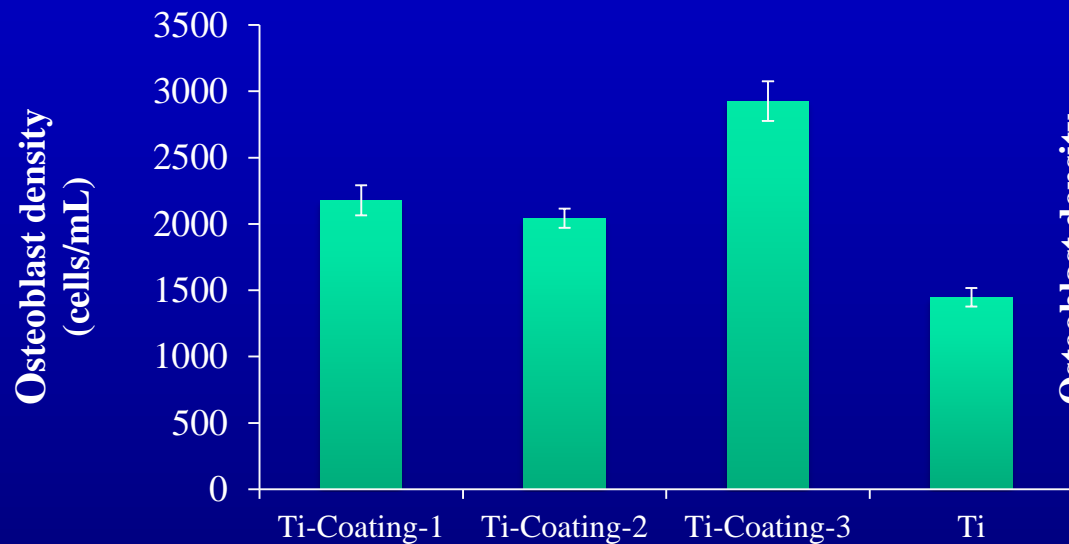
After Deposition



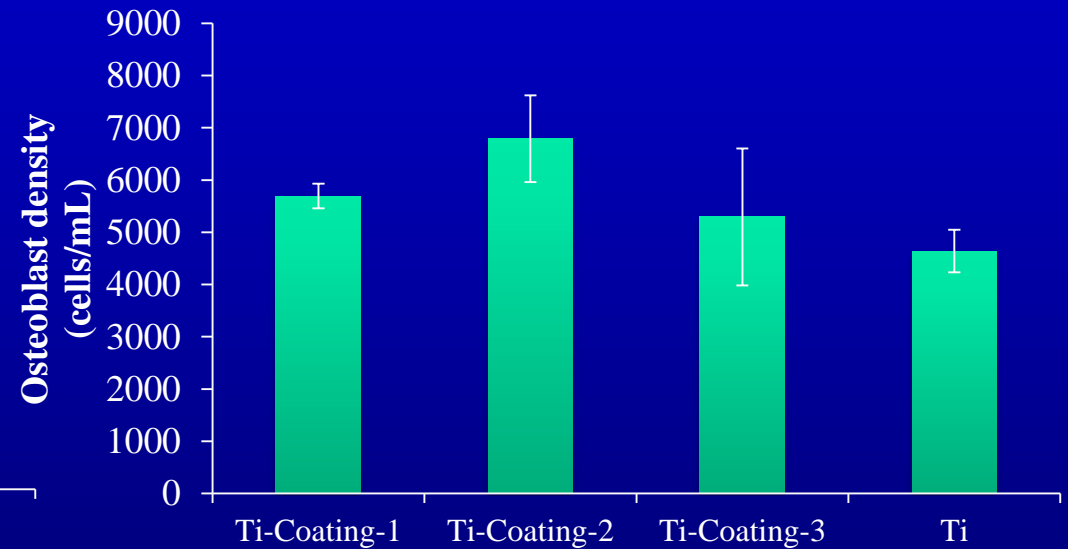
Strong dependence on temperature indicating densification/high crystallinity at higher temperature



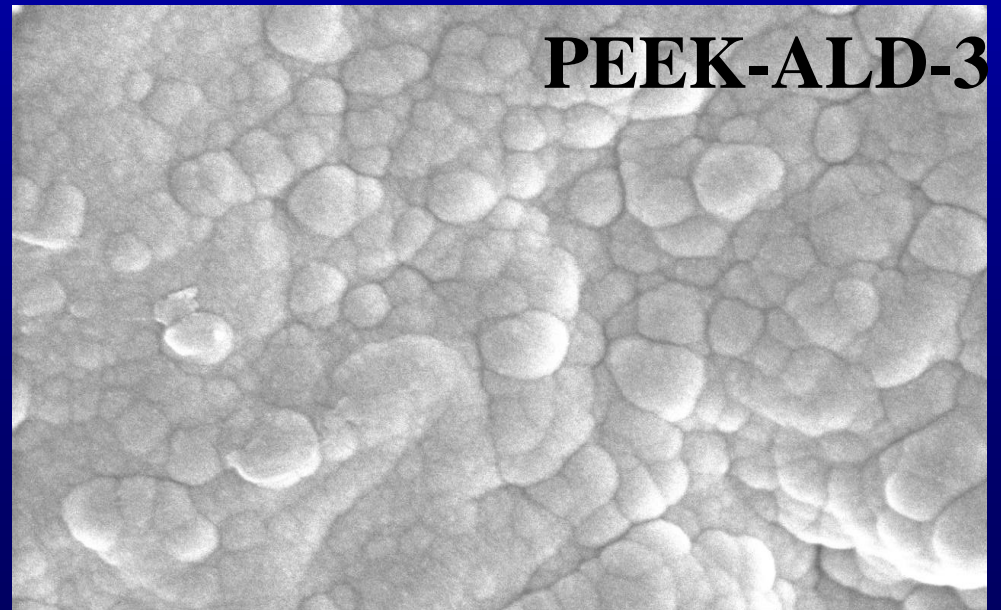
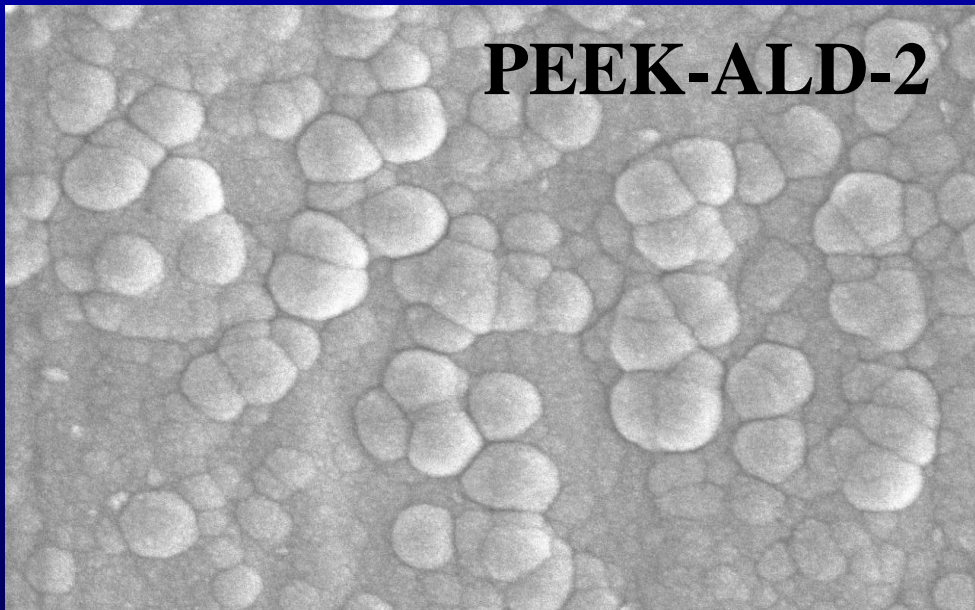
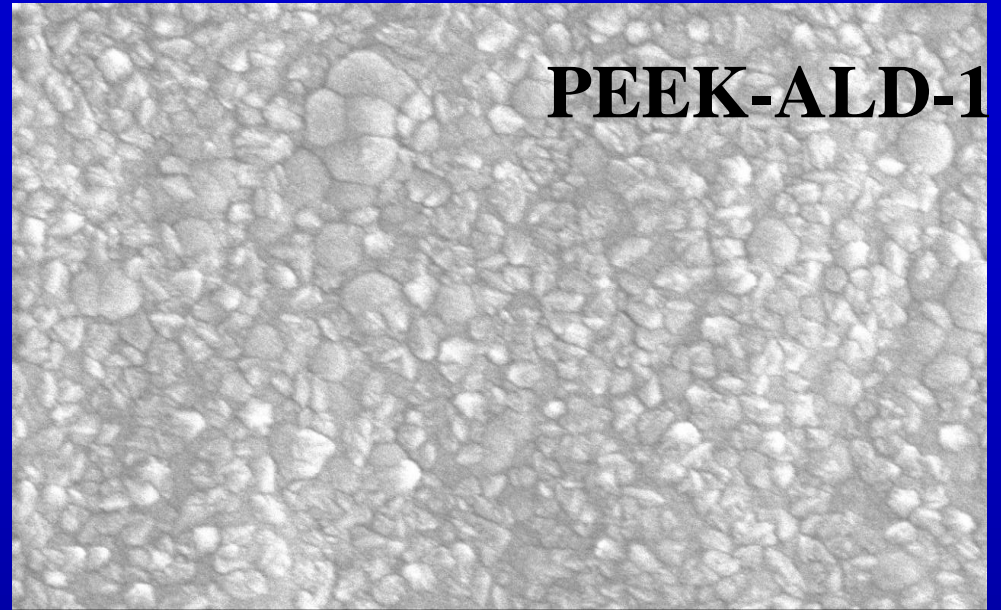
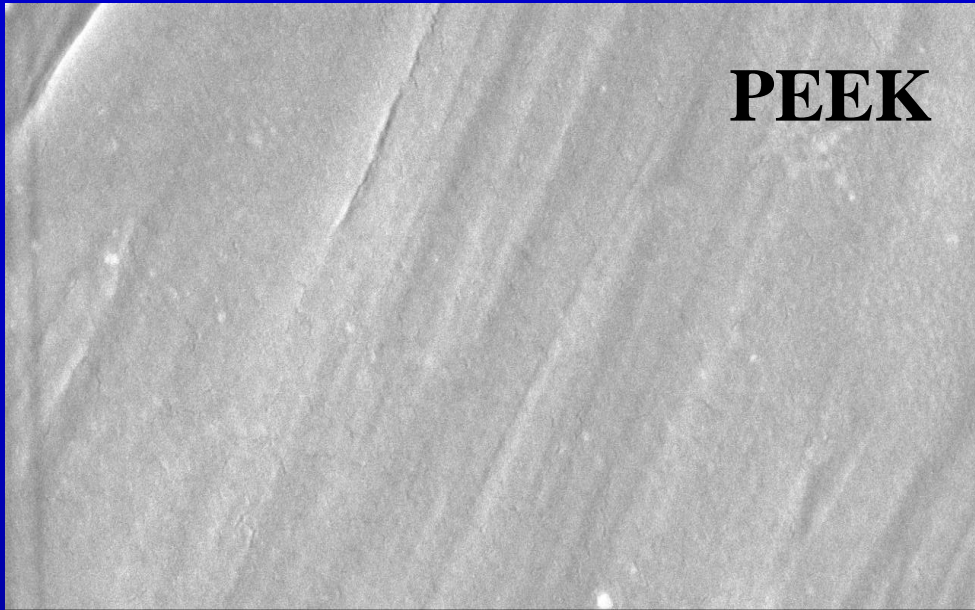
# Osteoblast density increases on Ti samples coated with Ti using ALD



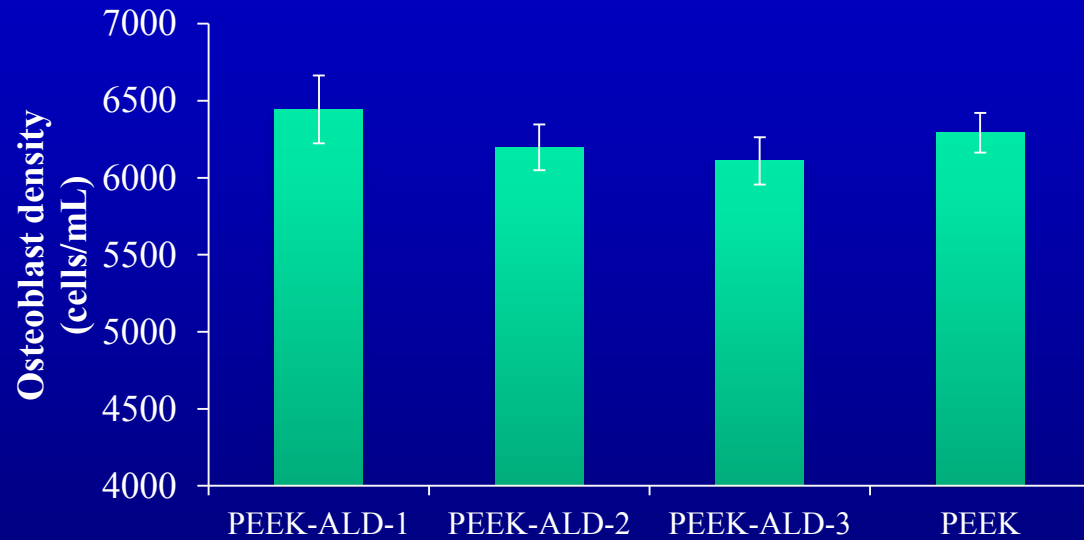
Osteoblast adhesion on Ti samples with different TiO<sub>2</sub> coatings.  
Data represents mean  $\pm$  SD.



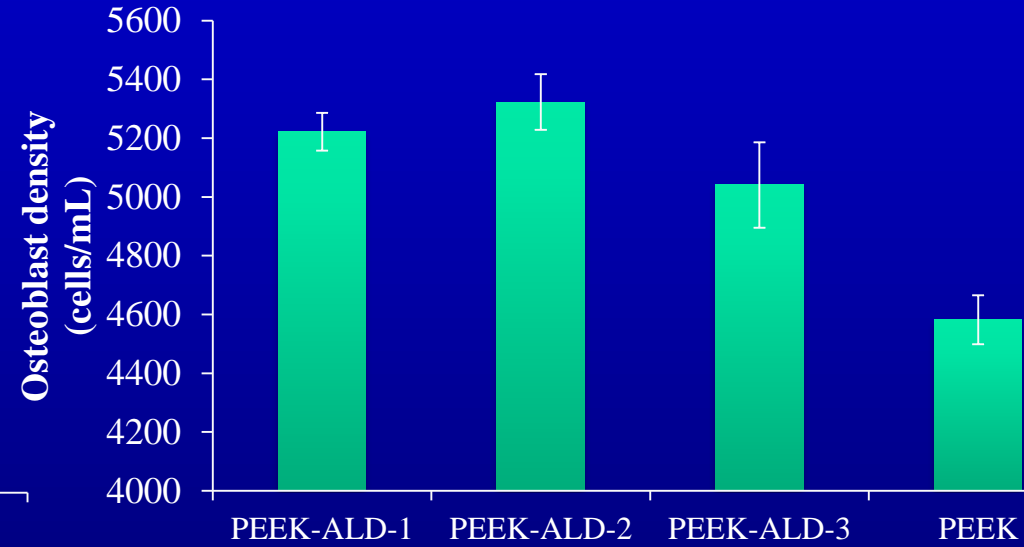
Osteoblast proliferation on Ti samples with different TiO<sub>2</sub> coatings after 7 days. n=3.  
Data represents mean  $\pm$  SD.



# Osteoblast density increases on PEEK samples coated with Ti using ALD



Osteoblast adhesion on PEEK samples with different TiO<sub>2</sub> coatings. n=3  
Data represents mean  $\pm$  SD.



Osteoblast proliferation on PEEK samples with different TiO<sub>2</sub> coatings after 7 days. n=3  
Data represents mean  $\pm$  SD.

# Thinking ahead .....

- Aren't these approaches still reactionary ?
- Won't the cost of healthcare continue to rise if we simply respond to health problems rather than predict them ?
- Won't this problem continue to get worse with greater patient numbers ?





**Challenge #4: We need  
implantable sensors to create  
more personalized medicine.**

# Need Development of In Situ Sensors

*Molecular and Cellular Interaction*

## Sensor

- Detection
- Configuration
- Integration

## Processor

- Data Acquisition
- Data Signal Analysis and Communication
- Integration

*Human Interface*

## Responder

- Externally Controlled System
- Drug Reservoirs or Encapsulation
- Integration

*Molecular and Cellular Interaction*

## **Nanoscience and Nanotechnology**

**Detecting in real time:**

- Serum proteins and disease marker proteins.
- Virus and pathogens
- Genomic DNA

**Responding in real time:**

- Controllable drug delivery system

# Current Sensors Used in Medicine: Not at all Like our Immune System



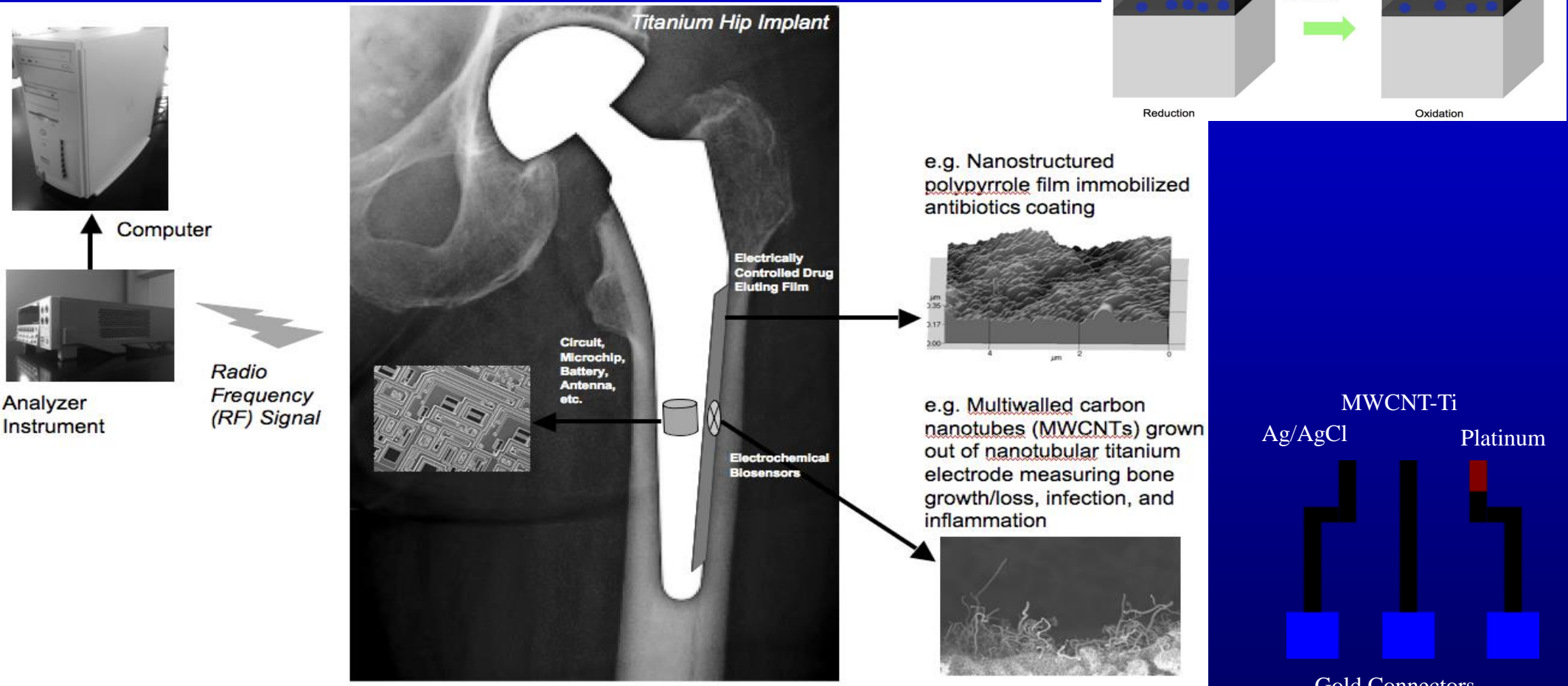
We have cells  
that do this  
in the body

But is this how our body senses events ?

**We need sensors that behave  
more like our immune system.**

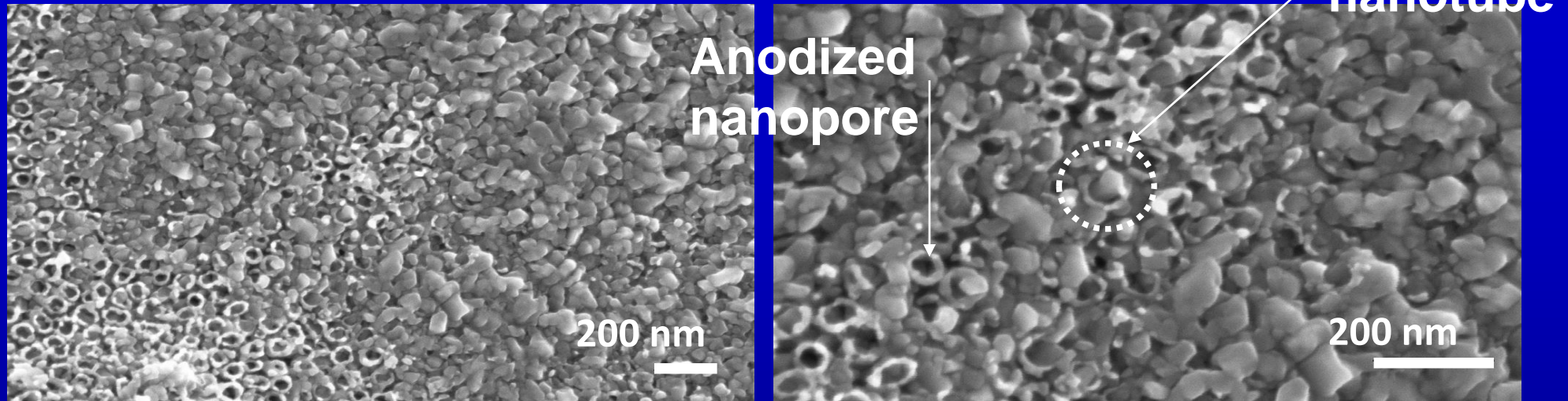
*(The next projects have not been approved by  
the FDA)*

# Basic Components of a Closed-Loop Sensing and Drug Administration

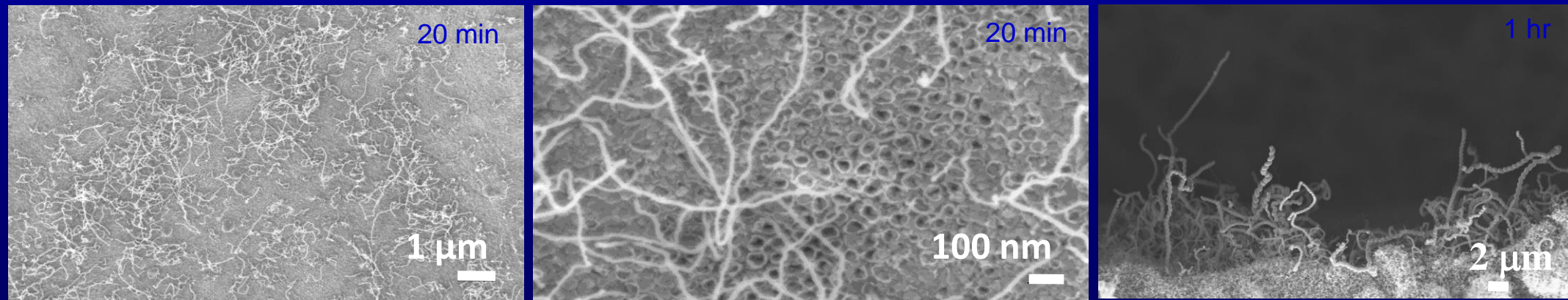


**Real-time Detection of Proteins using Sensors and Releasing Drugs from a Polypyrrole Coating**

# Results: Our Sensor



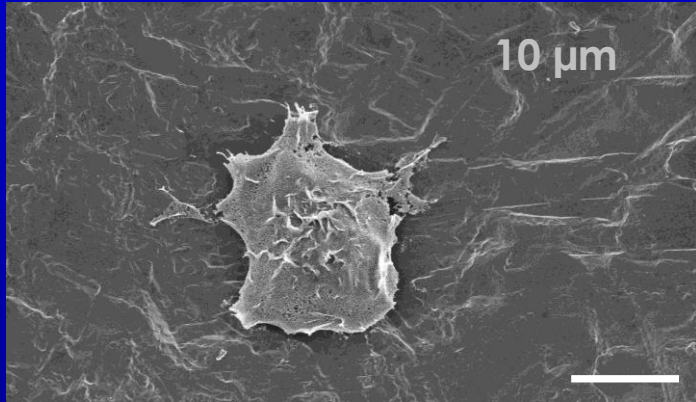
CNTs grown from the nanotubes of anodized Ti **without** a cobalt catalyst using CVD for 20 min.



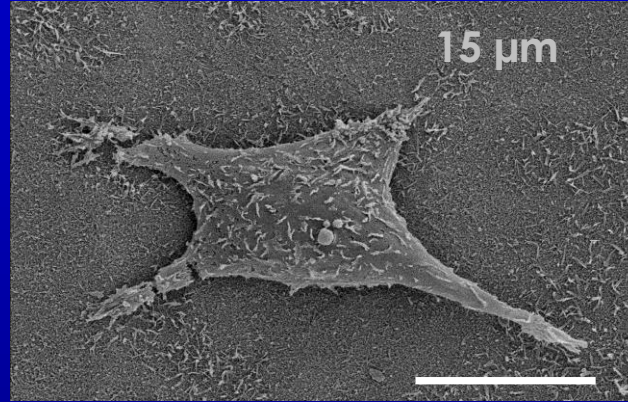
CNTs grown from the nanotubes of anodized Ti surface **with** a cobalt catalyst using CVD for 20 min and 1 hr.

# Results: Our Sensor

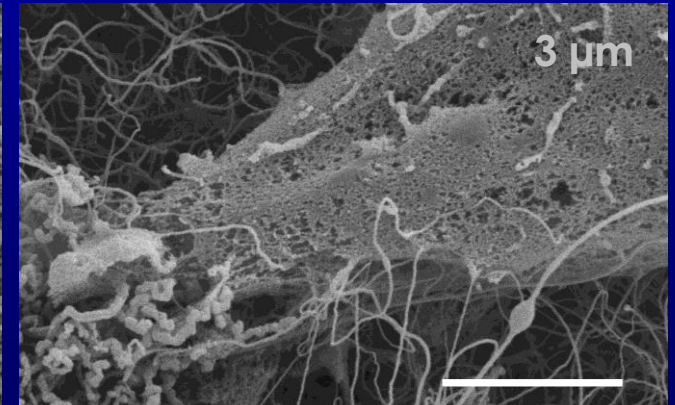
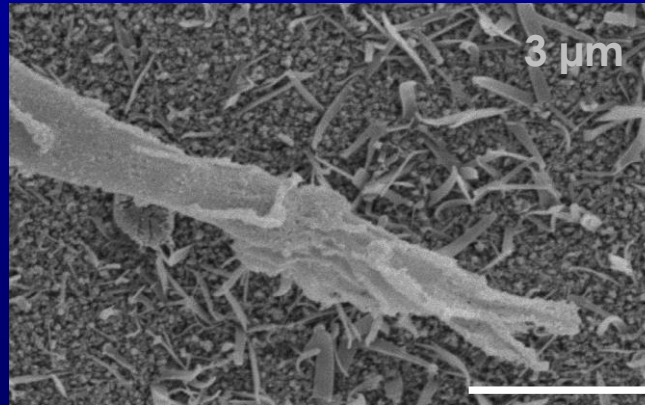
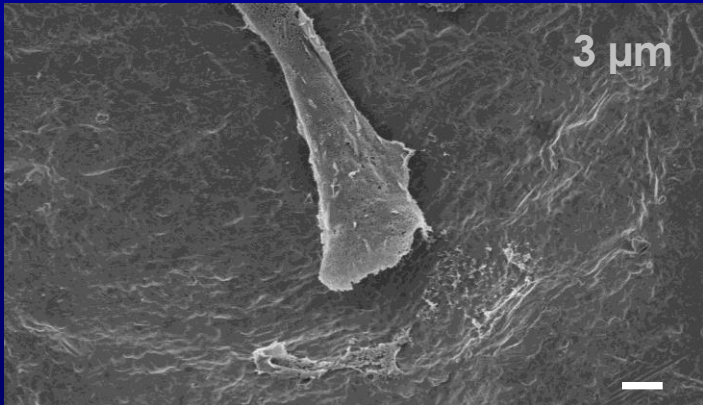
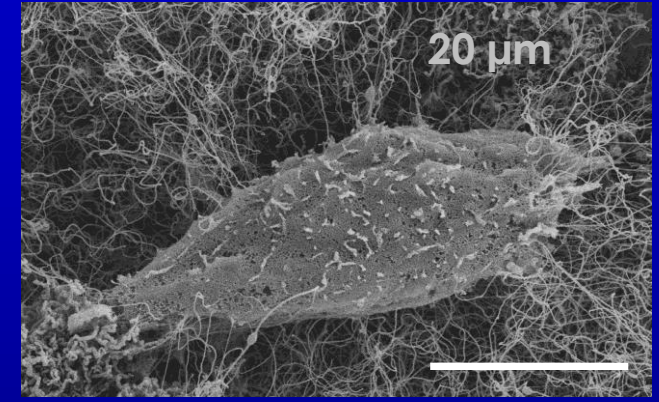
Titanium



Anodized titanium



Multiwalled carbon nanotubes grown out of anodized titanium (MWCNT-Ti)



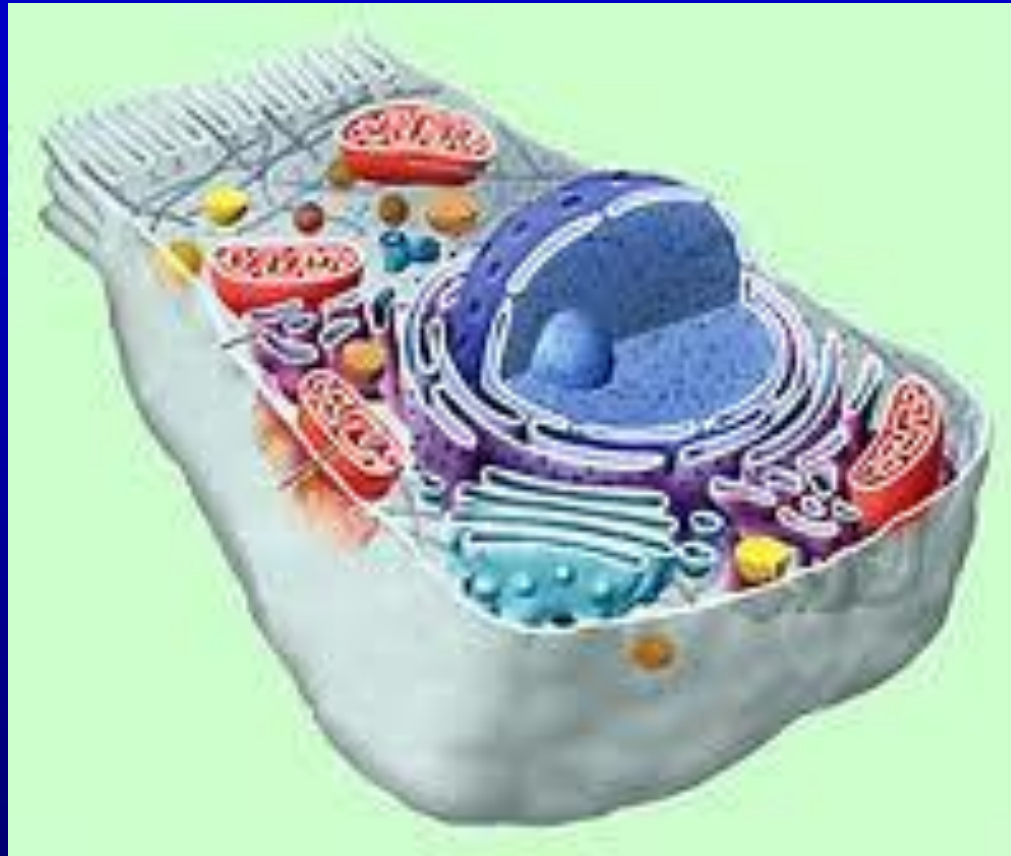
This sensor improves bone growth without even sensing

# Next Generation of Sensors that Could be used in Medicine

## Synthetic Cell Sensor:

Need energy  
source

Need flexible  
biocompatible  
materials



Need processing  
capability

Need responding  
capability to aid  
immune cells

Need adaptability

Same approach and sensors can be used on medical device surfaces and outside the body: Does not have to be a synthetic cell but nanotechnology needs to be involved.

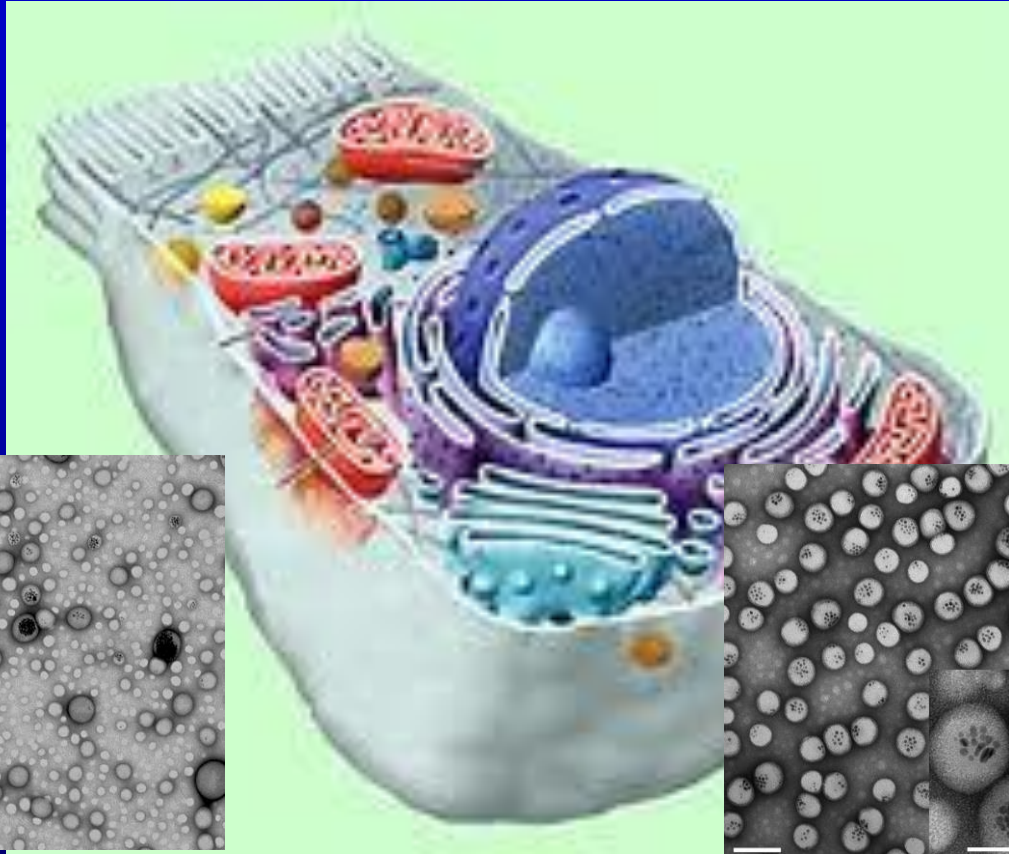


# Next Generation of Sensors that Could be used in Medicine

Synthetic Cell  
Sensor:

Need energy  
source

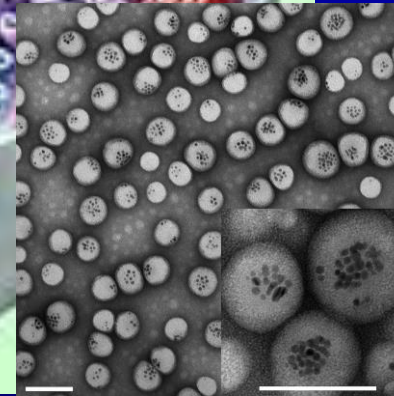
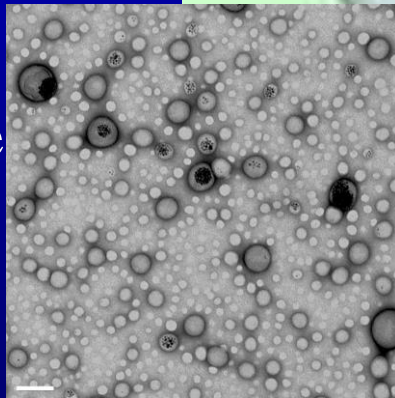
Need flexible  
biocompatible  
materials



Need processing  
capability

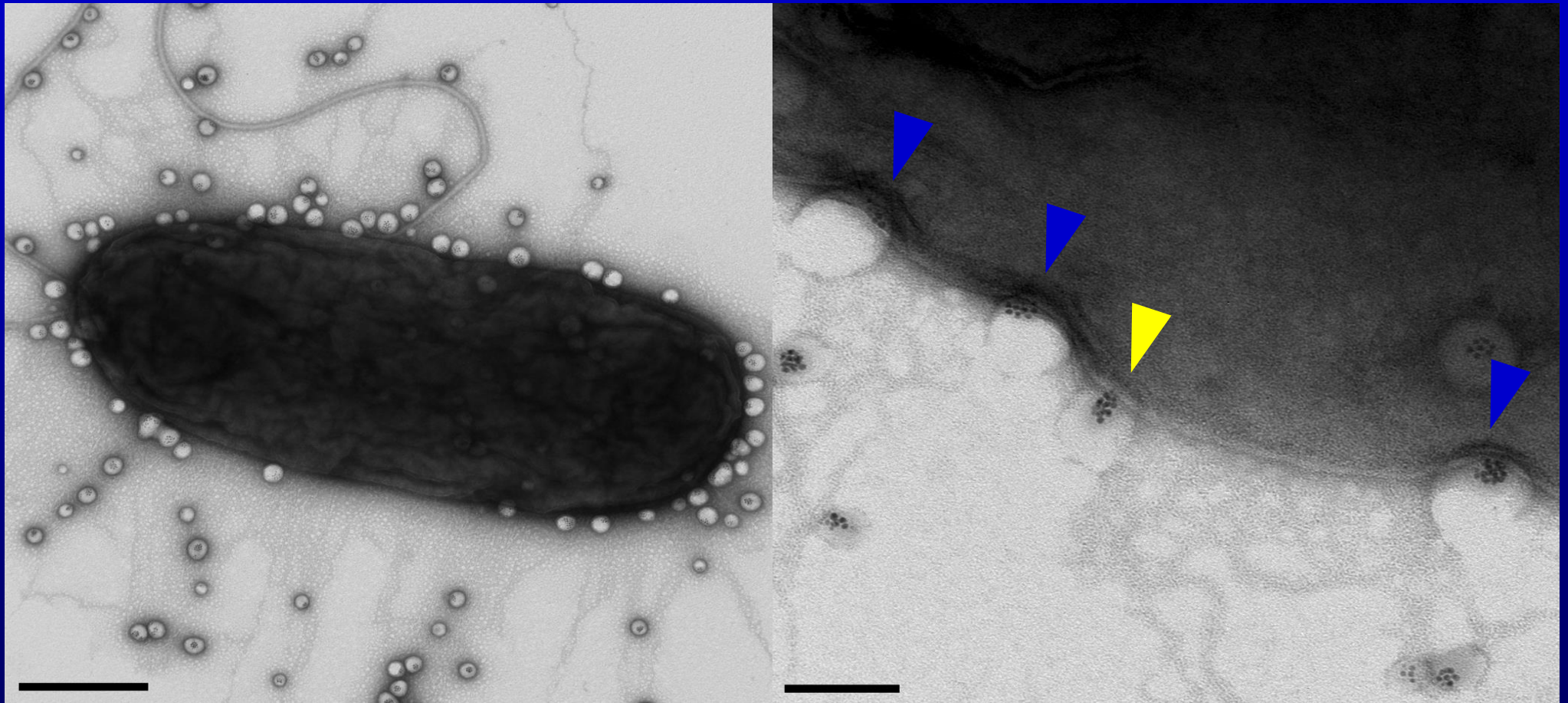
Need responding  
capability to aid  
immune cells

Need adaptability



Same approach and sensors can be used on medical device surfaces and outside the body: Does not have to be a synthetic cell but nanotechnology needs to be involved.

# Synthetic Immune Nanoparticles



Scale Bars = 100nm

# My Dream for the Future of Healthcare

- Our version of medicine must transition to predictive not reactionary.
- Our version of medicine must treat individuals not generalize for population or age groups.
- Our version of medicine must be dynamic not static.
- Unless we change, our version of medicine today is *unlikely* to create treatments for all diseases for all people that last a lifetime.

# Acknowledgements

Angstrom Medica and Spire Biomedical

Argonide Corp. and Applied Sciences, Inc.

Coulter Foundation- Early Career Award

Department of Defense (DARPA)

DePuy Orthopedics (Johnson and Johnson)

Indiana 21<sup>st</sup> Century Fund

Nanophase Technologies, Corp.

National Science Foundation

*Integrated Graduate Education and Research Training Fellowship (IGERT),  
Nanoscale Exploratory Research, REU*

National Institute of Health

*Nanobiotechnology Initiative*

Showalter Foundation

Whitaker Foundation

# Thank You!



Visit us on the web:  
[www.websternano.org](http://www.websternano.org)