

# Clinically Deployable Devices

Christine P. Hendon, Columbia University



# Our Team Spans Disciplines & Schools



**Christine Hendon, CU**

Electrical Engineering, Imaging, Cardiac Electrophysiology



**Arnold Advincula, CU**

OB/GYN, Gynecologic Health & Procedures



**Christine King, UCI**

Biomedical Engineering, Engineering Education, Health Systems



**Aaron Kyle, Duke**

Biomedical Engineering, Engineering Education, STEM Outreach, Medical Device Design Biomedical Instrumentation and Signal Processing



**Joshua Mauney, UCI**

Urology, Tissue Engineering, Medical Device Testing



**Pamela Moalli, Pitt**

OB/GYN, Bioengineering, Uryo/Gyn, Vaginal Mesh Expert, Female Pelvic Floor Health



**Kristin Myers, CU**

Mechanical Engineering, Mechanics of Soft Tissues, Preterm Birth, Hydrated Biomaterials



**Christine O'Brien, WUSTL**

Radiology, Raman Spectroscopy, Maternal Hemorrhage, Wearable Devices



**Katie Reuther, UPenn**

Biomedical Engineering, Development & Translation of Early-Stage Medical Tech., Biomedical Tech. Accelerator



**Joy-Sarah Vink, CU**

OB/GYN, Preterm Birth Prevention



**Yong Wang, WUSTL**

OB/GYN, Radiology, Biomedical Engineering, Uterine Functional Imaging, Electrophysiology



**Ronald Wapner, CU**

OB/GYN, Fetal Genetic Testing



**Harry West, CU**

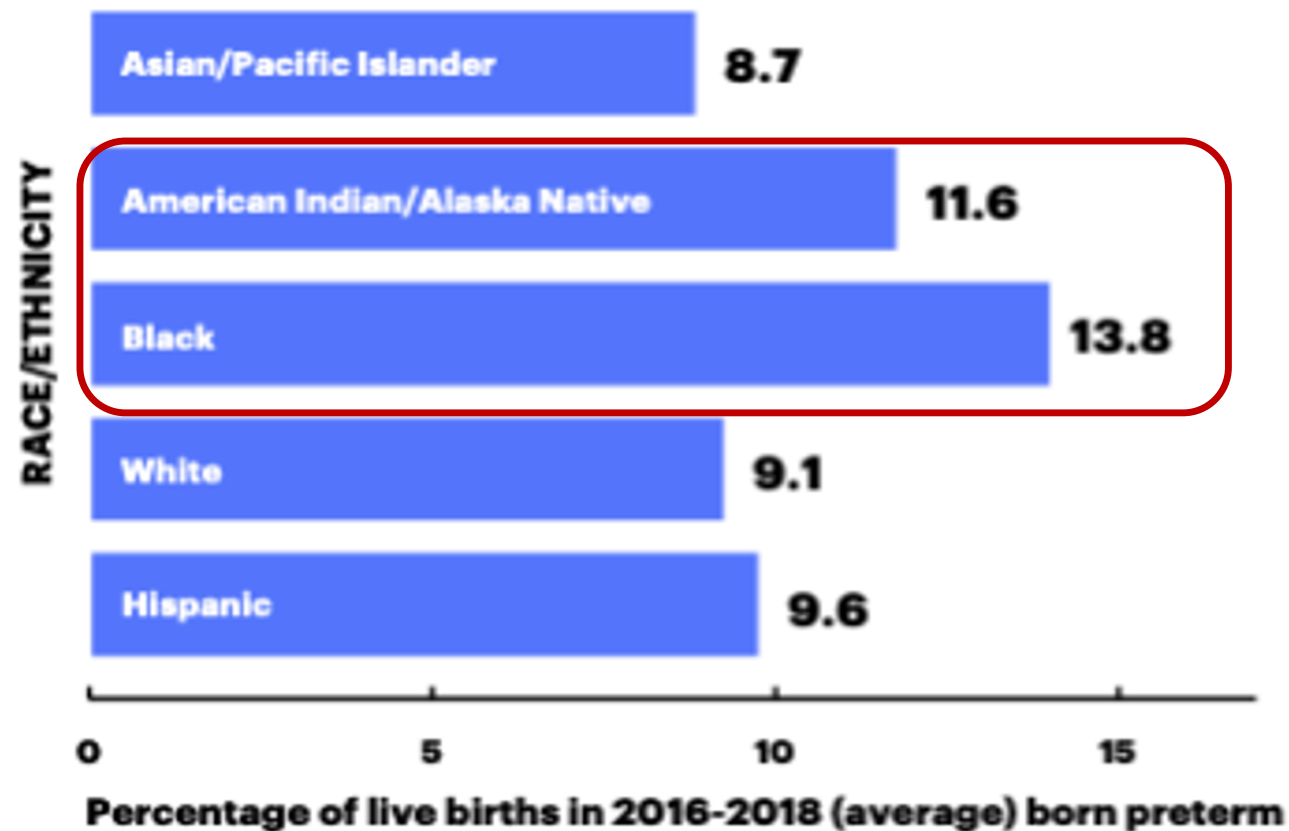
Mechanical Engineering, Industrial Engineering and Operations Research, Product Design Methodology, Service and Experience Design

# There is an urgent need for engineering innovation in women's health

## HISTORY OF INNOVATION

### Who do we invent for? Patents by women focus more on women's health, but few women get to invent

Rembrand Koning<sup>1\*</sup>, Sampsa Samila<sup>2</sup>, John-Paul Ferguson<sup>3</sup> *Science*, 2021



*In the United States, the preterm birth rate among Black women is 50% higher than the rate among all other women.*

- IMWEL will **make** new biomaterials, sensors, imaging tools, software, and technologies based on mechanobiology to enhance healthcare for women
- IMWEL will emphasize **women-centered design**
- Device development will be driven by
  - Unmet clinical needs identified within the Innovation Ecosystem
  - Fundamental knowledge pursued in Research Thrusts

# IMWEL's Women-Centered Device Goals

## YEARS 1-2

Initiation of clinical device development

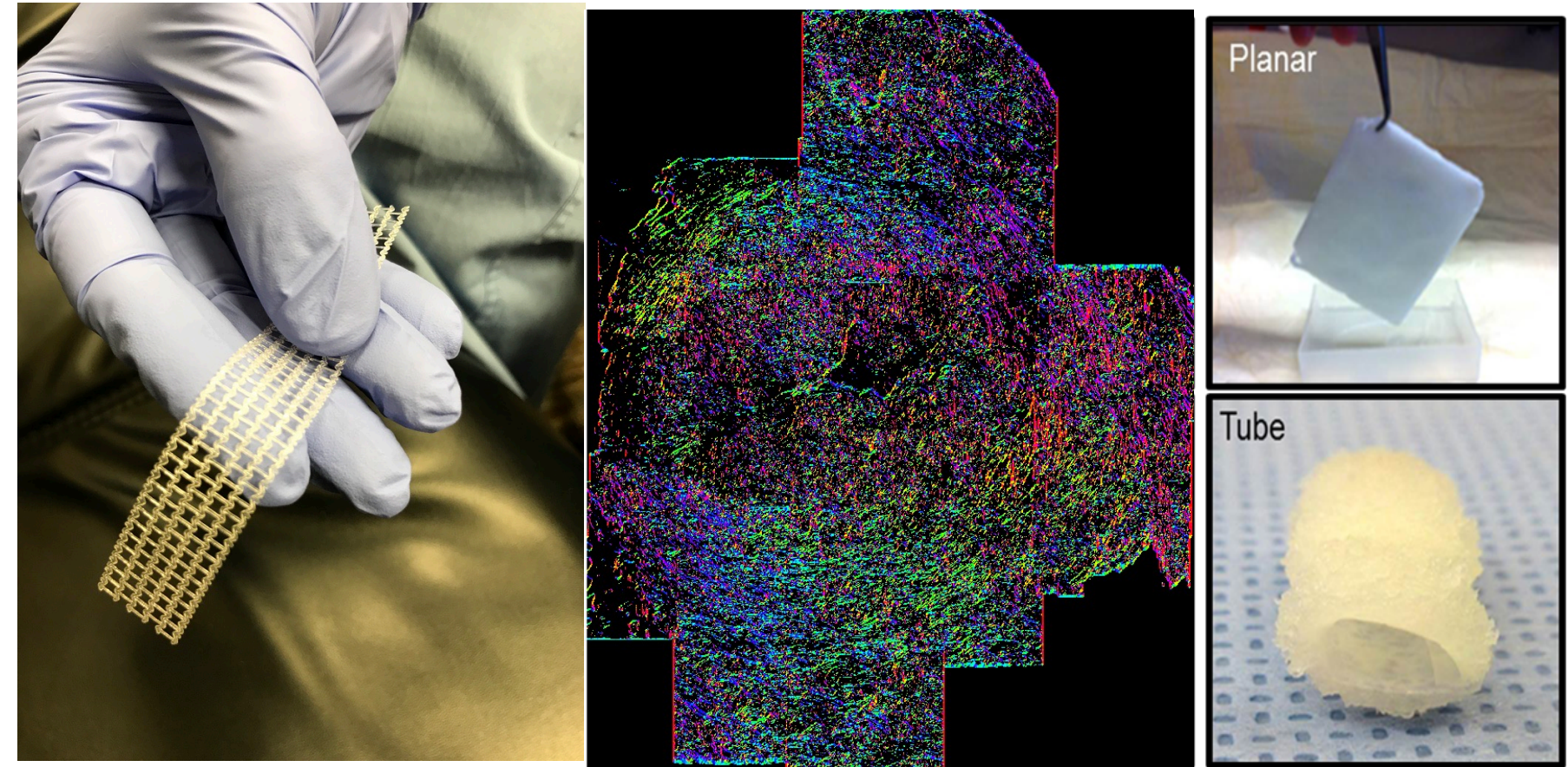
## YEARS 3-5

Develop prototypes ready for clinical testing

## YEARS 5-10

Deploy devices clinically and commercialize

- **Preterm Birth:**
  - Monitor reproductive tissues to alert for urgent events
- **Pelvic floor disorders:**
  - Predict a woman's potential injury from delivery
  - Interventions to minimize injury during delivery
  - Systems to promote muscle-to-bone healing
- **Healthy Aging:**
  - Measure the biomechanics as women exercise
  - Exercises protocols for women



# Novel Devices for Pelvic Floor Disorders

*Elastomer Polymers with tunable mechanical properties to repair prolapse*

- Soft polymer that has a material stiffness similar to vaginal tissue
  - Materials that are biostable, biocompatible, compliant, low stiffness and high strength
  - Devices that interact with surrounding tissues to restore original properties
- Pores expand rather than contract with device tensioning
- Repair solutions require fundamental knowledge the soft-tissue to bone interface



Katrina Knight,  
Pitt



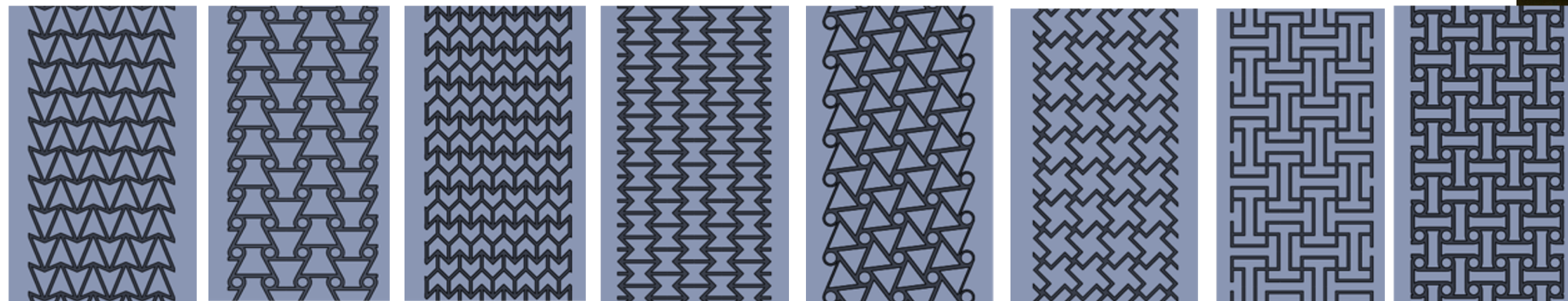
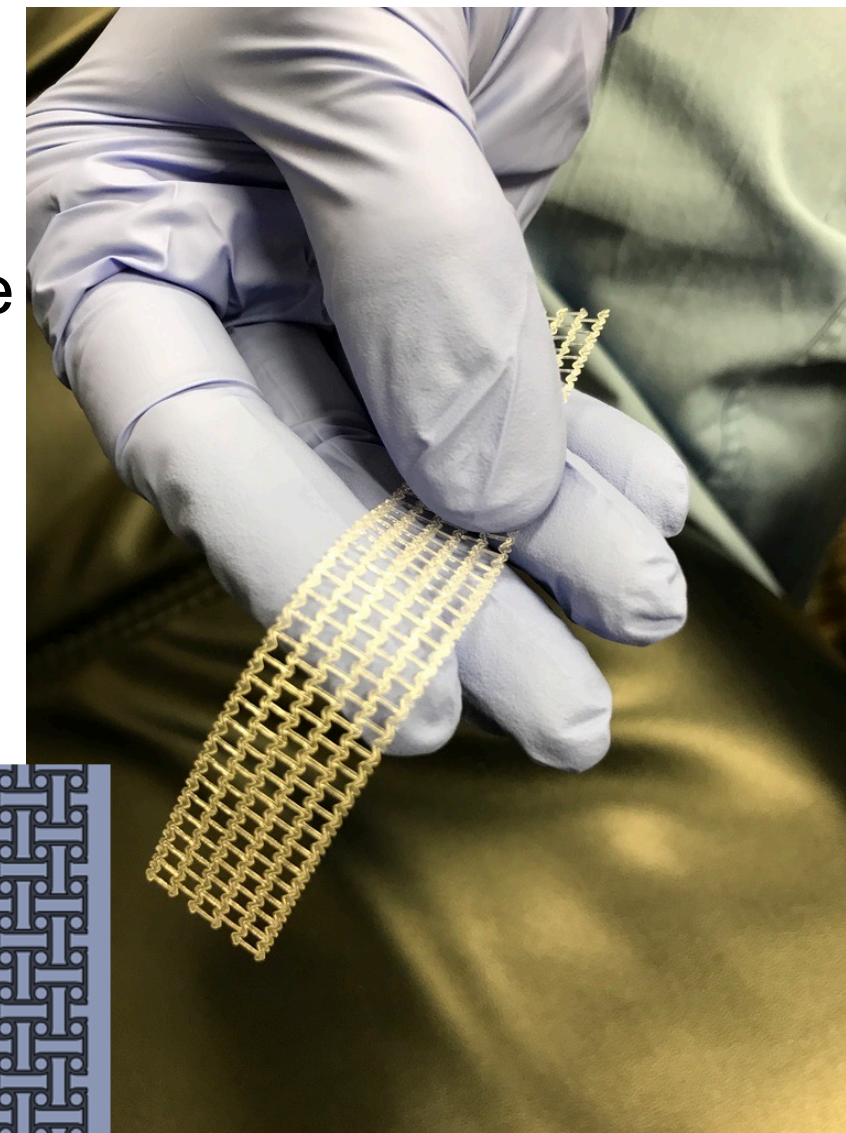
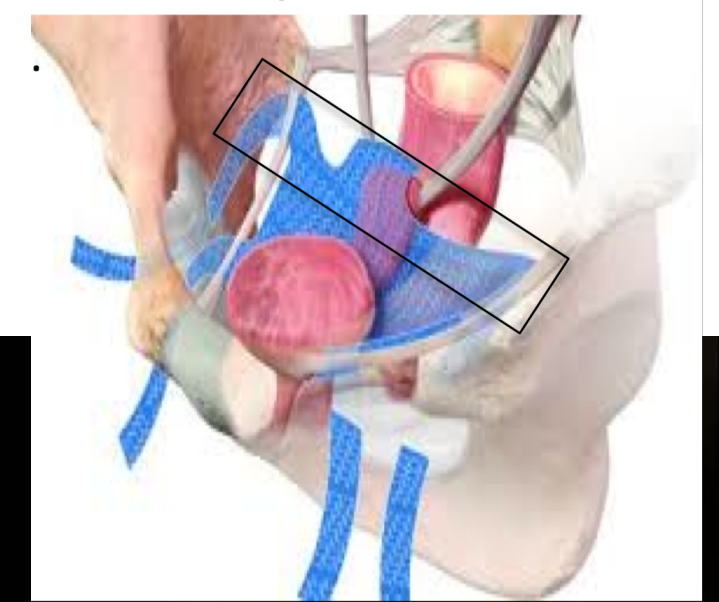
Steven  
Abramowitch,  
Pitt



Pamela  
Moalli, Pitt



Helen Lu, CU



# Novel Imaging Endoscopes for Preterm Birth

*in vivo* assessment of structure-function of the cervix



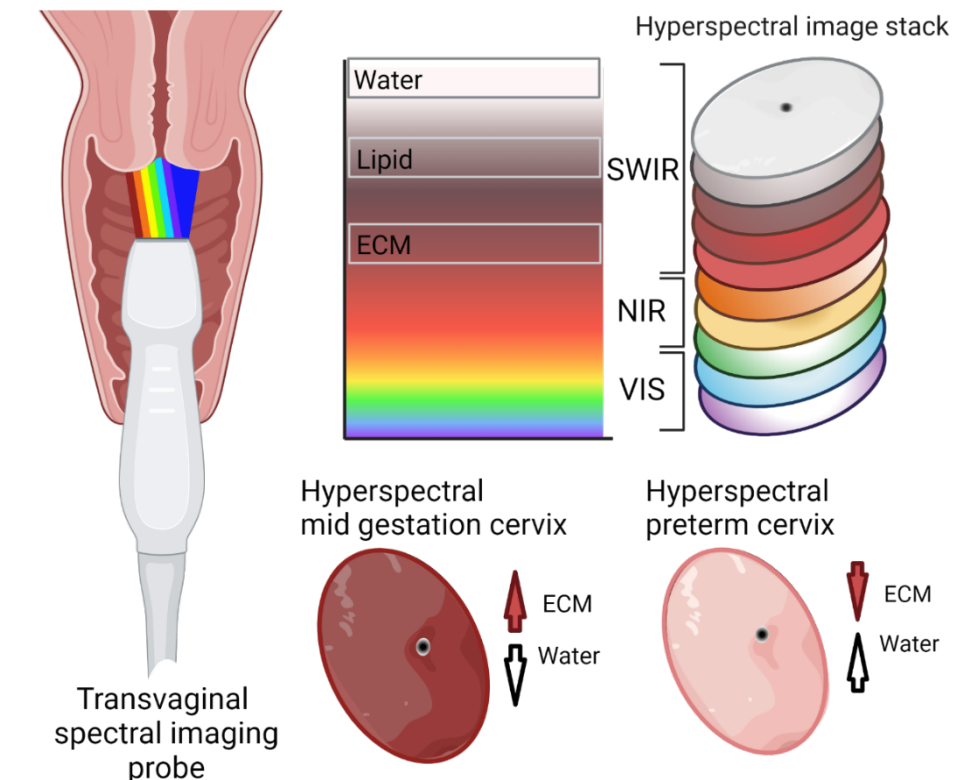
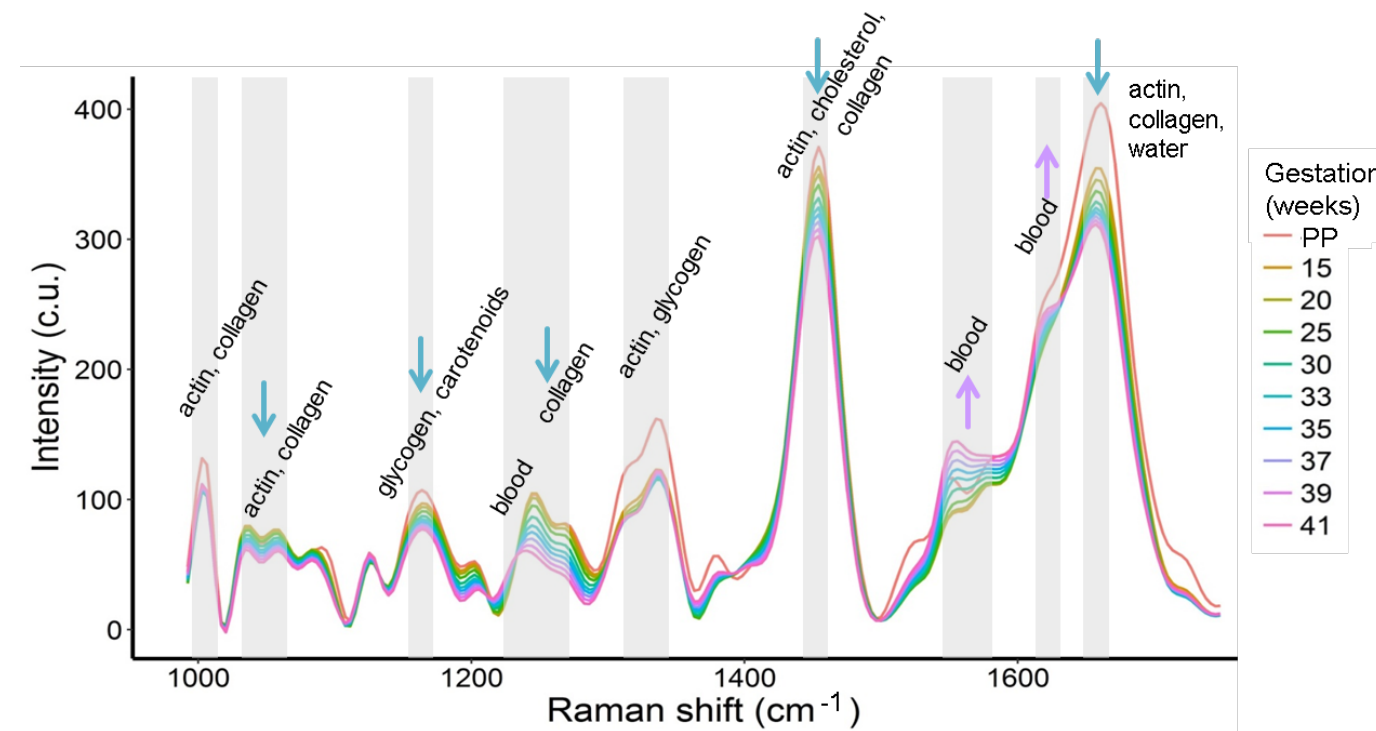
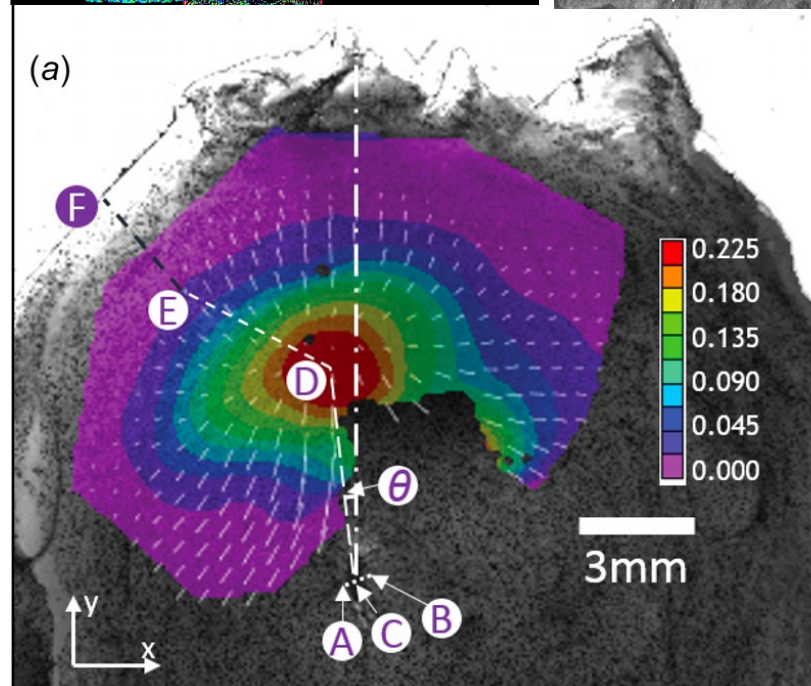
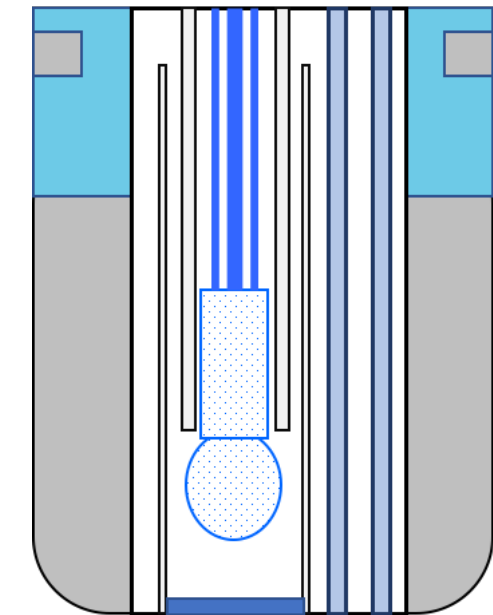
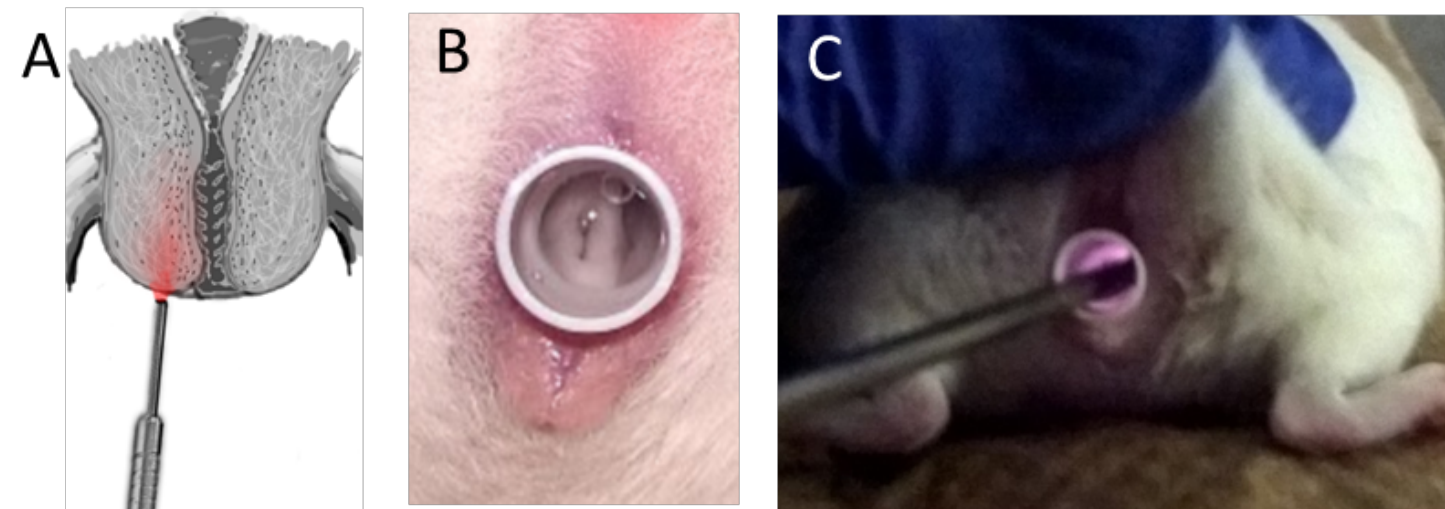
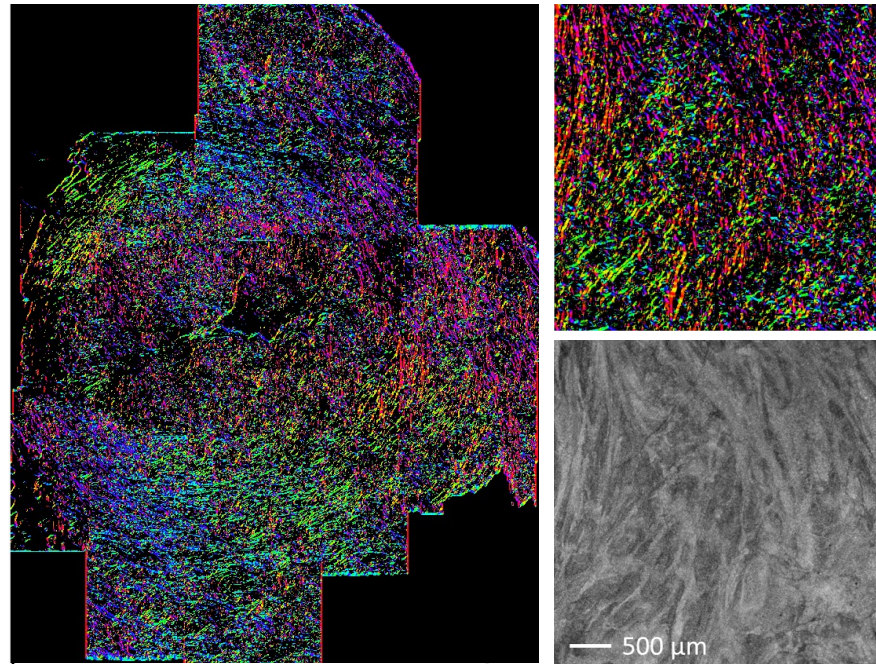
Christine Hendon, CU



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Christine O'Brien, WUSTL



# Bi-Layer Silk Fibroin Graft

Platform for Urogenital Organ Reconstruction



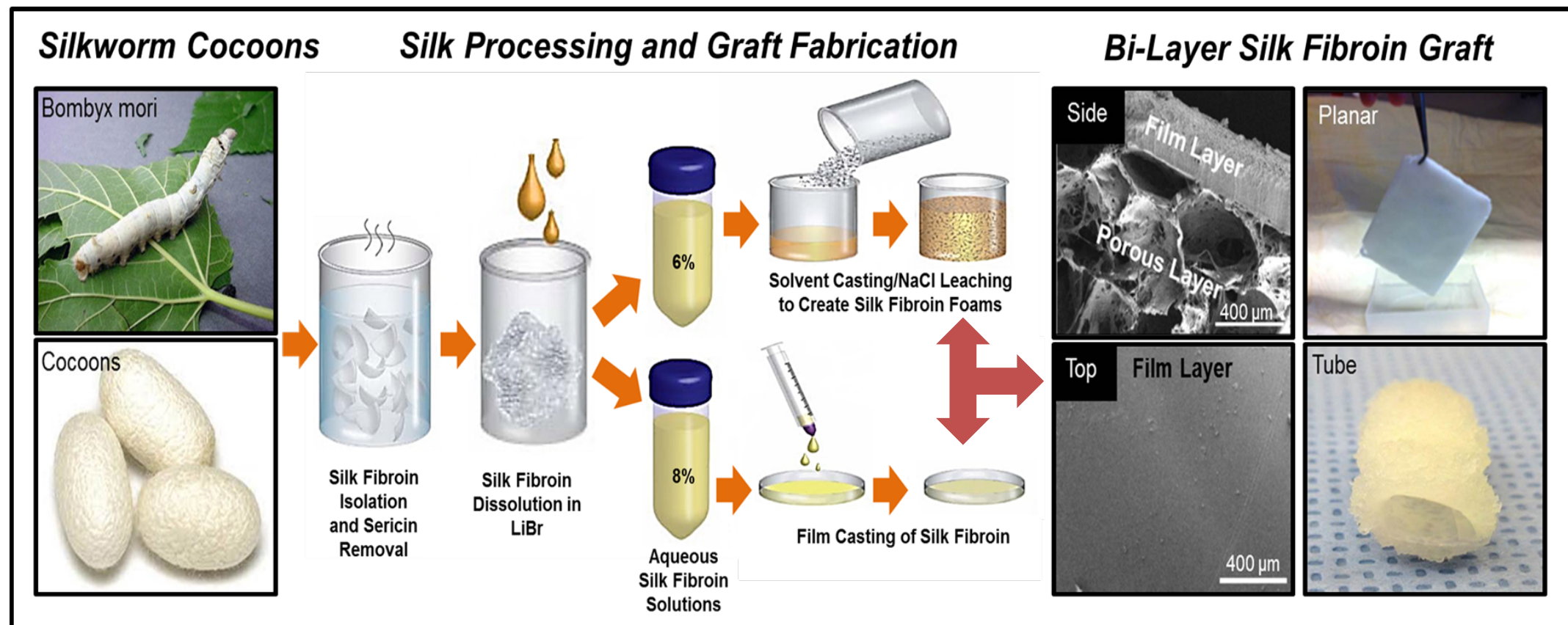
Christine King,  
UCI



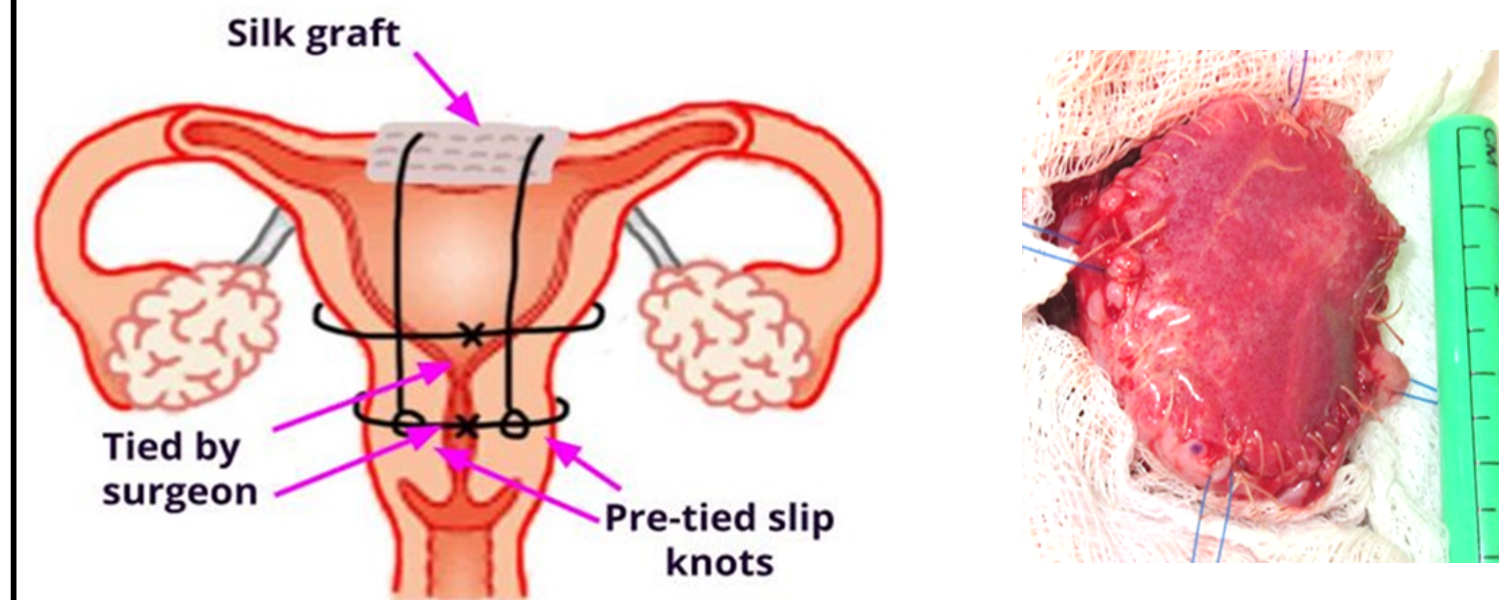
Joshua Mauney,  
UCI



Wendy Liu,  
UCI



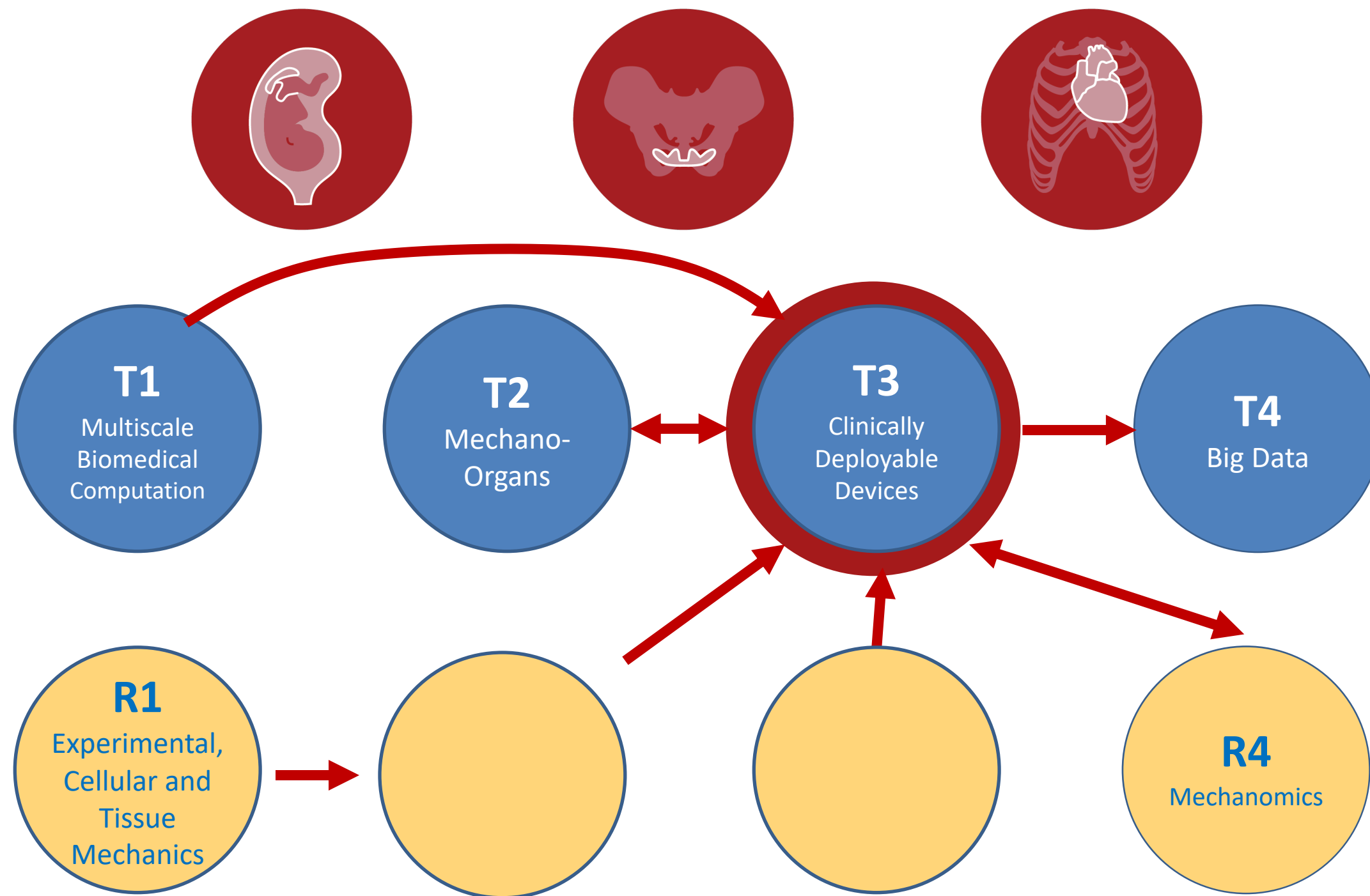
- High structural strength and elasticity
- Low immunogenicity
- Tunable material properties



## Restores Organ Integrity

- Uterine Compression Graft for Post-Partum Hemorrhage
- Vaginal Tissue Engineering
- Uterine Tissue Engineering
- Vaginal Fistula Repair
- Stress Urinary Incontinence

# Integration (T3)

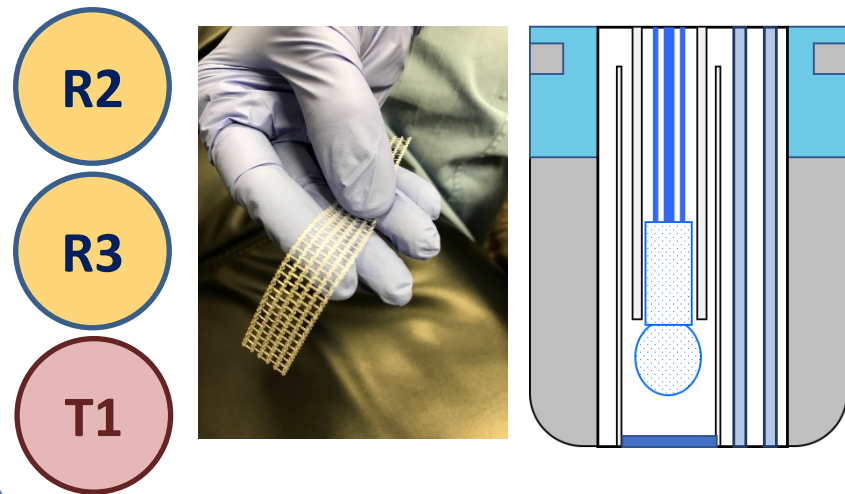


1. New knowledge gained from research thrusts **Tissue and Organ Mechanobiology (R2)** and **Multiscale Theoretical Mechanics (R3)** will advance **Clinically Deployable Devices (T3)** and treatments for pre-term birth, pelvic floor disorders, and promote healthy cardiovascular and MSK aging.
2. Devices will be tested within **Mechano-Organs (T3)**
3. **Clinically deployable devices (T3)** will enable increase in datasets for the research thrust **Mechanomics (R4)** and enabling technology **Big Data (T4)**.

# Goals and Milestones

## Initial Clinical Device Development

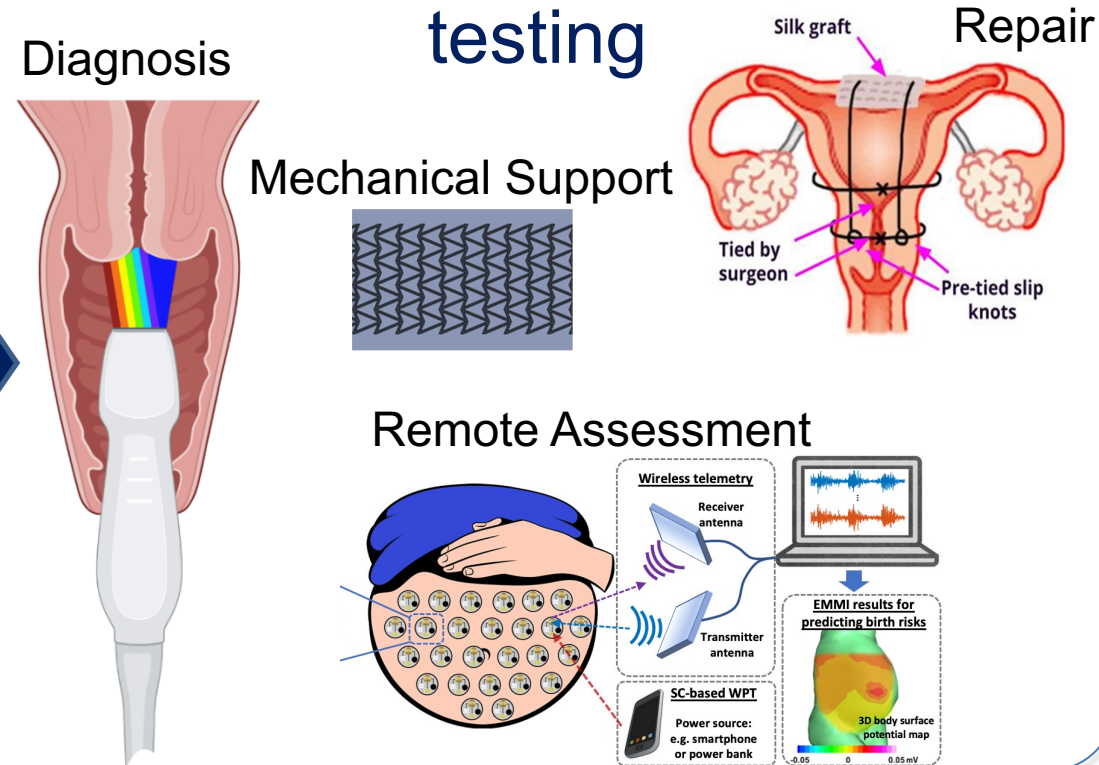
Devices informed by identified needs, measurements and models



### YEARS 1-2

- Initiation of clinical device(s) development informed by research and clinically-defined need

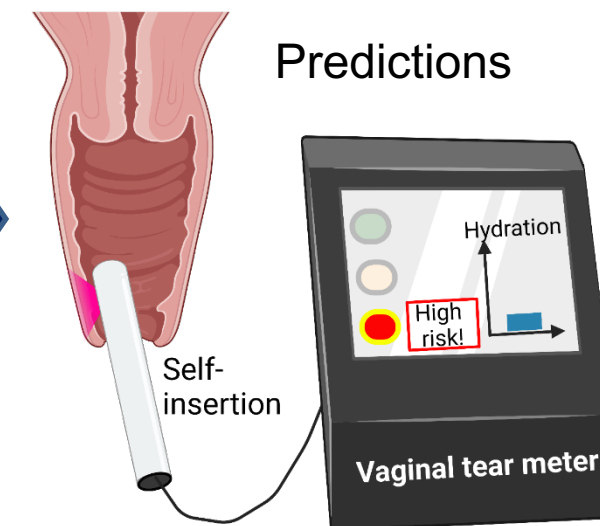
## Prototypes ready for clinical testing



### YEARS 3-5

- In vivo pelvic floor strength monitor
- Personalized biomechanical support device
- Wearable tissue stretch contraction monitor
- Optical endoscope and quantitative ultrasound
- Devices to monitor and modify stretch of reproductive tissues
- Sensors to monitor cervical remodeling
- Devices to measure the biomechanics of exercise
- Exercise protocols and equipment design

## Deploy devices and Develop New Protocols



### YEARS 5-10

- Deployment of diagnosis methods and intervention to reduce preterm birth
- Deployment of *in silico* tool to predict a woman's injury potential resulting from vaginal delivery
- Deployment of therapeutics and interventions to minimize risk of maternal injury during delivery
- Protocols for exercise for women at different stages of life and life-events including pregnancy