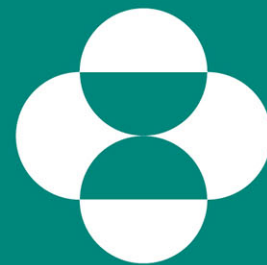


# USE OF 3D-PRINTED 'TABLETS' AS A BIOPHARMACEUTICS INVESTIGATION TOOL



**MERCK**

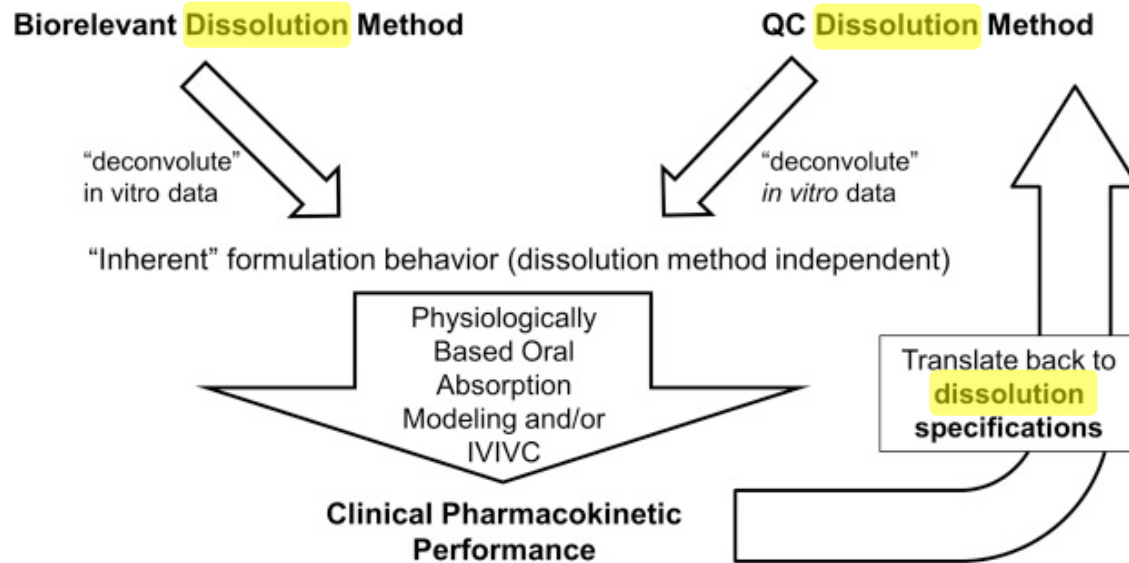
**INVENTING FOR LIFE**

10-Apr-2019

Adam T. Procopio, Derrick Smith, Yash Kapoor, Melanie Marota, Andre Hermans, Rebecca Nofsinger, Filippou Kesisoglou, Seth Forster, Jerry Klinzing, Ron Smith, Allen Templeton

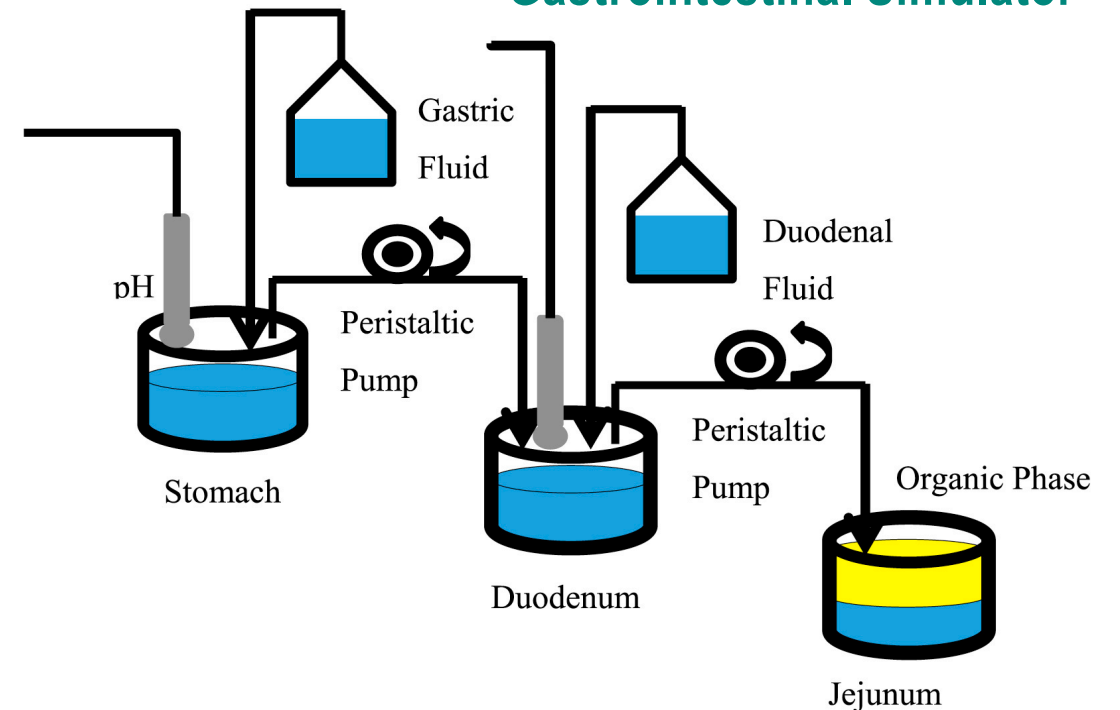
Goal: to develop pre-clinical and clinical tools and approaches that improve the quality and timeliness of Oral Drug Product development

# Biopharmaceutical Tools and Approaches



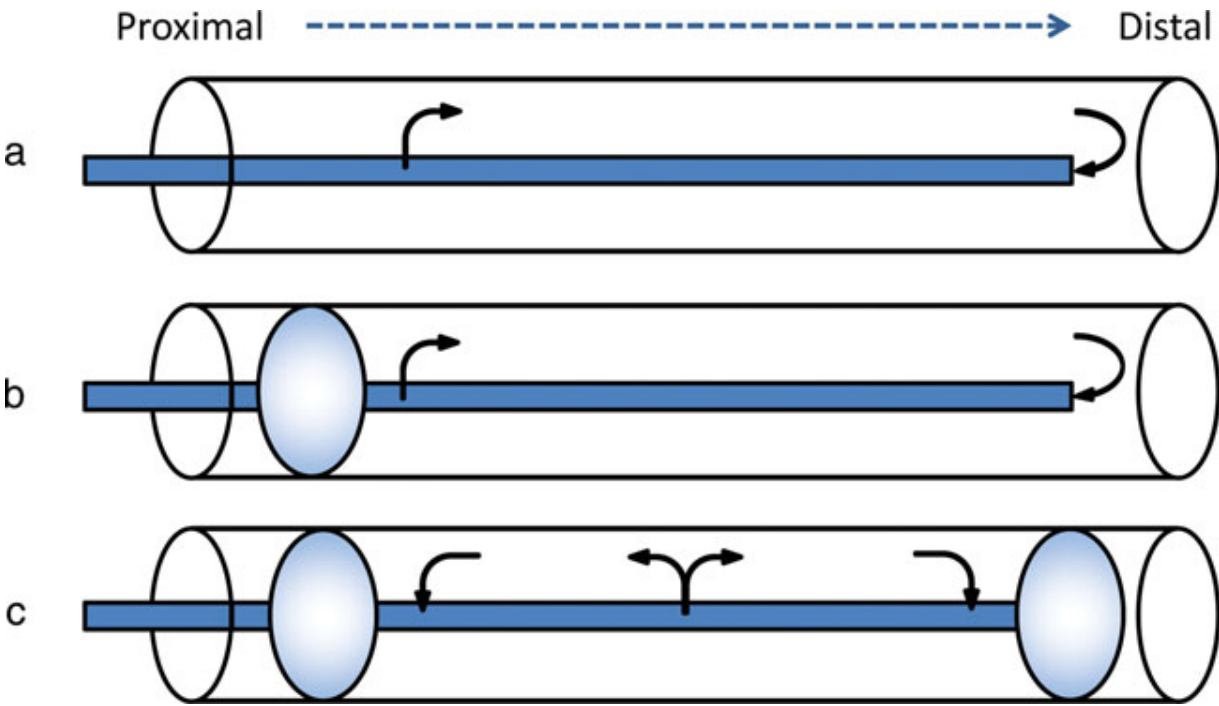
F. Kesisoglou - *J. Pharm. Sci.* 106 (2017)

## Gastrointestinal Simulator

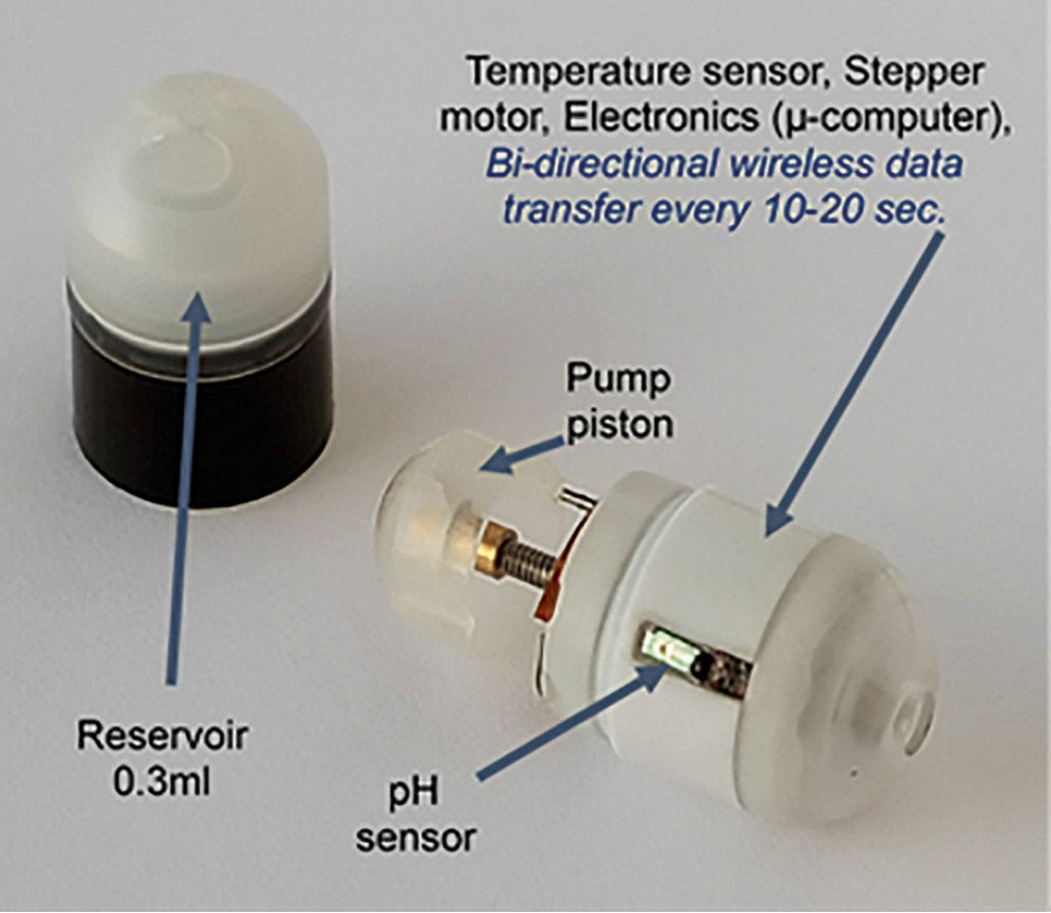


Y. Tsume, N. Igawa, A.J.Drelich, H. Ruan, G.E.Amidon, G.L. Amidon  
*Journal of Drug Delivery Science and Technology* (2019)

# Regional Absorption Challenges



Dahlgren, Roos, Sjögren, Lennernäs; *Direct in vivo human intestinal permeability determined with different clinical perfusion intubation methods*, 2014 J Pharm Sci, 104

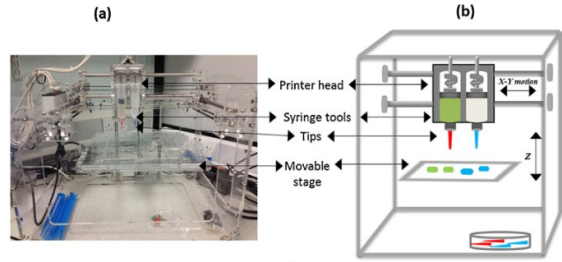


Becker et al, *Novel orally swallowable Intellicap device*, 2014 AAPS PharmSiTech, 15

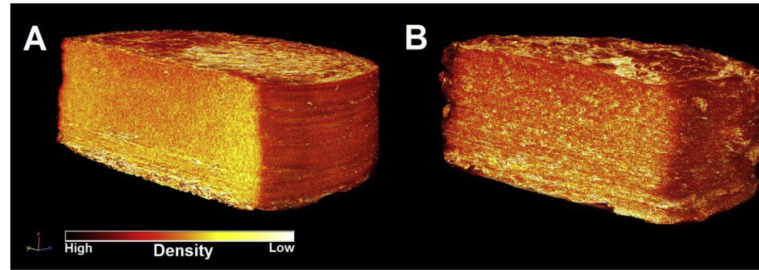


# Select Examples of 3D Printing to Control Drug Release Rate

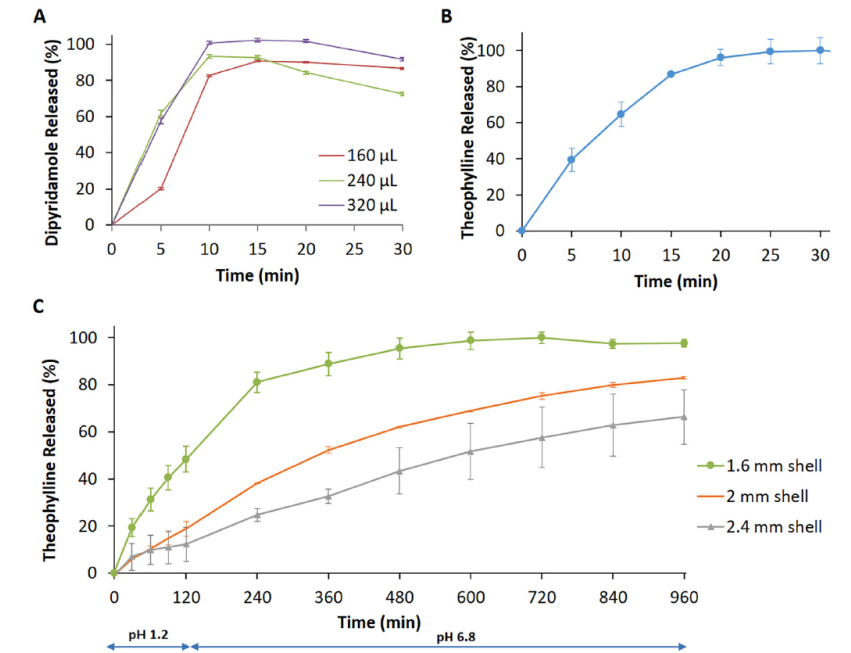
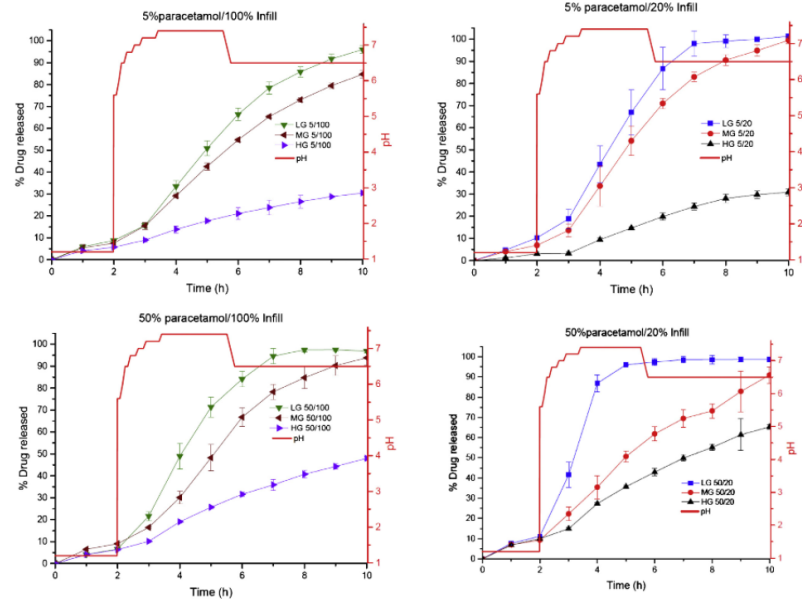
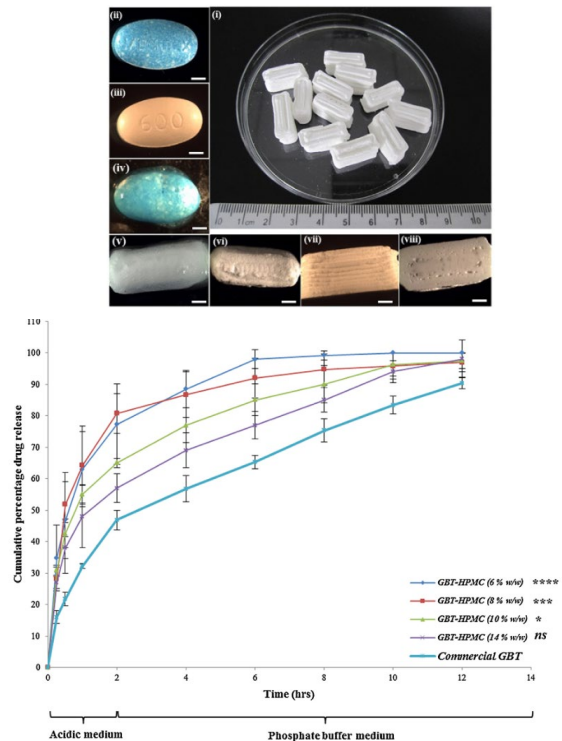
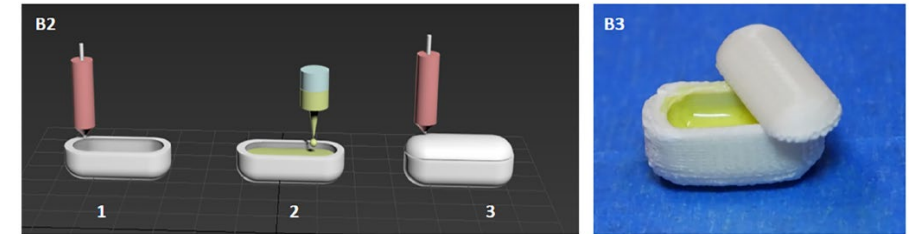
## Gel printing



## HME Matrix



## Core-Shell

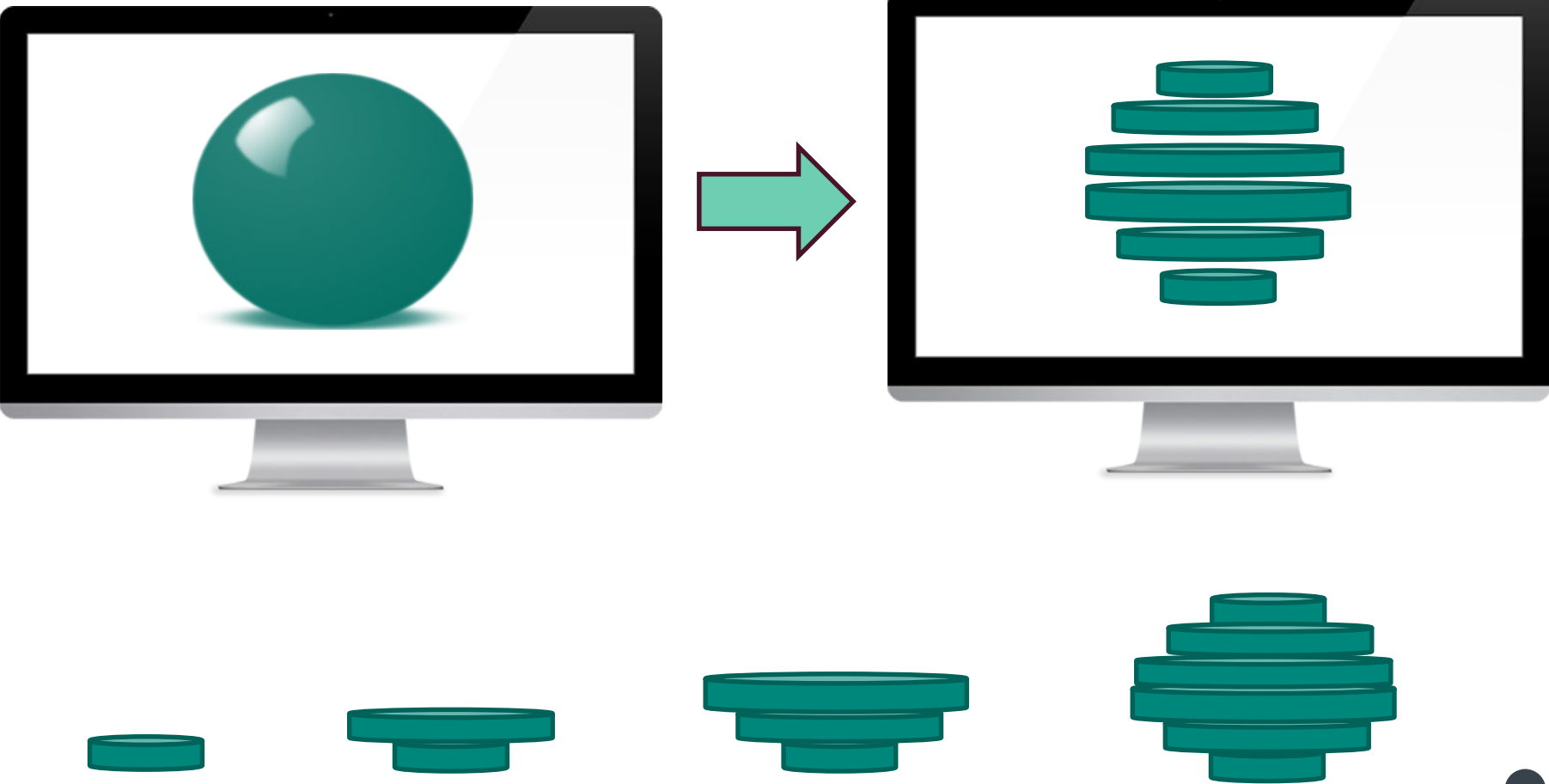


S.A. Khaled et al. *Int. J. Pharm.*, 462 (2016)

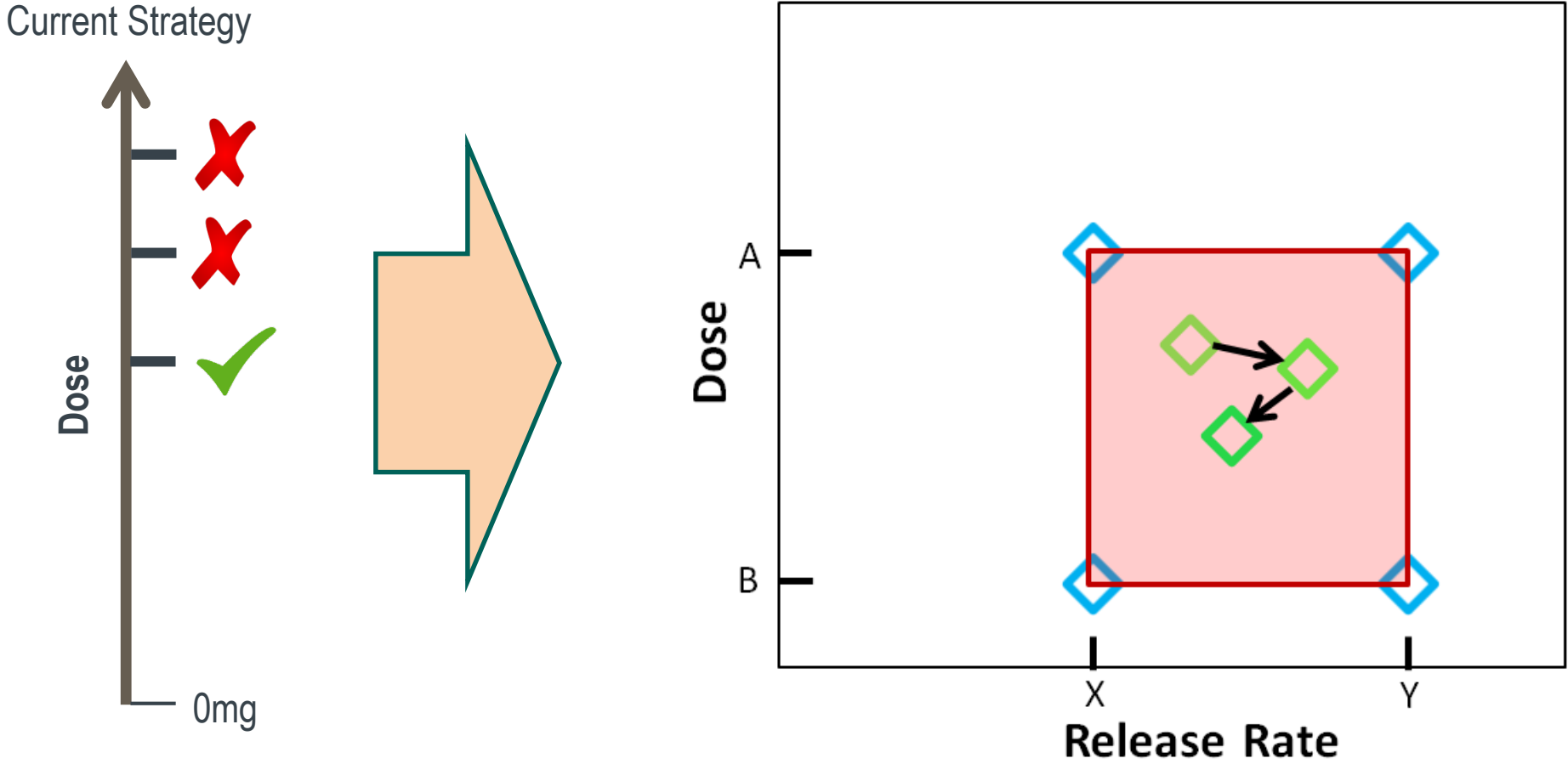
A. Goyanes et al. *Int. J. Pharm.*, 527 (2017)

T.C. Okwuosa et al. *Euro. J. Pharm Sci.*, 118 (2018)

# What is 3D Printing (3DP)?



# Expanding Formulation Design Space for Ph1-Ph2a Clinical Trials

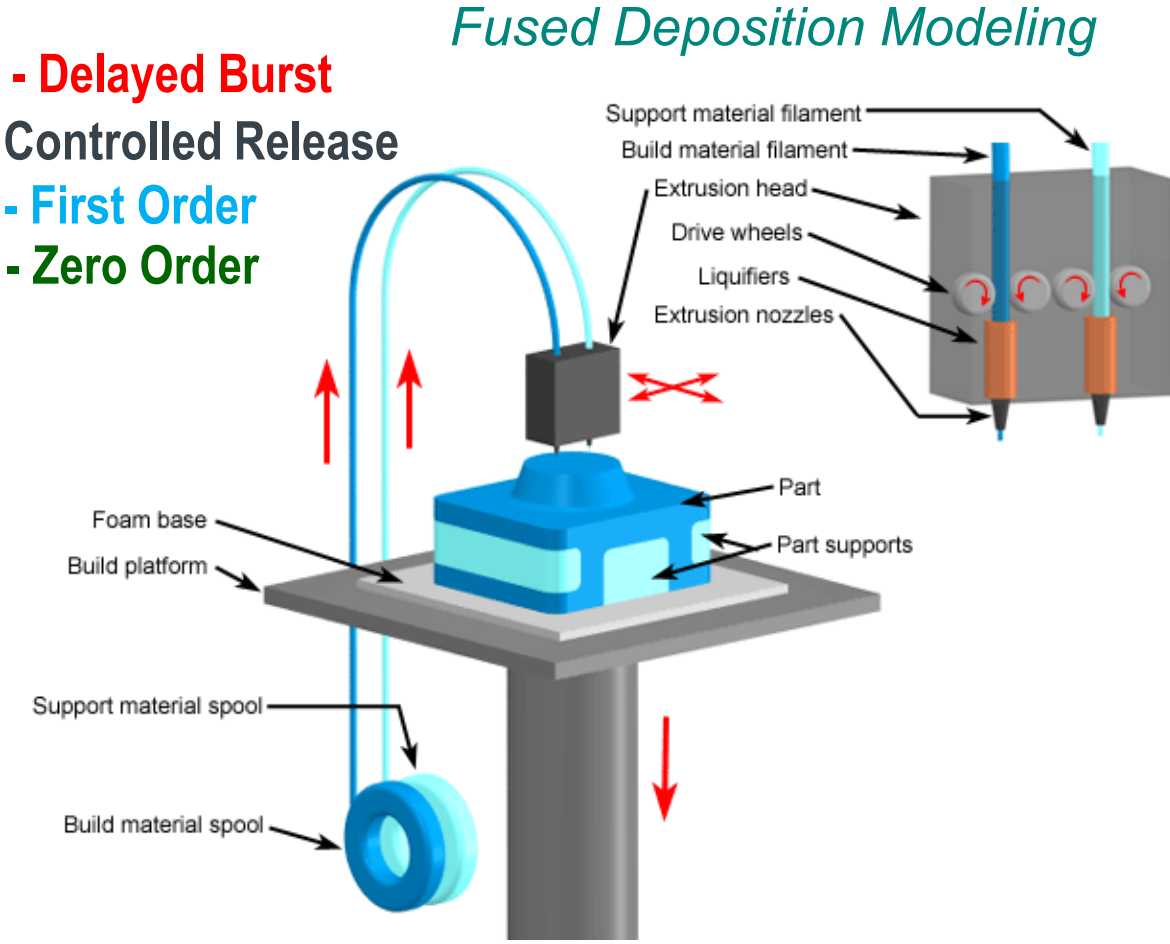
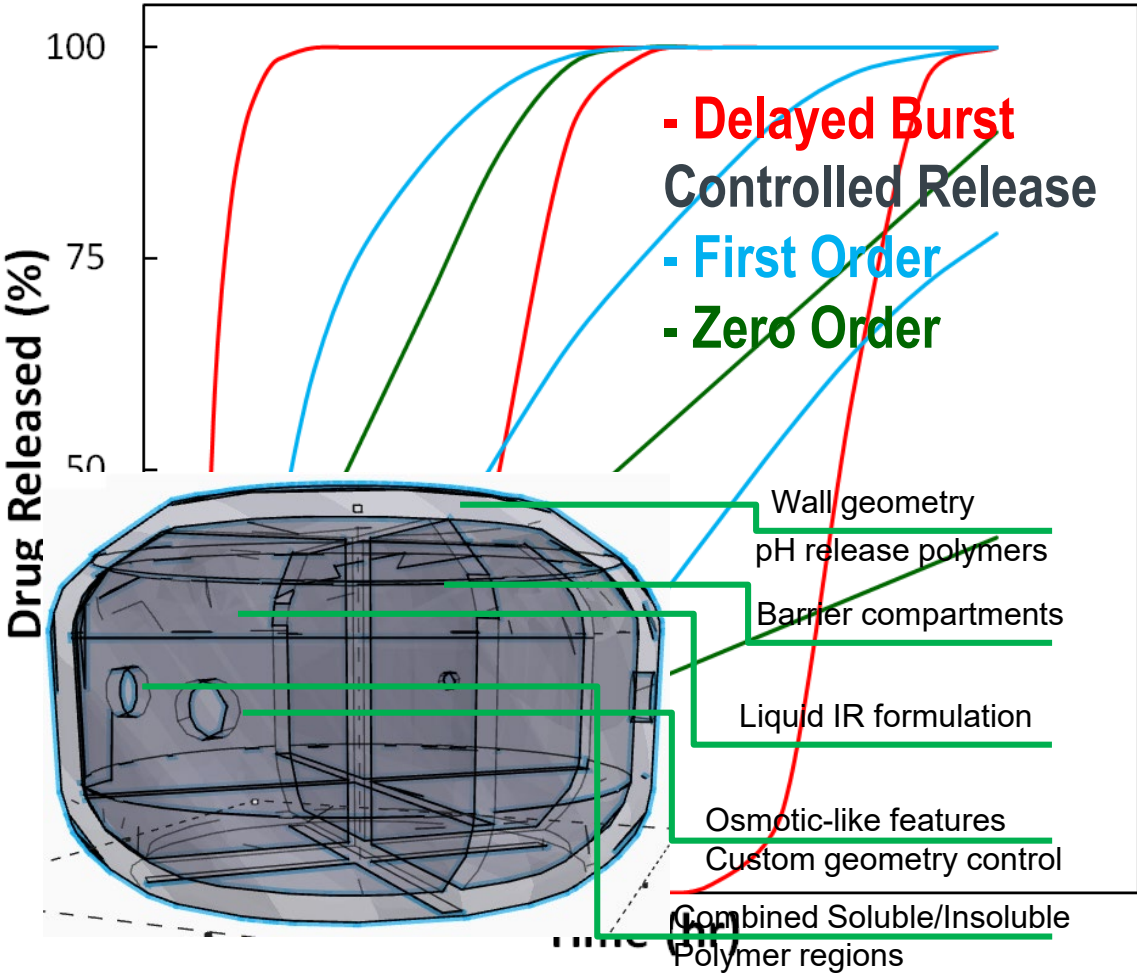


- Feedback during the dosing cycle allows iterations of the formulation to be dosed in subsequent panels
- Increased POS of meeting the PK target compared to the standard paradigm





# Expanding Formulation Design Space for Ph1-Ph2a Clinical Trials



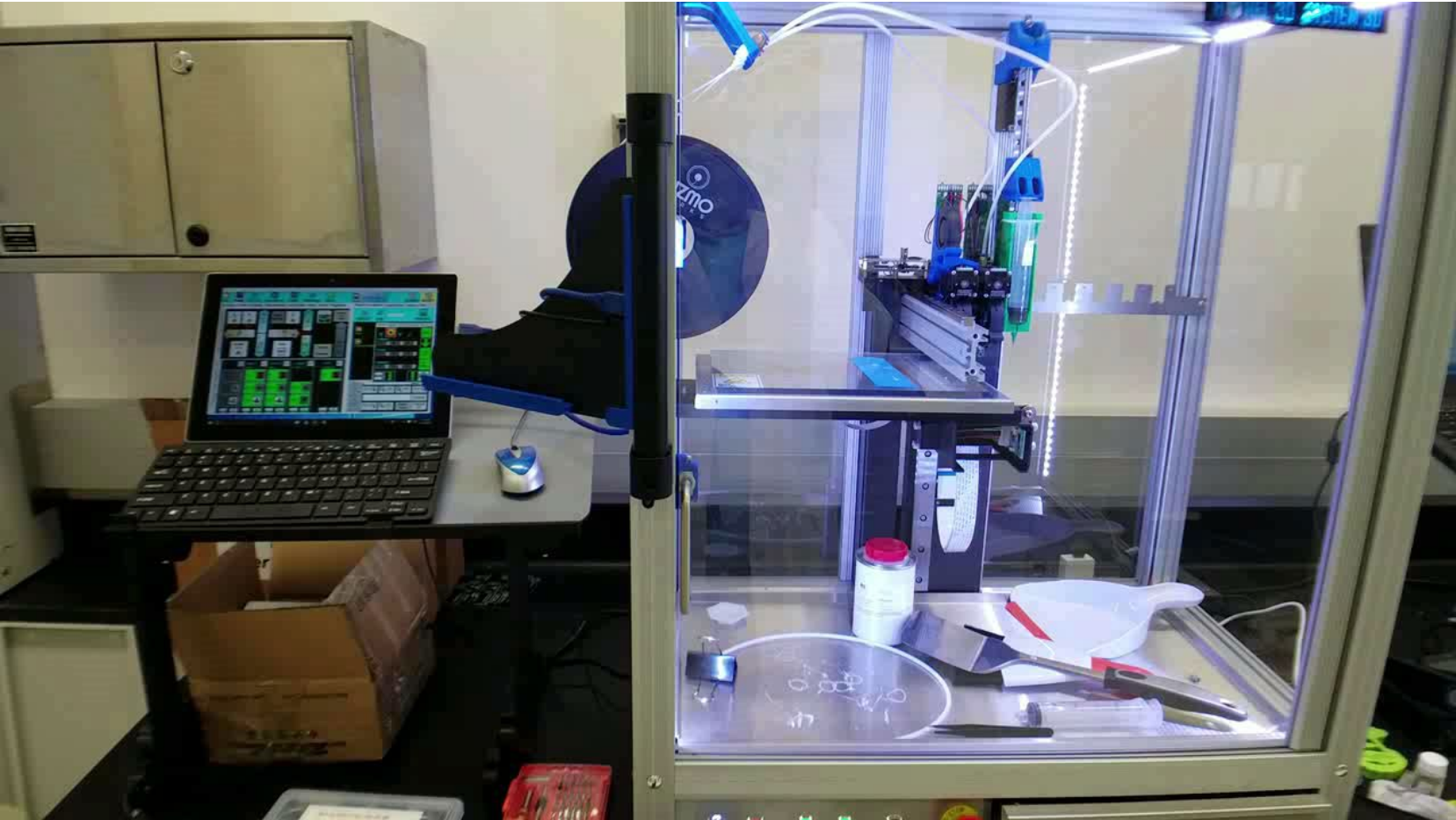
**\* All without modifications to API formulation composition**



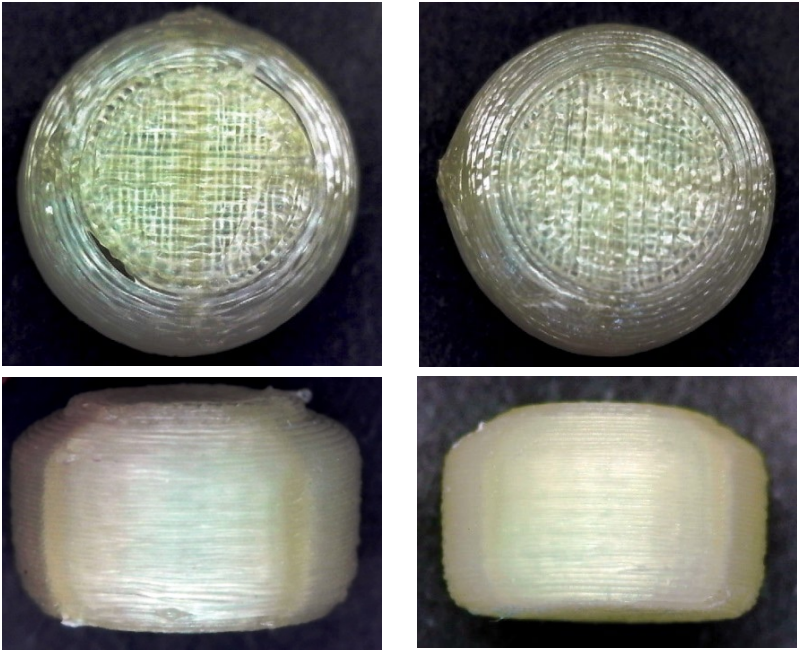


# Capsule Strategy – Delayed Release

Print Conditions:  
180°C Temp  
10mm/s Speed  
10% Fan Speed



Polyvinyl alcohol (PVA) capsule shell with Metformin gel filling



Optimized Settings  
"As Sliced"

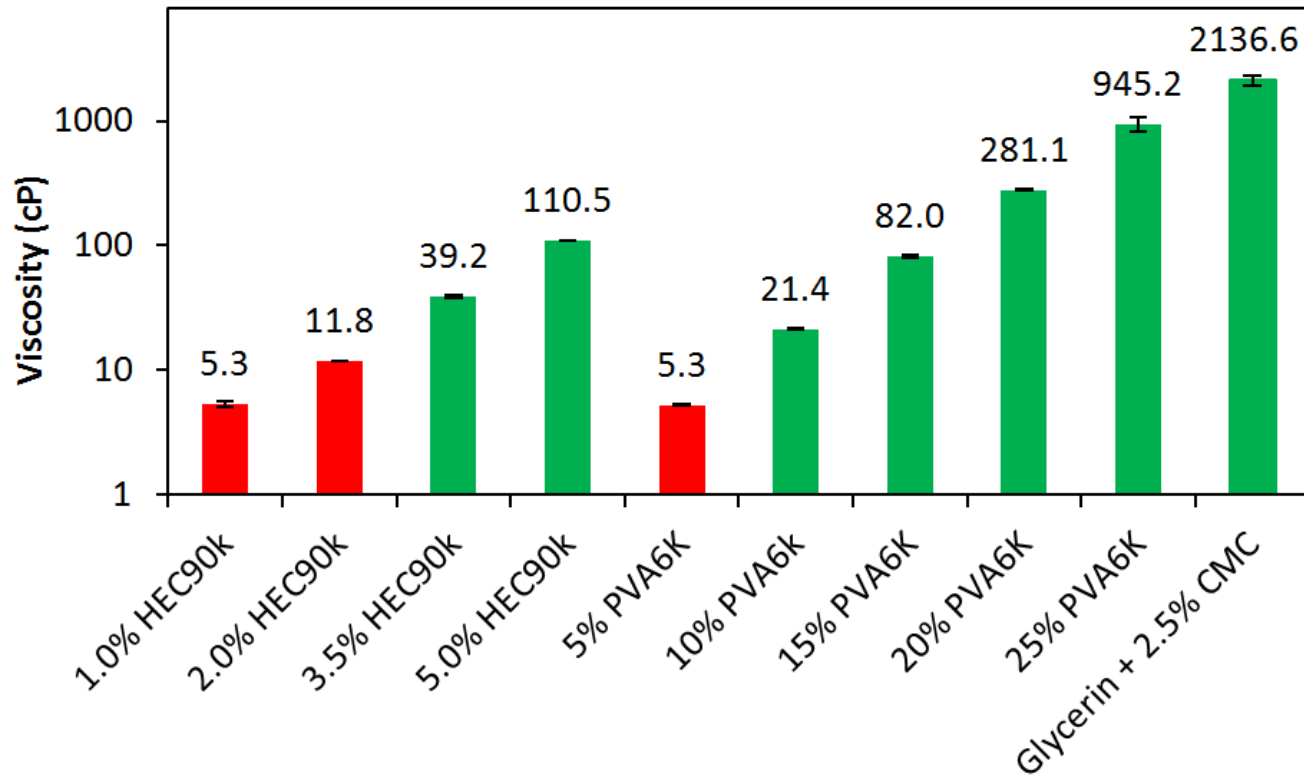
Zoned



# Initial Qualifications

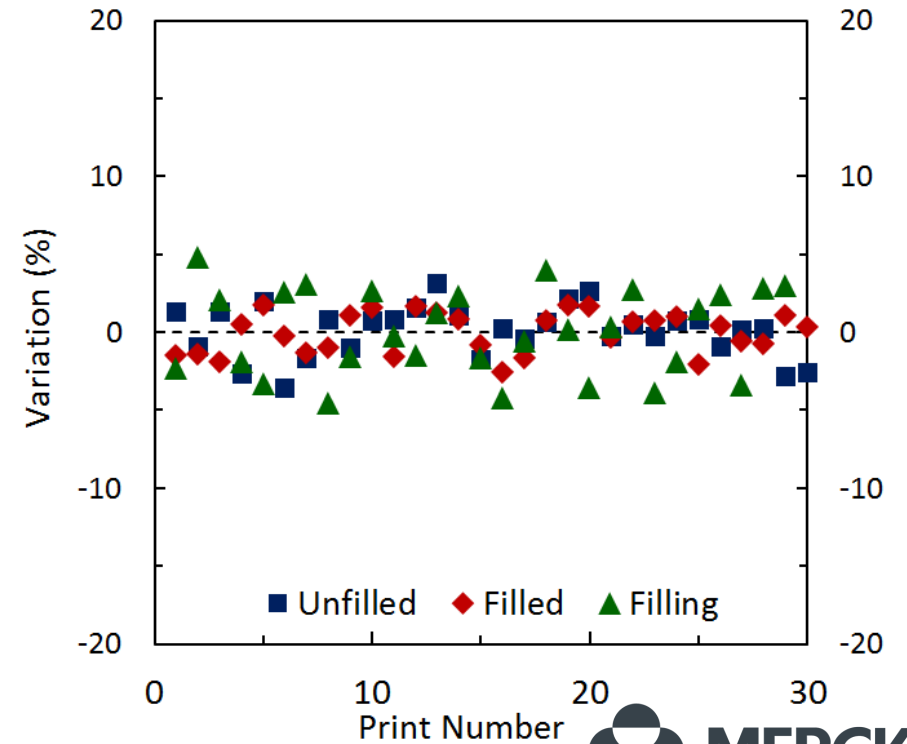
## Non-Flow Control:

Liquids/Gels require  $> 20$  cP to not drip during capsule printing

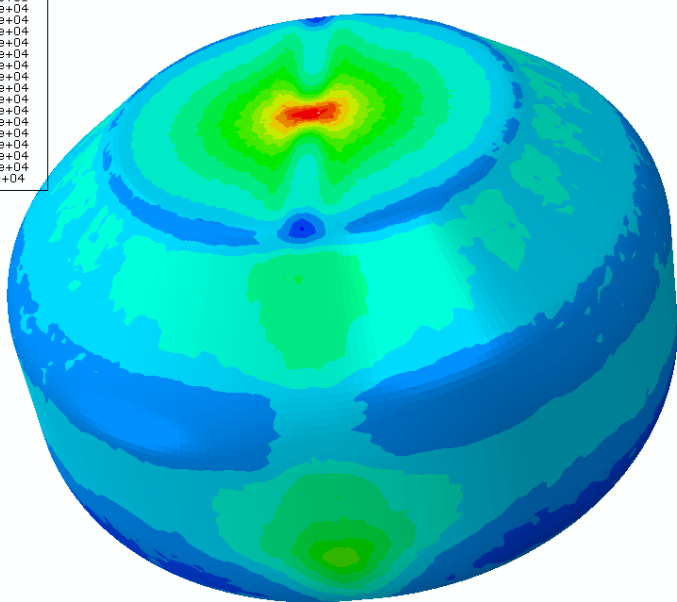
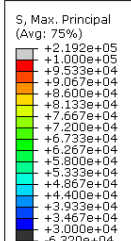
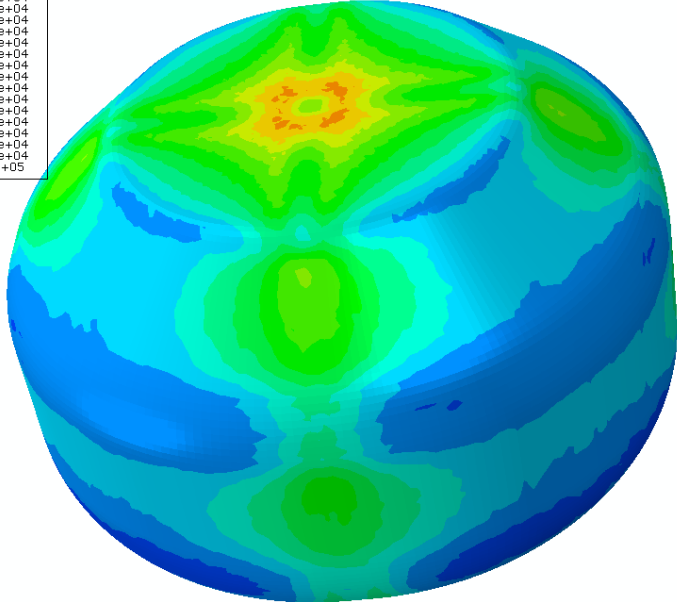
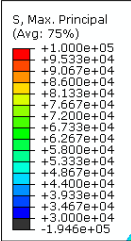
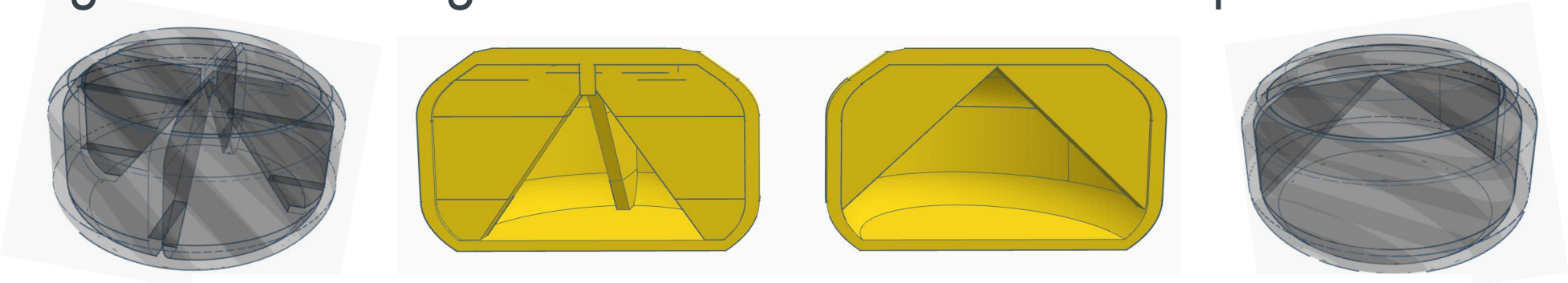


## Flow Control:

Less than 5 wt% variability for prints:  
1.31% RSD for filled capsules



# Optimizing Scaffold Design: Heat Transfer / Thermal Expansion



2 fin design reduces internal stresses from expansion by a factor of 2-3



D.M. Smith et al. Int. J. Pharm., 544 (2018)

# Optimizing Mechanical Properties

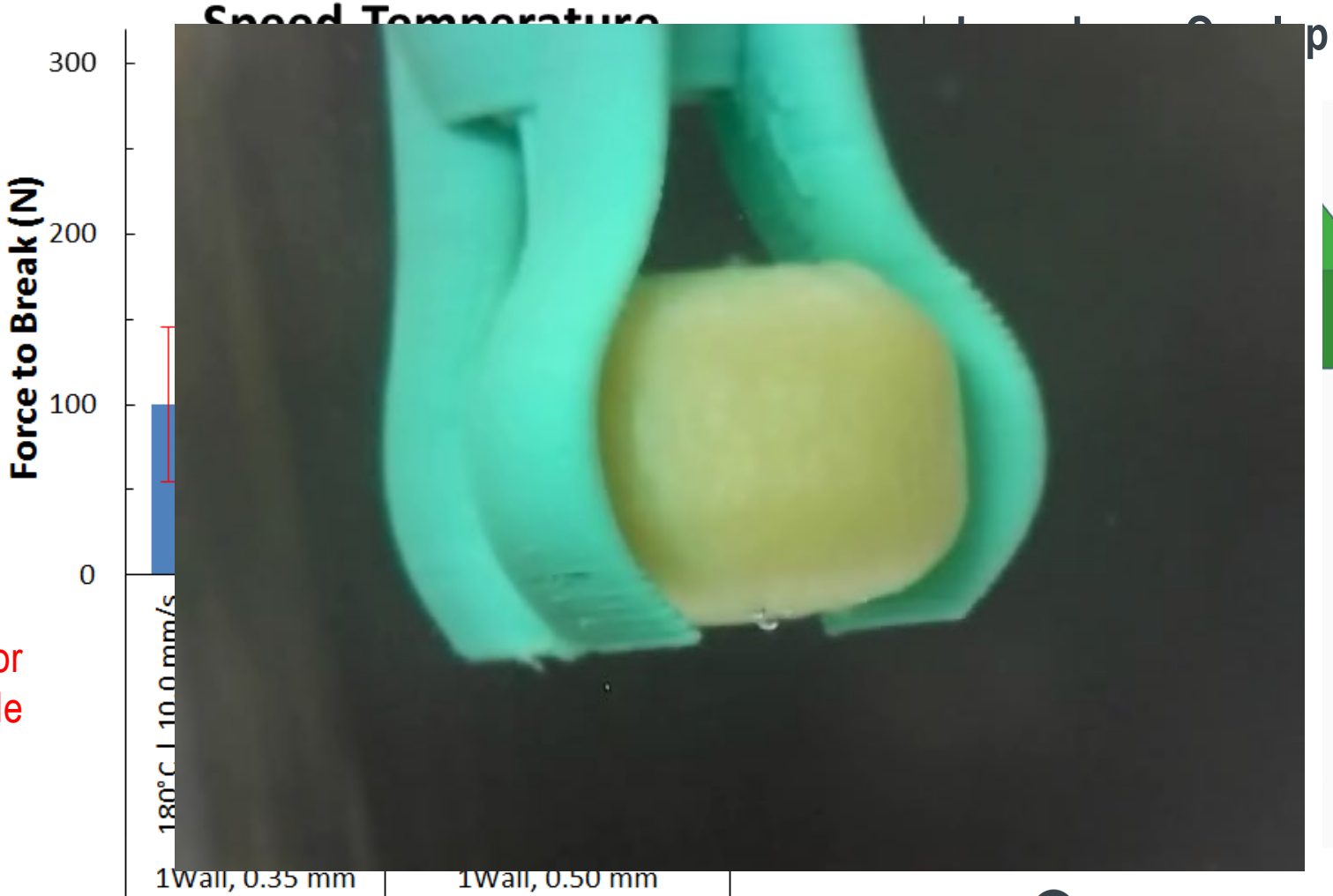
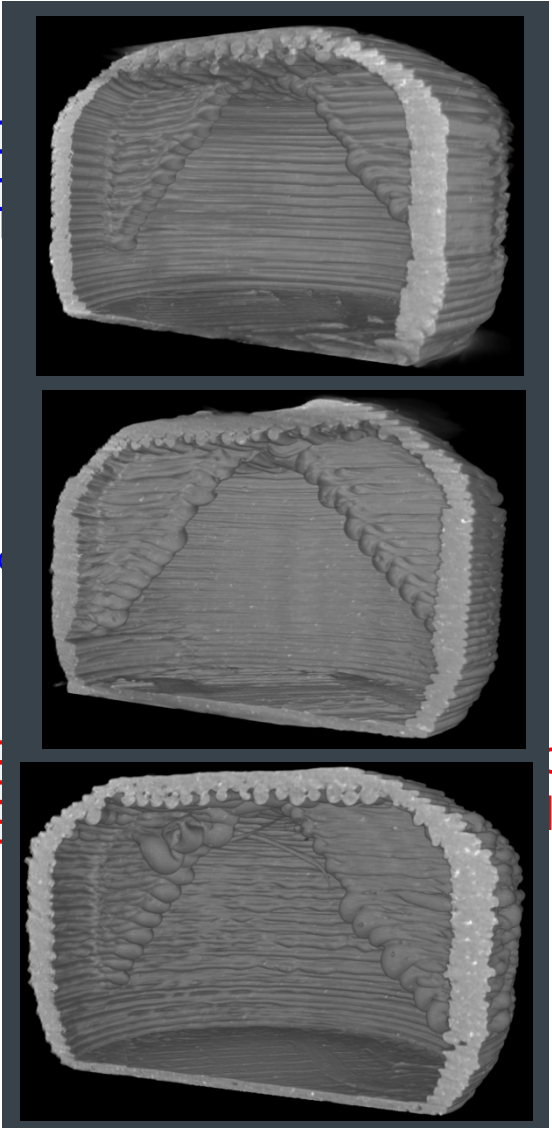
Minimum Layer-Layer Overlap

0.35 mm nozzle,  
10.0 mm/s

0.15 mm layers

0.35 mm nozzle,  
16.0 mm/s

0.10 mm  
0.35 mm nozzle,  
22.0 mm/s

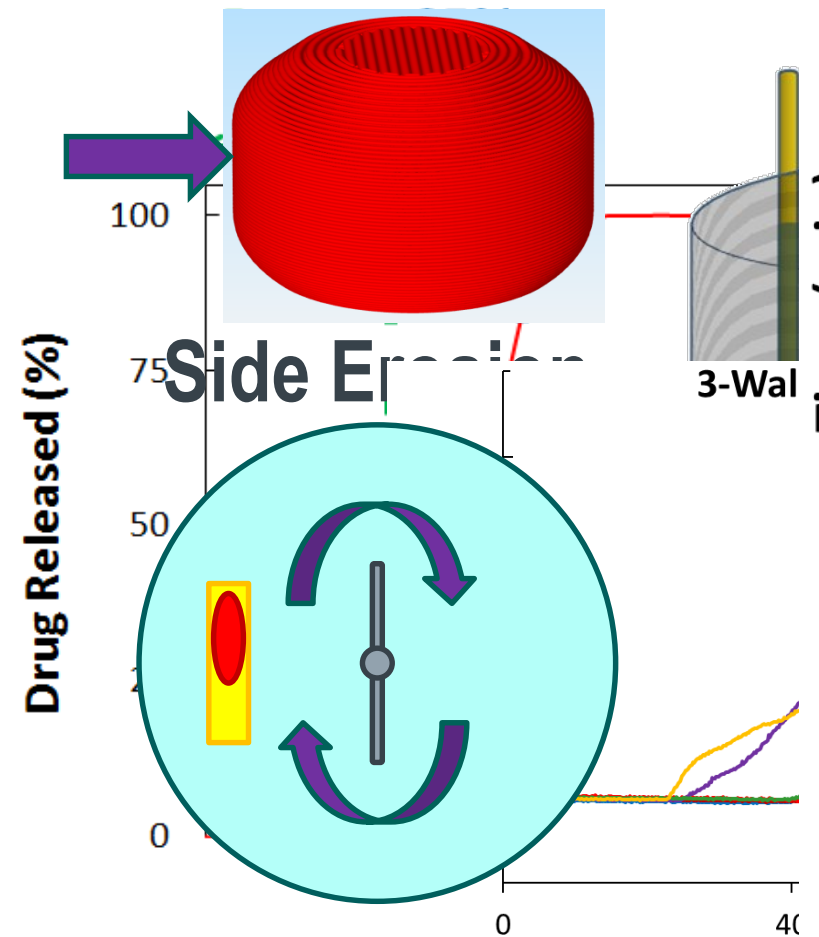


Minimum Welding Temperature

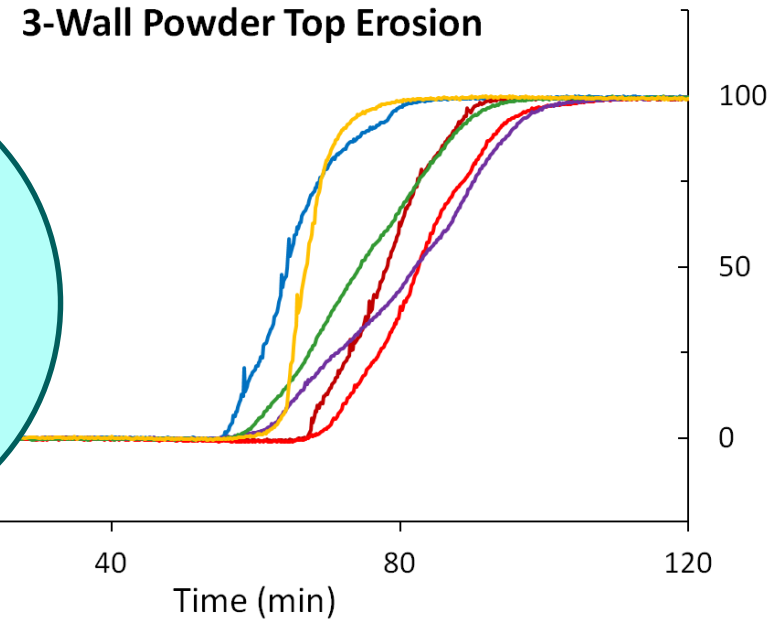
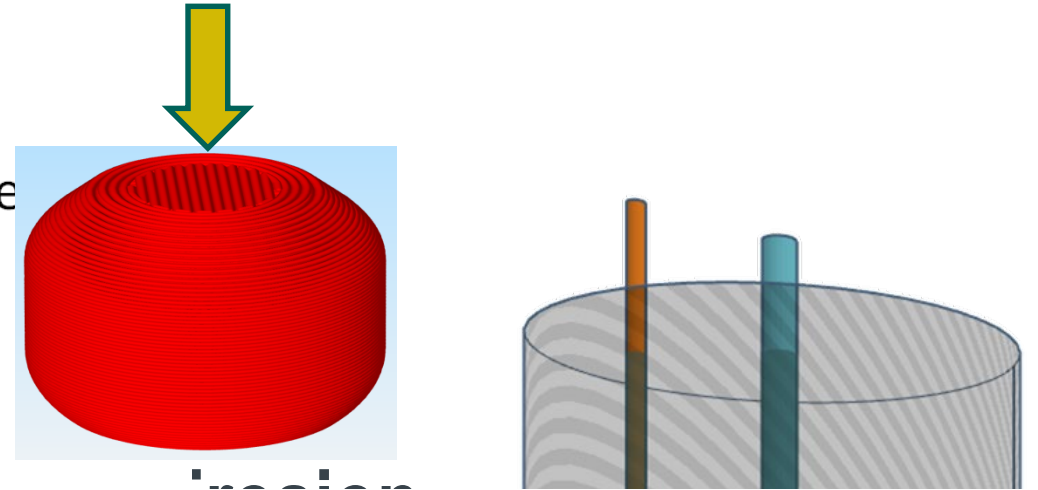
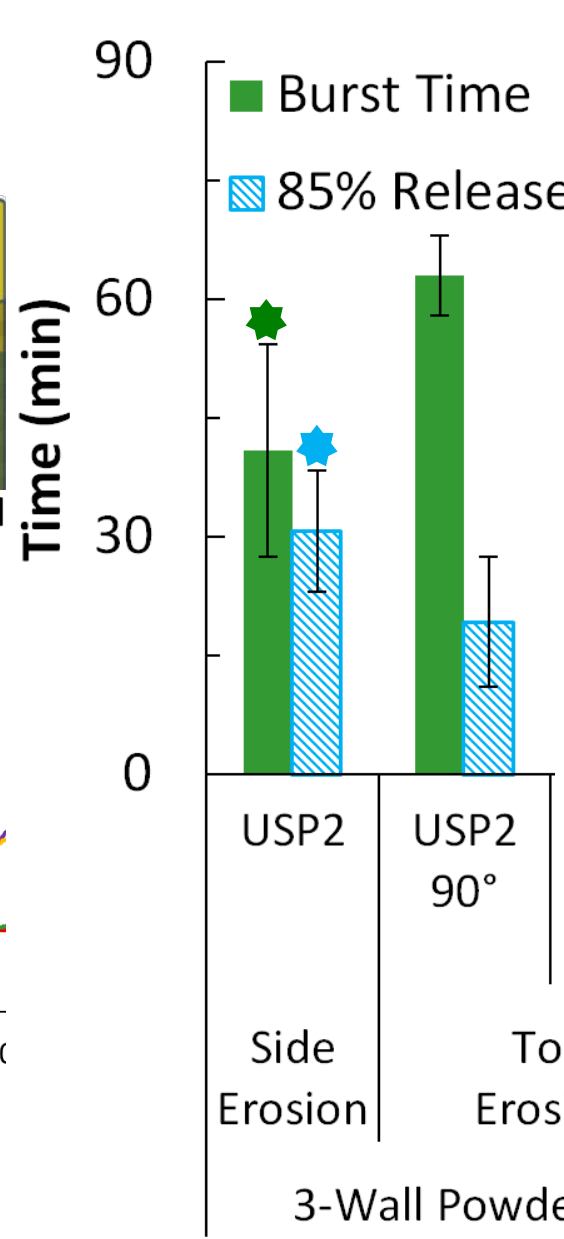




# Anisotropic Dissolution



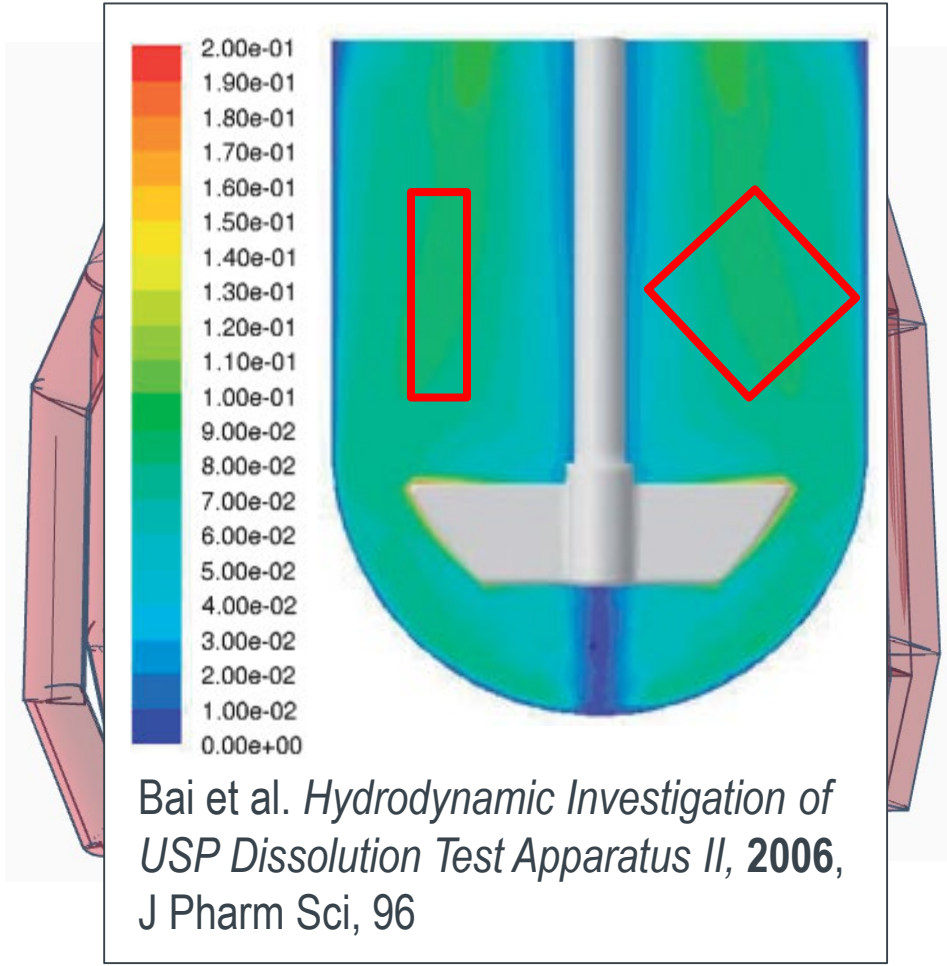
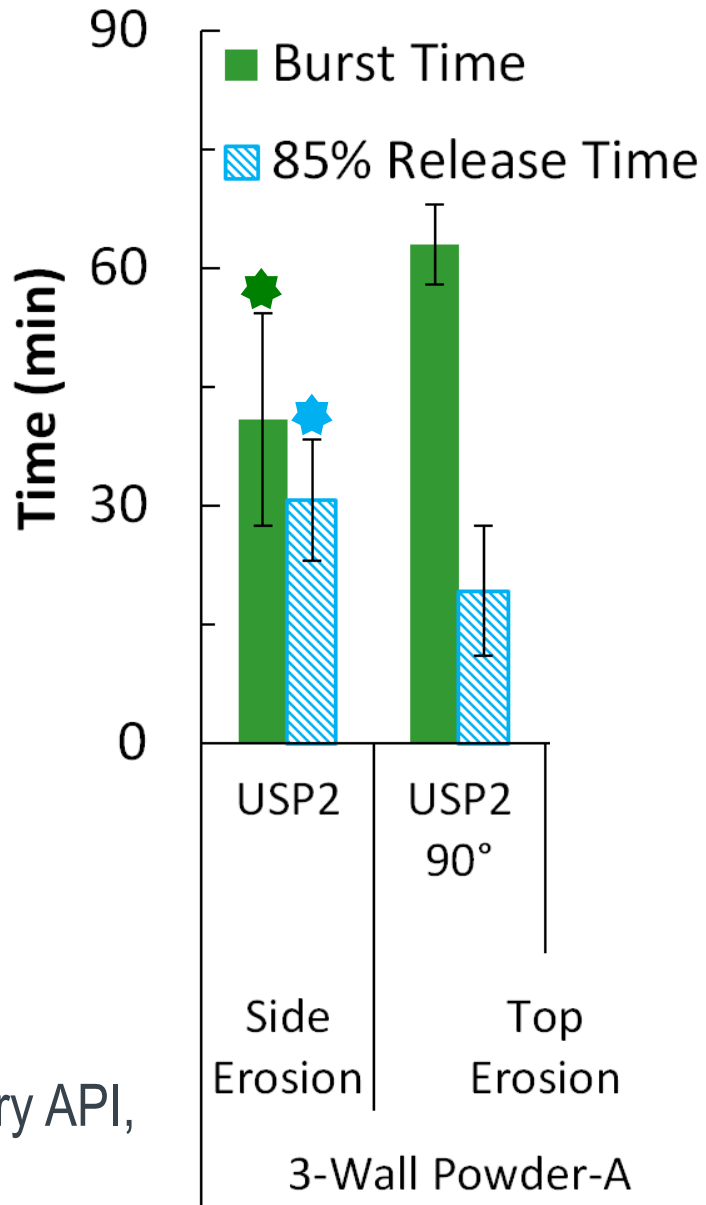
**Powder A** : proprietary API,  
40mg, BCS Class I



# Anisotropic Dissolution

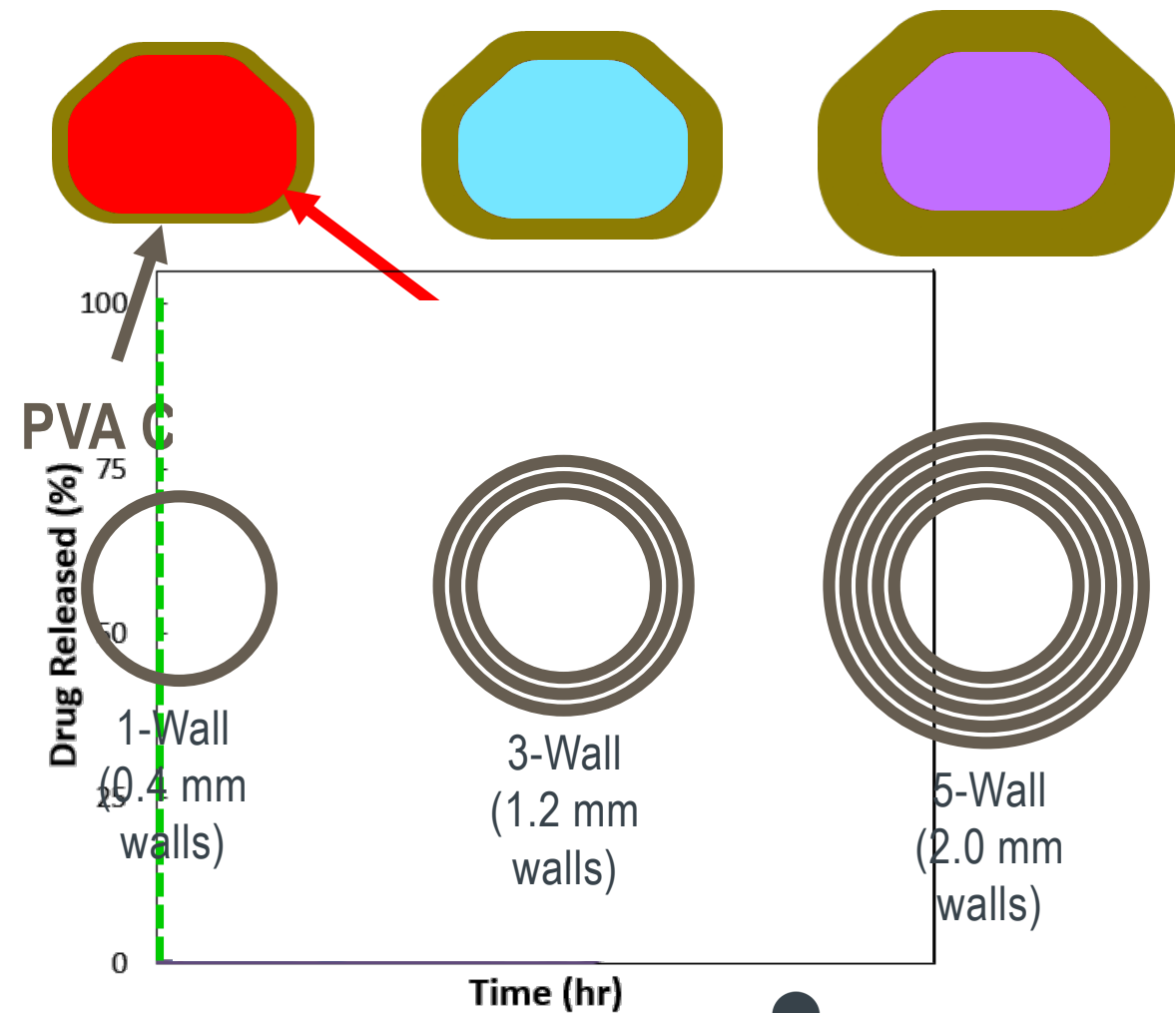
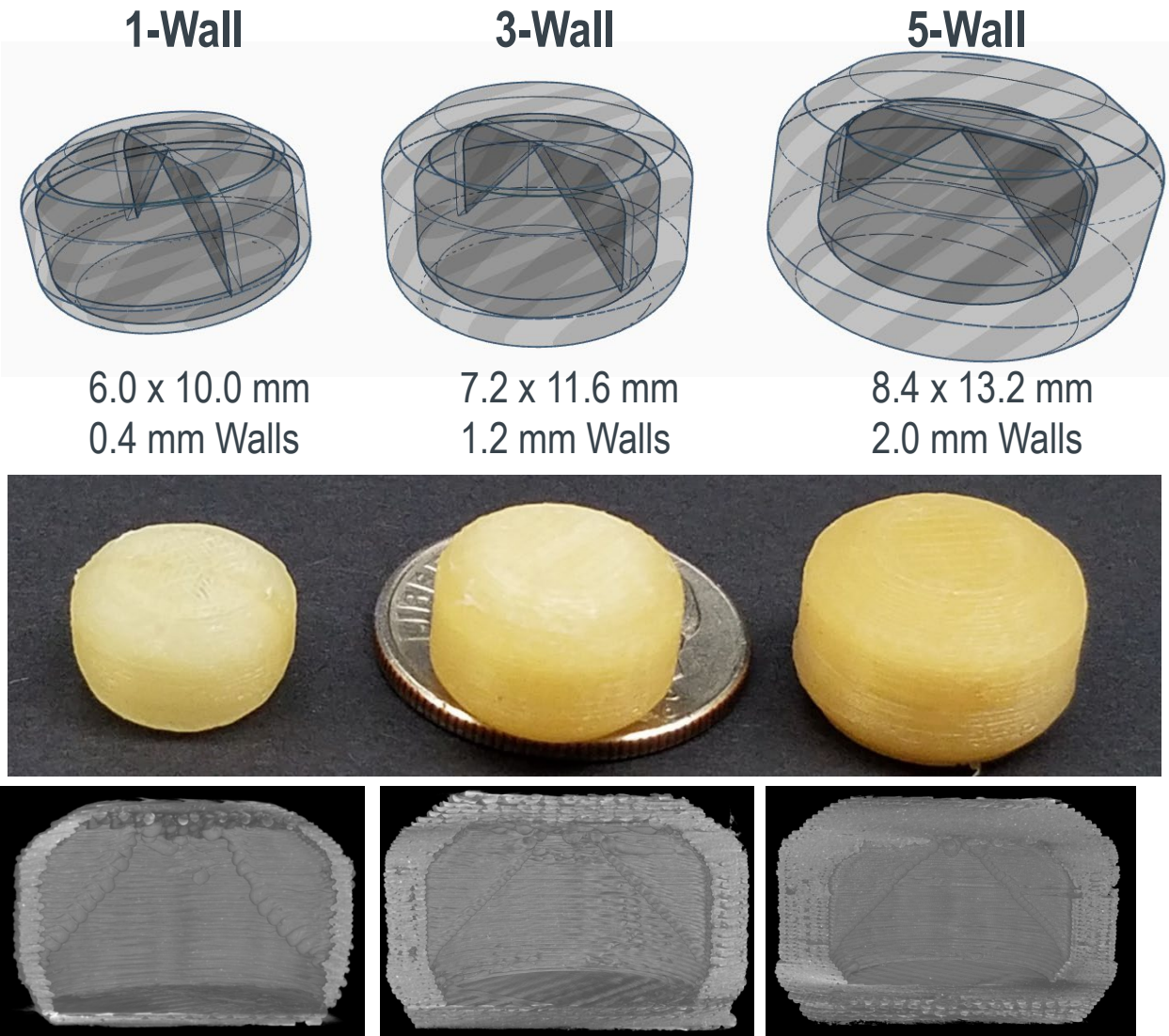


**Powder A** : proprietary API,  
40mg, BCS Class I



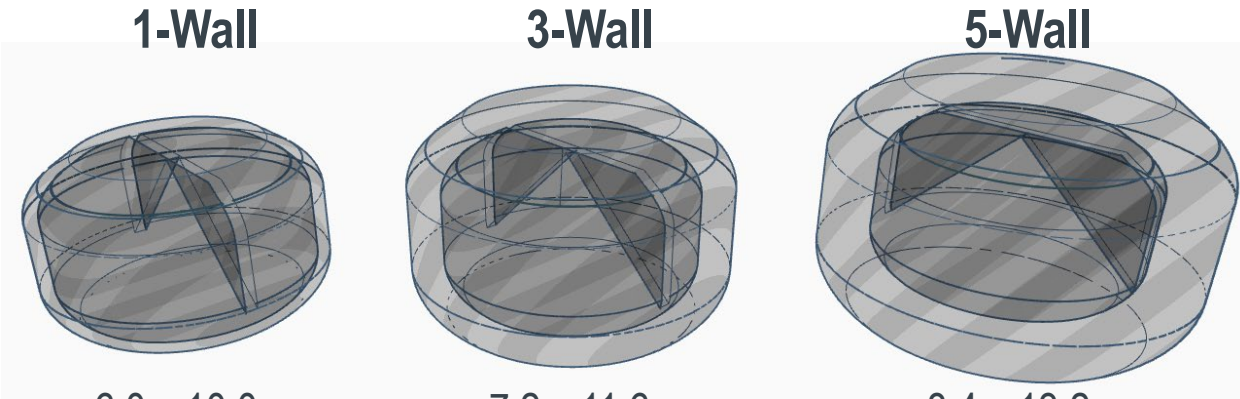


# Burst Time Control Strategy



D.M. Smith et al. Int. J. Pharm., 550 (2018)

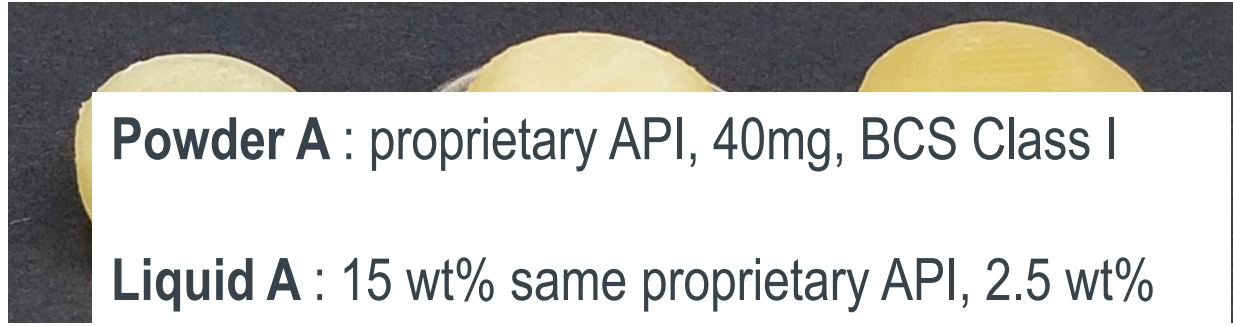
# Burst Time Control Strategy



6.0 x 10.0 mm  
0.4 mm Walls

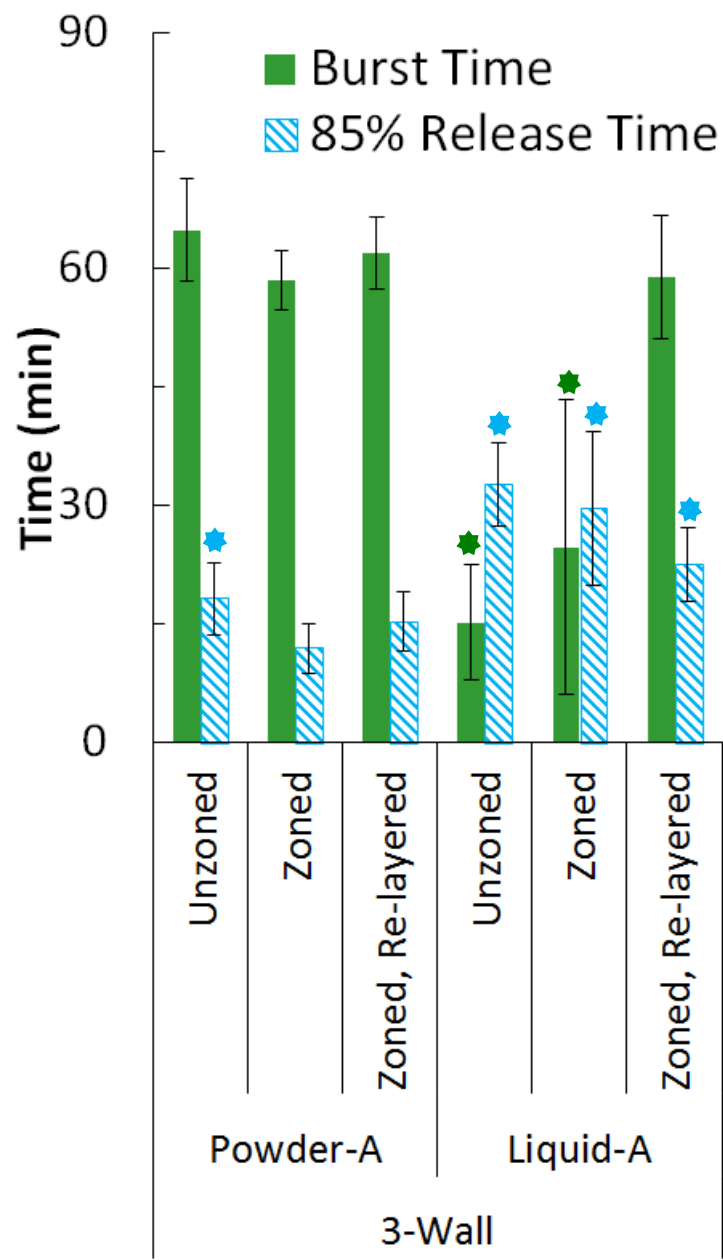
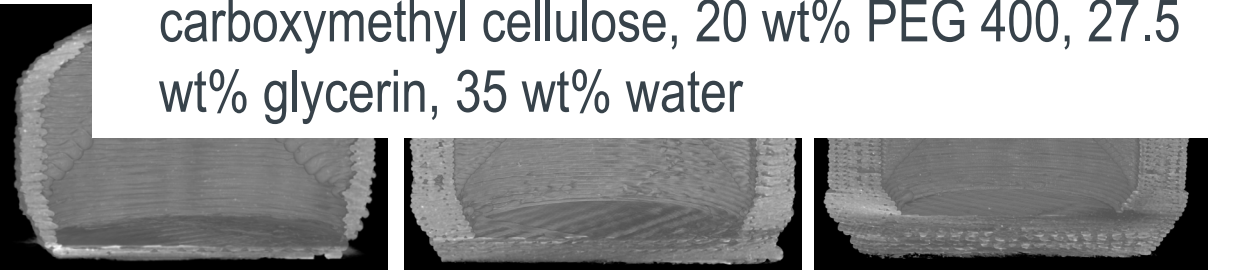
7.2 x 11.6 mm  
1.2 mm Walls

8.4 x 13.2 mm  
2.0 mm Walls



**Powder A** : proprietary API, 40mg, BCS Class I

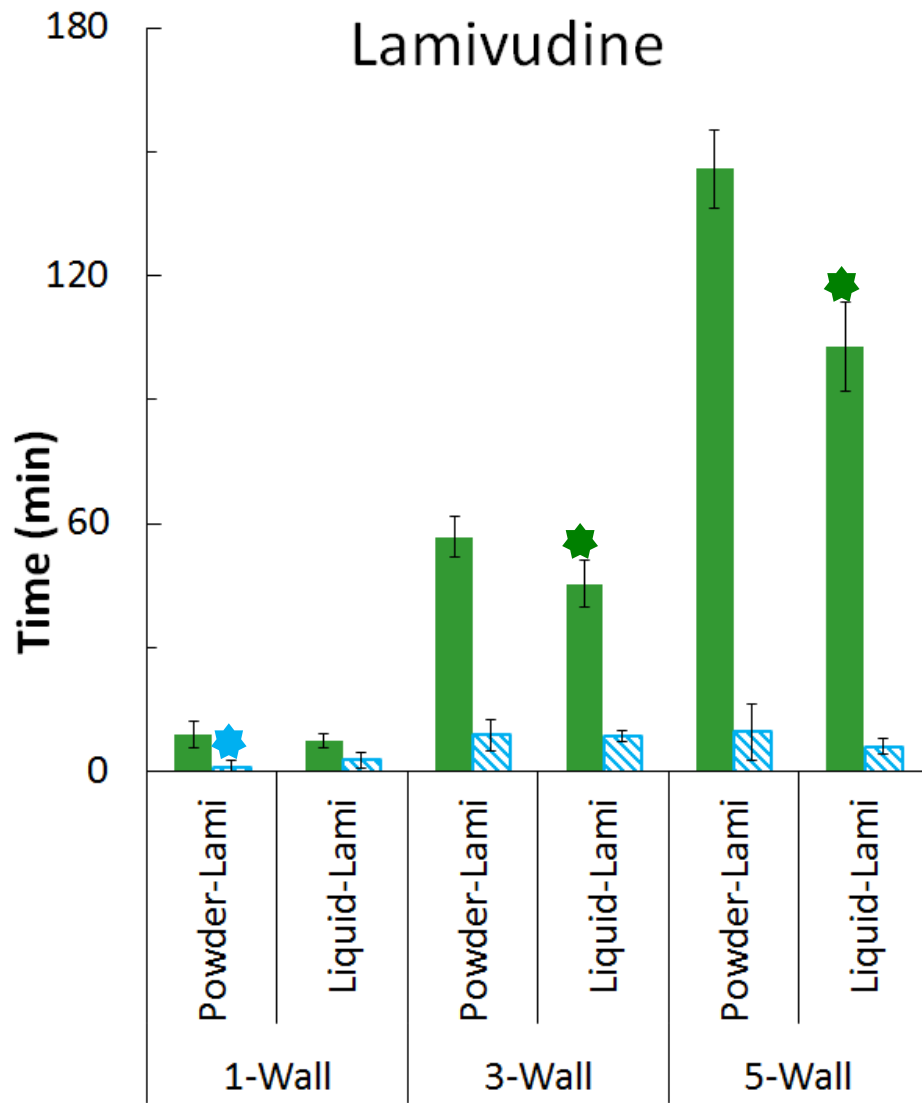
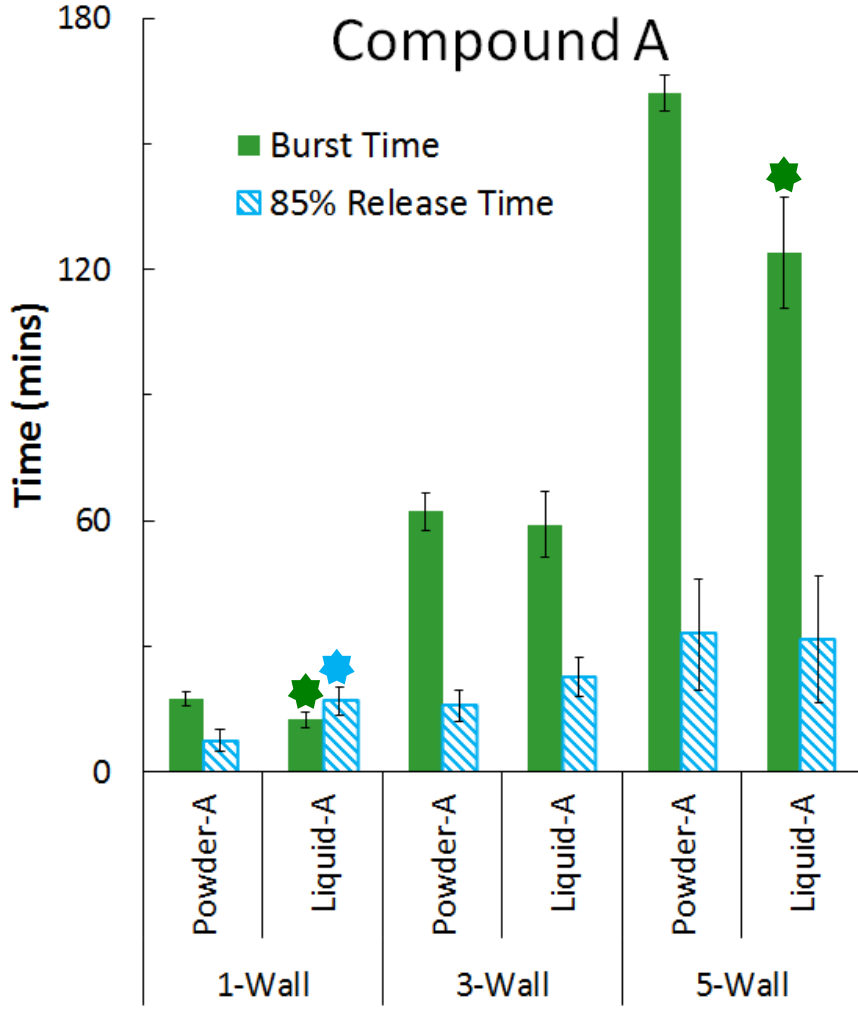
**Liquid A** : 15 wt% same proprietary API, 2.5 wt% carboxymethyl cellulose, 20 wt% PEG 400, 27.5 wt% glycerin, 35 wt% water



**Unzoned** = raw sliced  
**Zoned** = no macro defects  
**Zones Re-layered** = enhanced mechanical properties

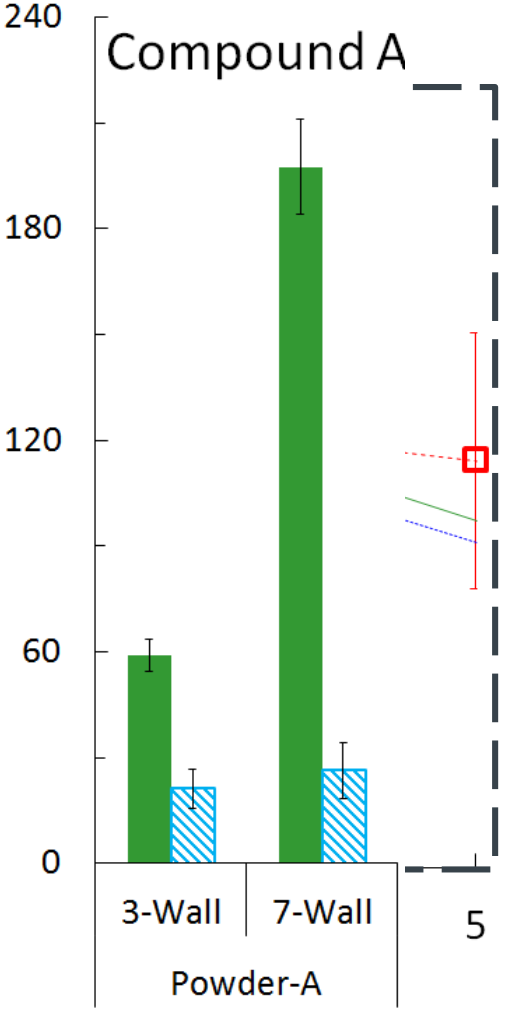
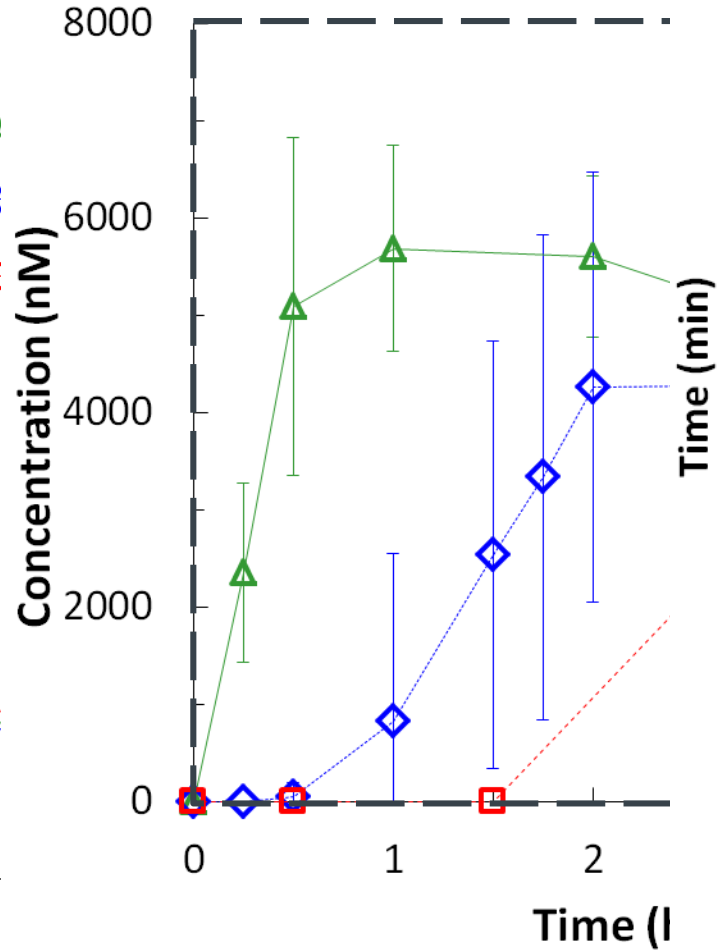
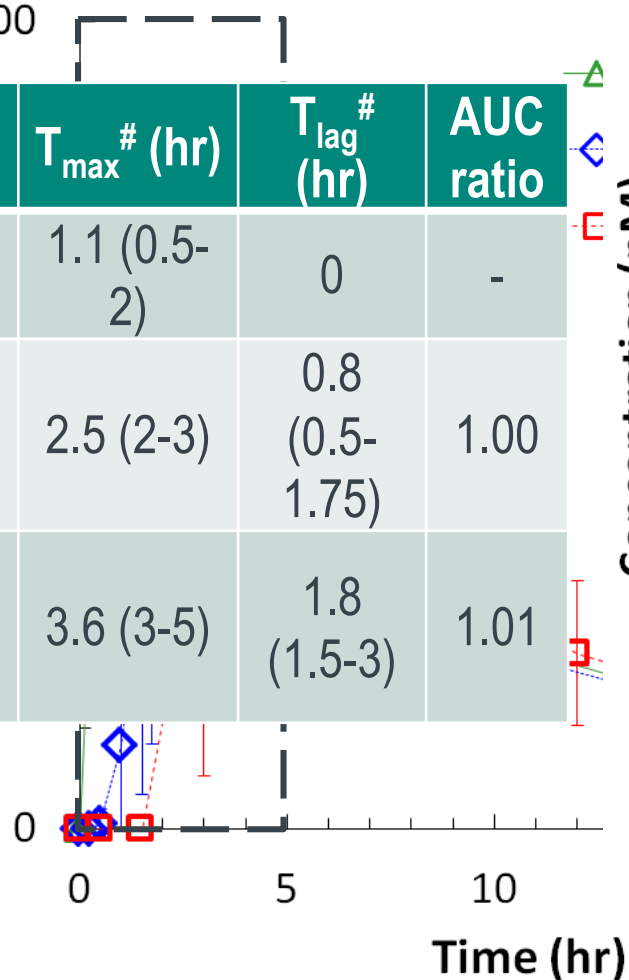
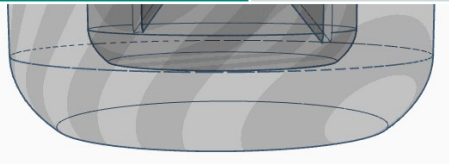


# Liquid vs. Solid Fills

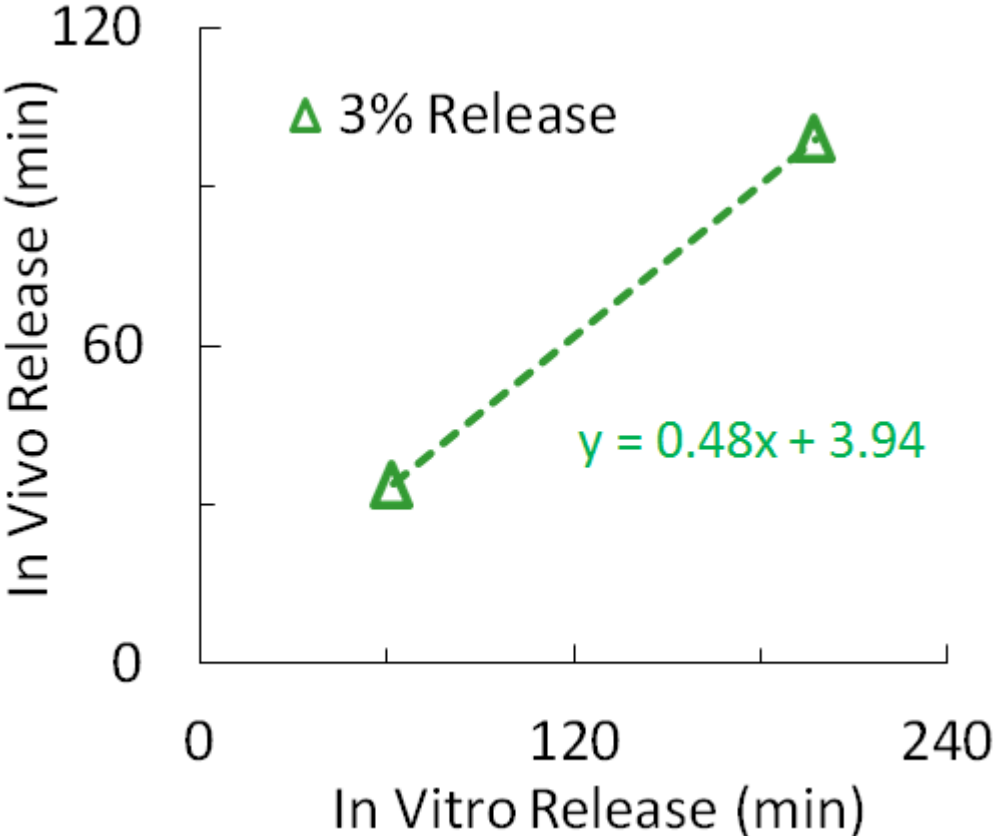
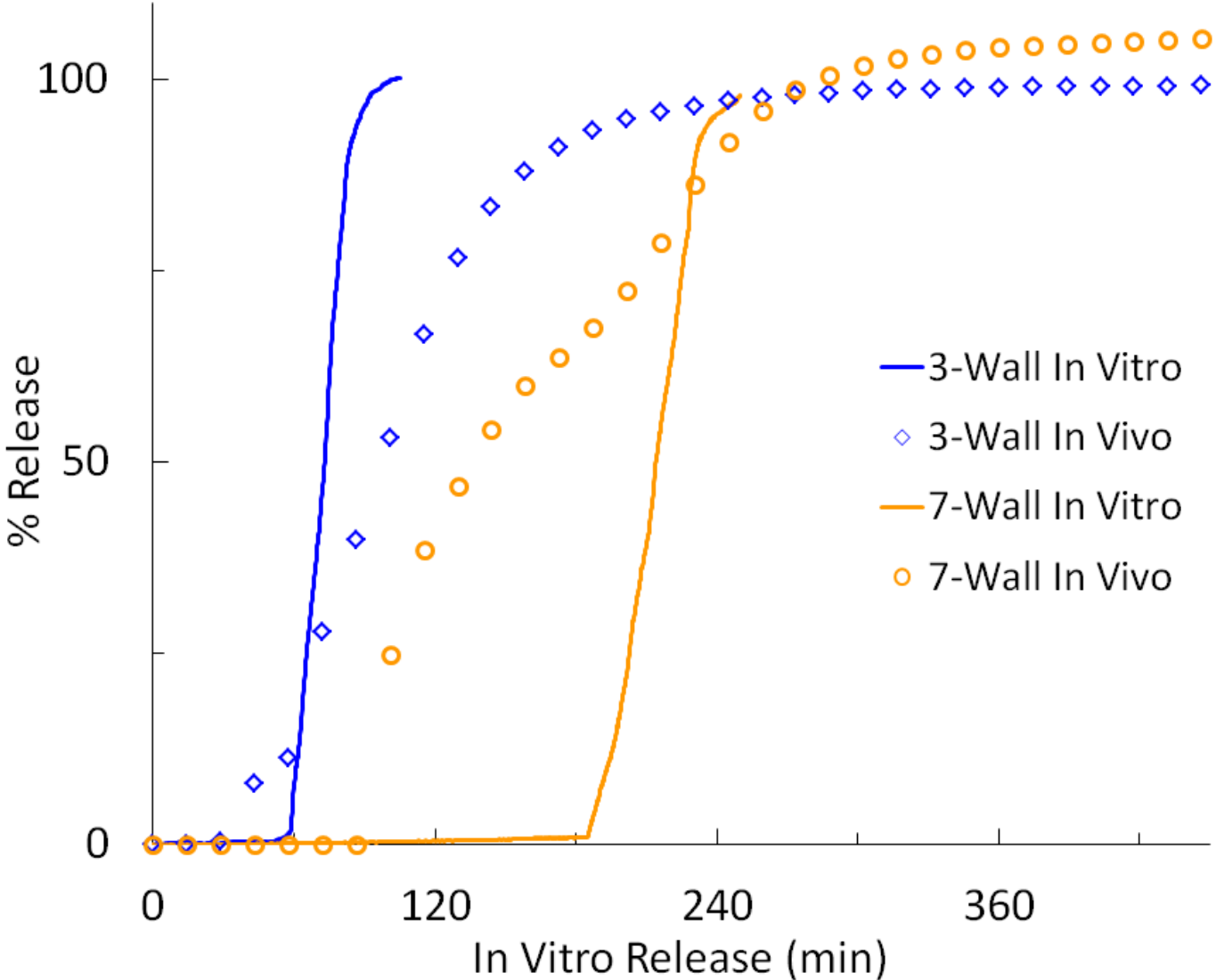


# In Vivo Study (Beagle Dogs)

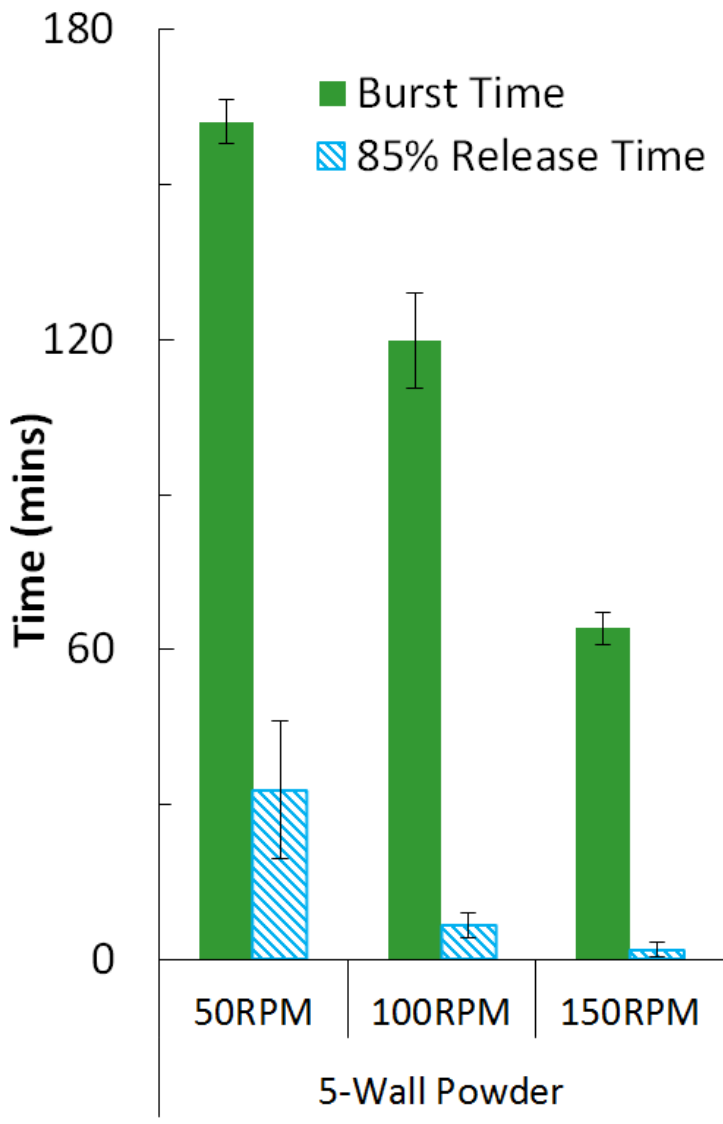
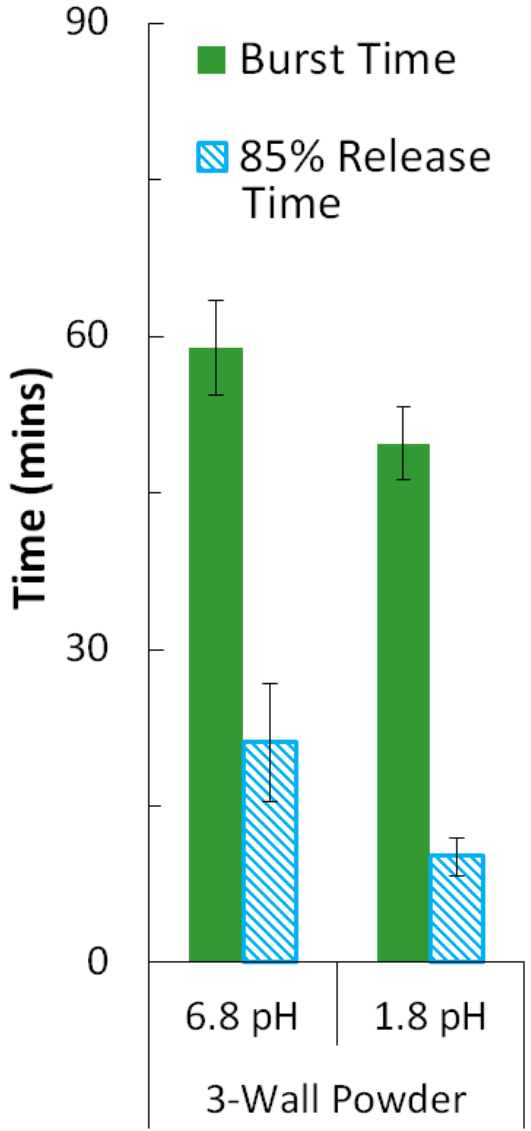
Formulation	AUC <sub>0-24hr</sub> (μM*hr)	C <sub>max</sub> (μM)	T <sub>max</sub> # (hr)	T <sub>lag</sub> # (hr)	AUC ratio
50 mg IR Tablets	50.006 ± 11.697	6.232 ± 0.827	1.1 (0.5-2)	0	-
40 mg 3-Wall Powder-A	40.208 ± 10.452	5.078 ± 1.502	2.5 (2-3)	0.8 (0.5-1.75)	1.00
40 mg 7-Wall Powder-A	41.558 ± 12.796	5.025 ± 1.174	3.6 (3-5)	1.8 (1.5-3)	1.01



# In Vitro – In Vivo Relationship

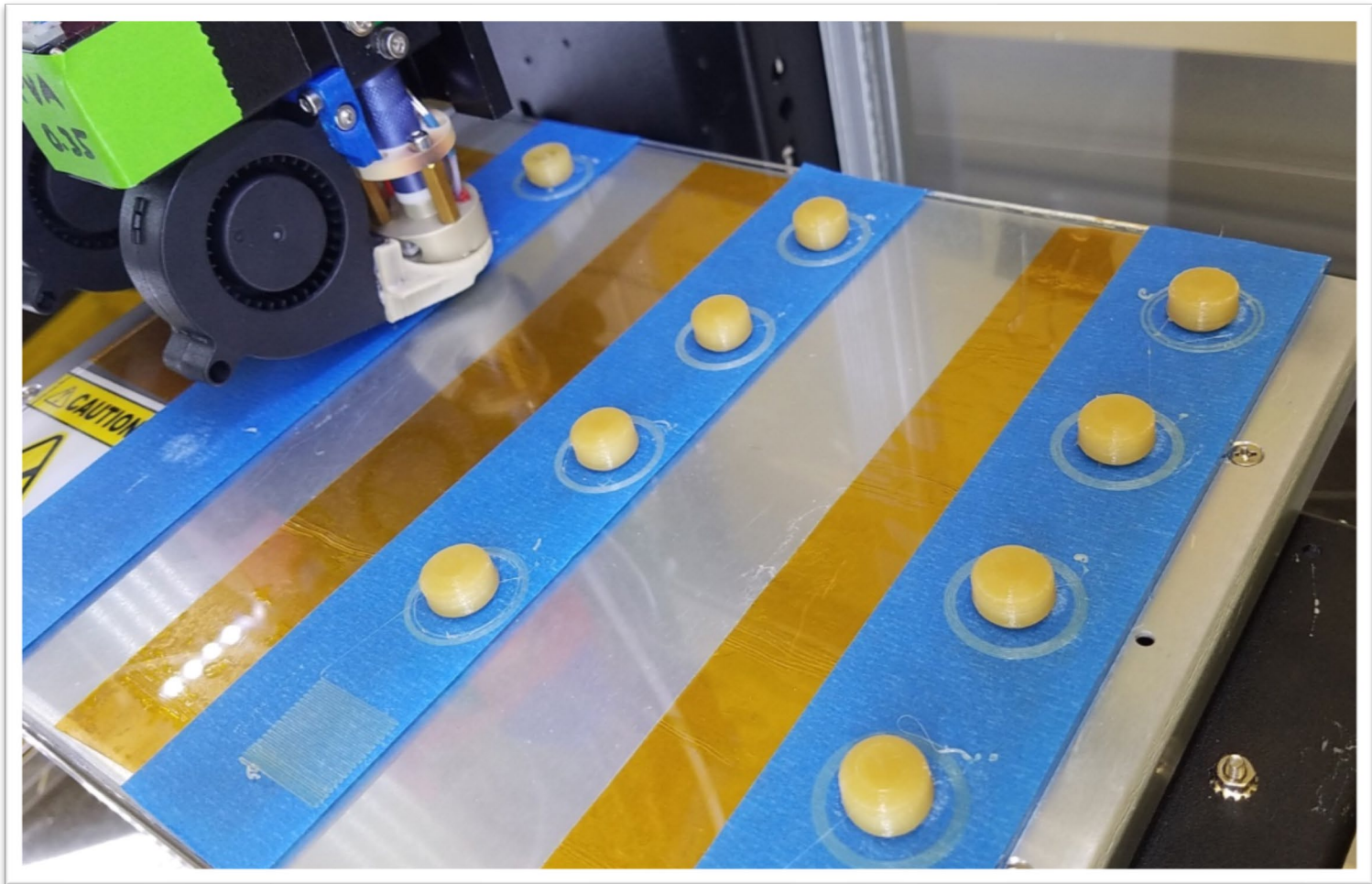
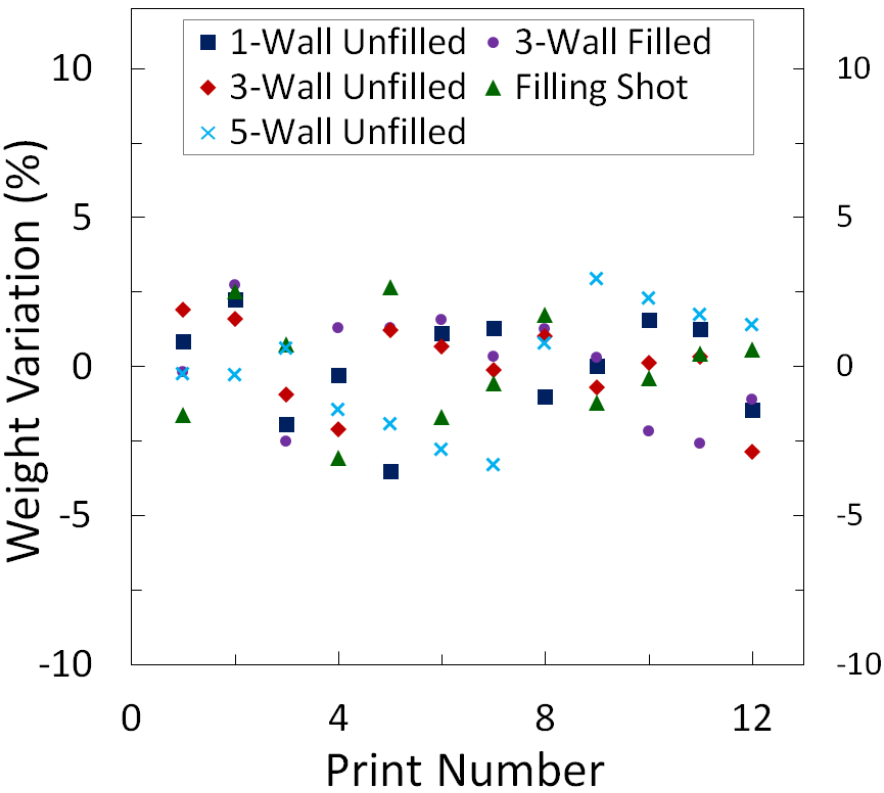


# Manipulating Dissolution Conditions





# “Scaleup” for Early Clinical Studies



# Key takeaways

## 3DP

- 3D printing (3DP), offers R&D a new tool in the biopharmaceutical toolbox to improve the quality and timeliness of oral drug product development
- This technology is gaining significant academic acceptance as well as industrial interest and commercial implementation due to its ability to create complex geometries along with customizable material properties.
- We believe there is a potential to enhance our understanding of PK through both dose and dissolution flexibility in early clinical programs through the creation of complex and custom drug products.

## Clinical 3D Printer

- Our Team has worked towards designing novel shell dosage forms with various fill options and studied the impact of in-vitro and in vivo release with various combinations
- Controlled and delayed release concept oral dosage forms have been demonstrated successfully with Metformin and other proprietary Merck compounds

## Issues:

- Dissolution variability root cause has been identified as the anisotropic nature of both the dosage form and the dissolution media flow field

# THANK YOU