



KATHOLIEKE UNIVERSITEIT
LEUVEN

Nanomaterials: friend or enemy?

Peter Hoet

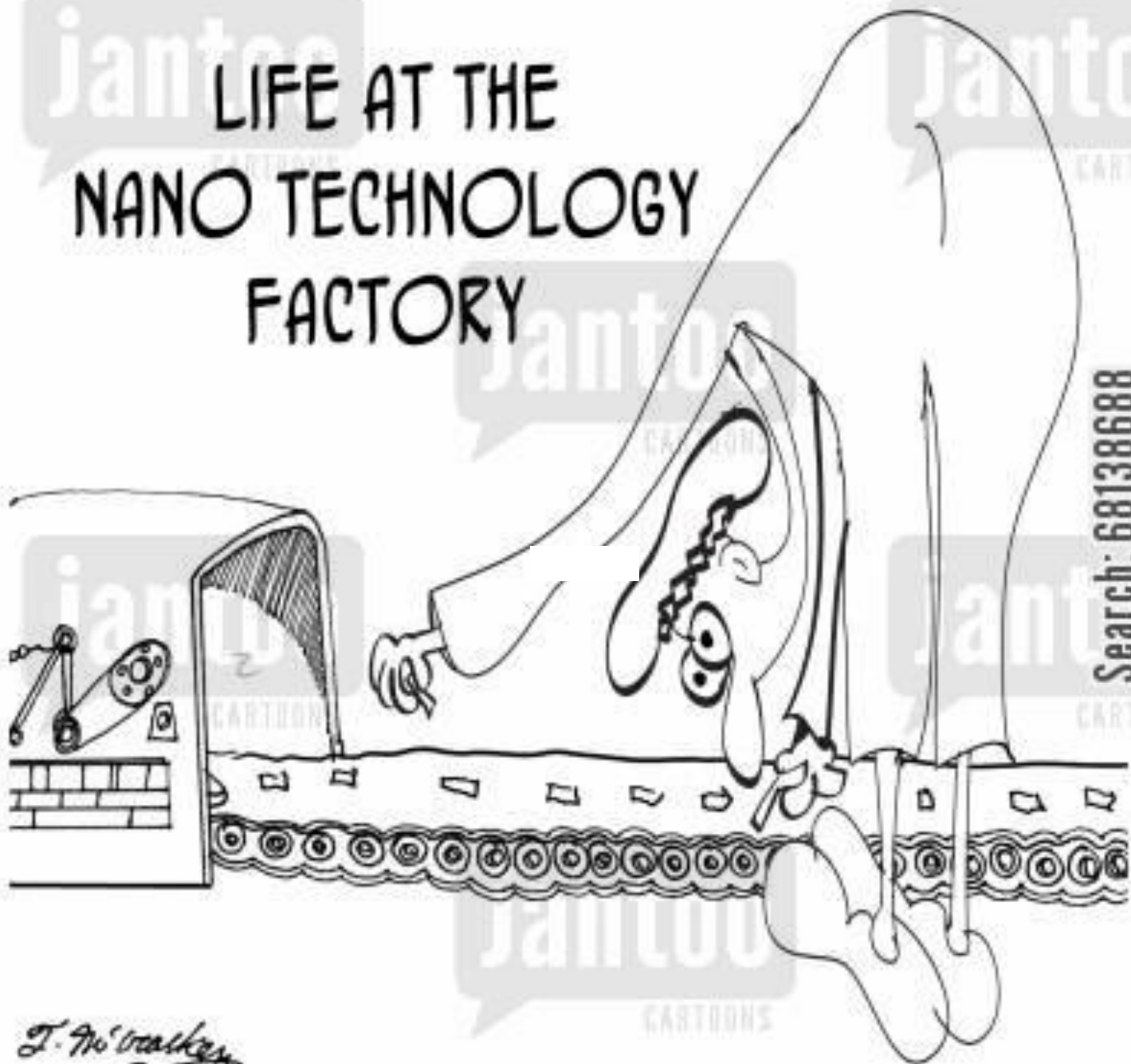
K.U.Leuven

Pneumology, Lung Toxicology

peter.hoet@med.kuleuven.be



LIFE AT THE NANO TECHNOLOGY FACTORY



Search: 68138688

"Okay nanob"





Overview

- Introduction
 - Nano?
 - Definition
 - Use?
- Important Physico-chemical parameters?
 - Size
 - Dissolution
 - Shape
 - Crystal structure & more
 - Surface characteristics (Protein corona & charge)
- Conclusions

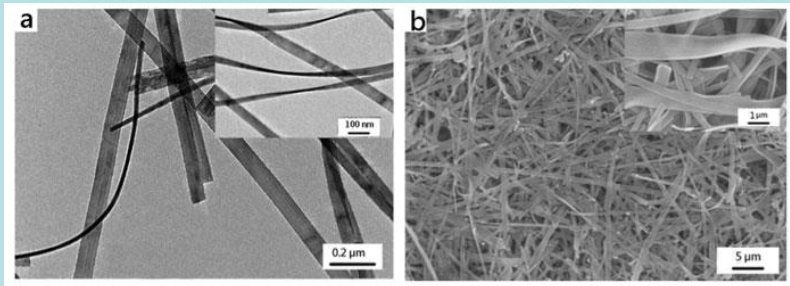


Definition

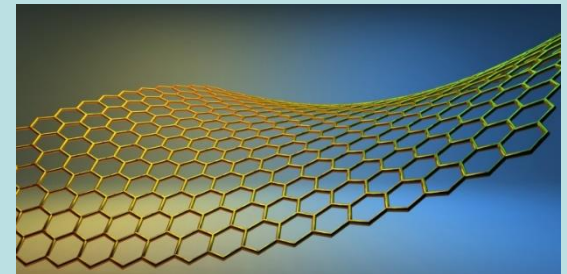
Nanomaterial = at least one dimension < 100 nm, including biological nanomaterials, ambient ultrafine particles (UFP) and engineered nanomaterials.

(Nanoparticle = all dimensions < 100 nm)

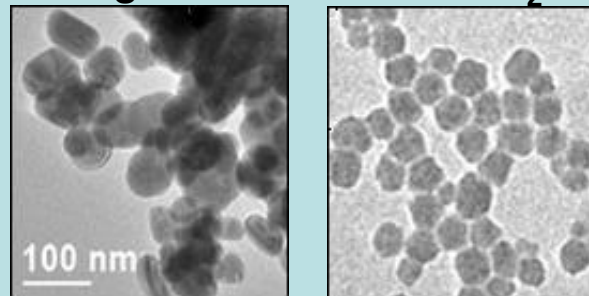
Nanotubes



Nanoplates

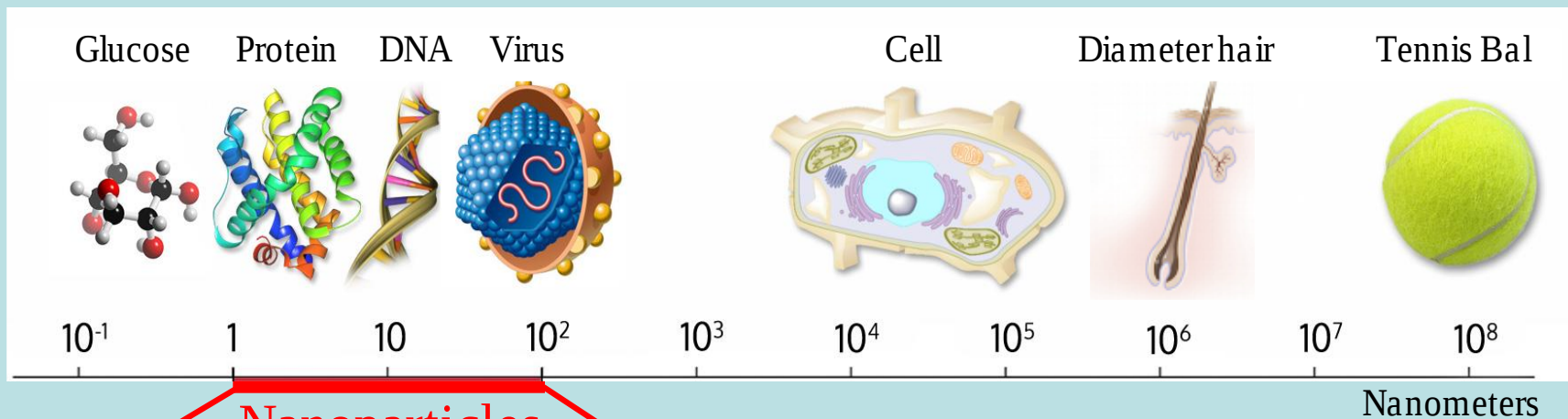


Ag Nanoparticles SiO_2

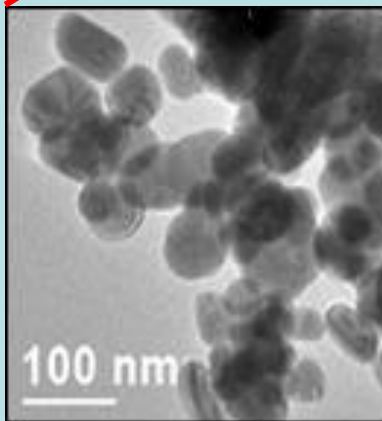




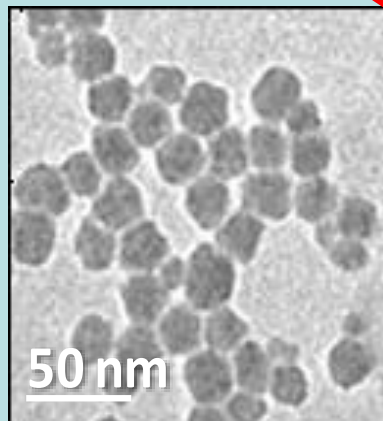
The size of nano



Ag



SiO₂





Applications of nanomaterials

Applications/Examples

- Sports equipment's (bikes, rackets, ...)
- Ketchup
- Food packaging, textiles
- Solar cells, batteries
- Sun creams, cosmetics
- Medicine (cancer therapy, imaging, drug delivery, ...)

Effect

- Improved strength, durability, lightness
- Flow enhancing agent
- Antimicrobial
- Enhanced reactivity
- Anti-UV effects





Added value of Nanomaterials?

Effects and applications due to the reduced dimension

Effect

Examples of application

Enhanced reactivity

→ Catalysis, solar cells, batteries

Changing optical properties

→ Quantum dots

Higher resistivity

→ Electronics

Wear resistance

→ Hard coatings, tools

↔ Nano is **more than** small **size**

Engineered nano particles/materials

= manufactured nanomaterials that are designed **to achieve particular physico-chemical properties** that relate to the product application



Important physico-chemical properties

- Size & size distribution
- Agglomeration / aggregation state
- Shape
- Crystal structure
- Chemical composition – including spatially averaged (bulk) and spatially resolved heterogeneous composition
- Surface area
- Surface chemistry
- Surface charge
- Porosity

- *Dissolution*

Principles for characterizing the potential human health effects from exposure to nanomaterials: elements of a screening strategy Oberdorster et al ; PFT 2005



Important physico-chemical properties

- Size & size distribution
- Agglomeration / aggregation state
- Shape
- Crystal structure
- *Chemical composition*
- Surface area
- Surface chemistry
- Surface charge
- Porosity
- *Dissolution*

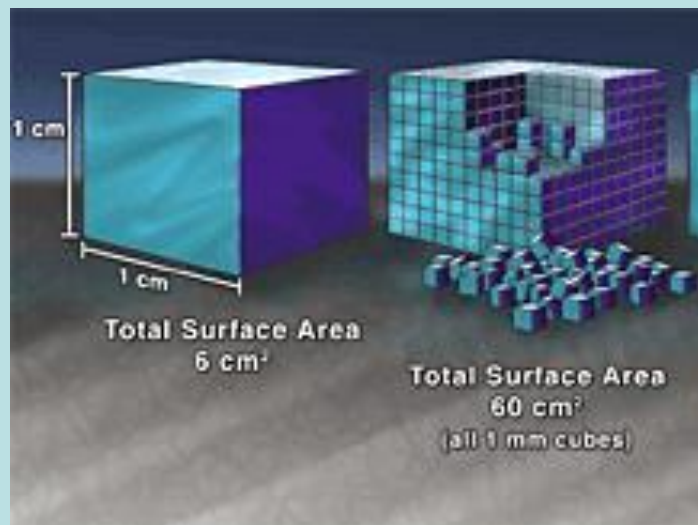
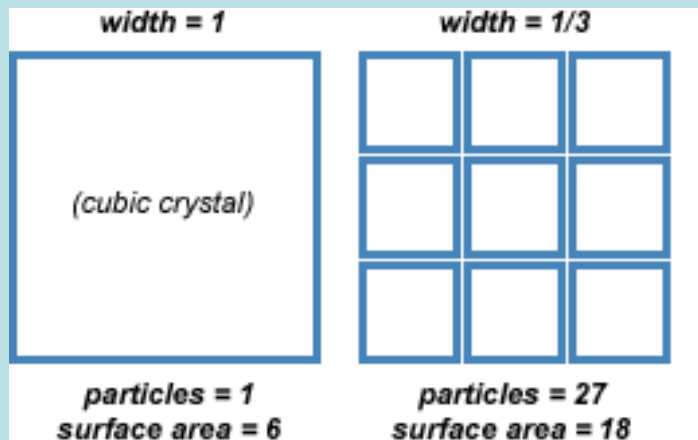


Important physico-chemical properties

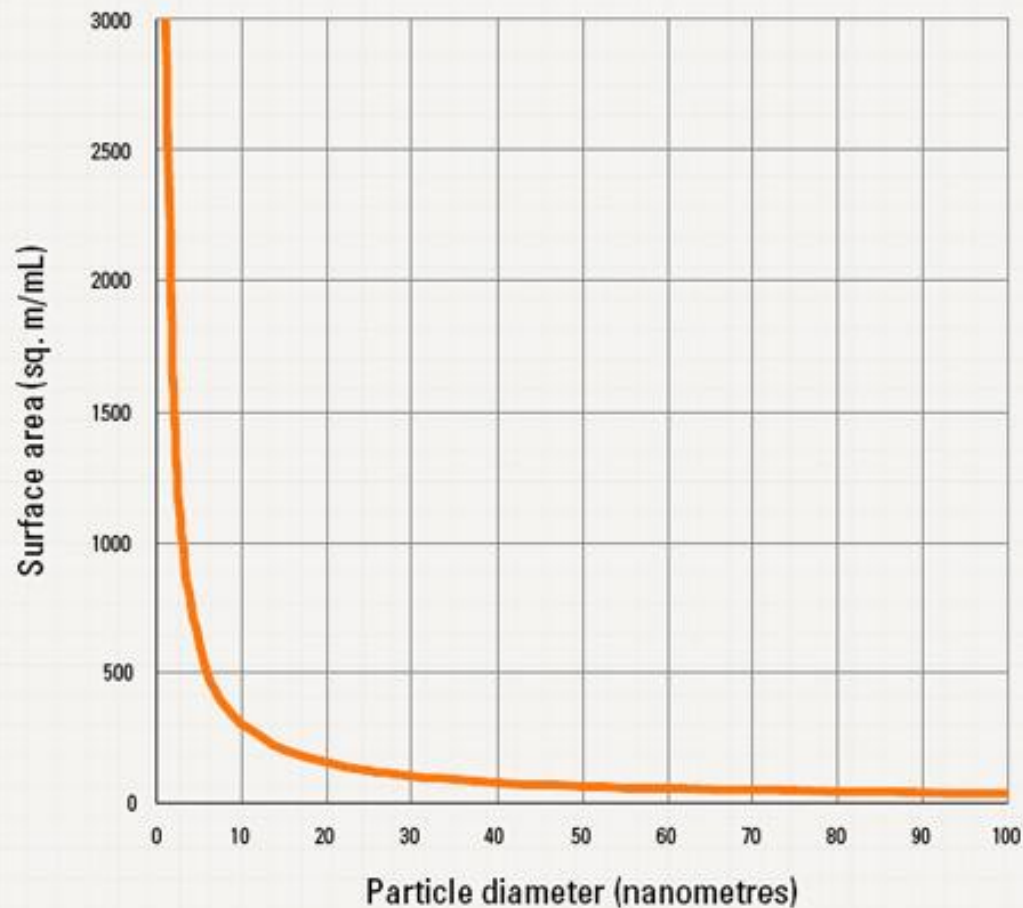
- Size & size distribution
- Agglomeration / aggregation state
- Shape
- Crystal structure
- Chemical composition – including spatially averaged (bulk) and spatially resolved heterogeneous composition
- Surface area
- Surface chemistry
- Surface charge
- Porosity
- *Dissolution*



Size & surface area



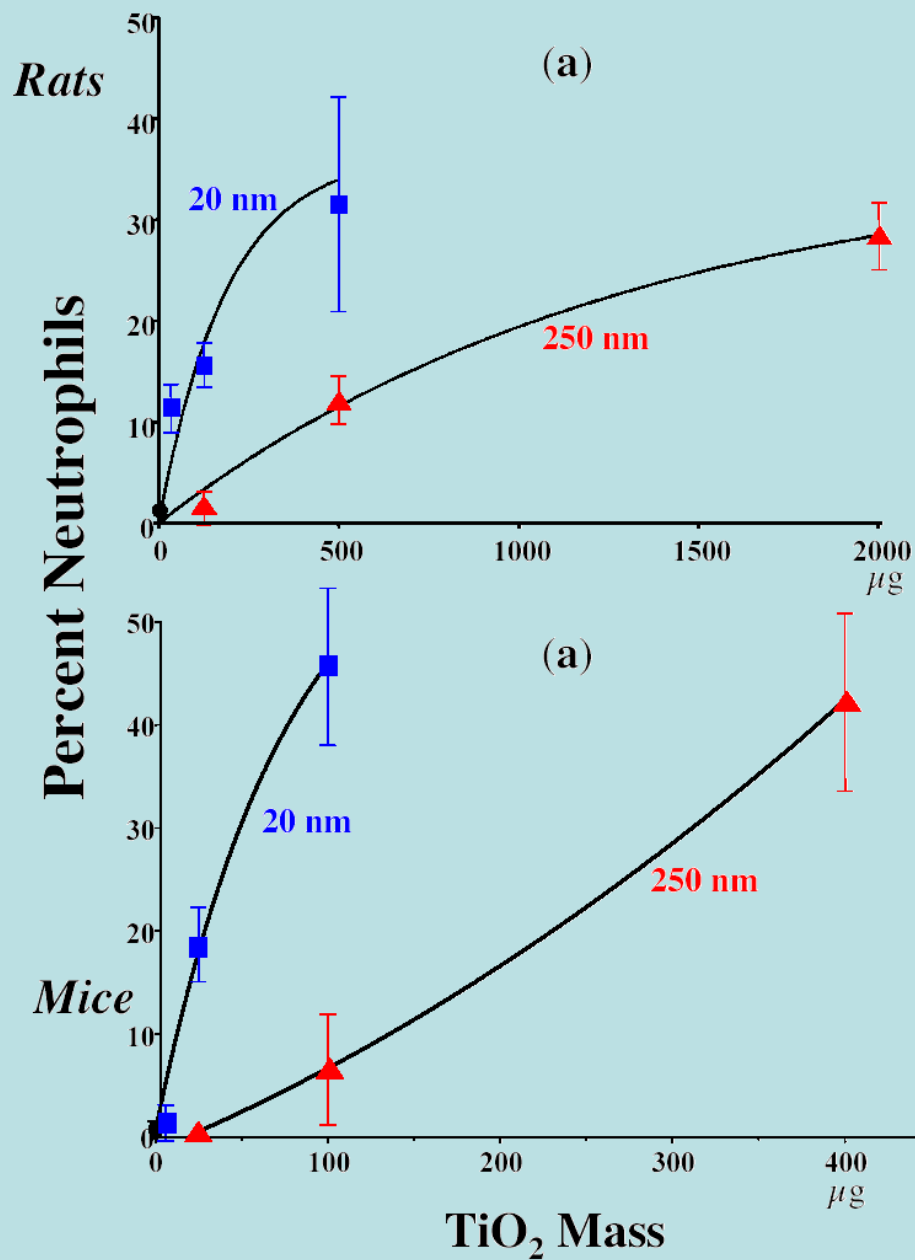
Nanoparticles have a much larger surface area than the same amount of material in bulk form.





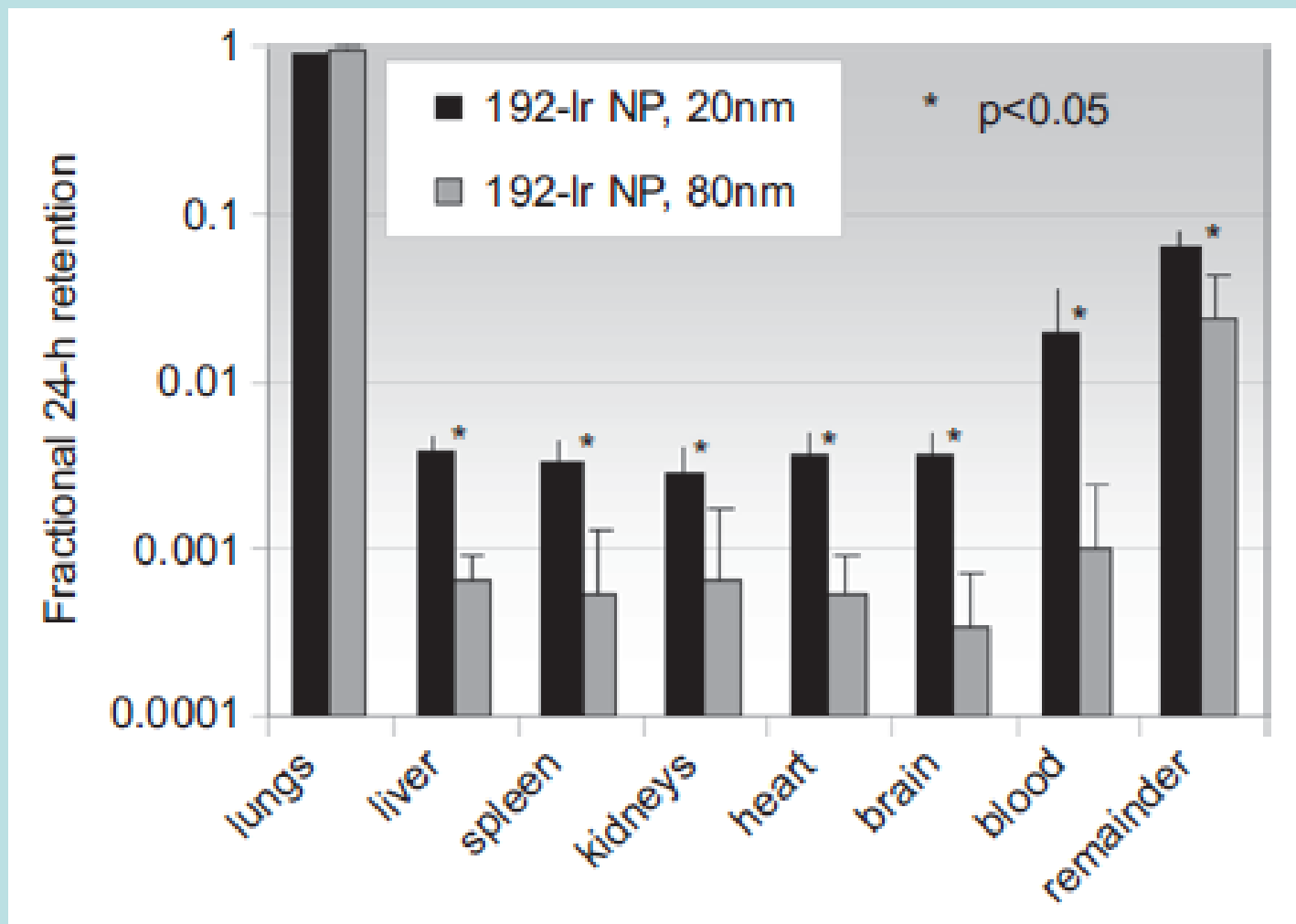
Size & surface area







Size & Systemic uptake of nanomaterials



Kreyling et al *Inhalation Toxicology*, 2009; 21(S1): 55–60



SIZE : Conclusion

New risks/hazards?

- Probably **Yes**

Why?

- Different (more) toxicity
 - **Surface area?**
- Systemic delivery
 - Higher/different **internal exposure**/dose



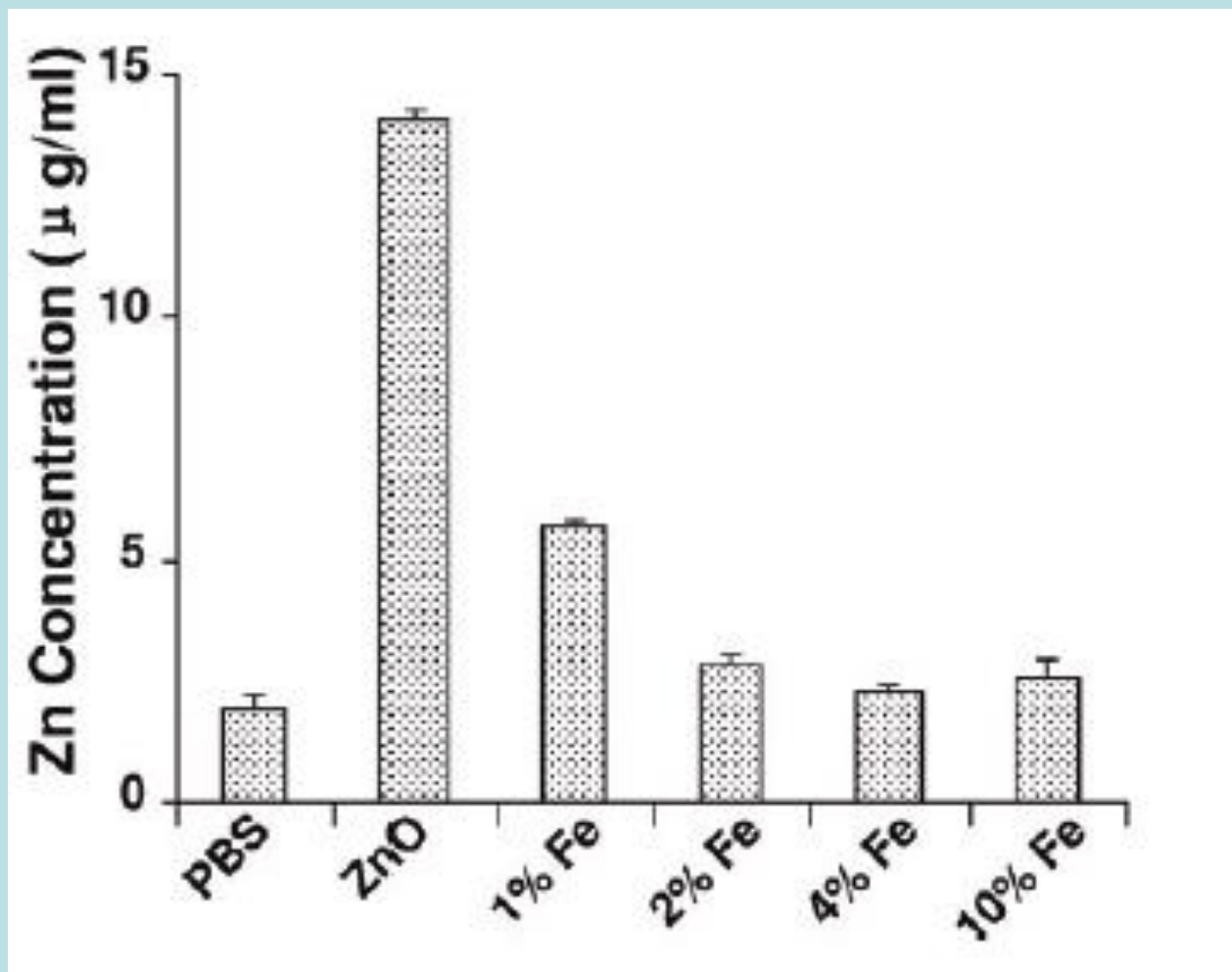
Important physico-chemical properties

- Size & size distribution
- Agglomeration / aggregation state
- Shape
- Crystal structure
- Chemical composition
- Surface area
- Surface chemistry
- Surface charge
- Porosity
- ***Dissolution***



Decreased Dissolution of ZnO by Iron Doping Yields Nanoparticles with Reduced Toxicity

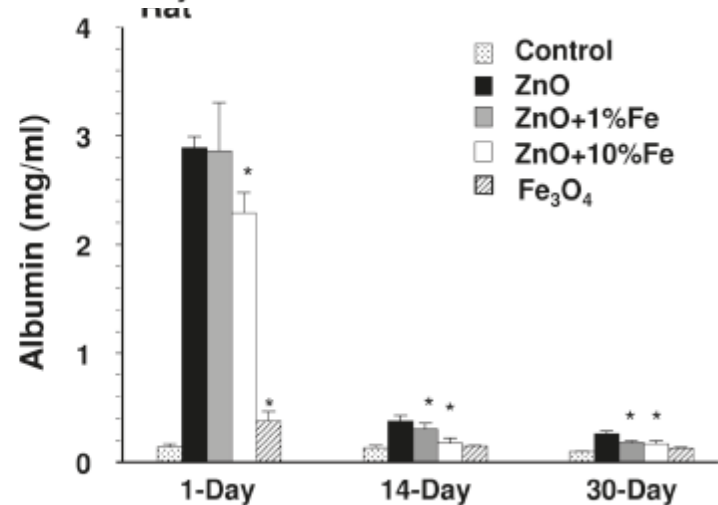
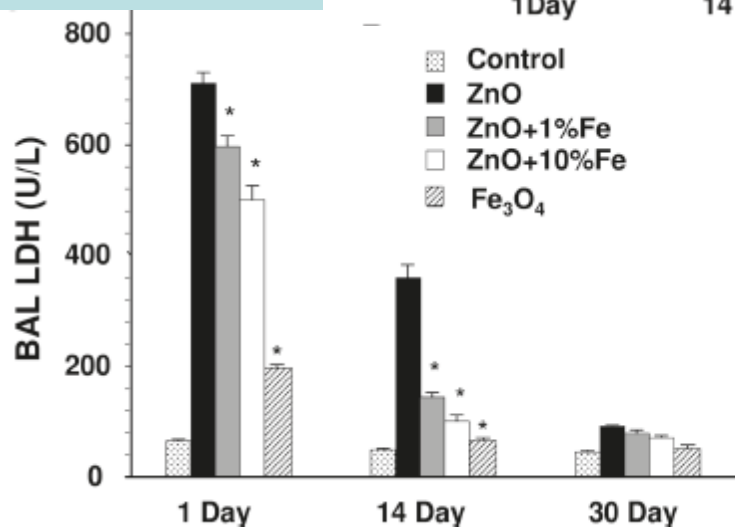
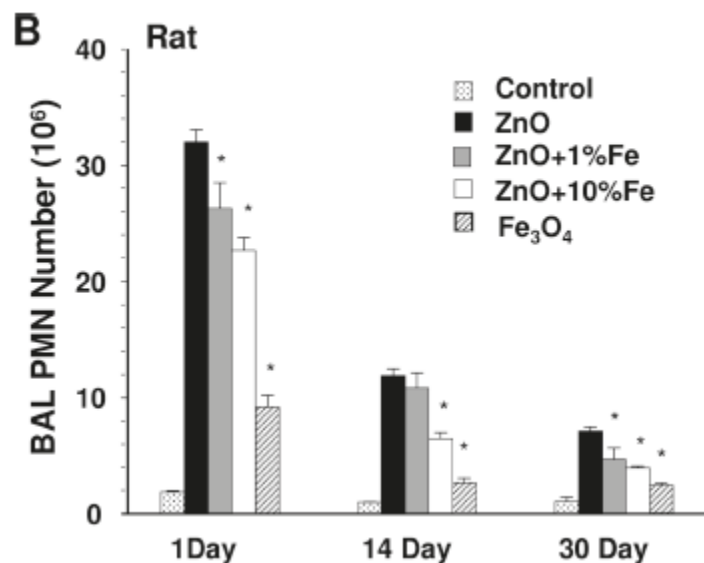
Xia et al. ACSNano 2011





Decreased Dissolution of ZnO by Iron Doping Yields Nanoparticles with Reduced Toxicity

Xia et al ACSNano 2011





Dissolution

- Metal (-oxides) NP's can release significant amount metal ions
- toxicity not necessarily depending on NP but on ions
+ Dissolution can generate oxidative stress.

Remark:

- In some instances NP & ions have additional effect
- Biodistribution of ions $\neq$ NP's (Trojan horse effect)



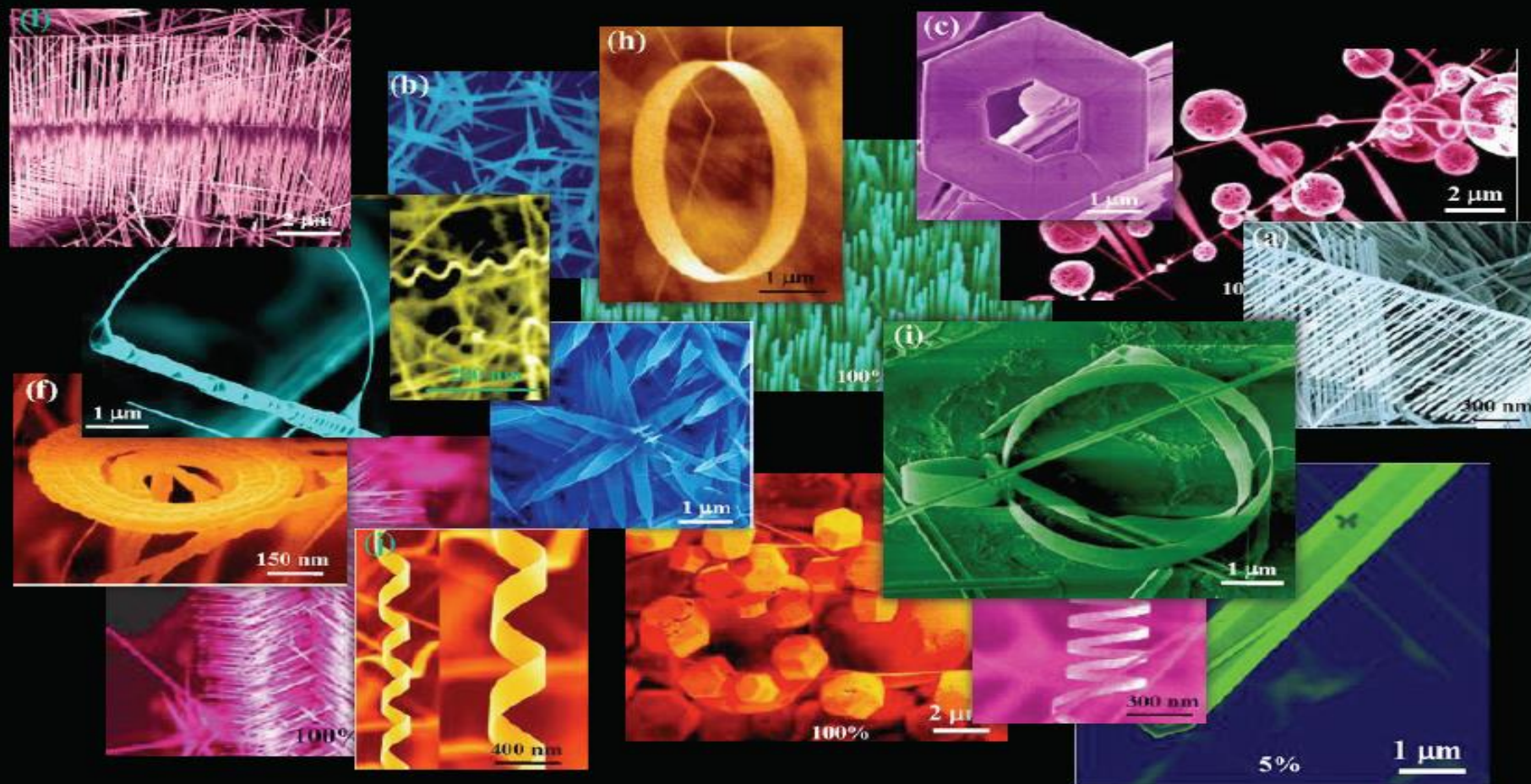
Recommended physicochemical properties to be characterized

- Size & size distribution
- Agglomeration / aggregation state
- **Shape**
- Crystal structure
- Chemical composition
- Surface area
- Surface chemistry
- Surface charge
- Porosity

- *Dissolution*



SHAPE



Nano-ZnO: One chemistry, many shapes

Courtesy of Prof. Z.L. Wang, Georgia Tech



SHAPE

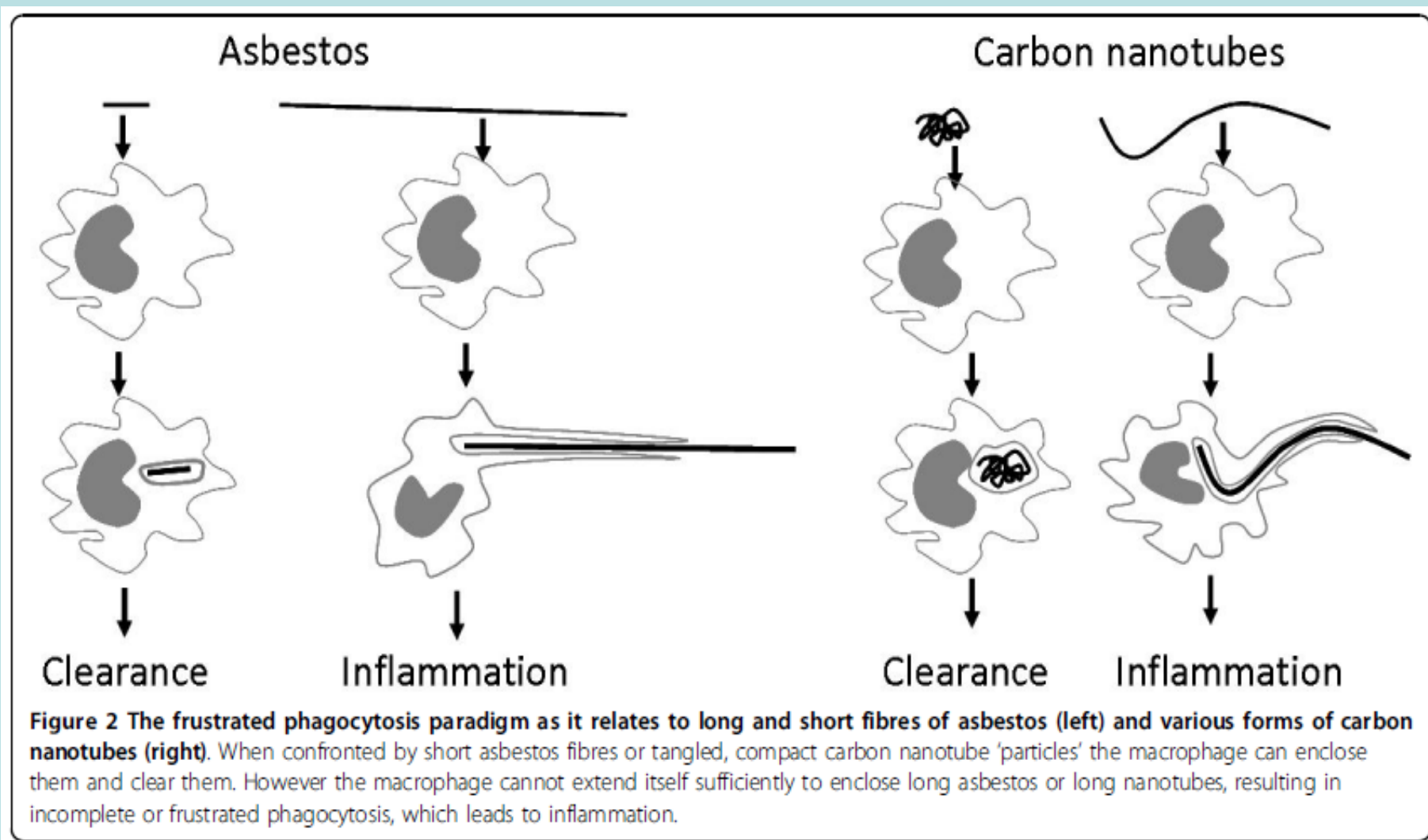
Carbon nanotubes introduced into the abdominal cavity of mice show asbestos-like pathogenicity in a pilot study

CRAIG A. POLAND¹, RODGER DUFFIN¹, IAN KINLOCH², ANDREW MAYNARD³,
WILLIAM A. H. WALLACE¹, ANTHONY SEATON⁴, VICKI STONE⁵, SIMON BROWN¹,
WILLIAM MacNEE¹ AND KEN DONALDSON^{1*}

Nature Nanotechnology May 20 2008



Specific properties Carbon nanotubes



Occupational Exposure to Carbon Nanotubes and Nanofibers





SHAPE plays a role

- Delivery - bioavailability
 - Inhalation & clearance
 - Cellular uptake
- Mechanical damage
 - Needle vs spheres
- Time of exposure
 - Excretion & Biopersistent



Recommended physicochemical properties to be characterized

- Size & size distribution
- Agglomeration / aggregation state
- Shape
- **Crystal structure**
- *Chemical composition*
- Surface area
- Surface chemistry
- Surface charge
- Porosity

- **Dissolution**

Principles for characterizing the potential human health effects from exposure to nanomaterials: elements of a screening strategy Oberdorster et al ; PFT 2005



Crystal structure

- Carbon based materials (all “pure” C)
Existing material:
 - [Carbon Black: filling material – “toner” ink]
 - Fullerenes (filling - lubricating)
 - Carbon nano tubes (filling – electronics?)

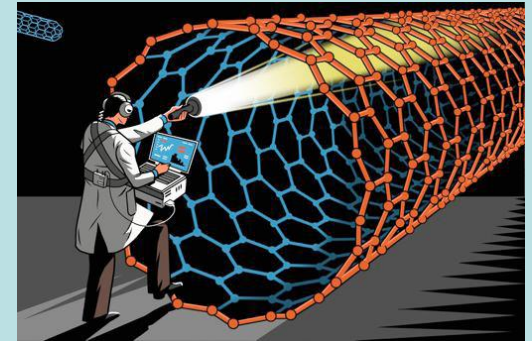
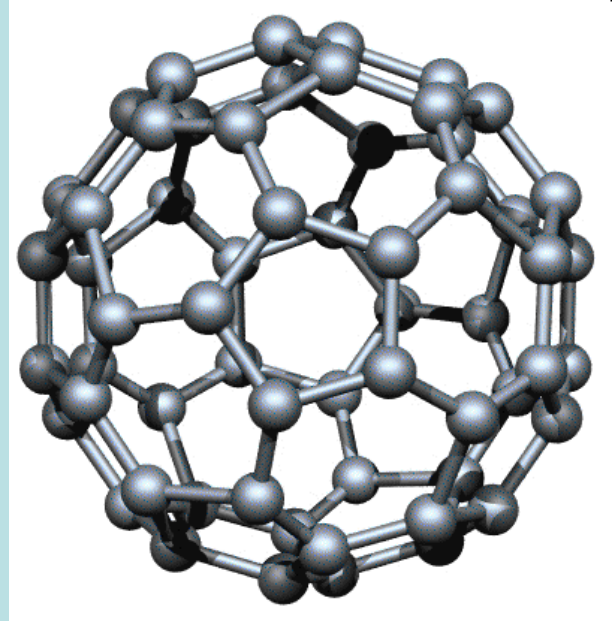
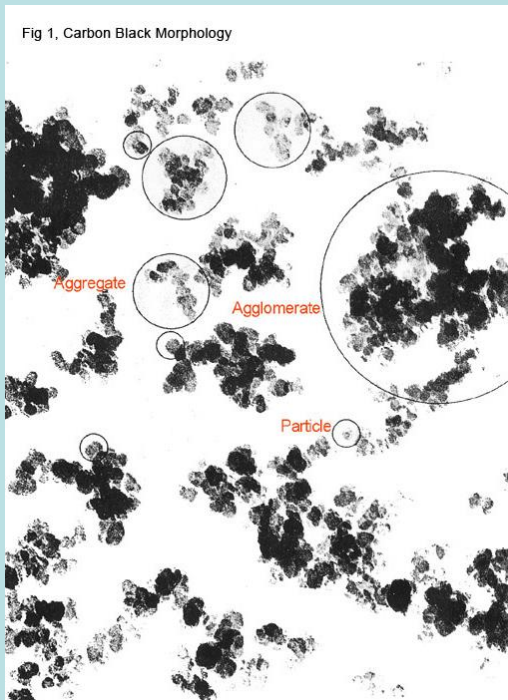


Fig 1, Carbon Black Morphology





Crystal structure

- Crystal structure (or absence) is important
- Structure defects (lattice defects)
 - *Crystalline Silica (μm)*
 - *Carbon nanotubes*
- Impurities



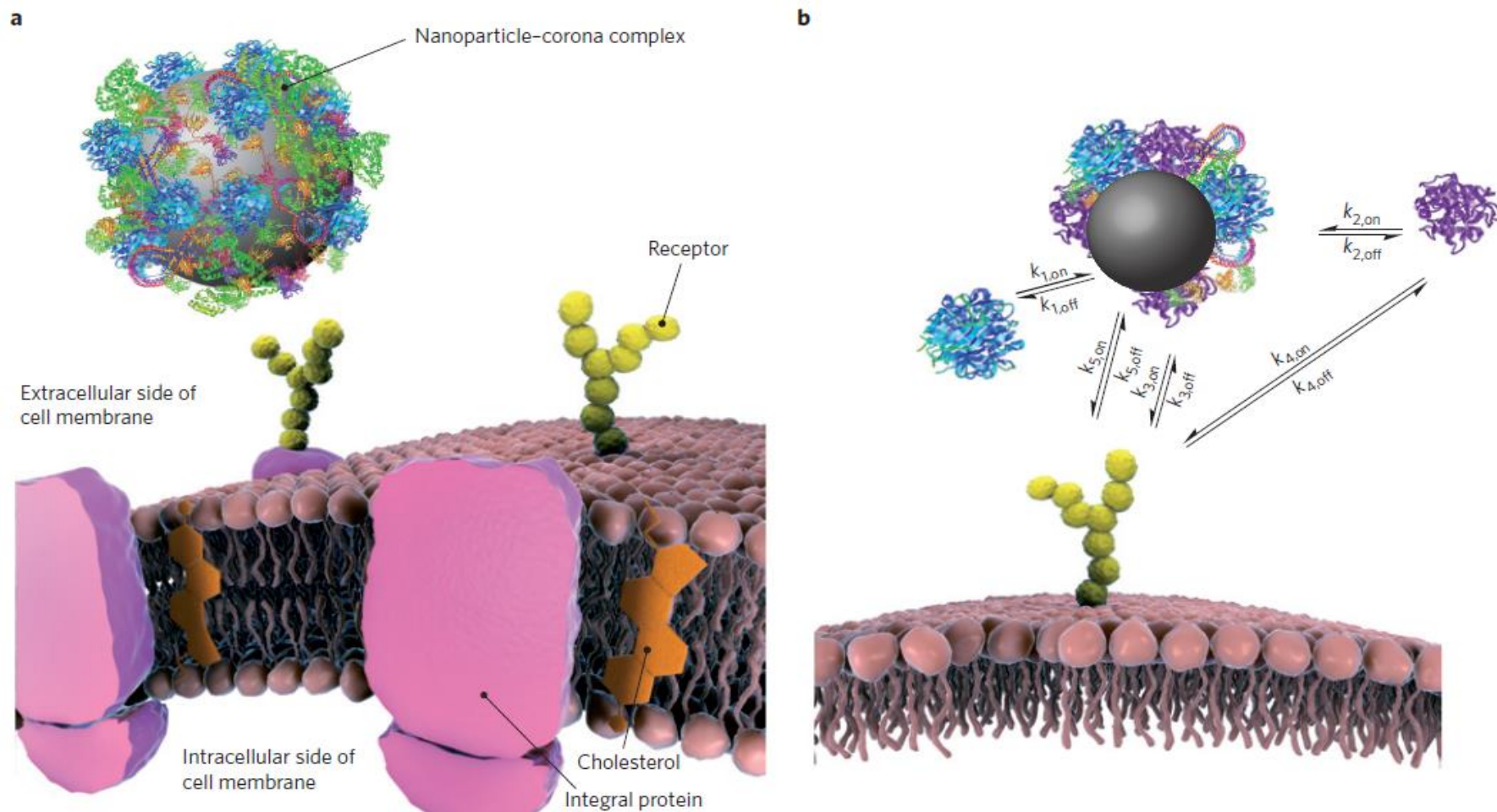
Recommended physicochemical properties to be characterized

- Size & size distribution
- Agglomeration / aggregation state
- Shape
- Crystal structure
- Chemical composition
- Surface area
- Surface chemistry
- Surface charge
- Porosity

- *Dissolution*

Biomolecular coronas provide the biological identity of nanosized materials

Marco P. Monopoli^{1,2}, Christoffer Åberg¹, Anna Salvati^{1,2} and Kenneth A. Dawson^{1*}



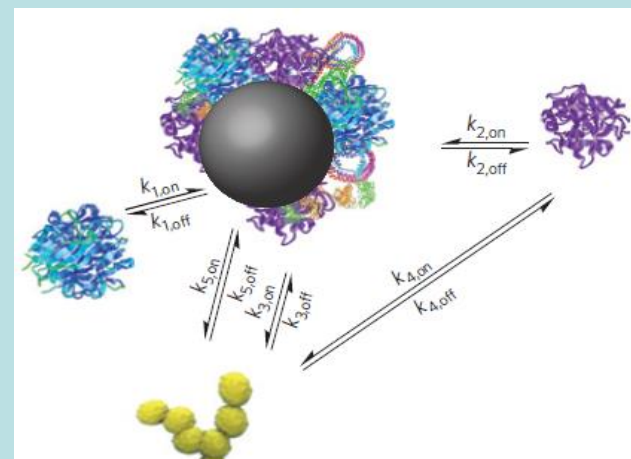


Surface Charge & Chemistry Conclusions

- Biodistribution/health effects depends (partly) on surface and **corona** formation

Corona

- Dependent on characteristics of NP & milieu (tissue...)
- Dynamic system
- Use to deliver compounds
- Use to suspend NP
 - Pulmonary surfactant, serum proteins...
- Changes characteristics of NP
 - Size, surface charge, ...
- Corona can be used to identify the potential toxicity?





Recommended physicochemical properties to be characterized

- Size & size distribution
- Agglomeration / aggregation state
- Shape
- Crystal structure
- *Chemical composition*
- Surface area
- Surface chemistry
- Surface charge
- Porosity
- Dissolution

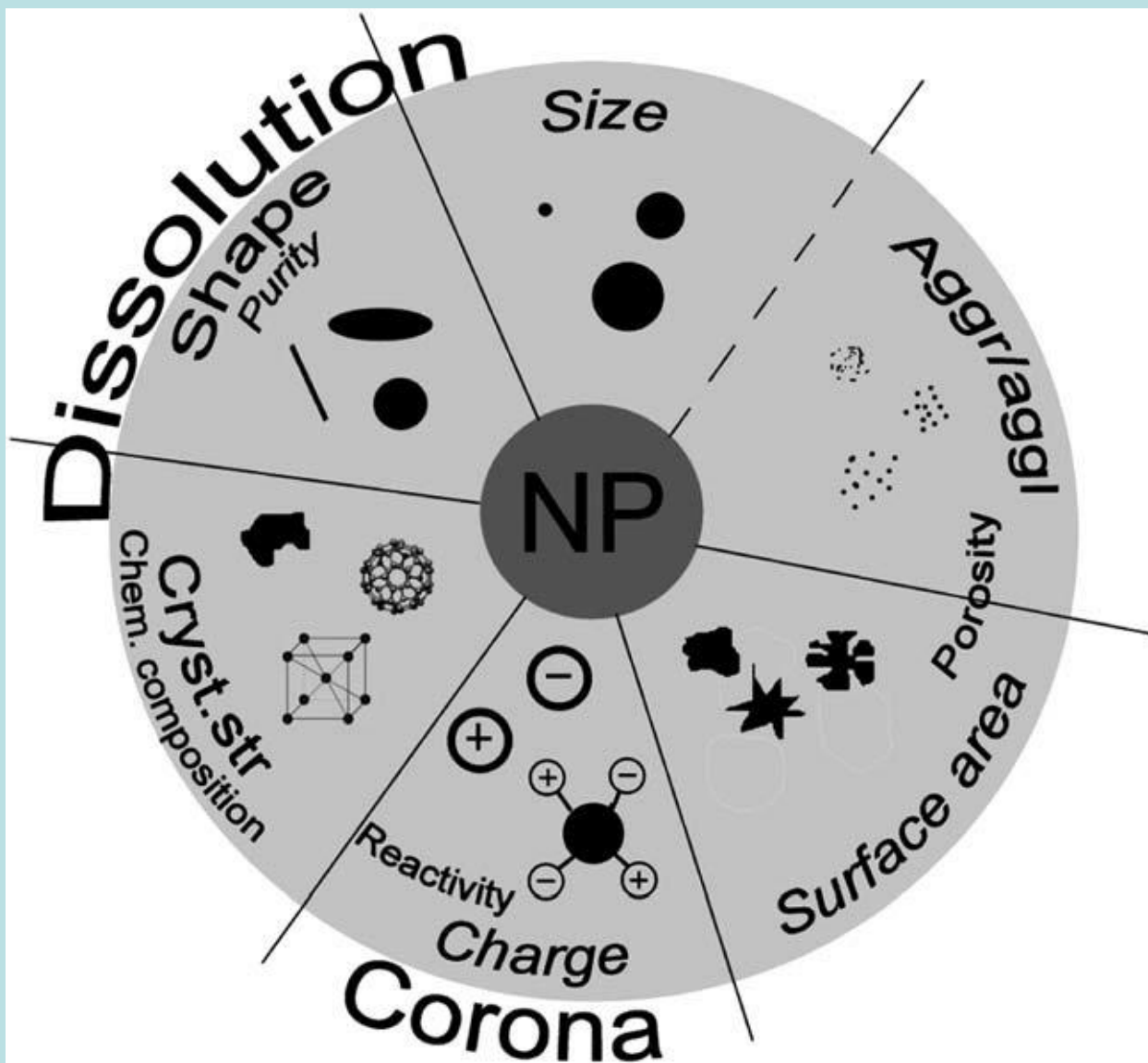
➔ All affect biological effects

But not in all circumstances
in the same extend

Interrelated effects



Luyts et al Environ. Sci.: Processes Impacts, 2013, 15, 23–38 How physico-chemical characteristics of nanoparticles cause their toxicity: complex and unresolved interrelations





KATHOLIEKE UNIVERSITEIT
LEUVEN

Part 2: Risk assessment

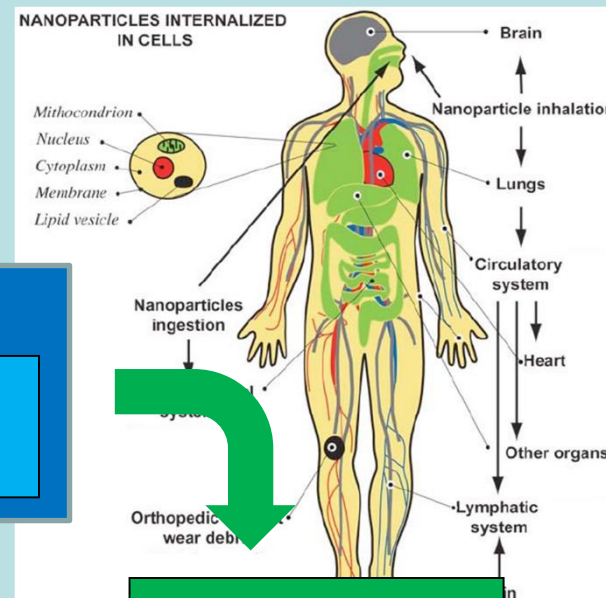
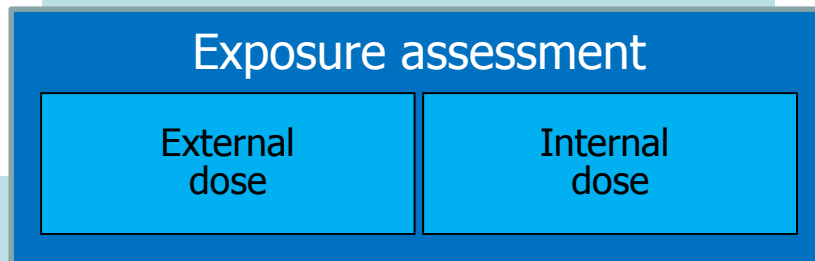
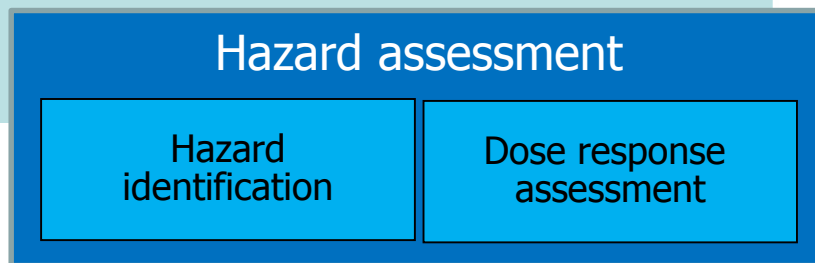
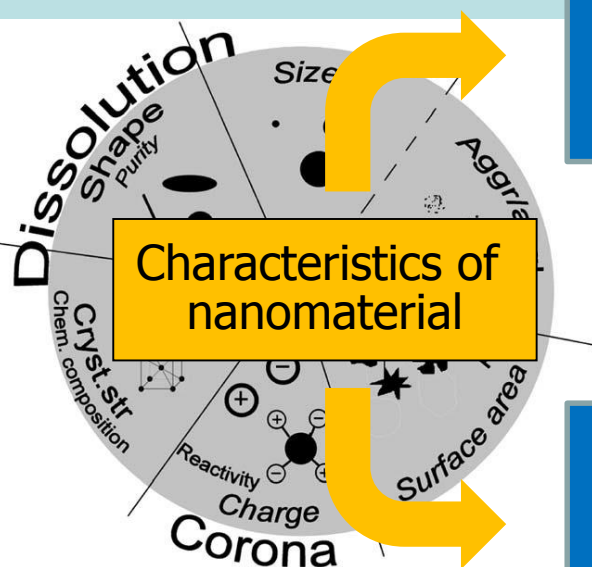


NANO · PARTICLE SAFETY TEST





Risk Characterisation/Assessment

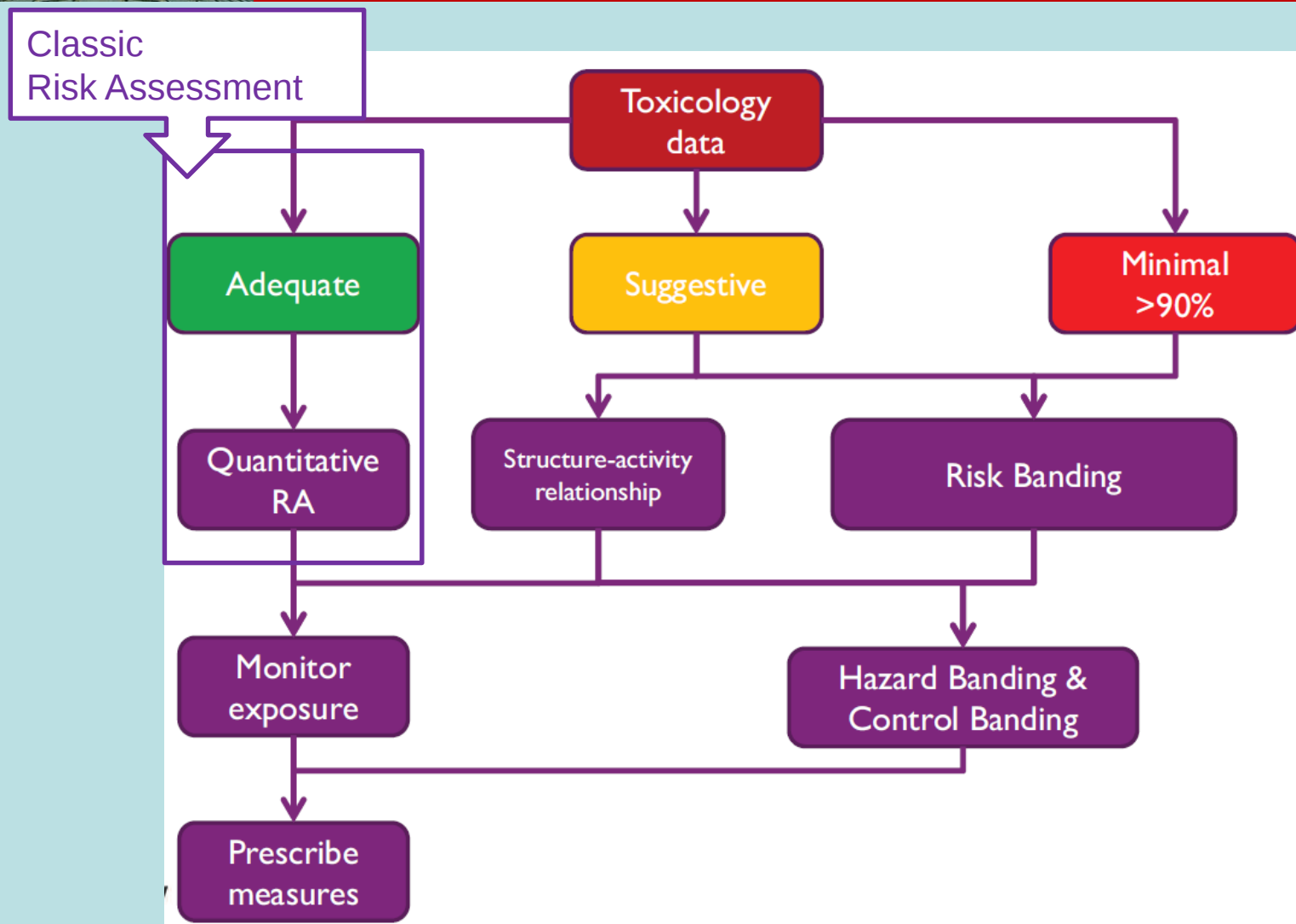


Risk characterisation





Is Hazard sufficient assessed





Control Banding respecting precautionary principle

Generic risk evaluation technique & control of those risks

Exposure/Hazard	Low	Moderate	High
Low			
Moderate			
High			

Consists of:

- grouping the health hazards=toxicity (risk bands),
 - exposure potential (exposure bands)
- ➔ combining these elements to generate a set of controls (control bands)



Typical Control Bands Approach (as defined for chemicals)

1-General Ventilation

A good standard of general ventilation and good work practices.

2-Engineering Control

Typically local exhaust ventilation, but also includes other types of engineering controls, but not containment.

3-Containment

Completely contain or enclose the hazard, such as inside a glovebox.

4-Special

Expert advice is needed in selecting appropriate control measures.



ASSESS HAZARDS for NanoMaterials

Possible hazard criteria

HIGH Hazard

solubility and dispersion capacity

- Water insoluble material
- Biopersistent material
- Material with high dispersion capacity

size and shape.

- Powders with diameter < 10 nm
- High aspect ratio material
- Fibre/needle shaped material

toxicity of the (parent) material used?

- toxic parent material (carcinogenic, mutagenic, repro-toxic)
- contains transition metals (parent or surface treatment, catalyst)
- is functionalized with toxic, mutagenic, repro-toxic ...
- tends to have highly reactive surface



ASSESS EXPOSURE for NanoMaterials

Nature of the work?

HIGH exposure potential:

Proximity & duration of manipulation.

- Manipulations within breathing zone $< 0,5$ m
- Duration manipulations = every day / whole day

Nature of the activity.

- Manipulations can disrupt the material (scraping, cutting, slicing, polishing, ...)
- Spraying of aerosols containing NM
- Mechanical cleaning (scraping, blasting, vacuum cleaning)
- Cleaning of dust collection systems to capture NM



Conclusions

- Exposure ~ natural (environmental NPs) but specific exposure at work & in consumer products
- Nanotechnology = use nano-specific features → specific physico-chemical characteristics
- Risk not well enough know
→ Careful handling / avoid exposure
- Risk banding can be used including the necessary caution

Thank You For Your Attention



Lung Toxicology (KULeuven)

Ben Nemery

Jeroen Vanoirbeek

Lode Godderis

Deniz Öner

Manosij Ghosh

Sivakumar Murugadoss

Sofie Van Den Broucke

Kartien Luyts



Centre Molecular

Vascular Biology (KULeuven)

Marc Hoylaerts

Jan Emmerechts

Pathology (KULeuven)

Eric Verbeken

