

Plasma Medicine:

Physical and Biological Mechanisms of Plasma Interaction with Living Tissue

1. Plasma Medicine & Sterilization
2. Discharges in Plasma Medicine
3. Bio-Active Plasma Components
4. Effects on Cell Membrane
5. Intracellular Biochemistry
6. Selectivity of Plasma Treatment
7. Plasma Wound Healing
8. Blood Coagulation
9. Skin Diseases
10. Cancer Treatment
11. Gastrointestinal Diseases



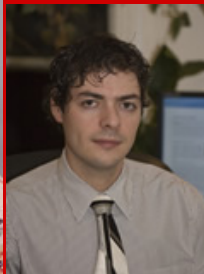
1. Plasma Fuel Conversion



3. Plasma in Aerospace and Material Engineering

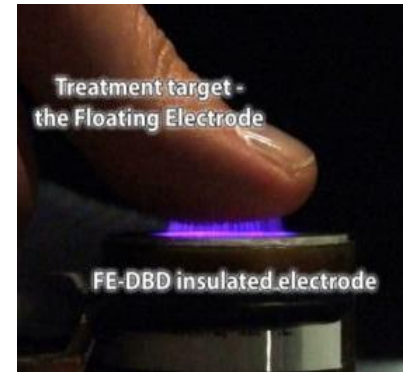
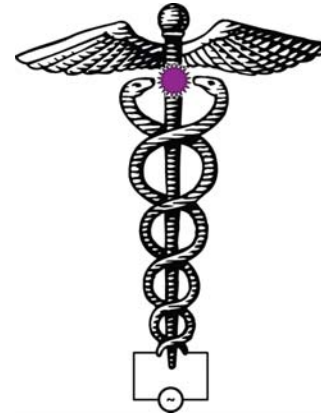


3. Plasma Medicine and Biology



- Critical Mass of People
>25 faculty, 6 colleges
- Critical Mass of Projects (>\$2.5 M annual budget)
- Critical Mass of Equipment

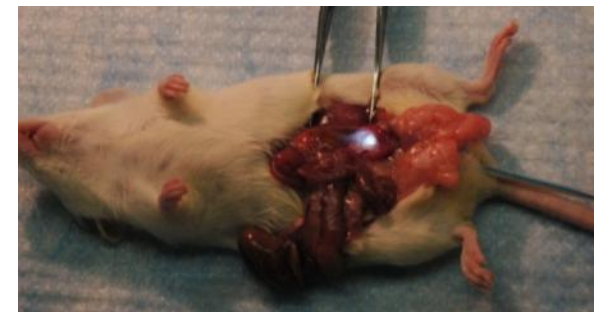
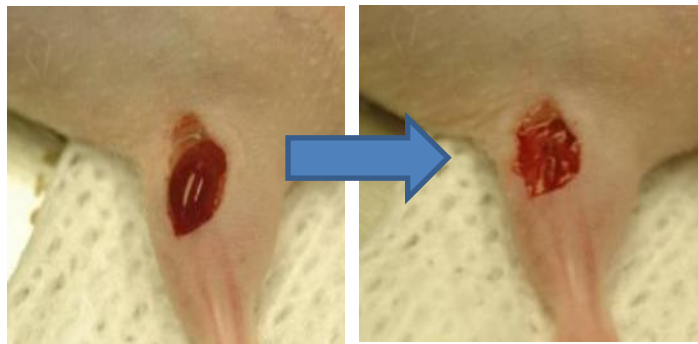
Plasma Medicine



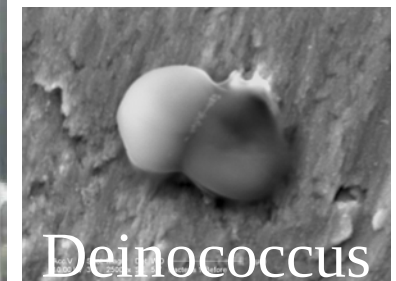
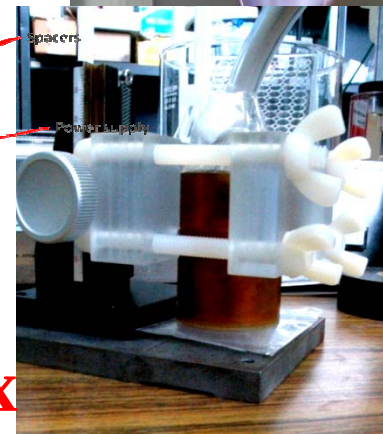
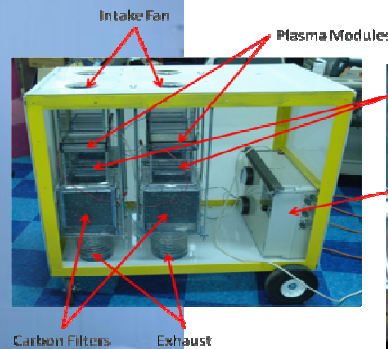
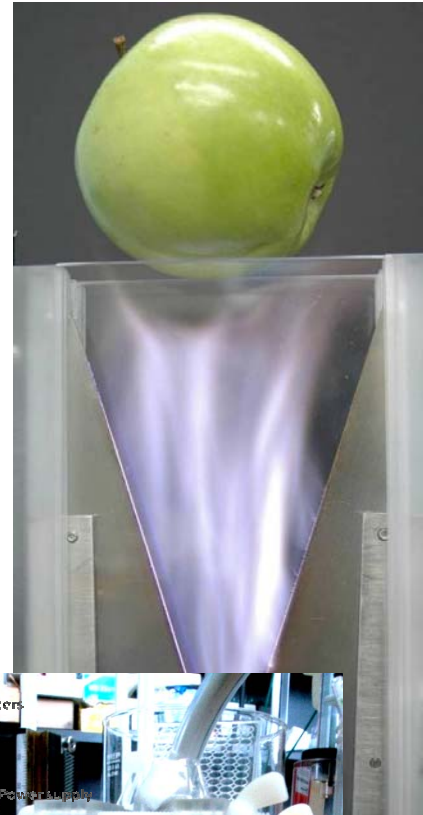
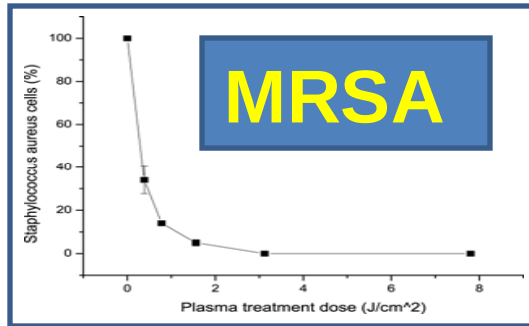
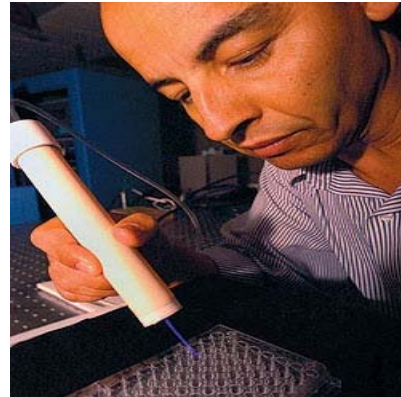
↓
Wound & skin
sterilization

↓
Blood
coagulation

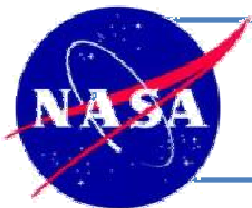
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Healing of wounds &
diseases
Skin infections and ulcers,
gastrointestinal diseases (colitis,
etc), cancer, Leishmaniasis



Plasma Sterilization

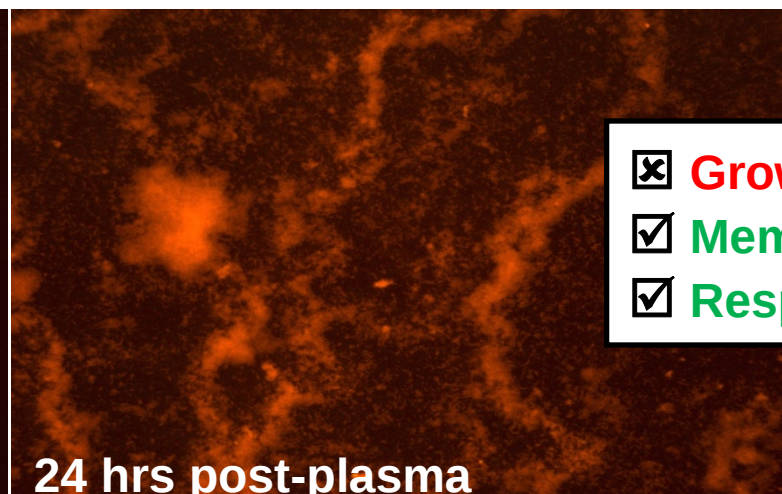
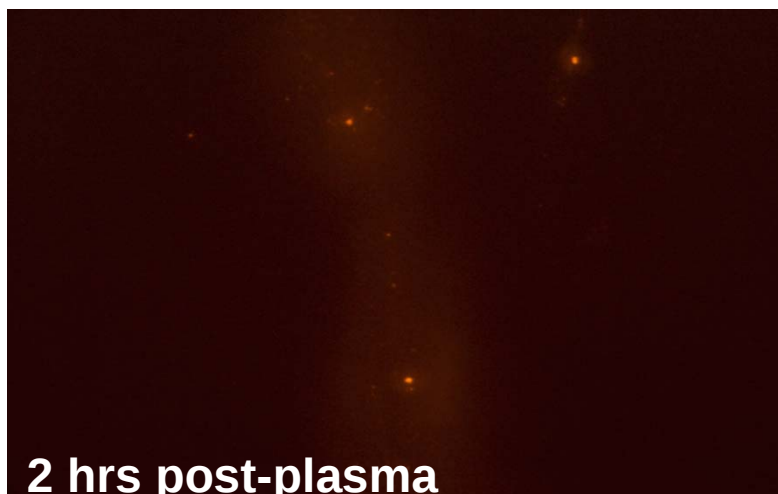
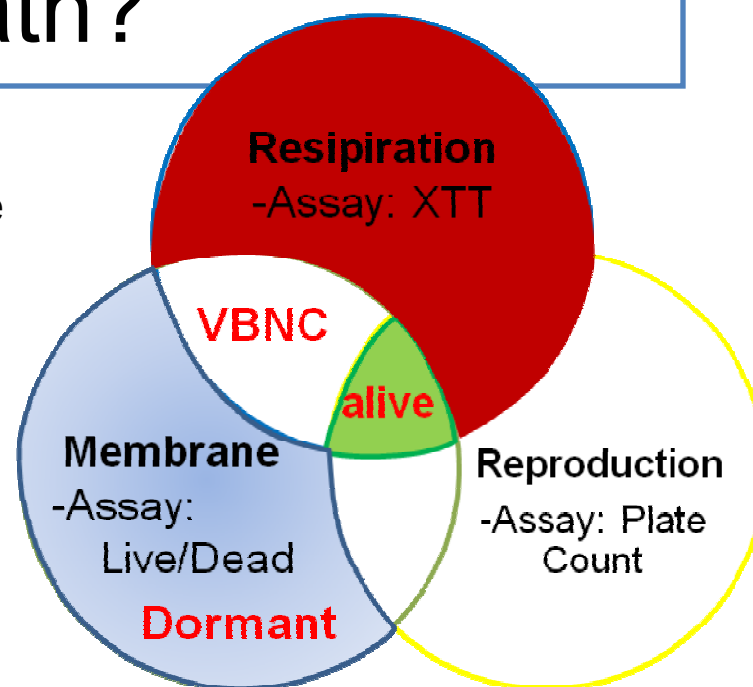


Anthrax



What is Death?

- A microorganism is traditionally “dead” when it does not exhibit ALL the following: homeostasis; response to stimuli; metabolism; growth; and reproduction.
- Viable but nonculturable (VBNC): “A cell which is metabolically active, while being incapable of undergoing the cellular division required for growth in or on a medium normally supporting growth of that cell”.
- The **VBNC** state is dangerous for pathogenic bacteria as stressed bacteria are **more virulent** than well-fed bacteria.

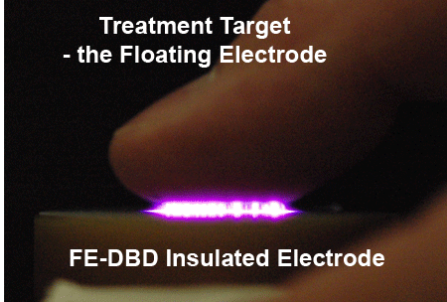


- ☒ **Growth**
- ☒ **Membrane**
- ☒ **Respiration**

Respiration from few initial survivors (left) increase respiration after 24 hours (right) but remain non-culturable



Treatment Target
- the Floating Electrode

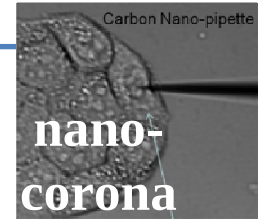


FE-DBD Insulated Electrode

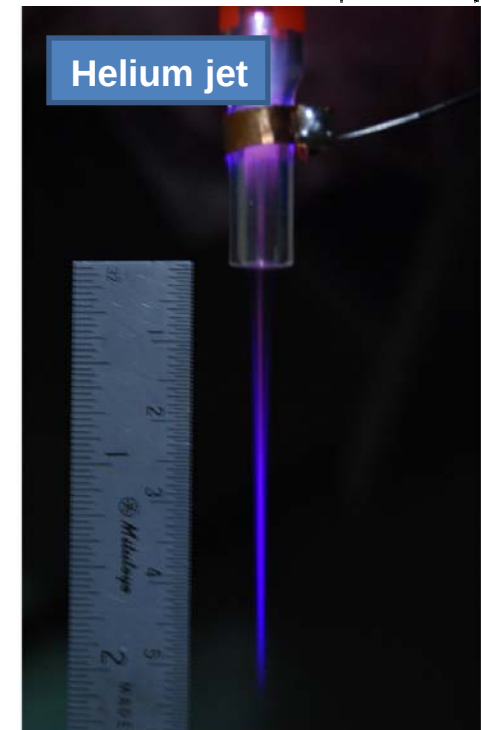
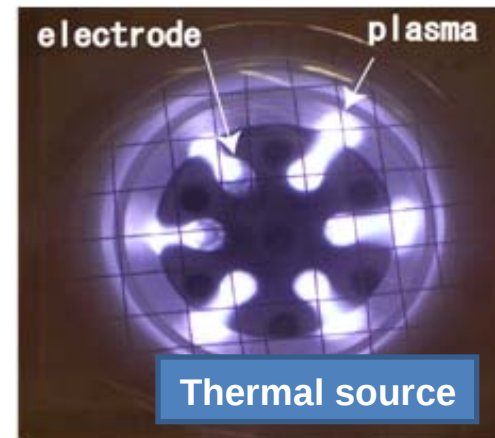
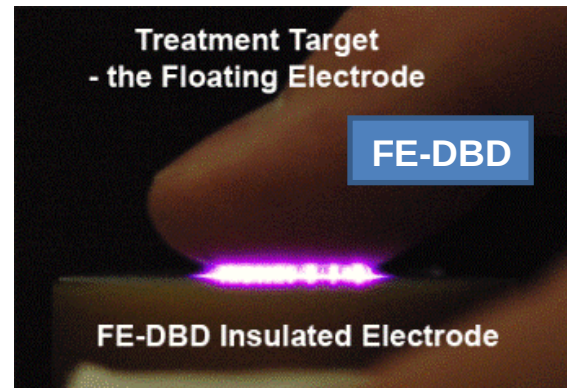
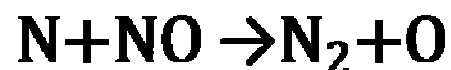
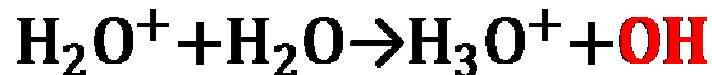
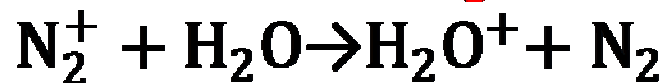
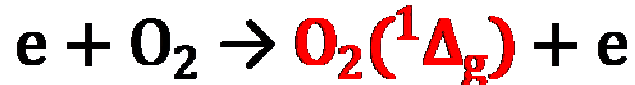
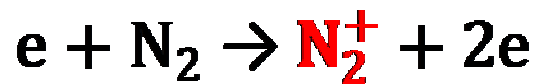


Plasma Medicine:
Healing vs. Killing

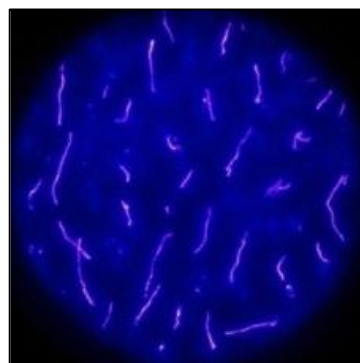
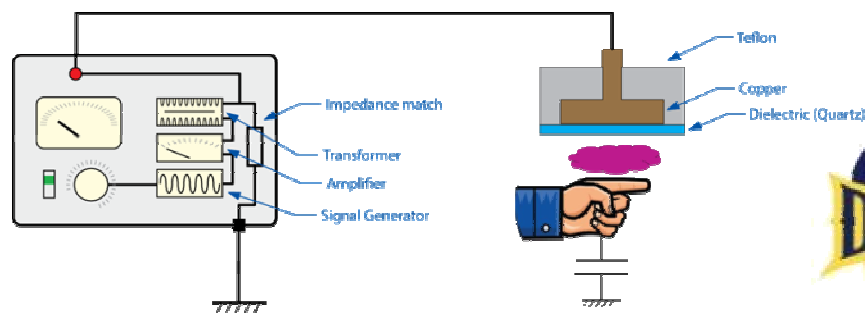
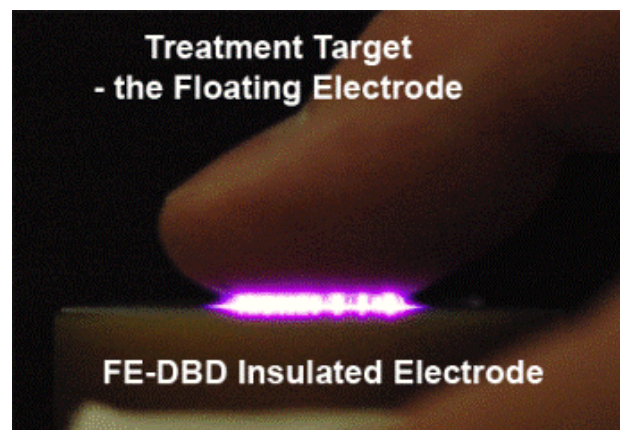
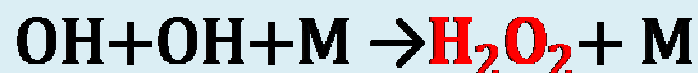
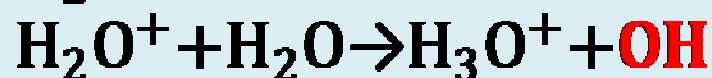
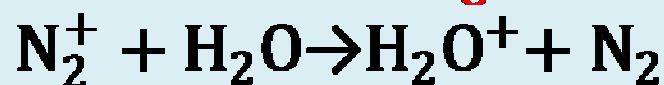
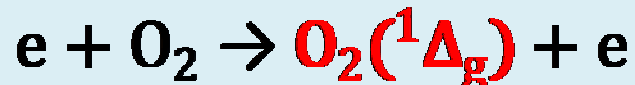
Bio-Active Plasma Components: Classification of Discharges



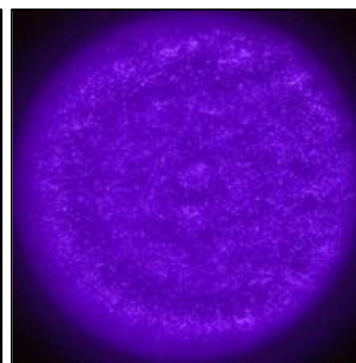
HeLa cell pierced into the cytoplasm



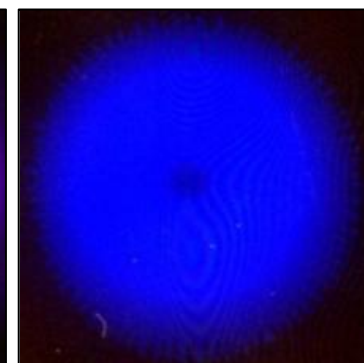
Bio-Active Plasma Components: FE-DBD



Continuous wave

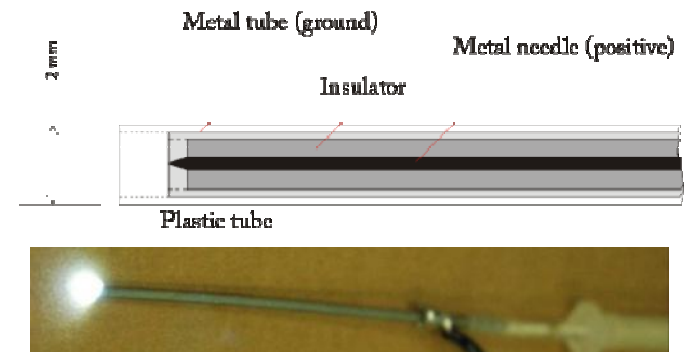
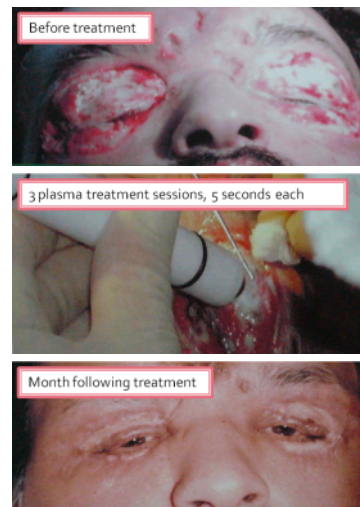
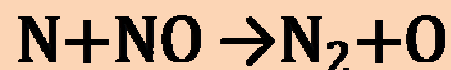
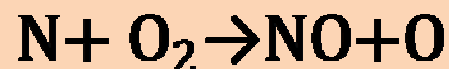
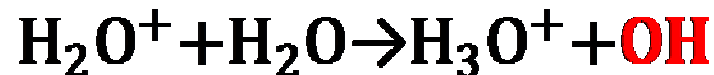
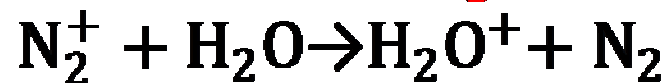
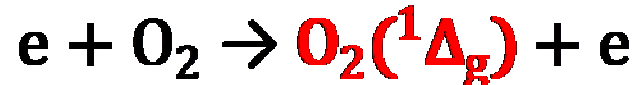


Microsecond pulse

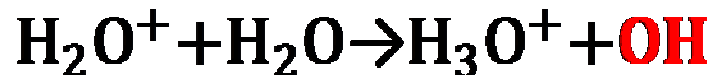
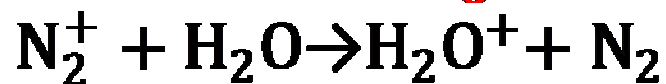
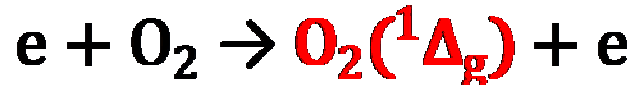
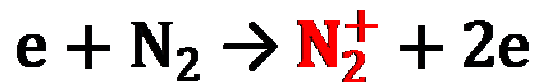


Nanosecond pulse

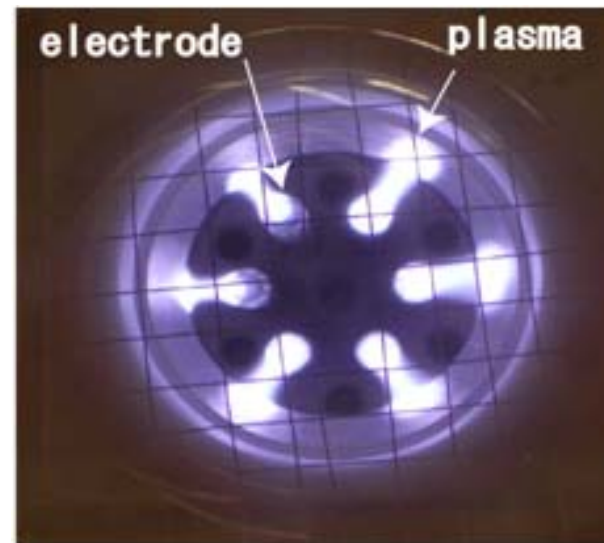
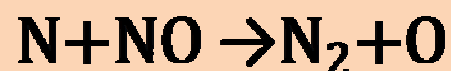
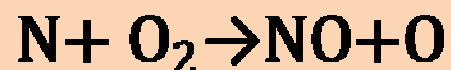
Bio-Active Plasma Components: PHD



Bio-Active Plasma Components: Plasma NO



[NO] $\xrightarrow{UV}$



Before treatment



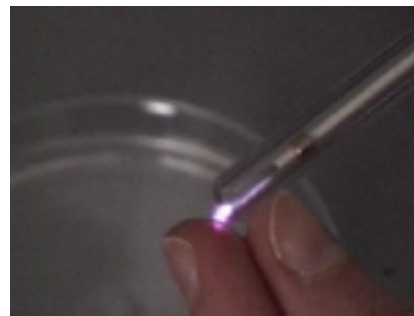
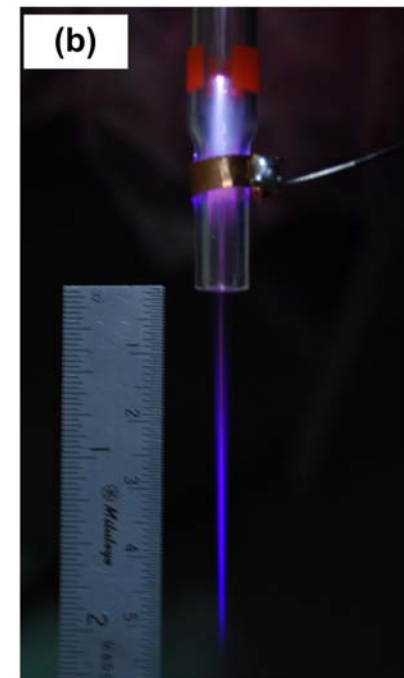
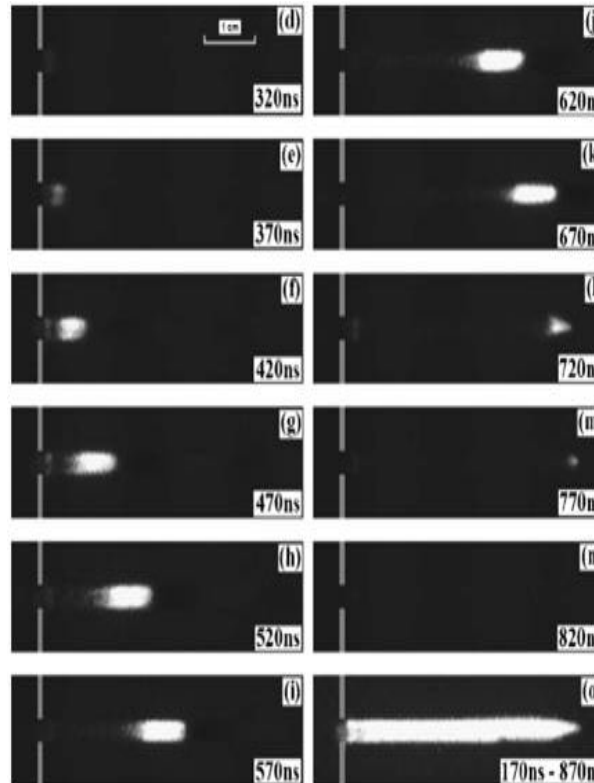
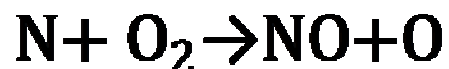
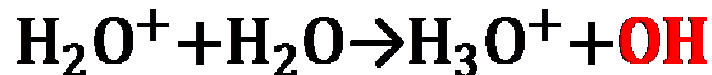
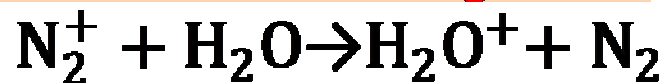
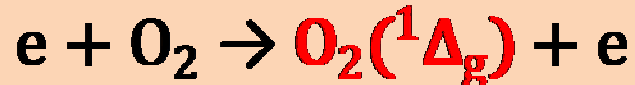
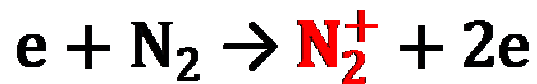
After 7 days of NO-therapy (5 sessions)



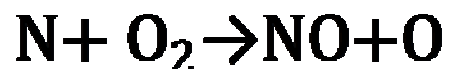
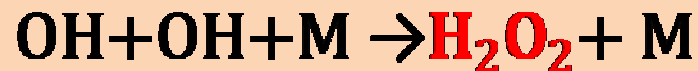
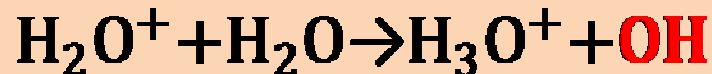
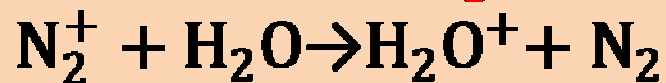
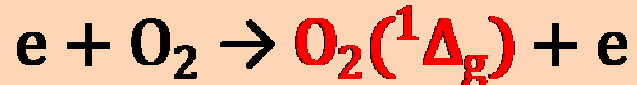
MAX-PLANCK-GESELLSCHAFT



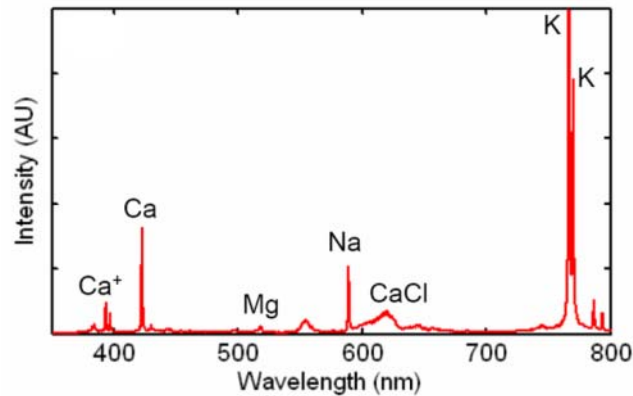
Bio-Active Plasma Components: Helium Jets, Bullets



Bio-Active Plasma Components: Surface Plasma / Plasma Blanket

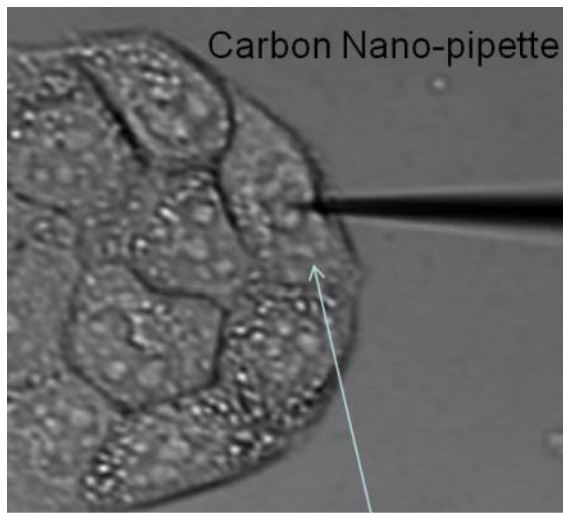


Nano-scale nano-pulse plasma inside liquids



Detected Species:
K, Na, Ca, Mg, Ca⁺
O, H, OH

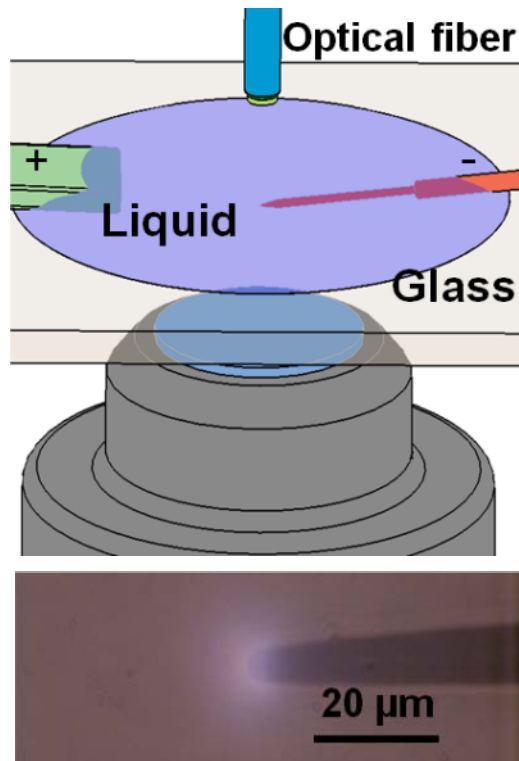
Pb, Ga, Zn, W, P
C₂, CH



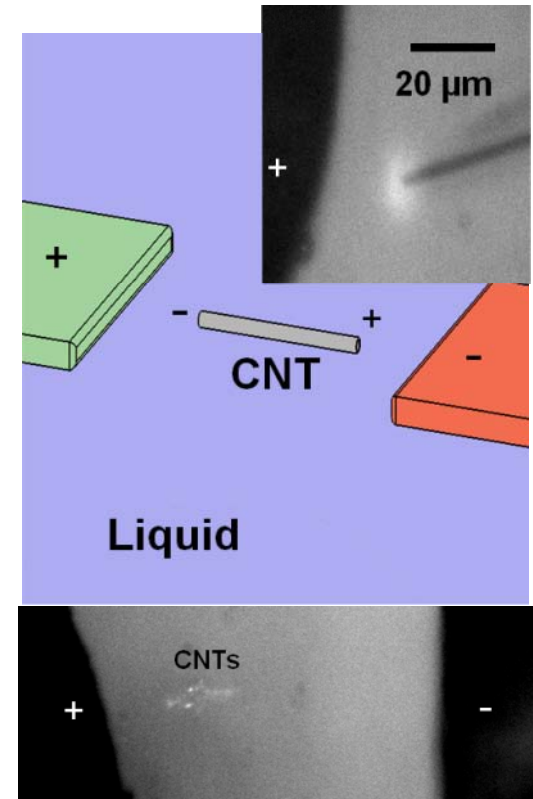
HeLa cell pierced into the cytoplasm

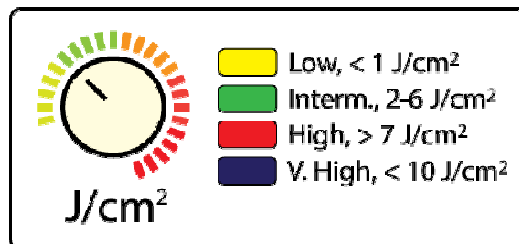
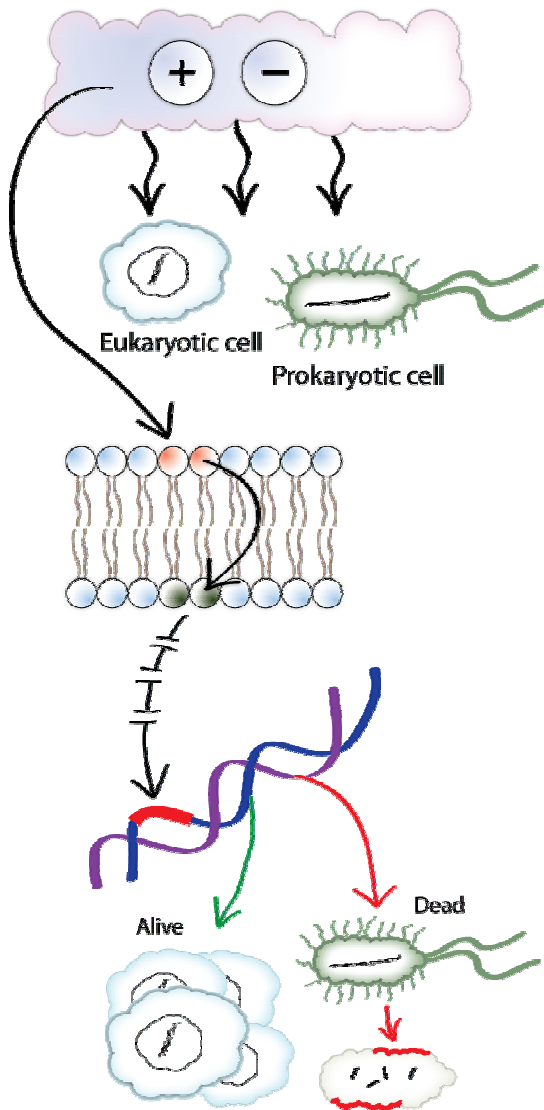
Aditya Chitre, David Staack, Z. Orynbayeva, J. Clifford, Y. Gogotsi, A. Fridman, G. Friedman

Direct Discharges



Remote Discharges





Direct Plasma - Cell Interactions for both, **sterilization** and **healing**

A

Plasma ions play key role

Role of positive and negative ions is related to catalysis of peroxidation processes in presence of reactive oxygen species.

B

Primary target is cell membrane

Peroxidation of phospholipids and polysaccharides is catalyzed by charged species. Water is required and effect of surrounding medium is important.

C

Intracellular biochemistry

Lipid layer peroxidation leads to intracellular pathway activation (i.e. malondialdehyde, MDA formation) which alters DNA structure.

D

Selectivity

Tissue sterilization without visible or microscopic (histological) damage; selective development of apoptosis in cancer cells; difference in metabolism of peroxidation products; etc.

E

Effect of dose

Low doses: sterilization, blood coagulation.

Intermediate doses: cell proliferation, growth factor release, apoptosis in cancers, etc. *High doses*: normal cell death.

Very high doses: necrosis.

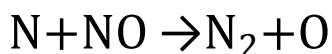
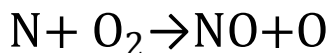
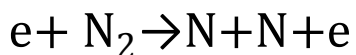
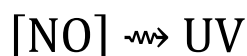
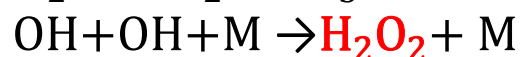
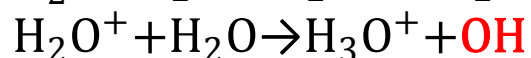
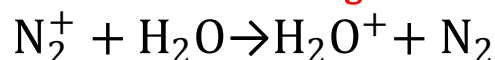
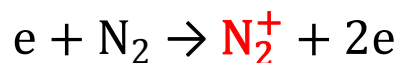
A

Plasma ions play key role

Role of positive and negative ions is related to catalysis of peroxidation processes in presence of reactive oxygen species.

For mammalian and bacterial cells; for healing and for sterilization.

Air Plasma Major Bio-Active Components



Air Plasma Parameters

Voltage: 5 – 35+ kV (p2p)

Frequency: 0.1 kHz – 100 kHz

Rise times: 1 – 3,000 V/ns

Gas temperature: ~ 300 K

[e⁻] conc.: 10⁸ – 10¹¹ cm⁻³

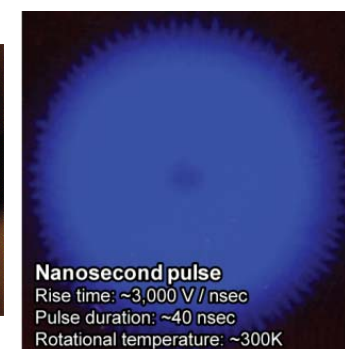
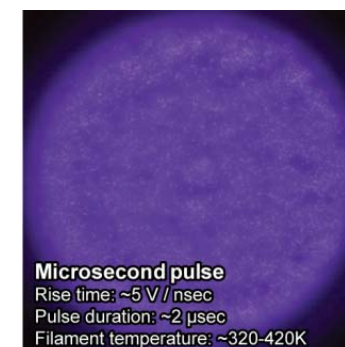
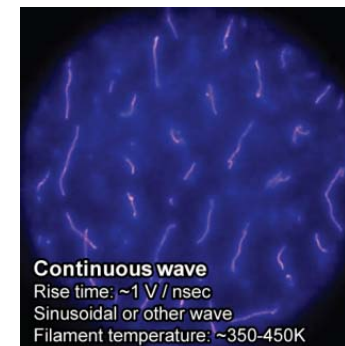
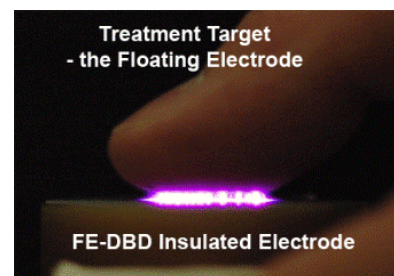
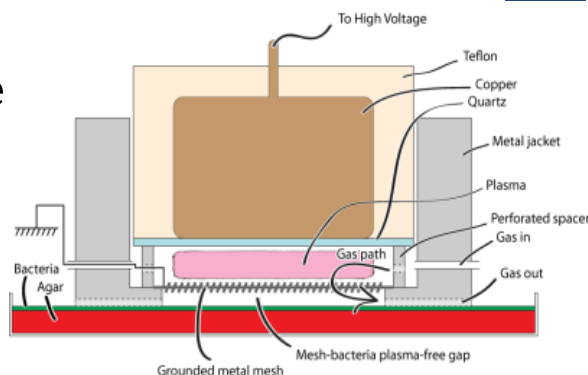
[e⁻] temp.: 1 – 2 eV

Ion conc.: 10⁹ – 10¹² cm⁻³

Ion temp.: 1/40 eV (~300 K)

UV (180-300 nm) & VUV (110-180 nm)

10⁻⁹-10⁻⁸ W/cm² total UV surface power



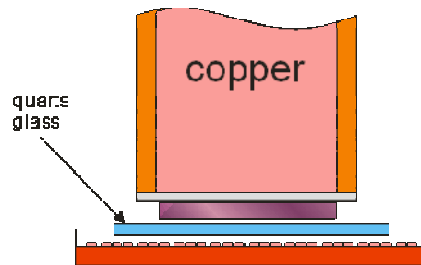
A

Plasma ions play key role

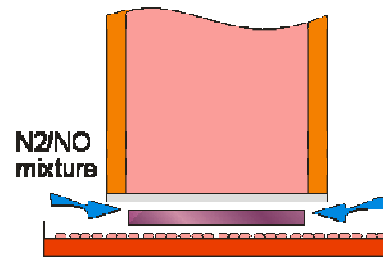
Role of positive and negative ions is related to catalysis of peroxidation processes in presence of reactive oxygen species.

No significant effect of UV, Ozone, H₂O₂.

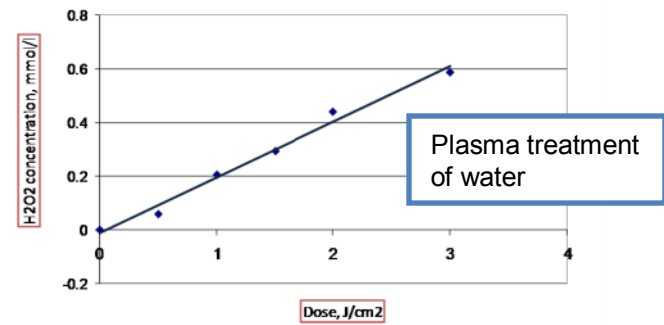
Quartz glass to leave only UV



N₂/NO mixture to destroy Ozone



H₂O₂



Concentration of commercially available H₂O₂ used:

%	mol/L	Result
50	20	100% sterile
5	2	
0.5	200 mmol/L	Some (~ 50%)
5*10 ⁻²	20 mmol/L	No sterilization
5*10 ⁻³	2 mmol/L	
5*10 ⁻⁴	0.2 mmol/L	

Plasma produces 0.2 to 0.8 mM solutions of H₂O₂ in water, which is not effective for sterilization (>200 mM is required)



No sterilization



Air



N₂/NO

Sterilization efficiency does not depend on presence of ozone

E. coli, skin flora: strep, staph, yeast

~10⁷ CFU/ml, 700 µl – on agar, dry for ~ 30 min;

Treatment: up to 3 J/cm²

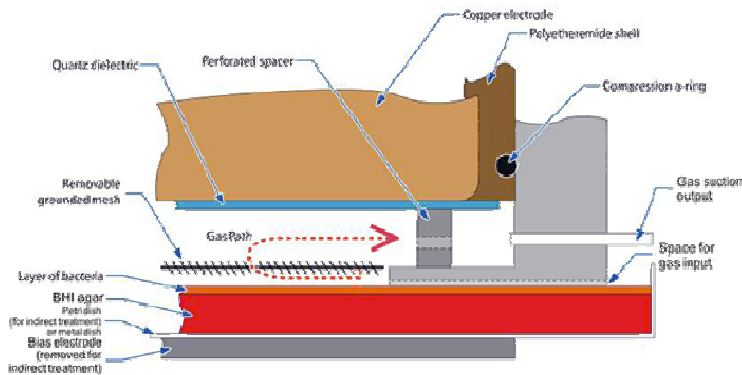
Dobrynin, D., et al., 48th ICAAC & 46th IDSA, October 25-28, 2008, Washington, DC, USA.

A

Plasma ions play key role

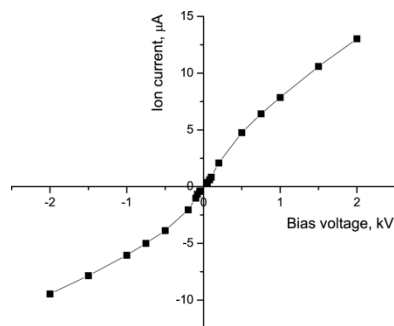
Role of positive and negative ions is related to catalysis of peroxidation processes in presence of reactive oxygen species.

Effect is chemical.

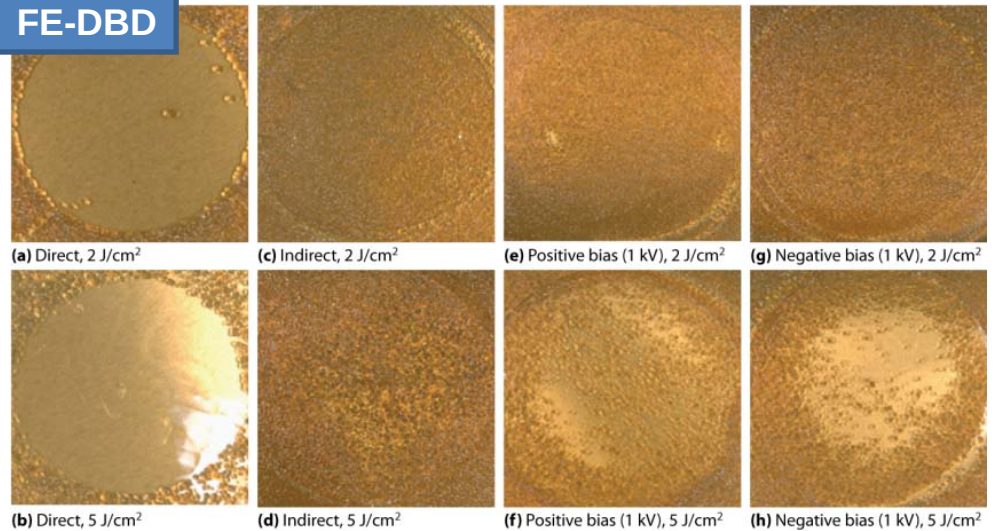


Ion current: $\sim 1 - 10 \mu\text{A}$

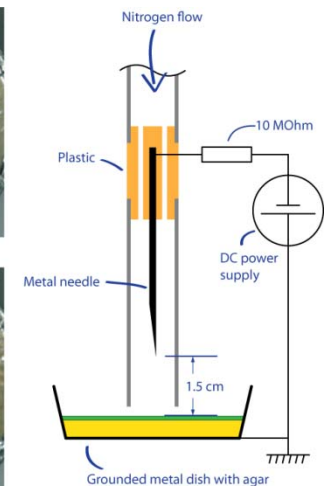
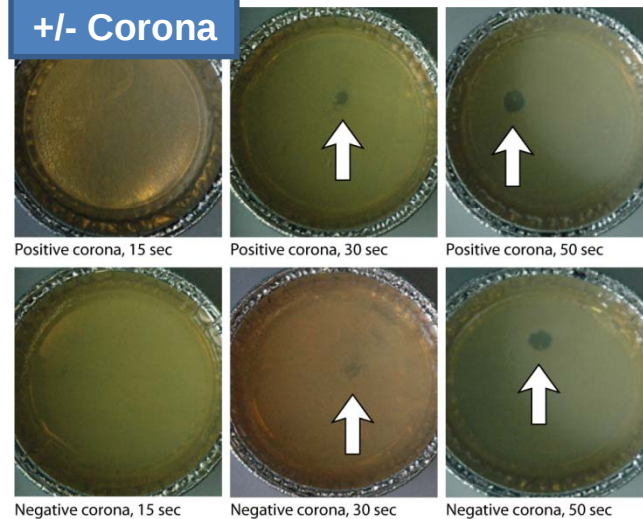
Both positive and negative ions are effective in sterilization



FE-DBD



+/- Corona

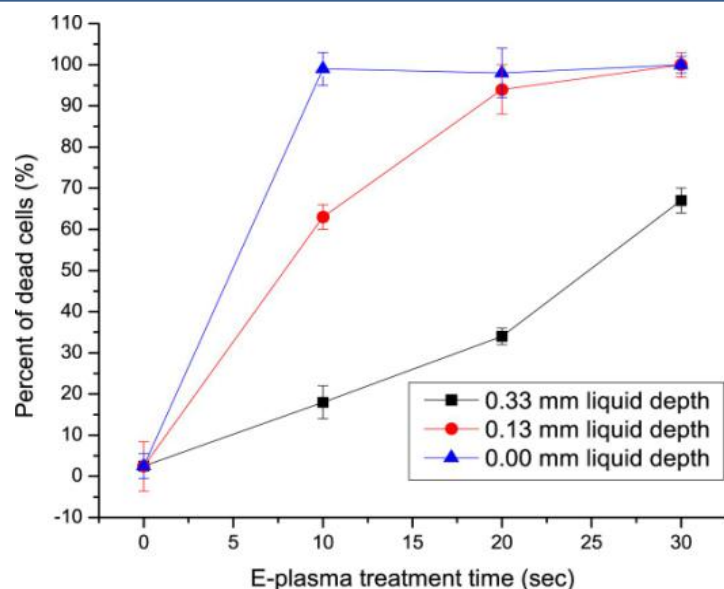


A

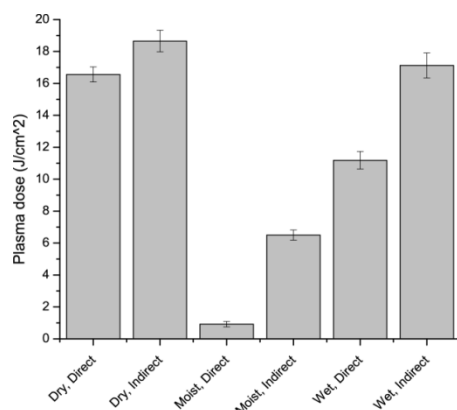
Plasma ions play key role

Role of positive and negative ions is related to catalysis of peroxidation processes in presence of reactive oxygen species.

Effect of O₂ and water.



method \ gas	Jet, 1 lpm	Jet, 10 lpm	Direct
O ₂	10 ⁵ reduction 120-140 s	10 ⁵ reduction 120-140 s	>10 ⁶ reduction 15 s
air	10 ⁵ reduction 120-140 s	10 ⁵ reduction 120-140 s	>10 ⁶ reduction 15 s
N ₂	little	little	little
Argon	little	little	little
He	little	little	little
N ₂ /NO	little	little	little



Plasma treatment penetrated liquid but the effect is significantly reduced for cells and bacteria. Best effect is achieved on moist surfaces where there is no liquid water.

Oxygen enhances direct plasma effect.

Absence or overabundance H₂O suppresses the effect, optimal water layer is ~10 μm

G. Fridman, et al., *Plasma Process. Polym.*, 2007, 4, 370-375.

G. Fridman, et al., *Plasma Chemistry and Plasma Processing*, 27, 2, 163-176 (2007).

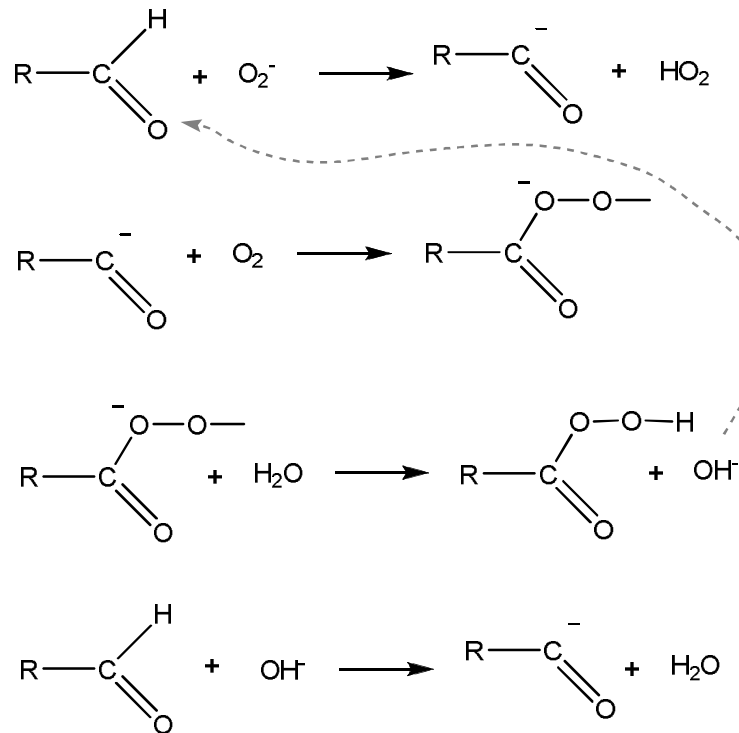
A

Plasma ions play key role

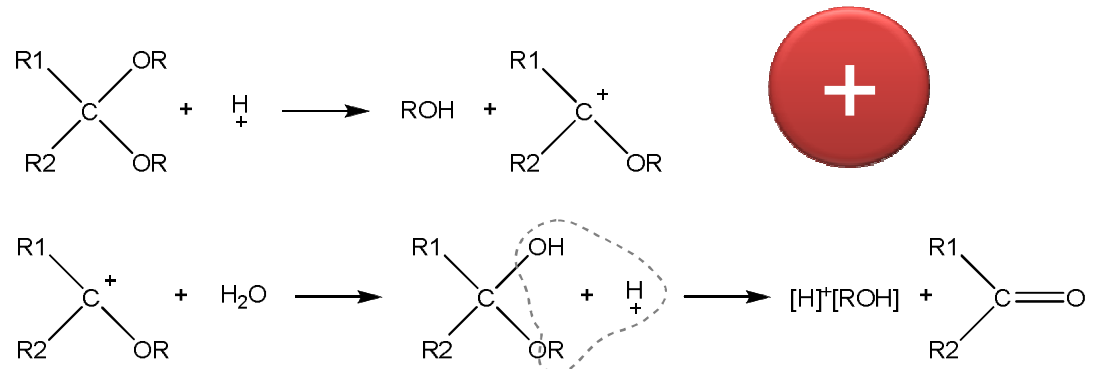
Role of positive and negative ions is related to catalysis of peroxidation processes in presence of reactive oxygen species.

Ions create long chains (neutrals, too, but much shorter).

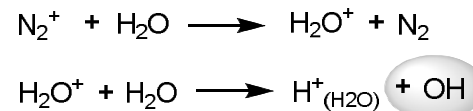
Oxidation of aldehyde-based groups



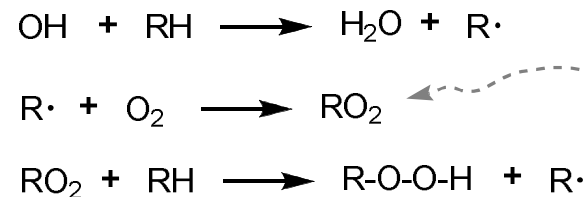
Oxidative hydrolysis (conversion of acetal-based groups to ketons)



Proton (also OH) production



OH-assisted chain oxidation



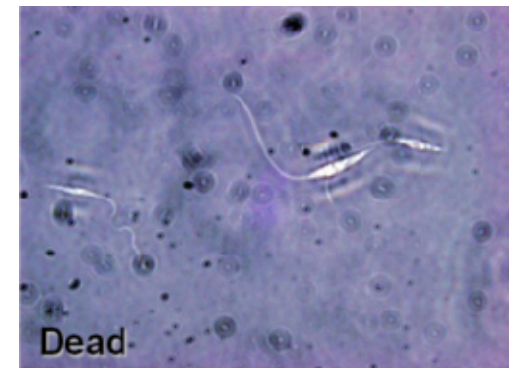
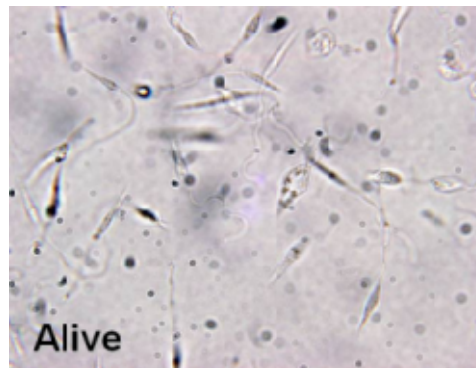
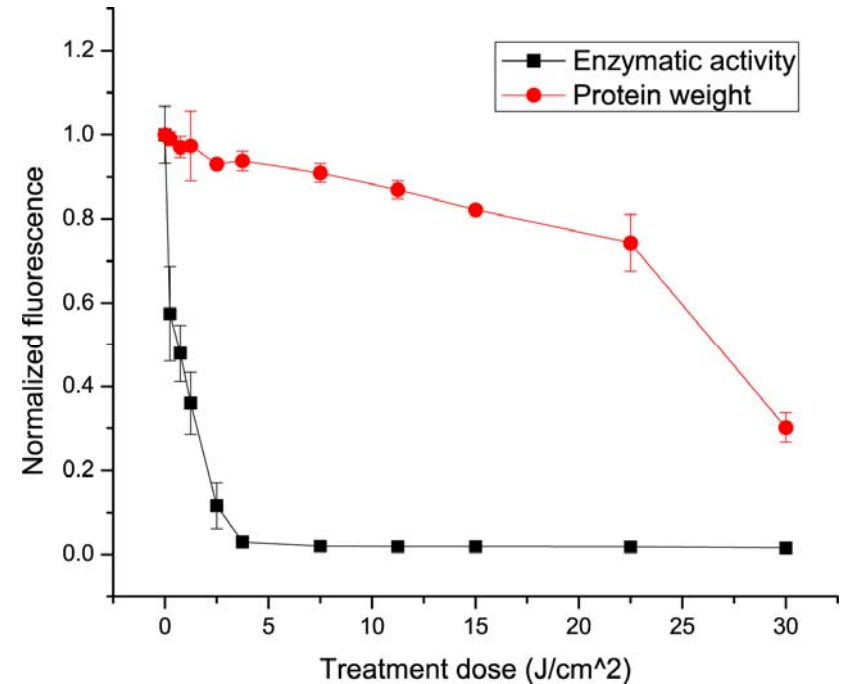
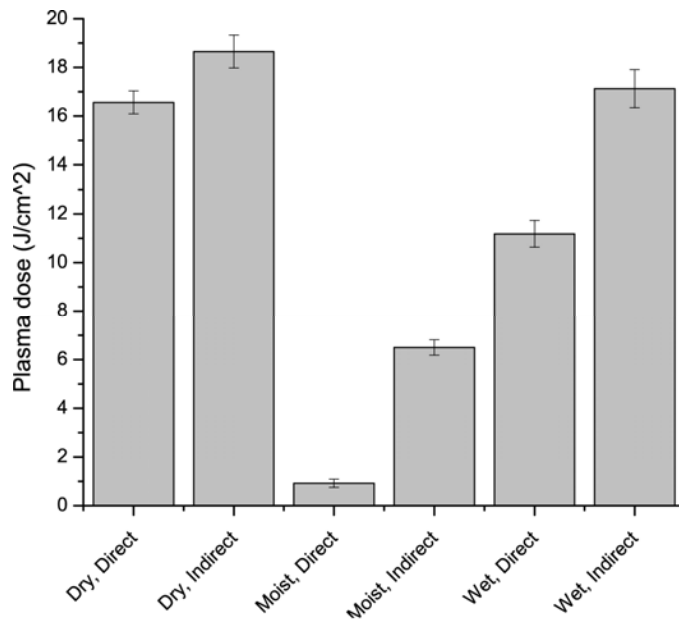
Ion oxidation chain length: 10,000 to 100,000

OH oxidation (i.e. phospholipid peroxidation) chain length: 3 to 10

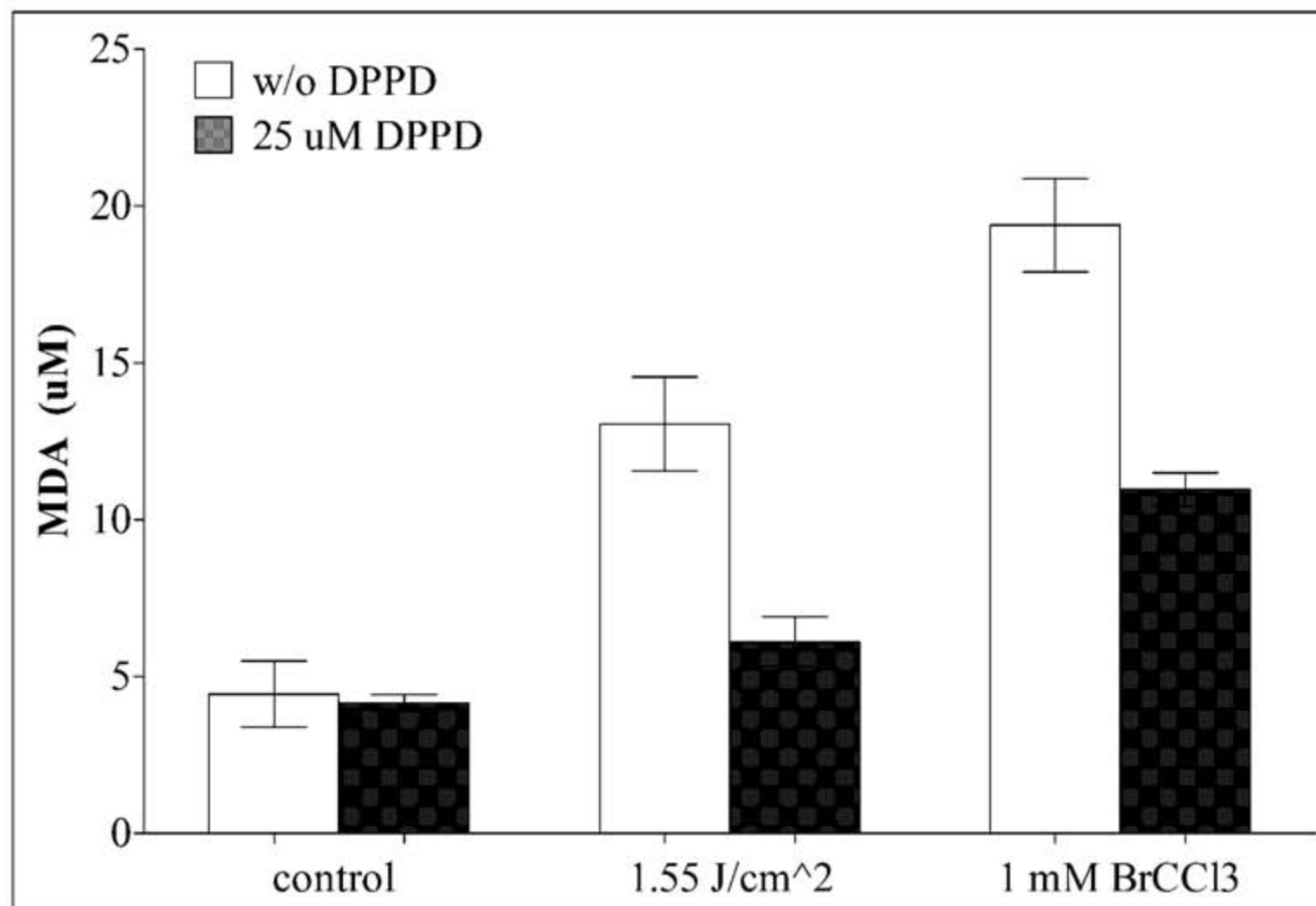
B**Primary target is cell membrane**

Peroxidation of phospholipids and polysaccharides is catalyzed by charged species. Water is required and effect of surrounding medium is important.

- Cell lifecycle changes without membrane damage (no cell lysis);
- Biochemical effects persist long after treatment;
- Composition and amount of medium are important;
- DNA damage is secondary.



Lipid peroxidation leads to and is measured by MDA release



Biological Mechanisms:

DNA double strand breaks (DSBs) in mammalian cells

REACTIVE OXYGEN SPECIES (ROS) INDUCES DSBs:

- Superoxide generation:

$$e_{aq} + O_2(H_2O) \rightarrow O_2^-(H_2O)$$
- Superoxide dismutation into hydrogen peroxide (catalyzed by Super Oxide Dismutase)

$$2 O_2^- + 2 H^+ [+SOD] \rightarrow H_2O_2 + O_2 [+SOD]$$
- OH generation (Fenton mechanism):

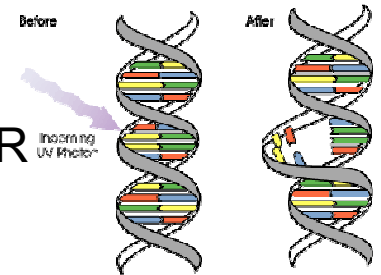
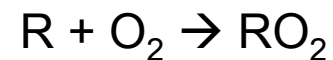
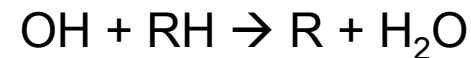
$$H_2O_2 + Fe^{2+} \rightarrow OH + OH^- + Fe^{3+}$$

$$Fe^{3+} + O_2^- \rightarrow Fe^{2+} + O_2$$

$$M^+ + H_2O \rightarrow M + H_2O^+$$

$$H_2O^+ + H_2O \rightarrow H_3O^+ + OH$$

- Hydroxyl chain oxidation:

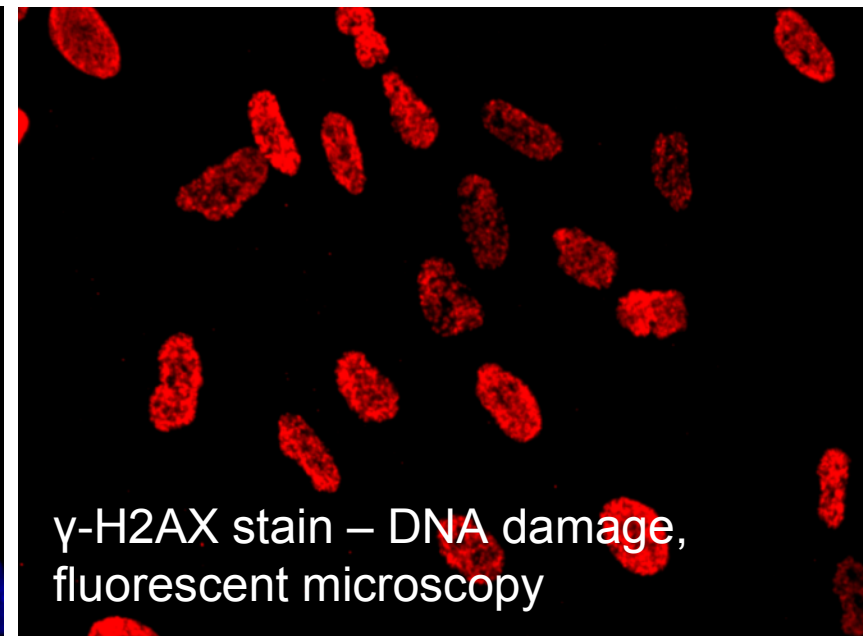
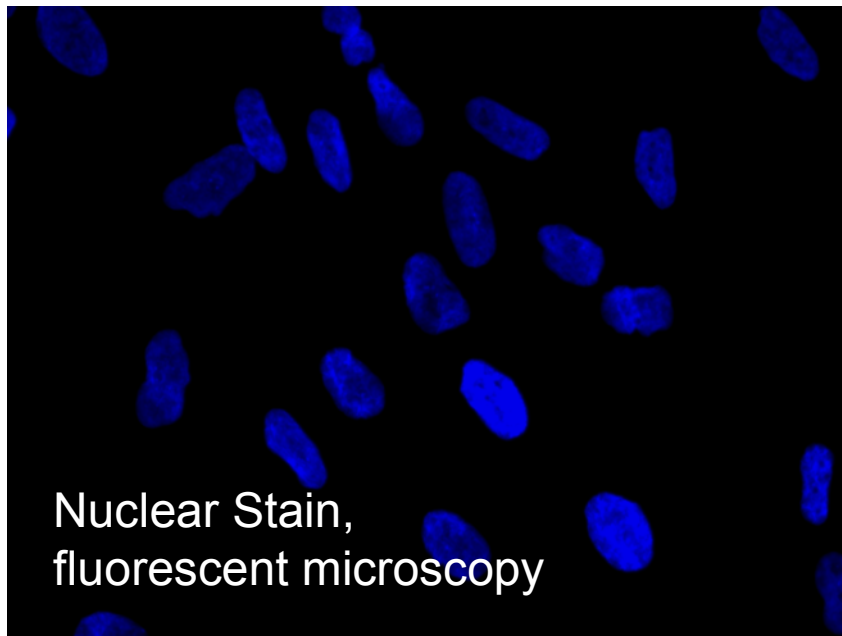


Both in radiation and plasma DNA double strand breaks are created by ion-related ROS (not by direct radiation).

Plasma produces much more ROS than radiation biology, however transport into the cell is limiting DSBs

Biological Mechanisms:

DNA single/double strand breaks in mammalian cells

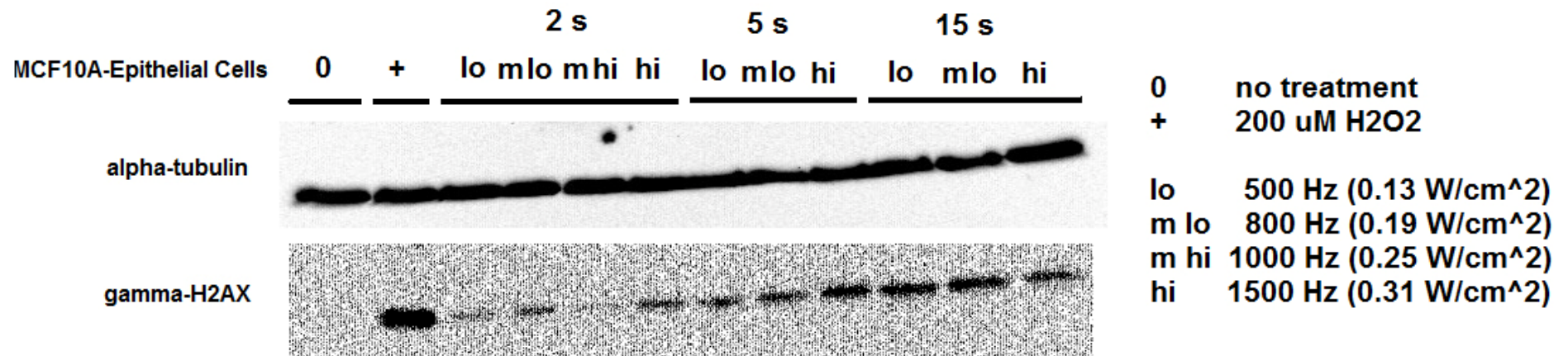


Skin sterilization is effective at seconds of FE-DBD plasma treatment (doses below J/cm^2)

2 - 15 second ($>1 \text{ J}/\text{cm}^2$) treatment promotes DNA DSB's inside nucleus without damage to the cell itself (cell remains intact).
(Cell line: human Fibroblasts)

Western Blot Analysis of DNA DSB/SSBs:

Low dose plasma causes no/few DSB/SSBs

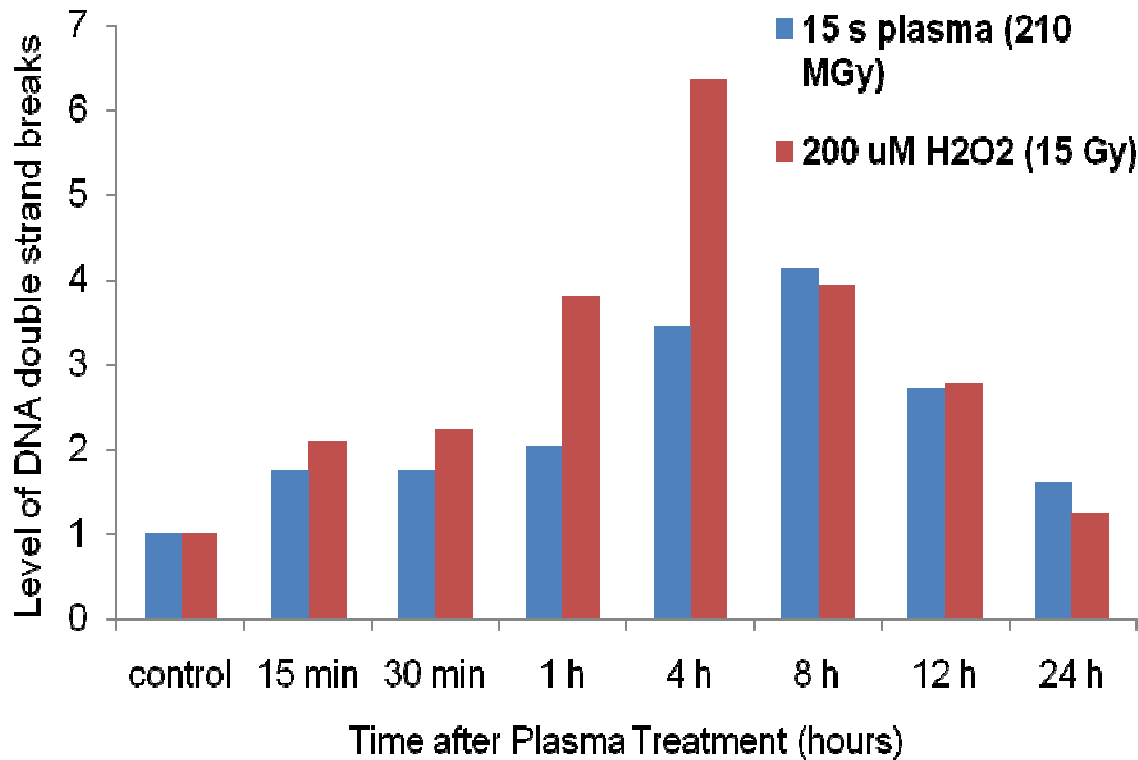


Low plasma dose (<1J/cm²) → No DSB/SSBs

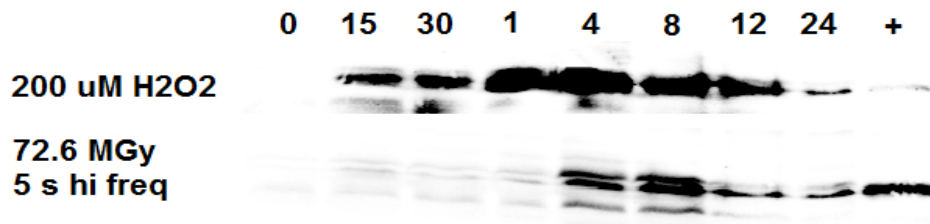
Higher plasma doze (1-10 J/cm²) → *Repairable* DSB/SSBs

1. Low doses of non-thermal plasma (10-200 MGy) do not induce DNA double strand breaks while, higher doses of non-thermal plasma (>200 MGy) induces DNA double strand breaks which are repaired within 12-18 hours.
2. In the human body a normal cell undergoes 20,000 DNA double strand breaks every single day but the level of DNA double strand breaks produced by non-thermal plasma is much less than these naturally occurring double strand breaks
3. Non-thermal plasma is non-toxic and non-lethal to mammalian cells at low doses

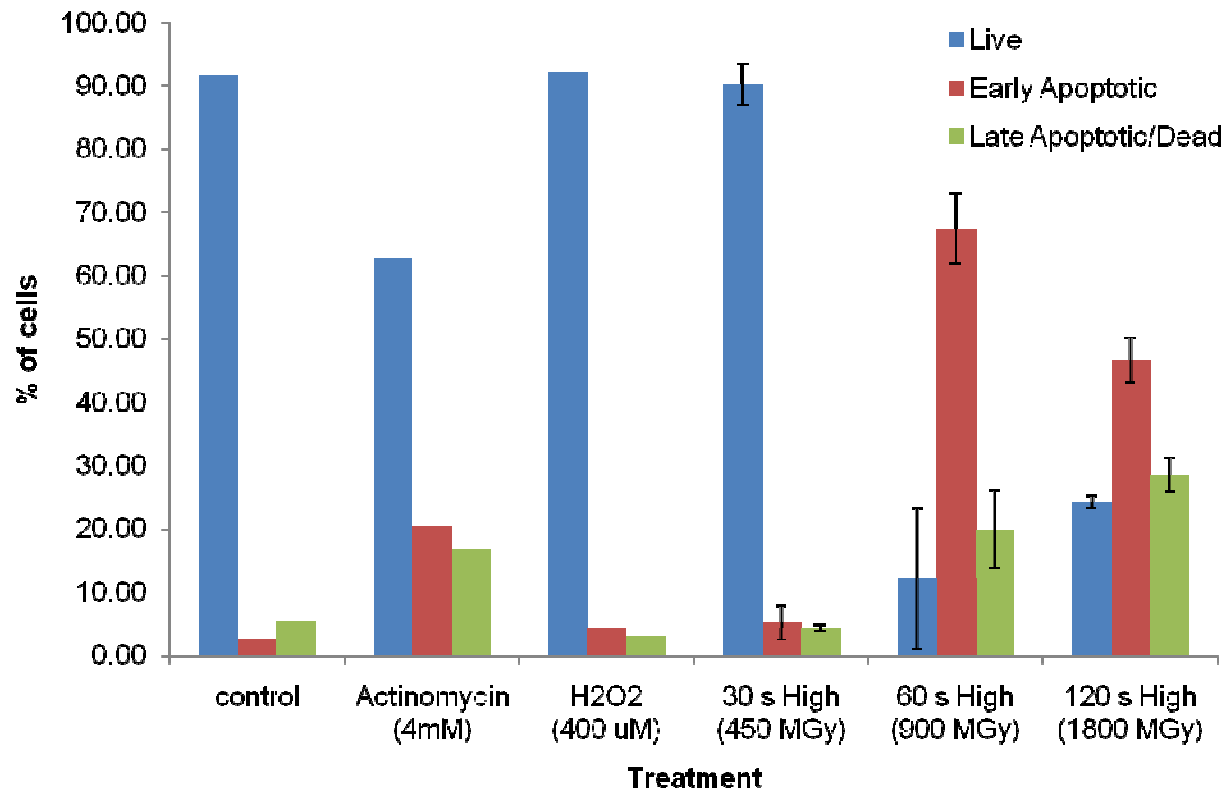
DNA DSB/SSBs are repaired by cell within 24 hrs



DNA damages induced by non-thermal plasma are repaired by the cells naturally within 24 hours

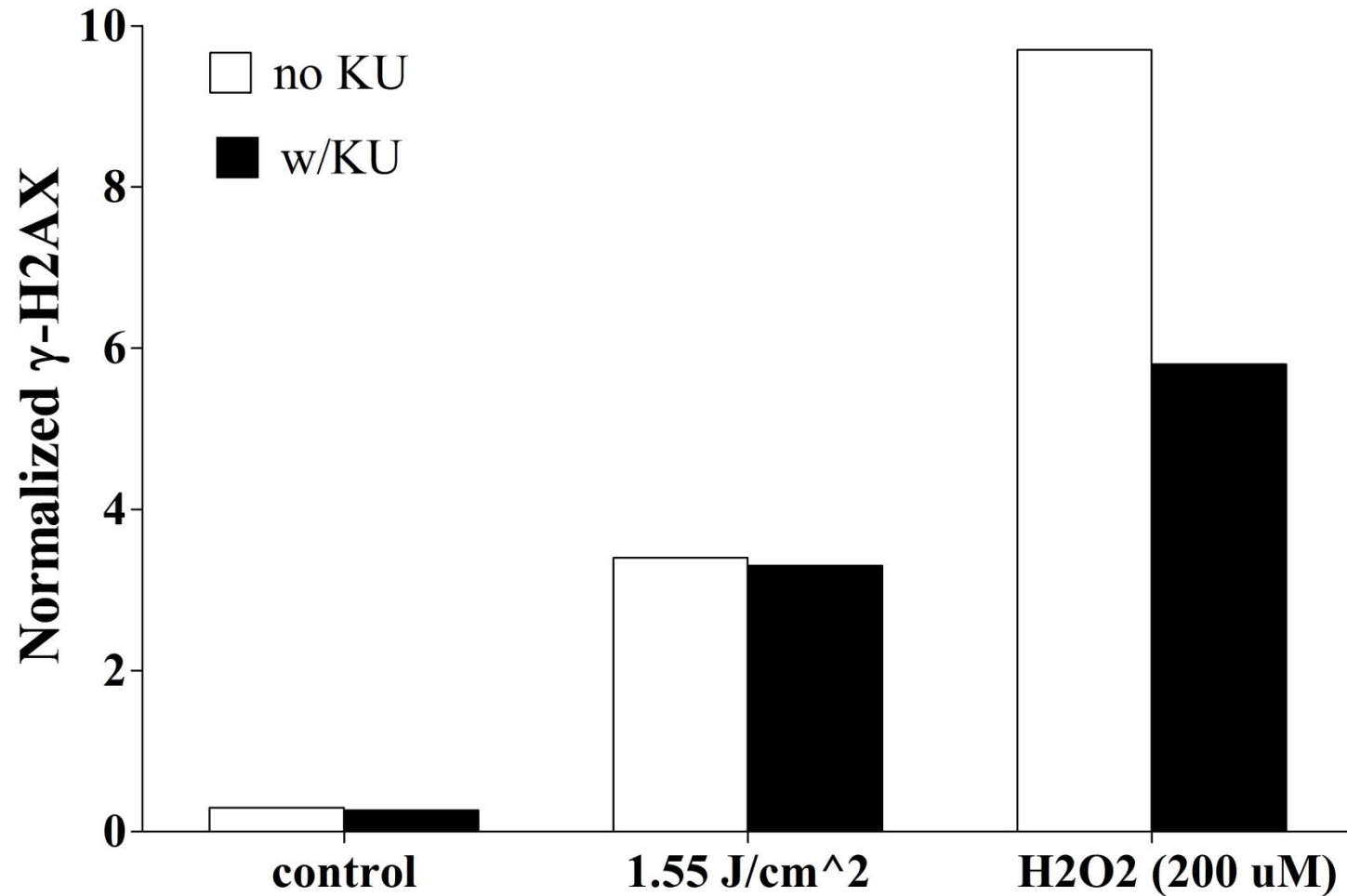


Higher Doses of Plasma induce Apoptosis



Higher doses of Plasma ($>10 \text{ J/cm}^2$) induces significant DNA damages which are not repaired and the cells then undergo apoptosis, which prevents mutations in the cells

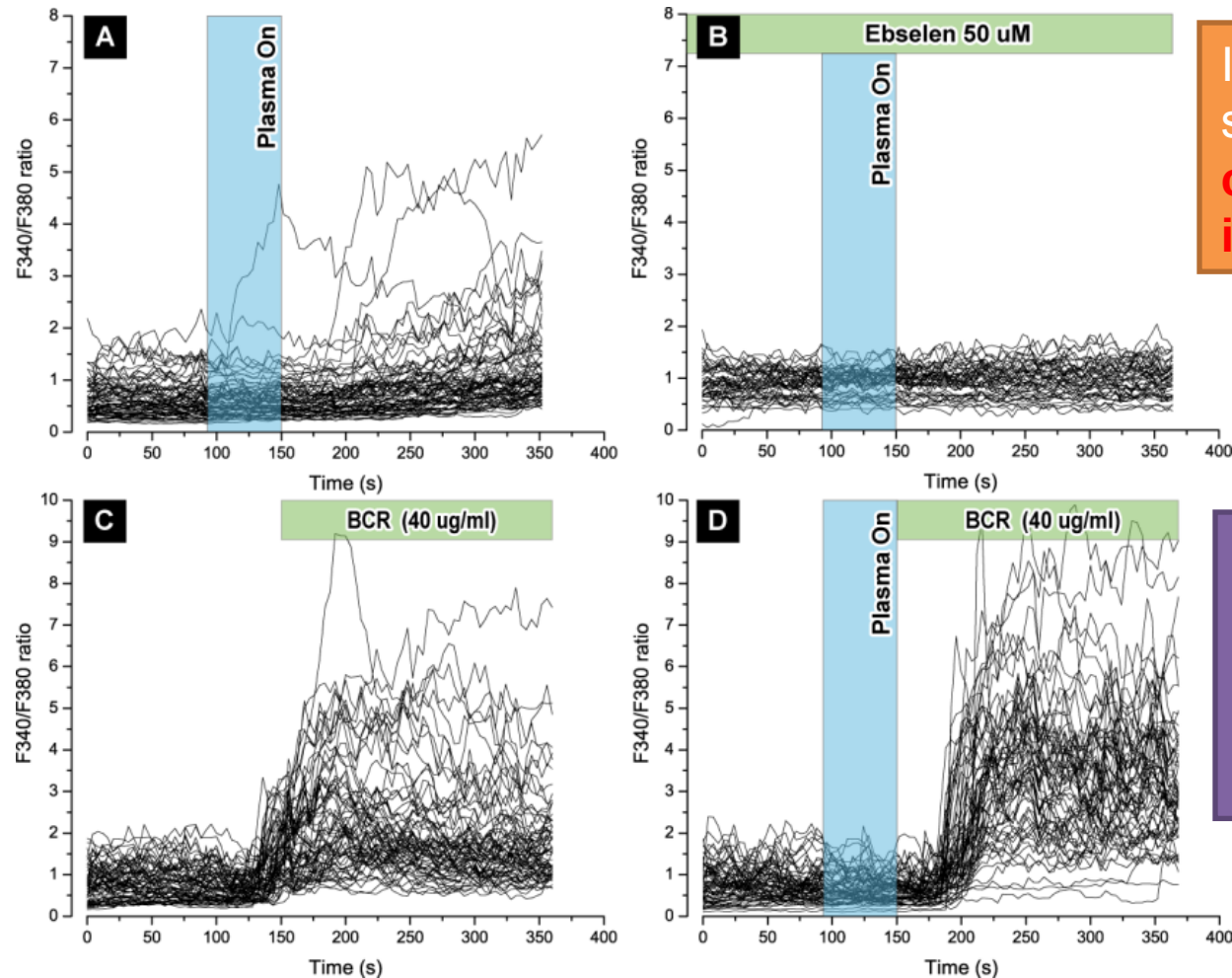
Plasma does not Induce DNA Double Strand Breaks at Low and Intermediate Doses



C

Intracellular biochemistry

Lipid layer peroxidation leads to intracellular pathway activation (i.e. malondialdehyde, MDA formation) which alters DNA structure.

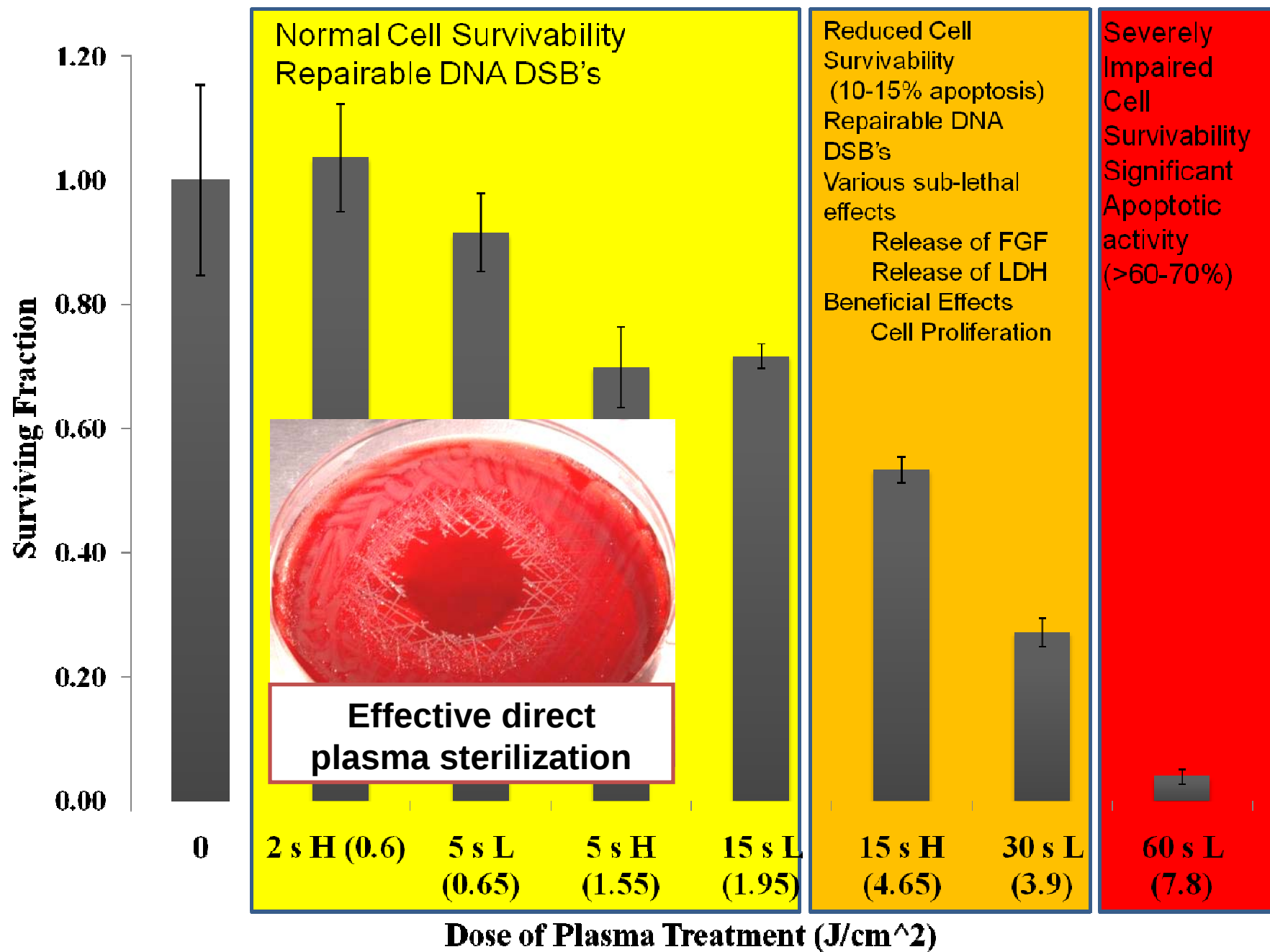


Inhibiting ROS activity suppresses **plasma effect on opening of Calcium ion channels**

Enzymatically promoting ROS activity multiplies the **effect of plasma on opening of Calcium ion channels**

Purified splenic B cells; Plasma 1 min; ebselen 50 μ M preincubation 15', BCR 40 μ g/ml.

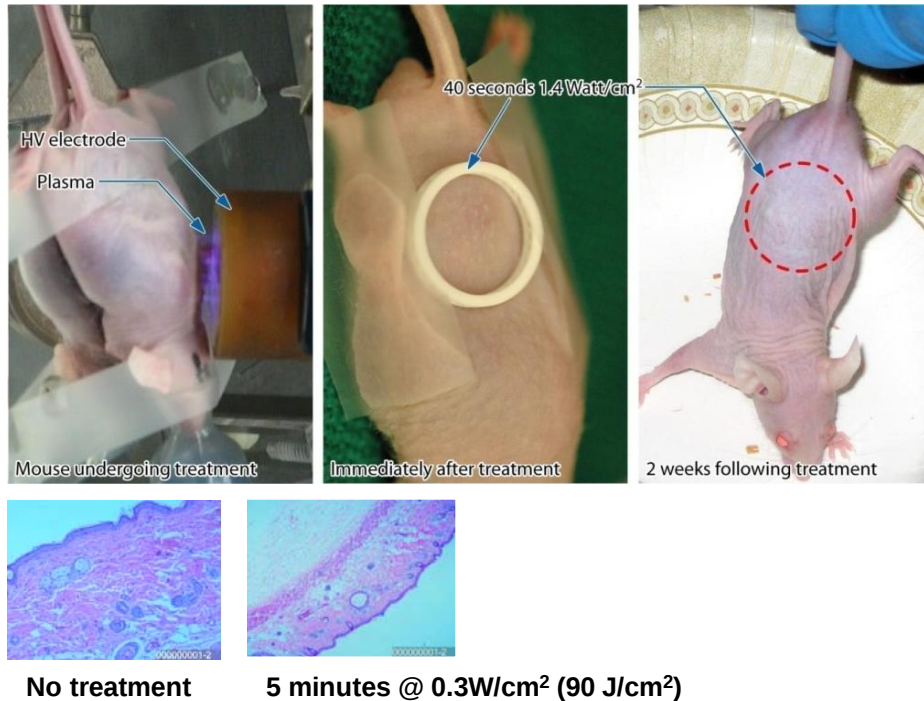
G Fridman, et al., 35th IEEE International Conference on Plasma Science (ICOPS), June 15 - 19, 2008, Congress Center Karlsruhe, Germany.



D

Selectivity

Tissue sterilization without visible or microscopic (histological) damage; selective development of apoptosis in cancer cells; difference in metabolism of peroxidation products; etc.



Skin is **sterilized in seconds** (<10 sec, <1 J/cm²);
Animals are fine up to **>10 minutes** of plasma (>240 J/cm²).

SKH1 hairless mice and regular swine: Differential toxicity escalation trials

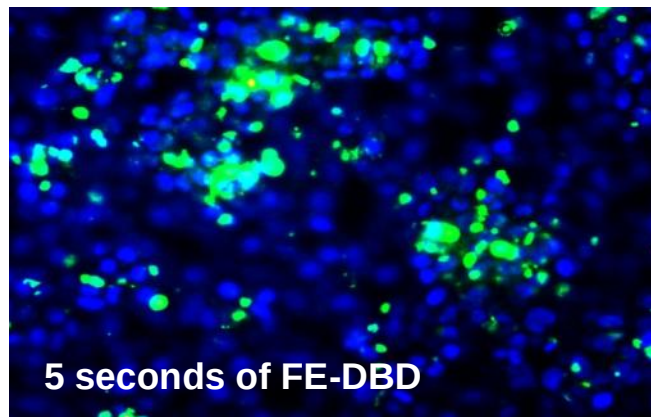
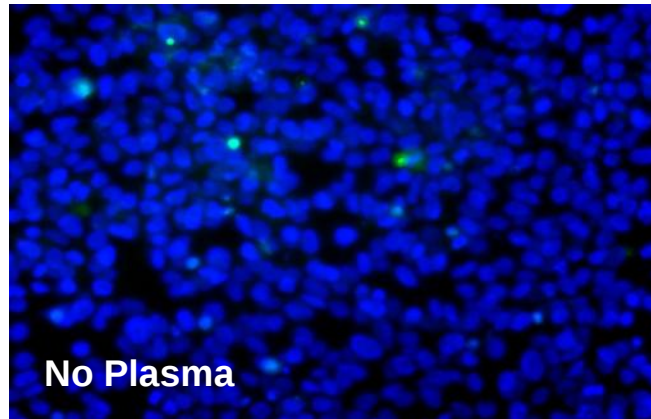
Safe and effective zones exist but toxicity is possible at higher dosage.

Animals survive the operation and stay healthy long after treatment (as observed for 2 weeks)

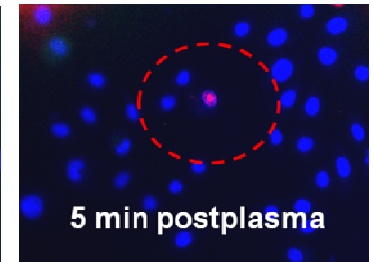
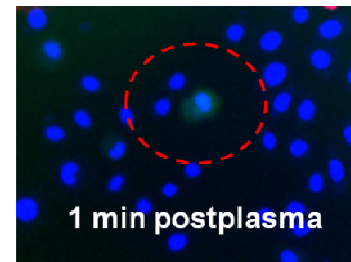
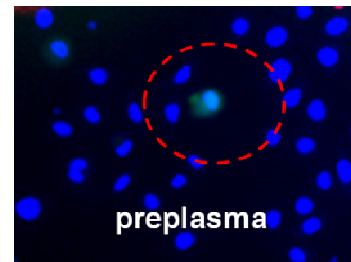
D

Selectivity

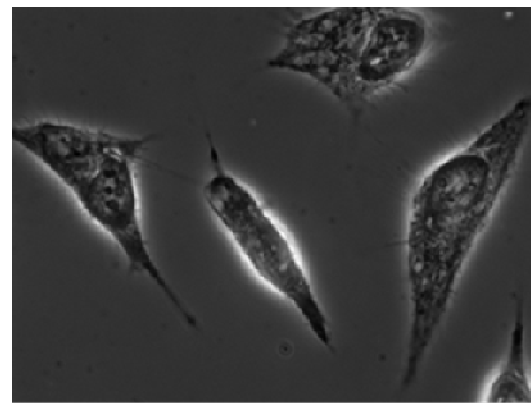
Tissue sterilization without visible or microscopic (histological) damage; selective development of apoptosis in cancer cells; difference in metabolism of peroxidation products; etc.



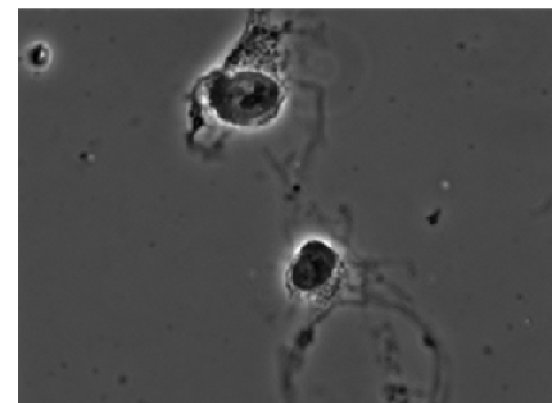
Apoptosis begins developing at the end of day 1, reaches it maximum at day 2 and returns to normal natural rate at day 3



Plasma directly kills melanoma cells in co-cultures



Melanoma Cells untreated

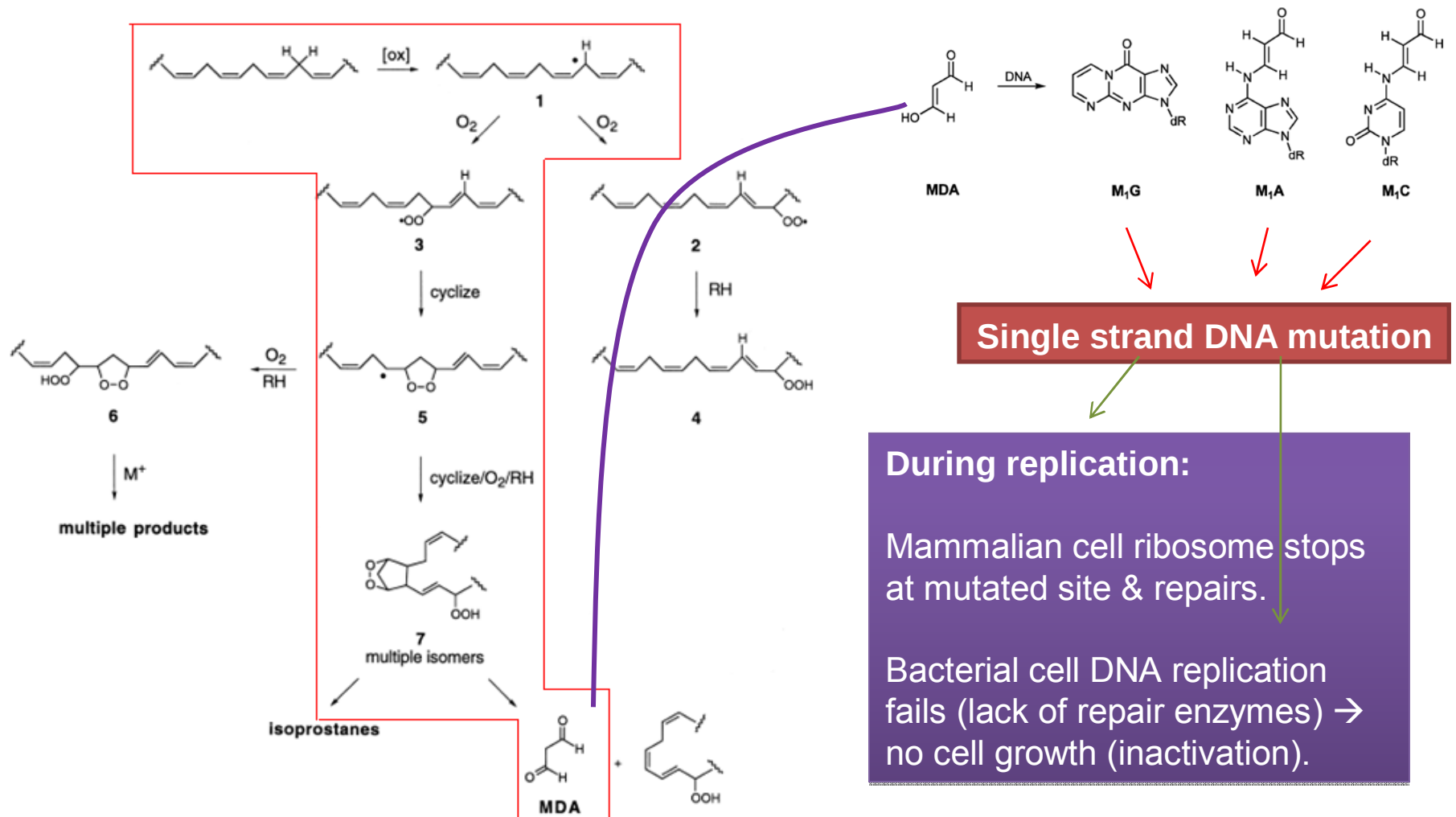


Melanoma Cells 10 s after Treatment

D

Selectivity

Tissue sterilization without visible or microscopic (histological) damage; selective development of apoptosis in cancer cells; **difference in metabolism of peroxidation products**; etc.



Wound Sterilization and Healing (FE-DBD)



**Sterilization in seconds (below 1 J/cm^2);
no damage in > 10 minutes ($> 240 \text{ J/cm}^2$).**



Wound Healing: Suppurated

Burns



Plasma
Technologies, Inc.



Wound Healing: Trophic Venous Ulcers



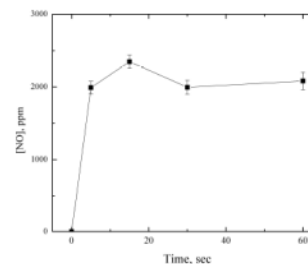
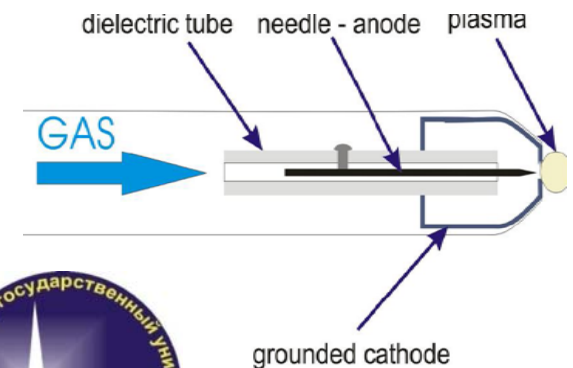
Broad Necrotic Suppurated Ulcer (Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathy)



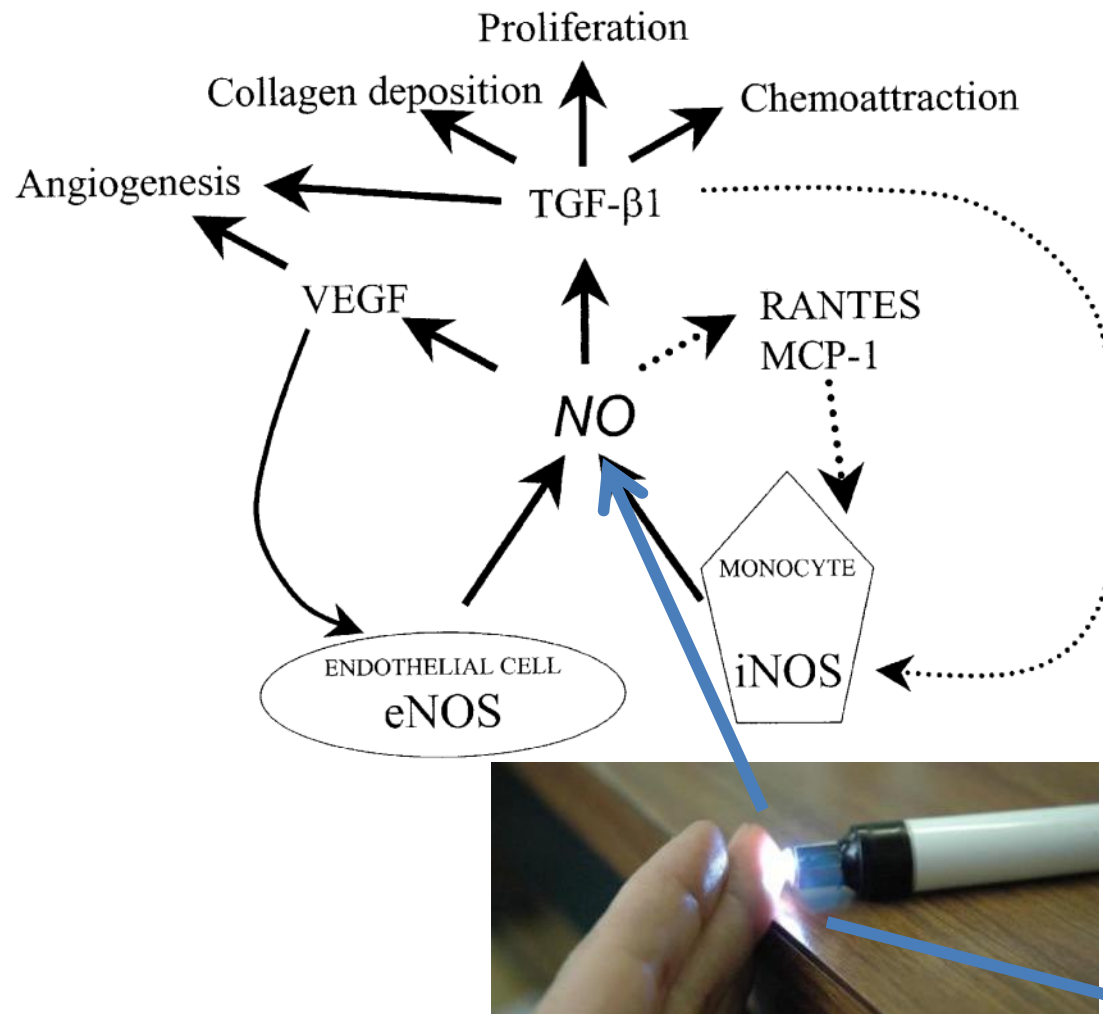
Phlegmonous Eyelid Defeat treatment by Pin-to-Hole spark Discharge (PHD)



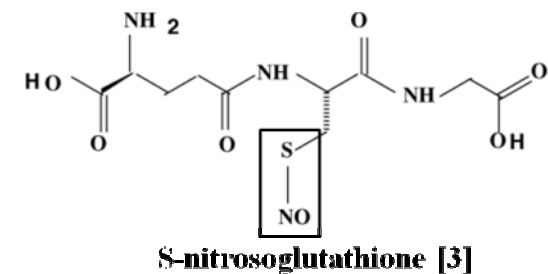
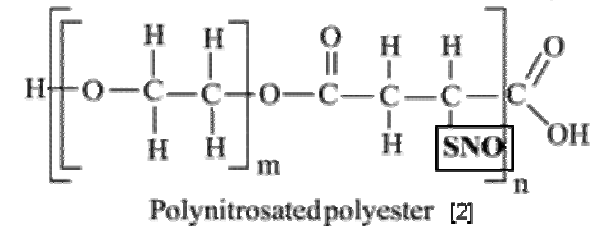
- Discharge voltage: 1 – 5 kV
- Plasma diameter: 3 – 5 mm
- Frequency: 1 – 7 Hz
- Pulse duration: ~30 ms
- Energy per pulse: 0.5 - 1 J



Nitric oxide (NO) plays a major role in wound healing



Applying NO to wound:



Continuous administration:

- NO bound to polymer "hydrogel", applied to wound
- NO released from hydrogel as NO• or as S-nitrosothiol

Intermittent administration:

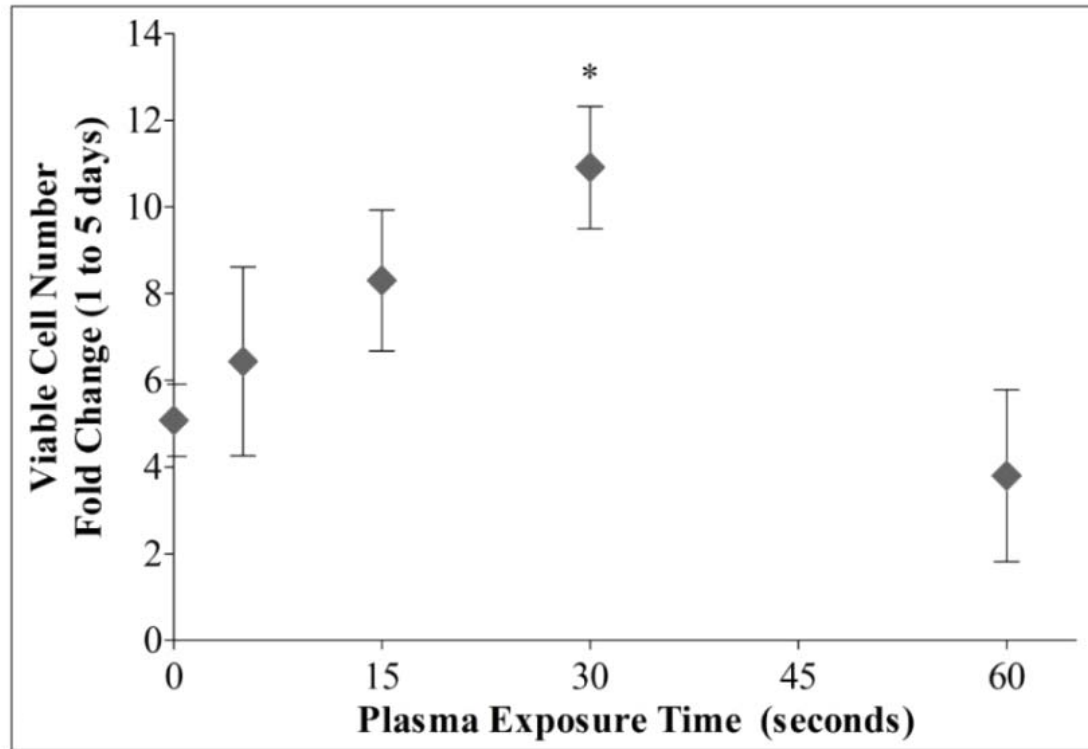
- Apply NO• to wound
- gNO
- **Plasma afterglow**

1. Schwentker, A., et al., Nitric Oxide, 2002. 7(1): p. 1-10.

2. AB Seabra, R da Silva, MG de Oliveira, Biomacromolecules, 2005.

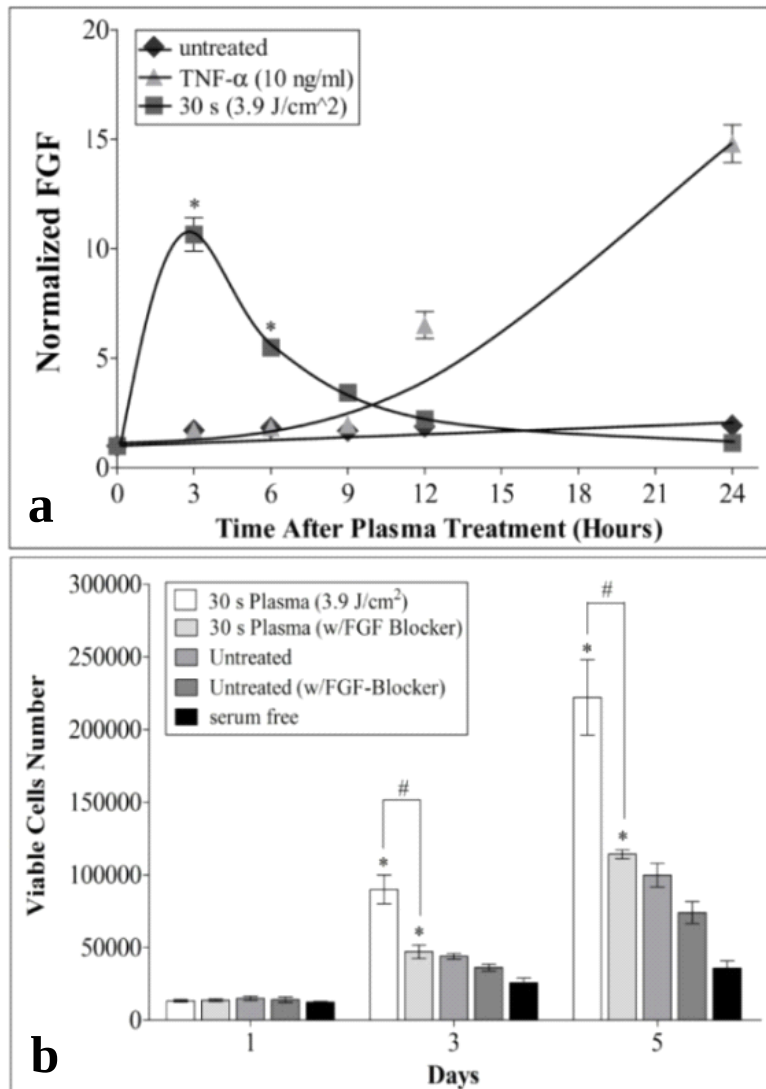
3. AB Seabra, et al., British Journal of Dermatology, 2004.

Plasma treatment promotes endothelial cell growth



Viable endothelial cell (Porcine Aortic Endothelial Cell, PAEC) number was enhanced by low dose FE-DBD plasma treatment. FE-DBD plasma-treated cells showed greater viable cell number than control up to 30 seconds of plasma treatment. However, plasma treatment greater than 30 seconds resulted in similar cell number to controls.

Treated endothelial cells release FGF-2 growth factor



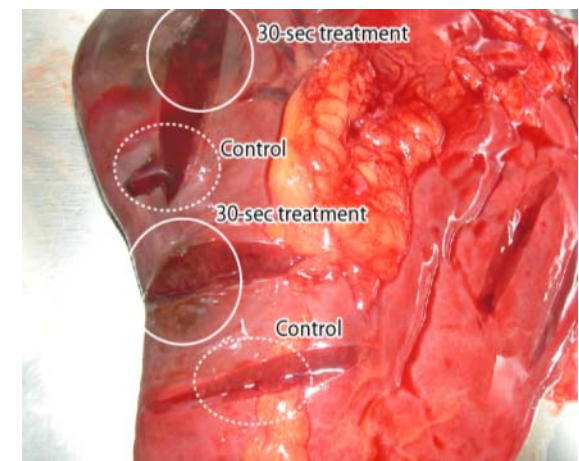
1. Cell-released FGF2 increased up to 3 h after plasma treatment, and then rapidly decreased up to 24 h after plasma treatment for 30 s.

2. Conditioned media samples collected 3 h after plasma treatment (30 s) were applied to non-treated cells, and cell number was assessed 1, 3, and 5 days after conditioned media addition. While media from plasma treated cells significantly increased cell number, an **FGF2 neutralizing antibody cancelled this effect.**

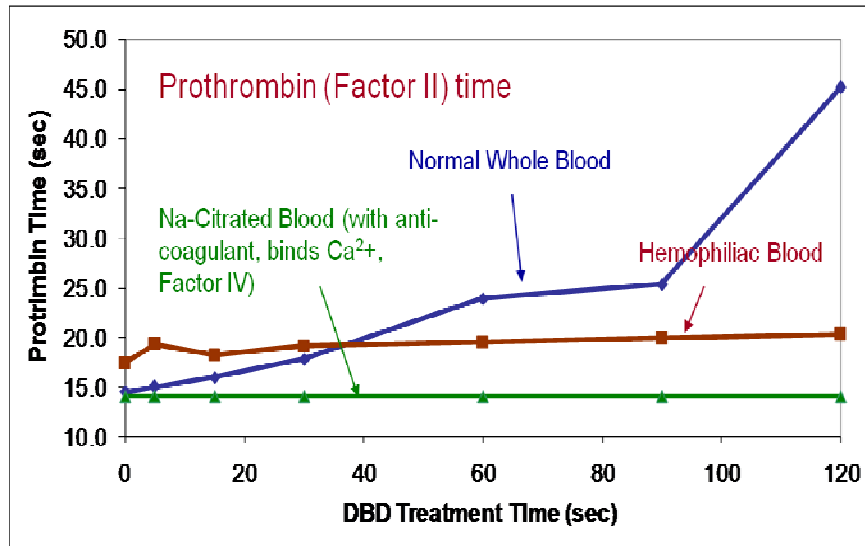
FE-DBD stimulated blood coagulation



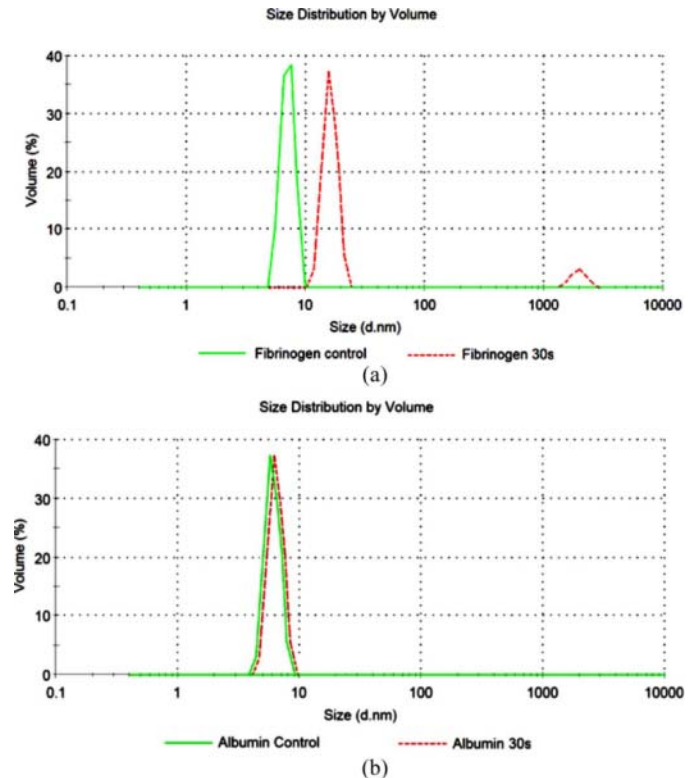
**10 seconds to stop
bleeding (10+ minutes
w/o plasma).**



Plasma Influences the Natural Blood Coagulation Mechanism



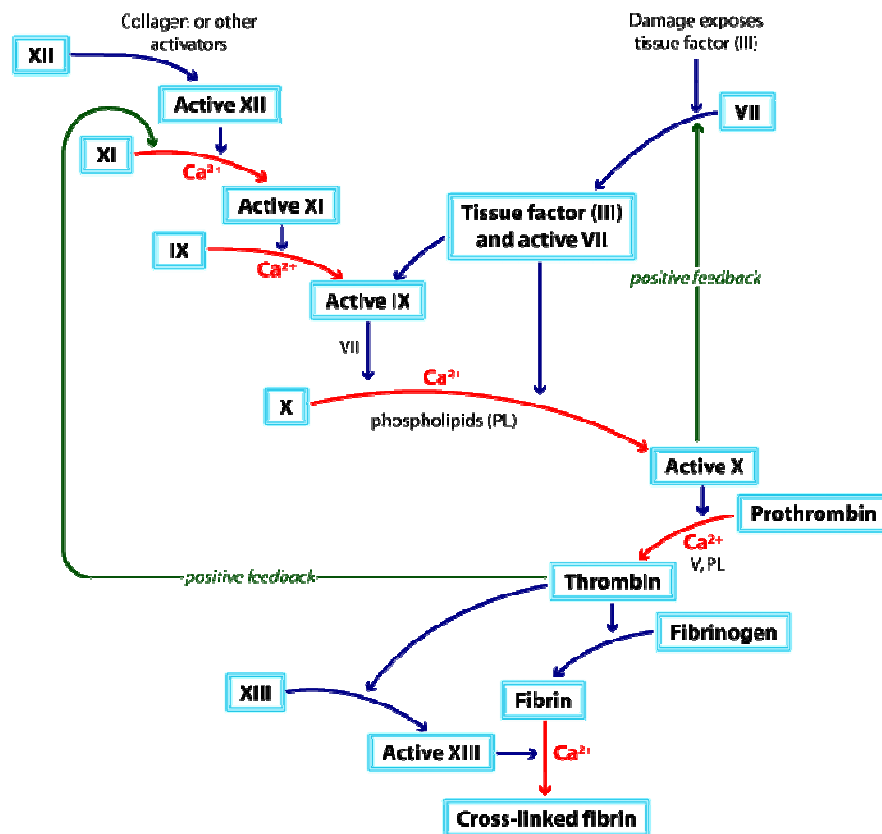
Prothrombin Time (PT) analysis:
Prothrombin (Factor II) time of residual blood increases 3 times after 120 seconds (120 J/cm^2) of DBD treatment.



Dynamic Light Scattering: (a) Fibrinogen and (b) Albumin

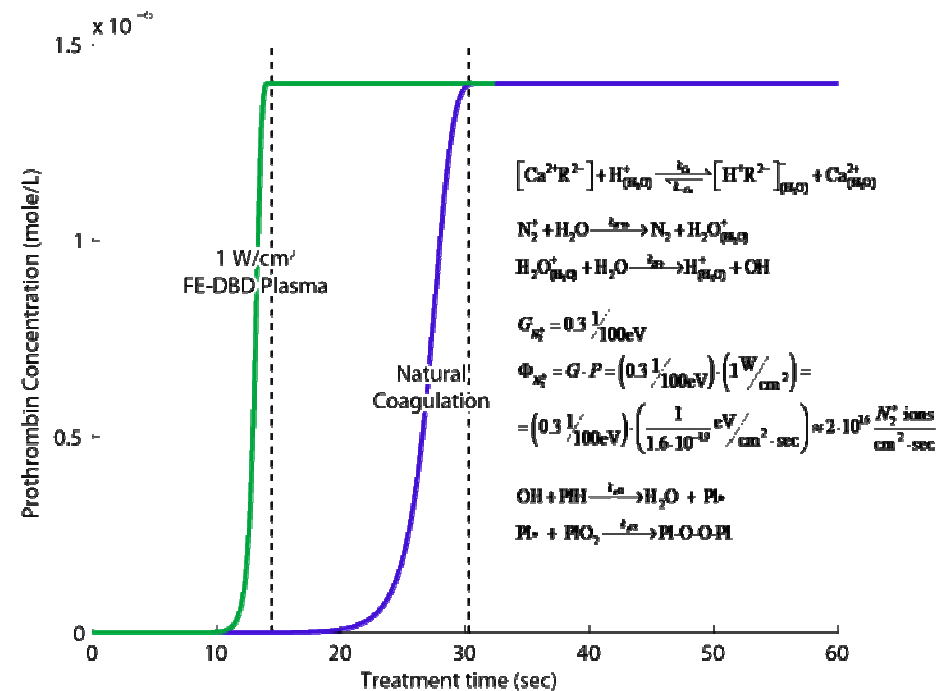
Albumin treated by plasma does not coagulate;
Fibrinogen, treated for the same time period,
coagulates, forming a cloudy solution

Natural Blood Coagulation: Plasma Influenced Increase in Effective Ion Concentrations



Blood coagulation cascade

- Ions catalyze many coagulation processes
- Increase in effective ionic concentration leads to rapid coagulation
- Plasma influences effective ionic concentrations in blood and thus may be able to catalyze the coagulation process



Natural Blood Coagulation: Platelet Activation by Plasma

Untreated:

(a) Citrated whole blood (control) showing a single activated platelet (white arrow) on a red blood cell (black arrow).

(b) Citrated whole blood (control) showing many non-activated platelets (black arrows) and intact red blood cells (white arrows).

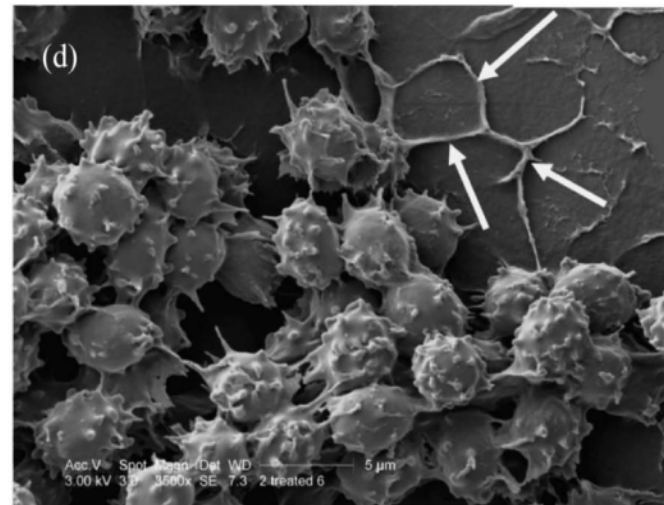
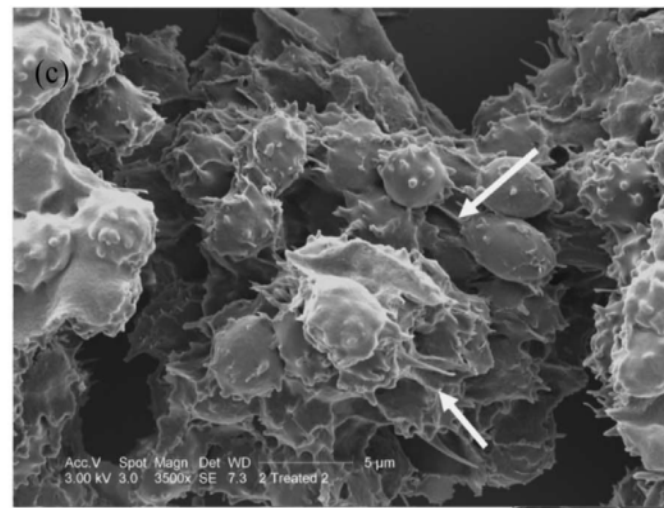
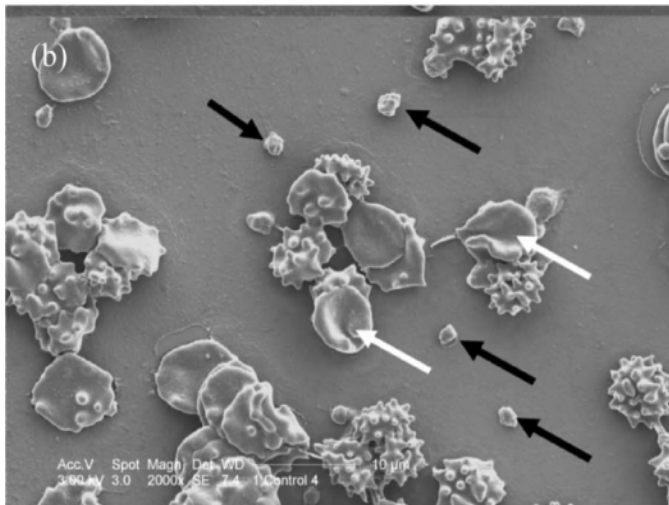
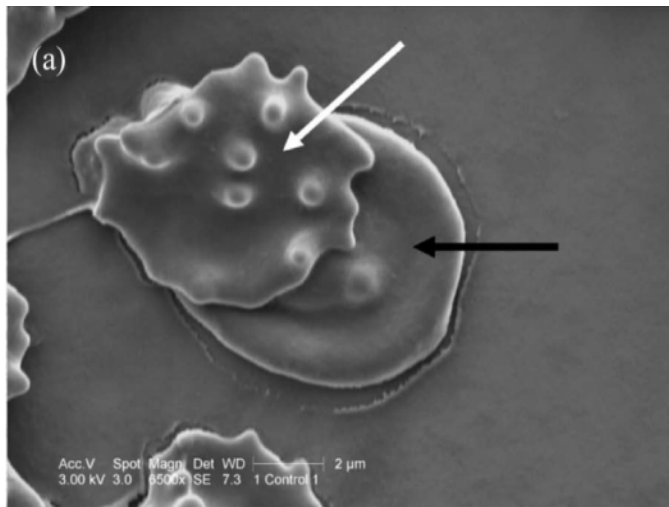
Treated:

(c) Citrated whole blood (treated) showing extensive **platelet activation** (pseudopodia formation) and **platelet aggregation** (white arrows).

(d) Citrated whole blood (treated) showing platelet aggregation and **fibrin formation** (white arrows).

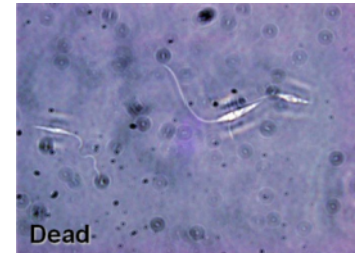
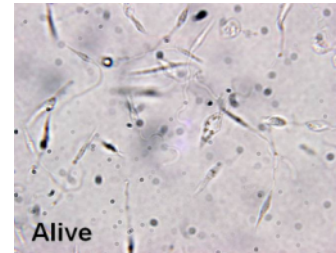
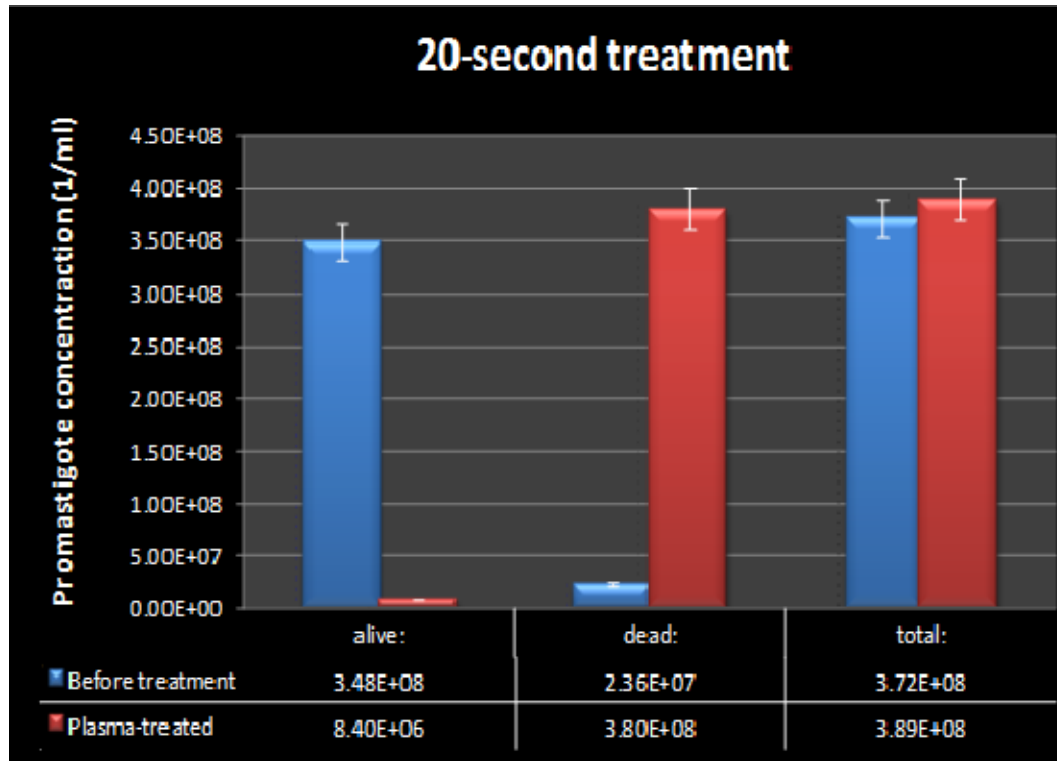
Plasma →

- * Platelet activation
- * Platelet aggregation
- * Fibrin formation

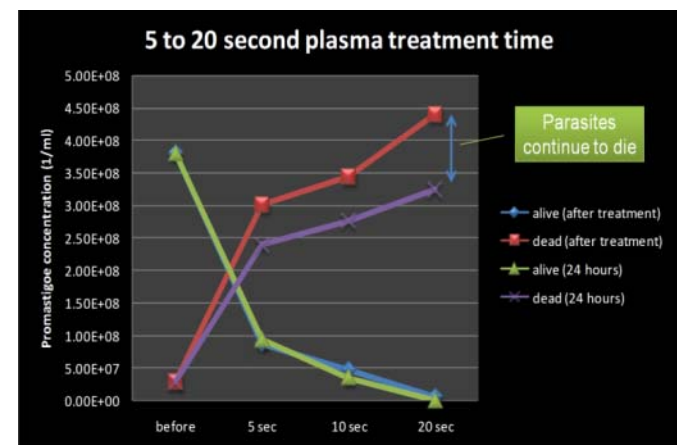


Skin Diseases

Plasma treatment of cutaneous Leishmaniasis



20 seconds of FE-DBD: 100% inactivation of *C. Leishmania* promastigotes
2 minutes of FE-DBD: ~20-50% inactivation of Macrophages



Plasma treatment inactivates *Helicobacter pylori* in Gastro-Duodenal Ulcers **Gastroenterology in-Vitro**

Treatment of bleeding peptic ulcers (BPU) for coagulation and eradication of ***Helicobacter pylori*** (Hp) was compared for argon plasma coagulation (APC) and cold plasma elimination (CPE).

FE-DBD cold plasma elimination was found to be an effective treatment against Hp without the extensive deep tissue damage observed in APC (0.5 – 3 mm).

Treatment was performed on Hp-infected mucosal membrane of the swine stomach.

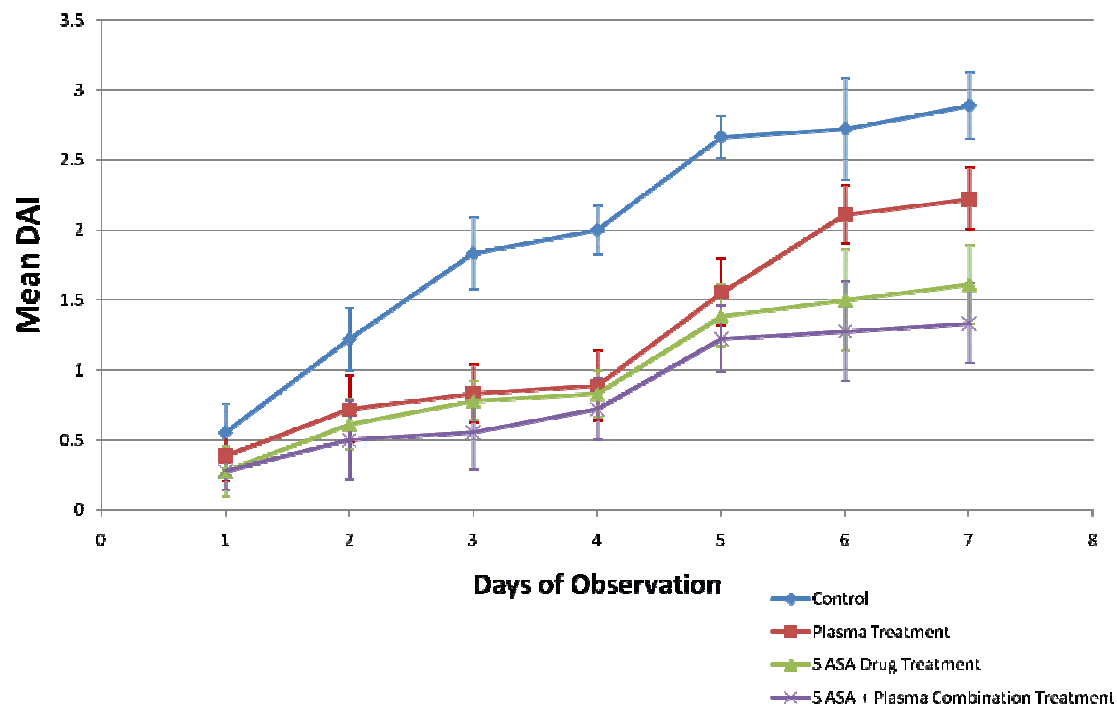


Gastroenterology in-Vivo



Treatment of Crohn's Disease

Progress of Colitis



- Animals are fed 2.5% DSS all through the study.
- Plasma probe is inserted 4 cm into the colon through the anal verge and plasma is applied for stipulated time.
- Plasma treatment is given on every alternate day (3 treatments / experiment).
- 5 – ASA drug is administered everyday through the 7 days.
- Results of “mouse” experiments: **plasma treatment stopped progression of colitis**. Through “antioxidant” properties of plasma (due to ↑acidity (positive ions $\Rightarrow H^+(H_2O)$))

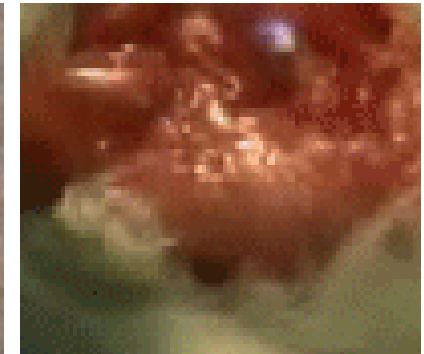
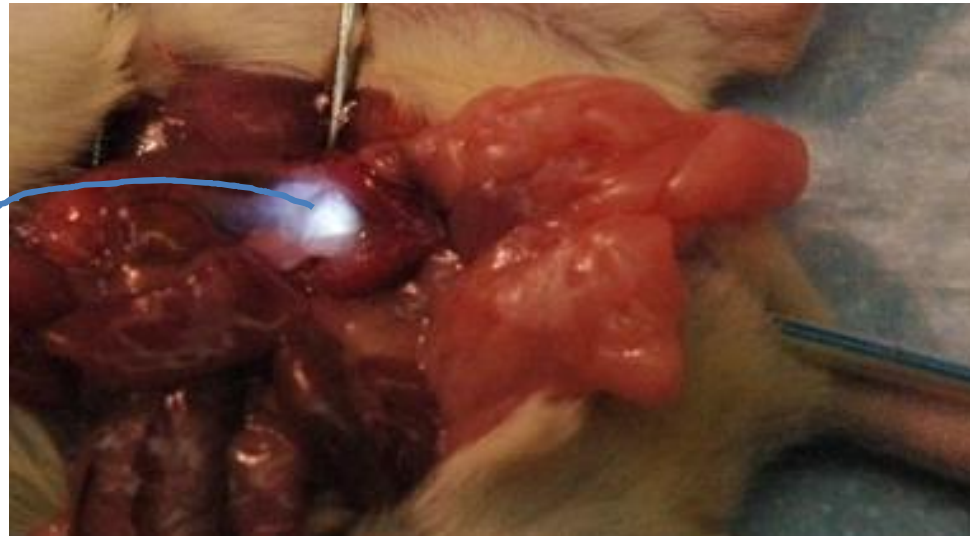
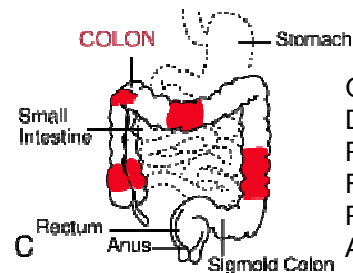
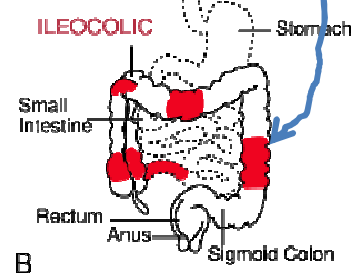
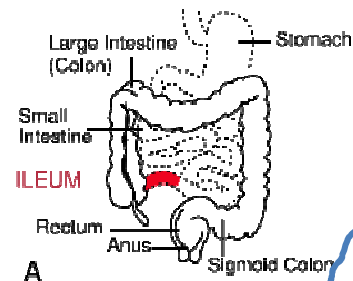
- Qualitative experiment: oxidation of Cu in $H_2O_2(aq)$ with and w/o Ar plasma.
- Result: oxidation rate of $H_2O_2 < H_2O_2 + \text{plasma}$



K. Chakravarthy, et al., ICPM-2, March 16-20, 2009, San Antonio, Texas.

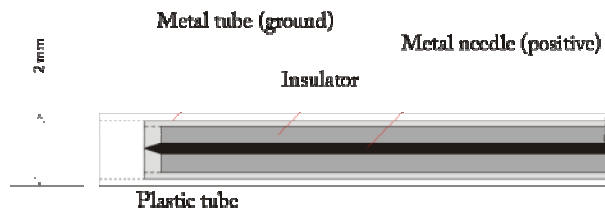
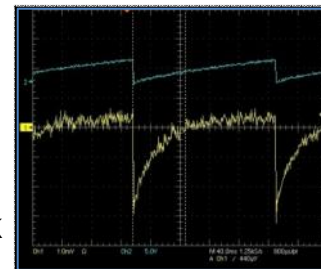
K. Chakravarthy, et al., DDW 2009, Digestive Disease Week, Chicago, IL, May 30 - June 4, 2009.

Treatment of Inflammatory Bowel Diseases: Crohn's Disease & Ulcerative Colitis



Plasma can be safely applied to treatment of gastrointestinal diseases.

Gas: atmospheric air
Discharge voltage: 0.5 - 1 kV
Plasma afterglow diameter: 2 - 3 mm
Frequency: 1 - 7 Hz
Pulse duration: 30 ms
Average plasma gas temperature: 300 K



K. Chakravarthy, et al., ICPM-2, March 16-20, 2009, San Antonio, Texas.

K. Chakravarthy, et al., DDW 2009, Digestive Disease Week, Chicago, IL, May 30 - June 4, 2009.

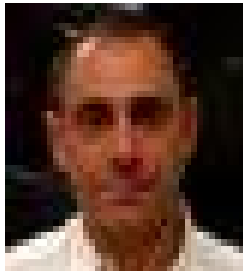
Multi-Disciplinary Effort Requires a Multi-Disciplinary Team



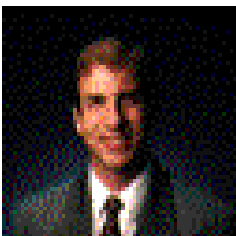
College of Engineering



College of Medicine



College of Arts
and Sciences



School of
Biomedical Engineering



