



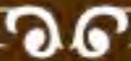
# An Introduction to Tissue Engineering

Lesley W. Chow

[lesley.chow@lehigh.edu](mailto:lesley.chow@lehigh.edu)  
October 30, 2015

# The Brown and White

All the Lehigh news first since 1894



NEWS

LIFESTYLE

SPORTS

OPINION

MULTIMEDIA

CONTACT US

ADVERTISE

MORE ▾

YOU ARE AT: [Home](#) » [News](#) » [Bear sighted on Lehigh's Goodman Campus](#)

## Bear sighted on Lehigh's Goodman Campus

Q 0

BY DANIELLE DISTEFANO PUBLISHED JUNE 26, 2015, 3:09 PM

NEWS, TOP STORIES

**lehighvalleylive.com**

## Bear captured after surprising party near Lehigh campus

Steve Novak | For lehighvalleylive.com By Steve Novak | For lehighvalleylive.com

[Email the author](#) | [Follow on Twitter](#)

on June 27, 2015 at 1:35 PM, updated June 27, 2015 at 2:40 PM

An early morning party near **Lehigh University's** campus was startled by an unexpected guest wandering through South Side **Bethlehem**.

**City police** responded to a flood of 911 calls for a black bear roaming the city about 2 a.m. Saturday near Fifth and Pierce streets, Chief **Mark DiLuzio** said.

"I guess the bear must have gone to the party -- near the party -- and surprised a bunch of people," he said.



**disclosure:**  
not Lehigh bear

# Tissue Engineering is...

***“an interdisciplinary field that applies the principles of engineering and life sciences towards the development of biological substitutes that restore, maintain, or improve tissue function or a whole organ”***

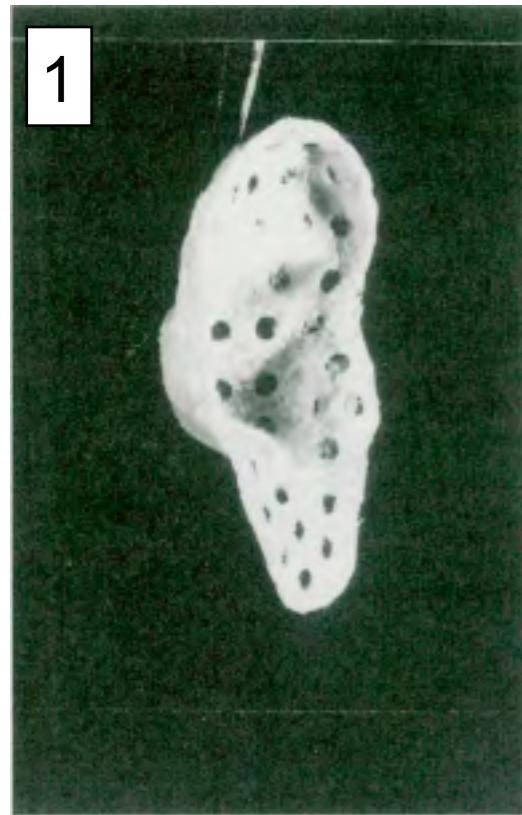
Langer and Vacanti, *Science* 1993

# Classic Tissue Engineering: The Vacanti Mouse



*landmark study from 1997 that helped launched the field*

# Classic Tissue Engineering: The Vacanti Mouse

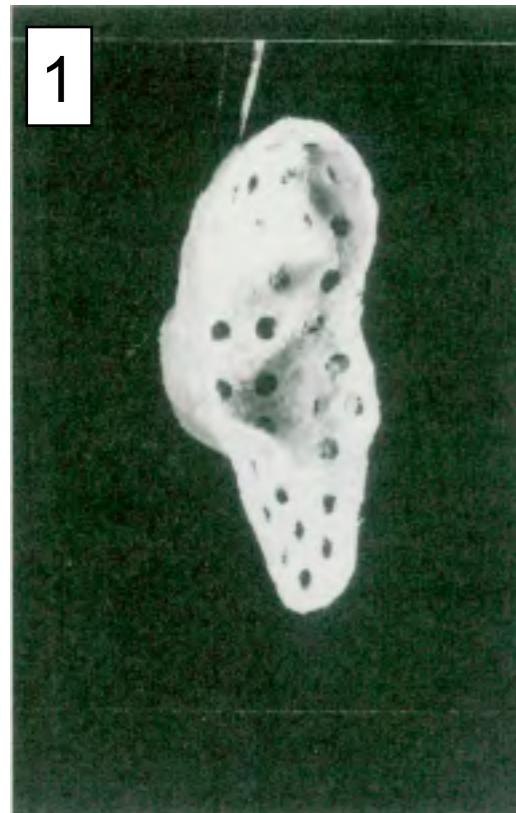


1

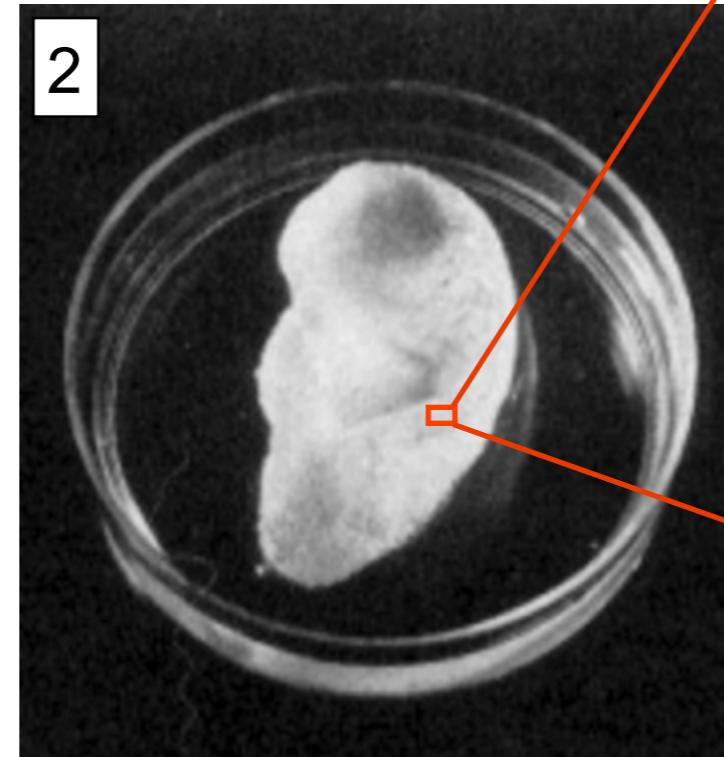
1

scaffold made from  
poly(glycolic acid)  
(PGA) and poly(lactic  
acid) (PLA) cast from  
plaster replica of an  
actual ear

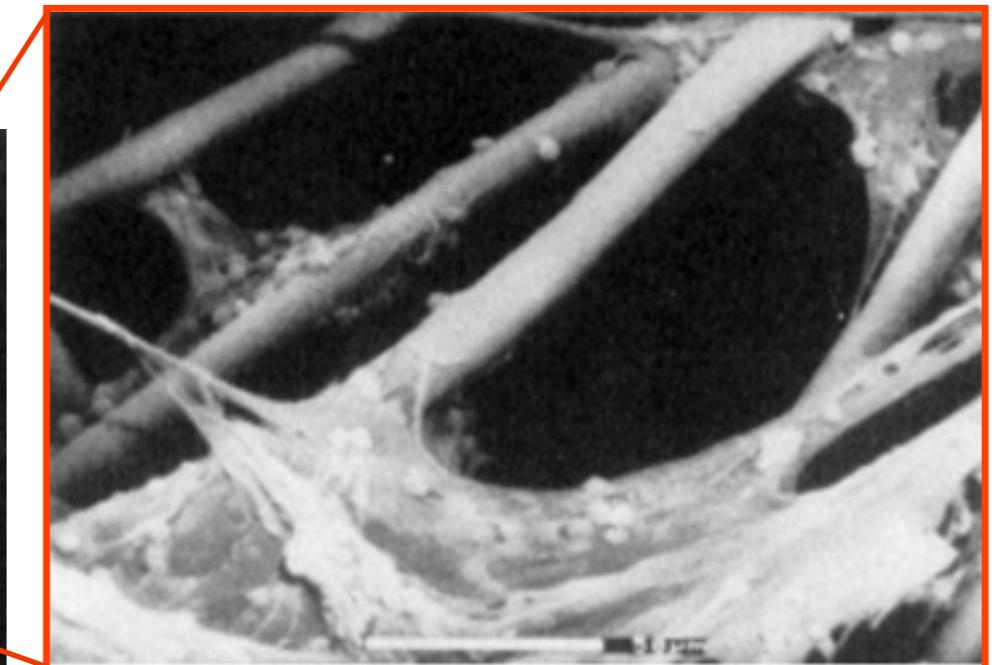
# Classic Tissue Engineering: The Vacanti Mouse



1



2



SEM micrograph showing cells and ECM on scaffold

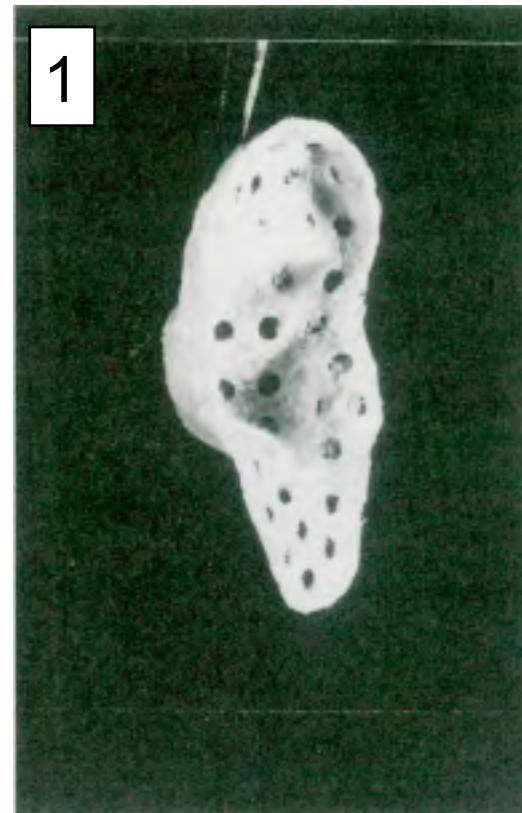
1

scaffold made from poly(glycolic acid) (PGA) and poly(lactic acid) (PLA) cast from plaster replica of an actual ear

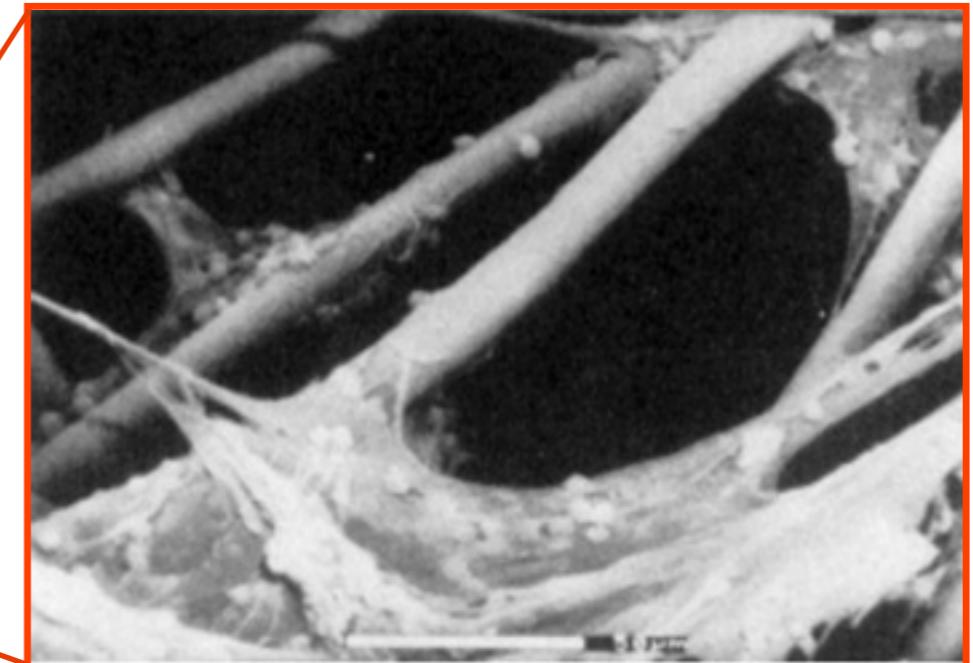
2

scaffold seeded with chondrocytes and cultured for 1 week

# Classic Tissue Engineering: The Vacanti Mouse



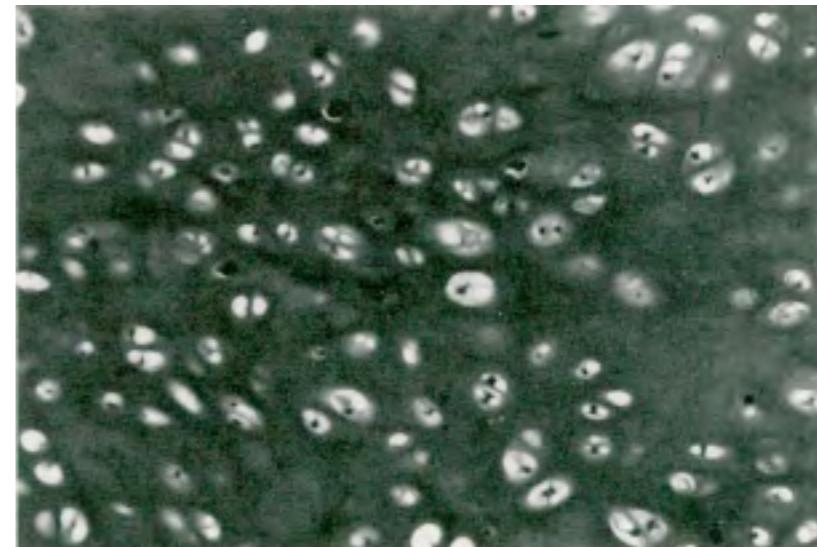
1  
scaffold made from poly(glycolic acid) (PGA) and poly(lactic acid) (PLA) cast from plaster replica of an actual ear



2  
scaffold seeded with chondrocytes and cultured for 1 week  
3  
implanted subcutaneously on the back of a mouse



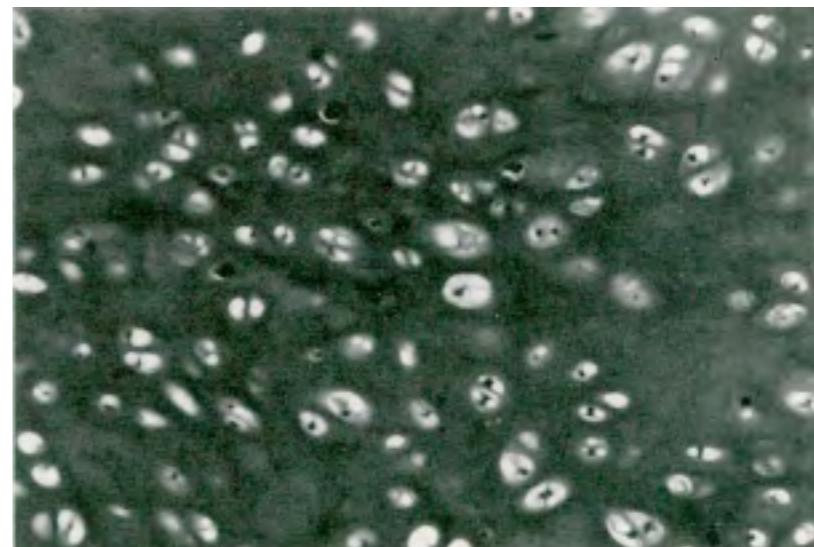
# The Vacanti Mouse set the tone for TE field



histology of construct at 6 weeks

- Extensive cartilage formation
- Anatomical shape could be maintained (with external stenting)

# The Vacanti Mouse set the tone for TE field

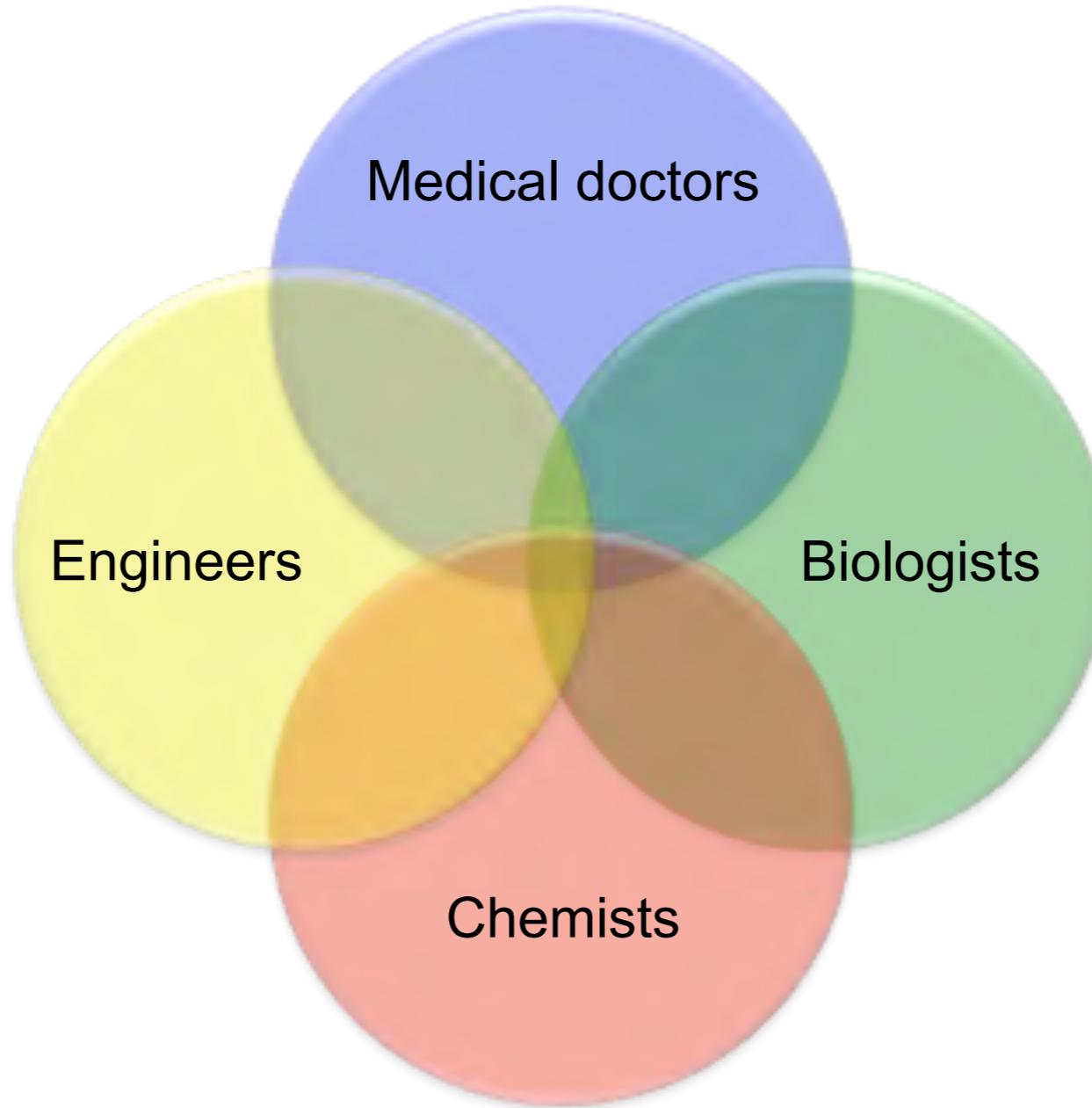


histology of construct at 6 weeks

- Extensive cartilage formation
- Anatomical shape could be maintained (with external stenting)

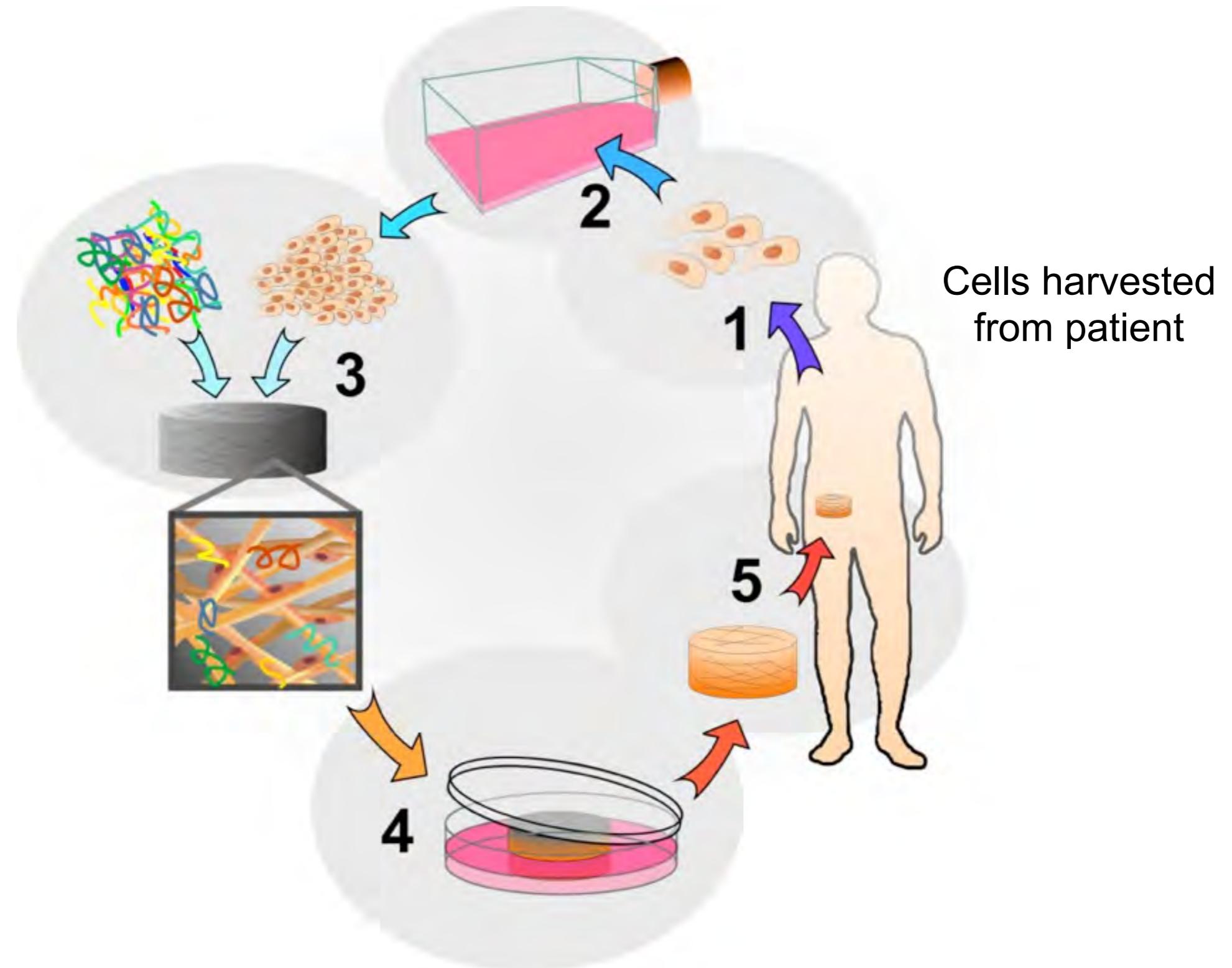
**Interdisciplinary study involving materials science,  
chemistry, biology, and medicine**

# Tissue engineering is multidisciplinary by necessity

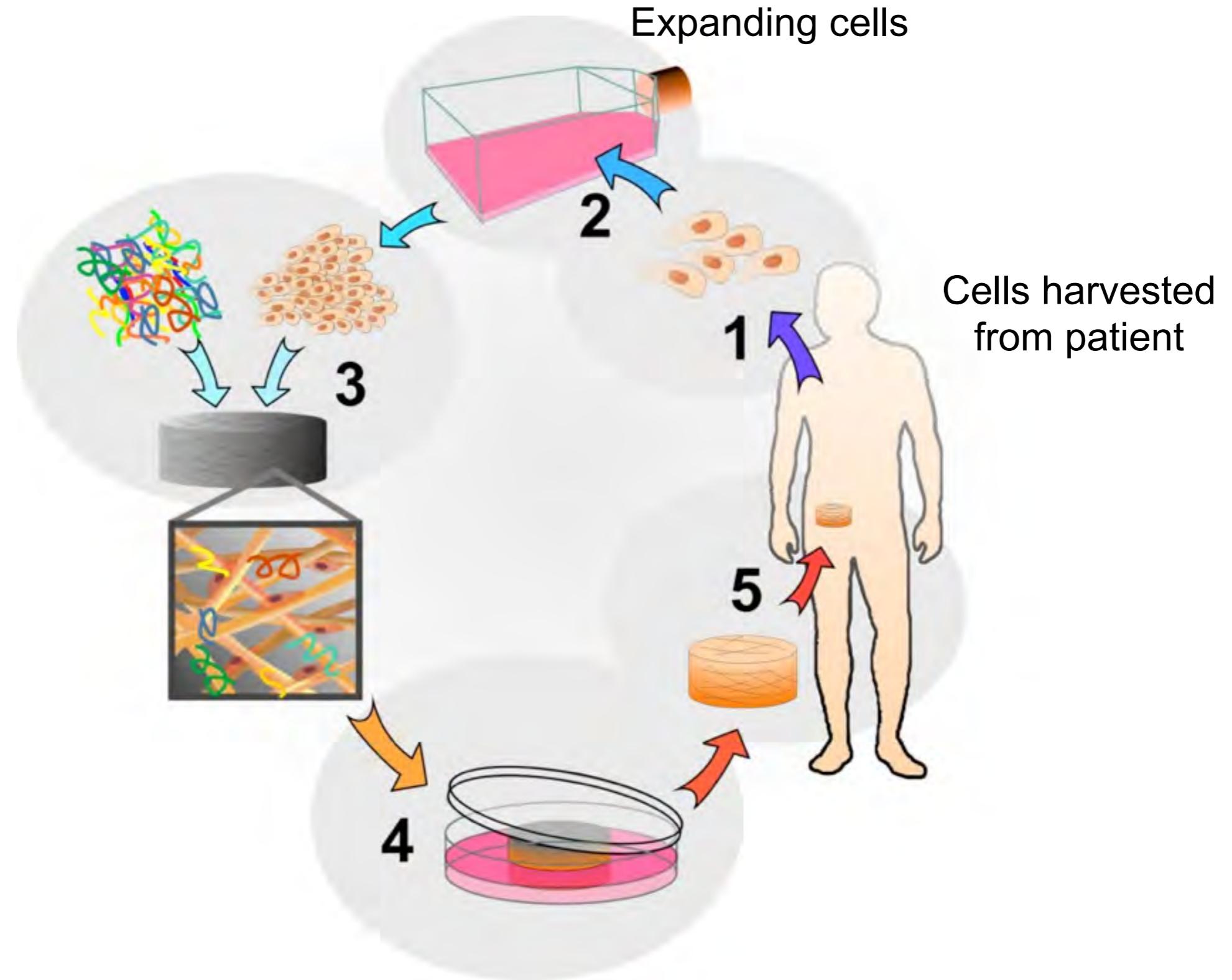


*“an **interdisciplinary** field that applies the **principles of engineering and life sciences** towards the development of biological substitutes that **restore, maintain, or improve tissue function or a whole organ**”*

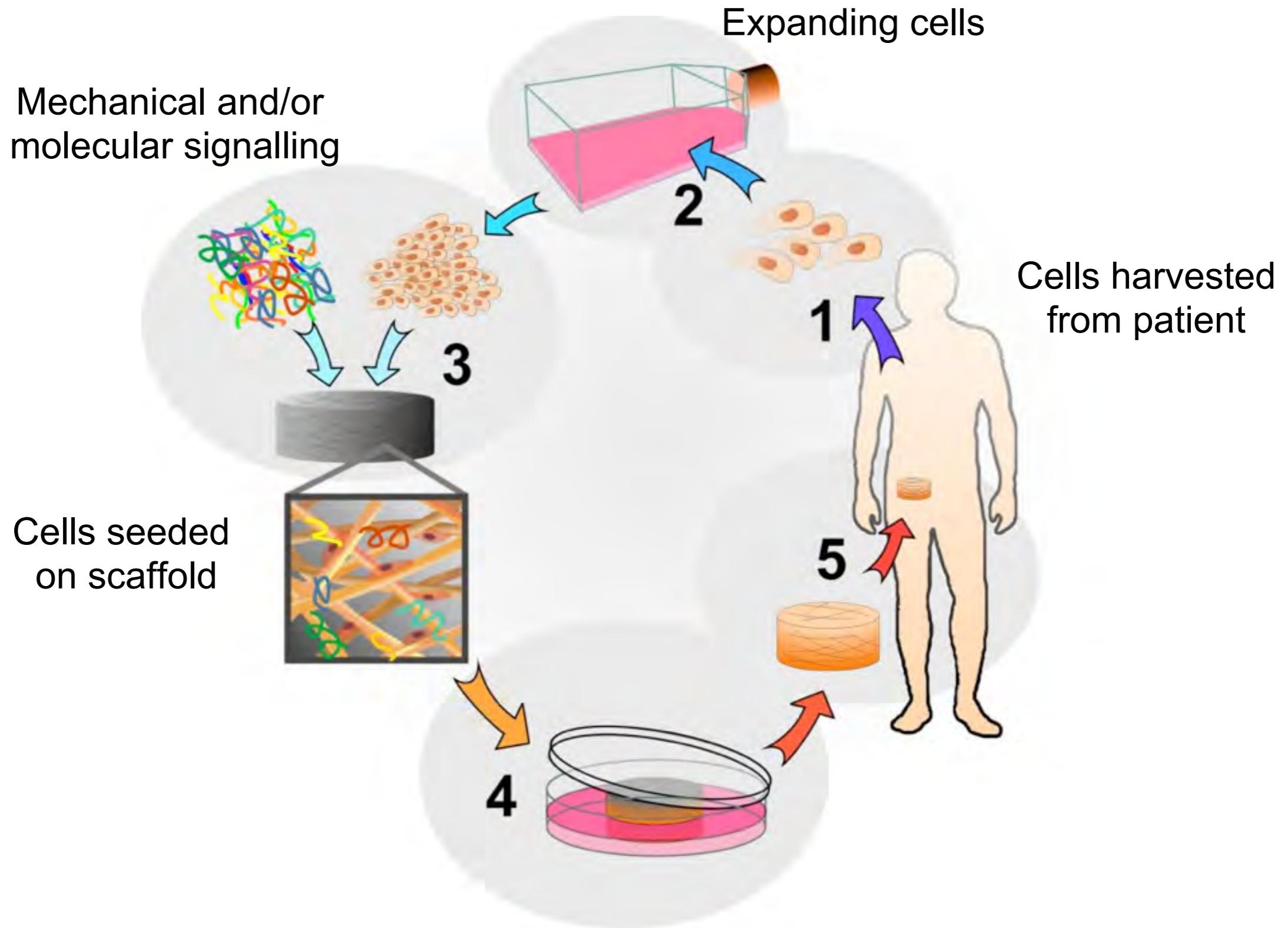
# Paradigm of tissue engineering



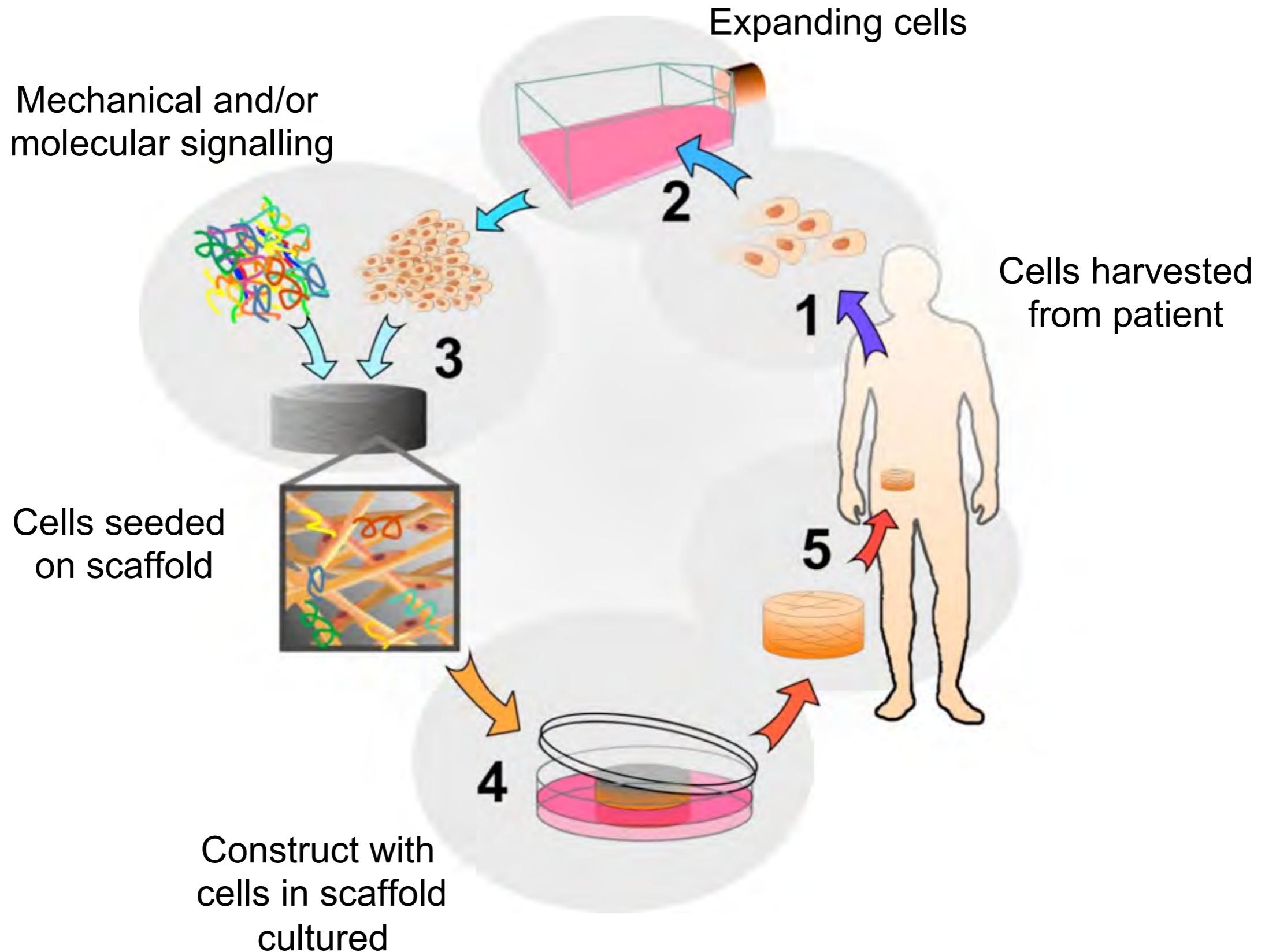
# Paradigm of tissue engineering



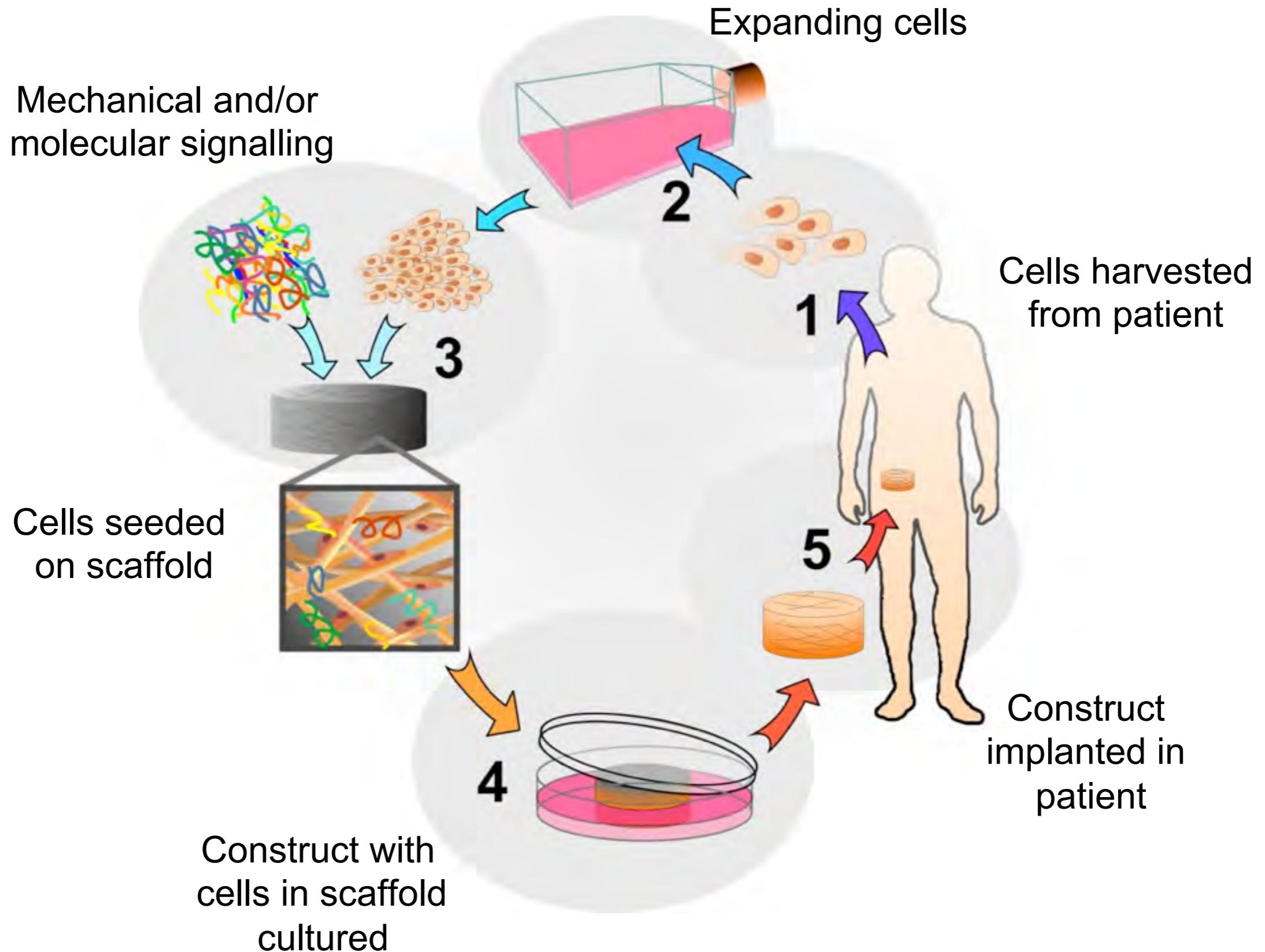
# Paradigm of tissue engineering



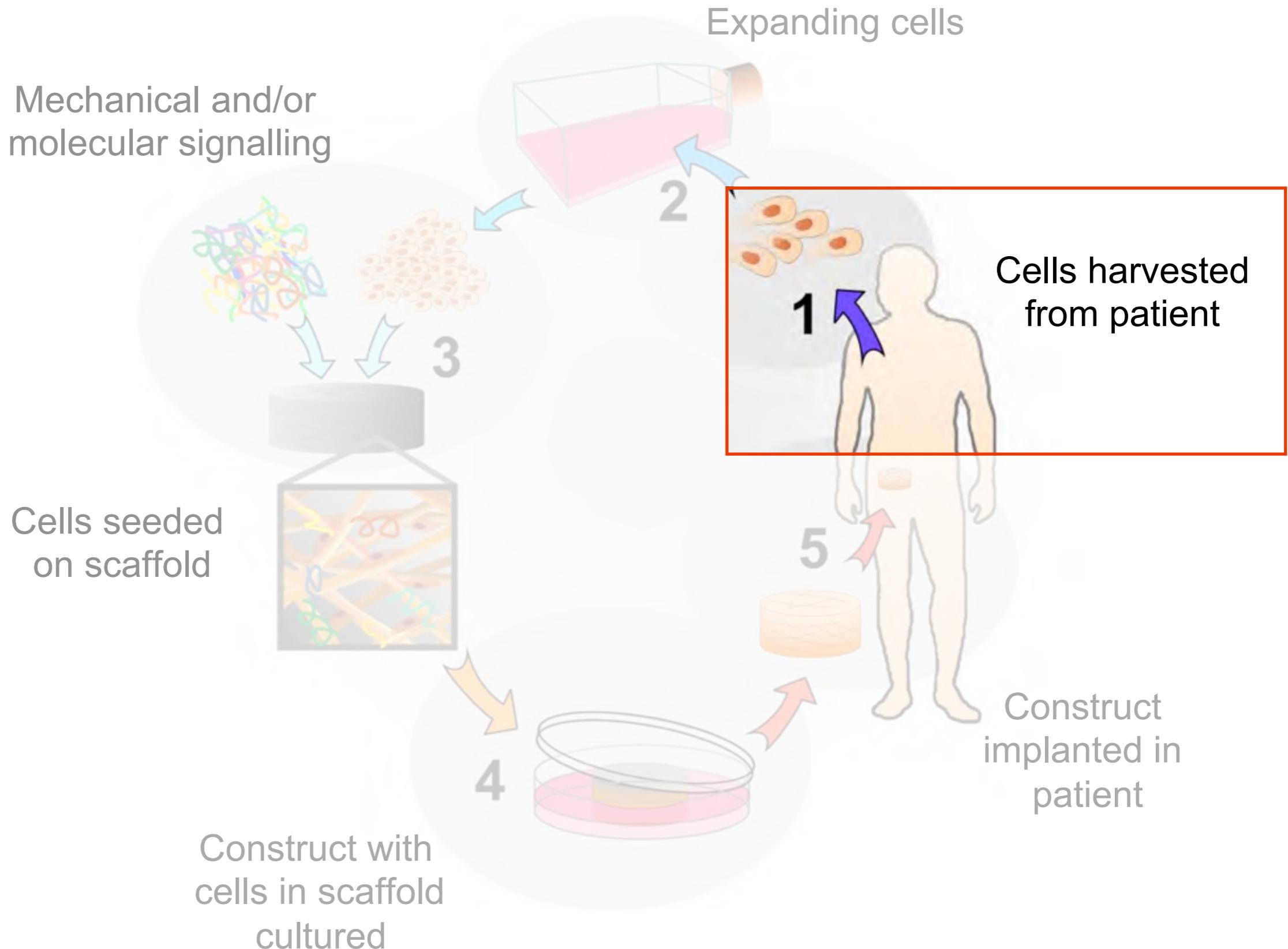
# Paradigm of tissue engineering



# Paradigm of tissue engineering



# Where do we get the cells?



# Cell source: autologous, allogenic, xenogenic?

## Autologous cells:

- avoids rejection or pathogen transmission
- examples: blood, bone graft, skin graft, recellularizing a decellularized scaffold

but...

- pathology/disease may make cells unusable
- limited cell quantities
- time delay for expansion
- **COST**

# Cell source: autologous, allogenic, xenogenic?

## Autologous cells:

- avoids rejection or pathogen transmission
- examples: blood, bone graft, skin graft, recellularizing a decellularized scaffold

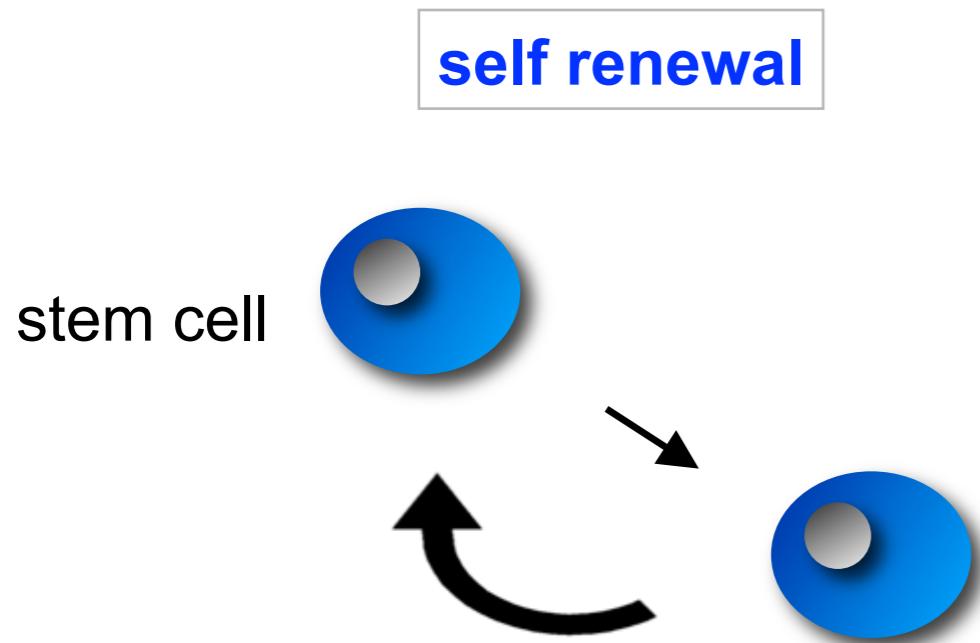
but...

- pathology/disease may make cells unusable
- limited cell quantities
- time delay for expansion
- **COST**

*What about stem cells?*

# The potential of stem cells

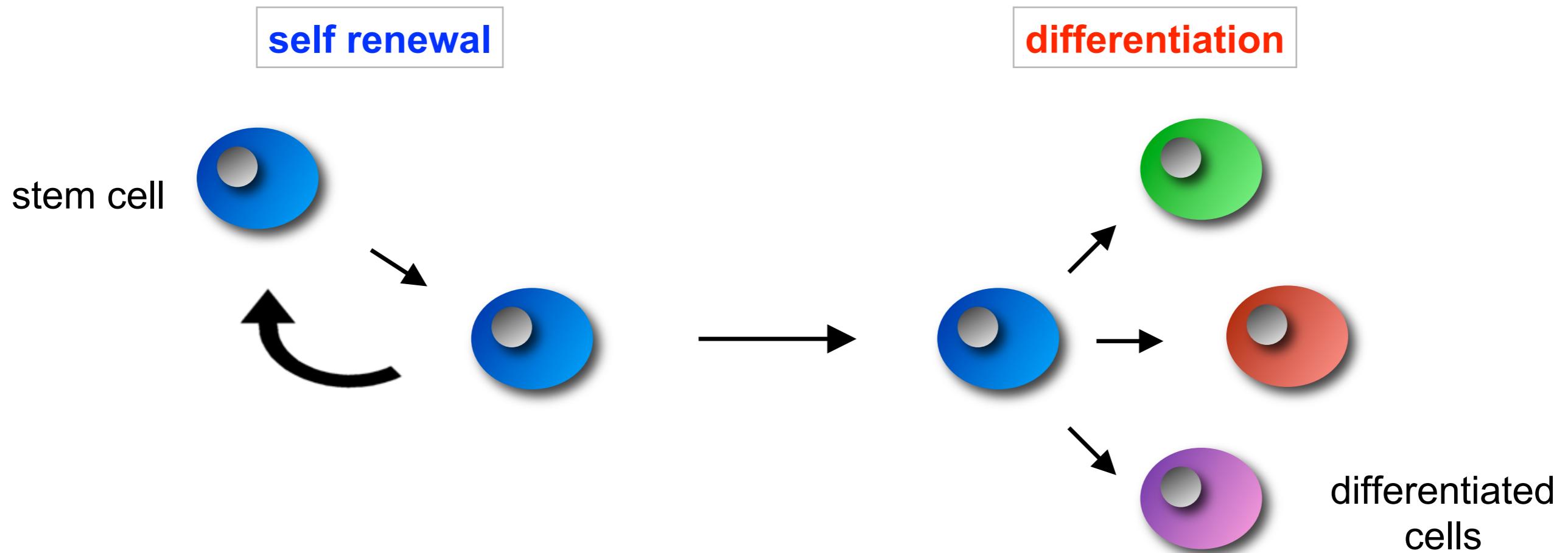
capable of **self-renewal**-- can divide and renew themselves for long periods



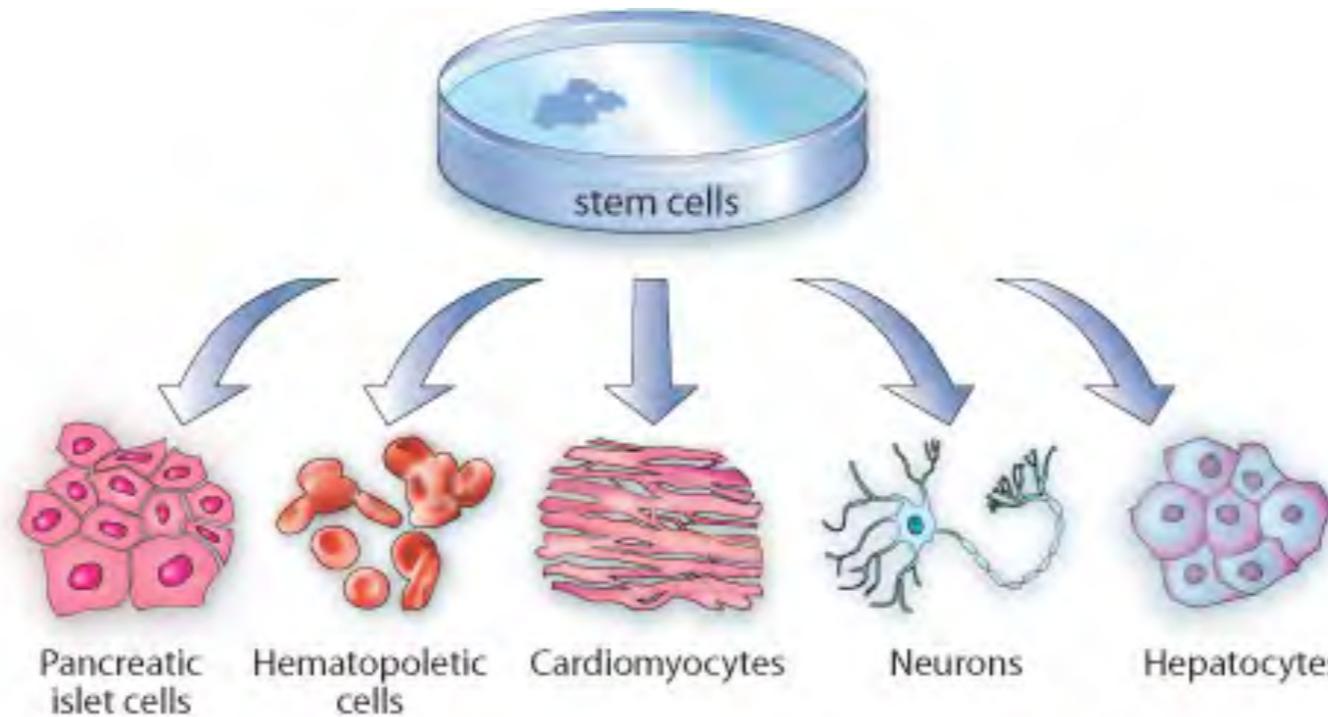
# The potential of stem cells

capable of **self-renewal**-- can divide and renew themselves for long periods

unspecialized cells that can **differentiate** into other types of cells



# Stem cell potency = differentiation capacity



## pluripotent

can become any cell type in the body

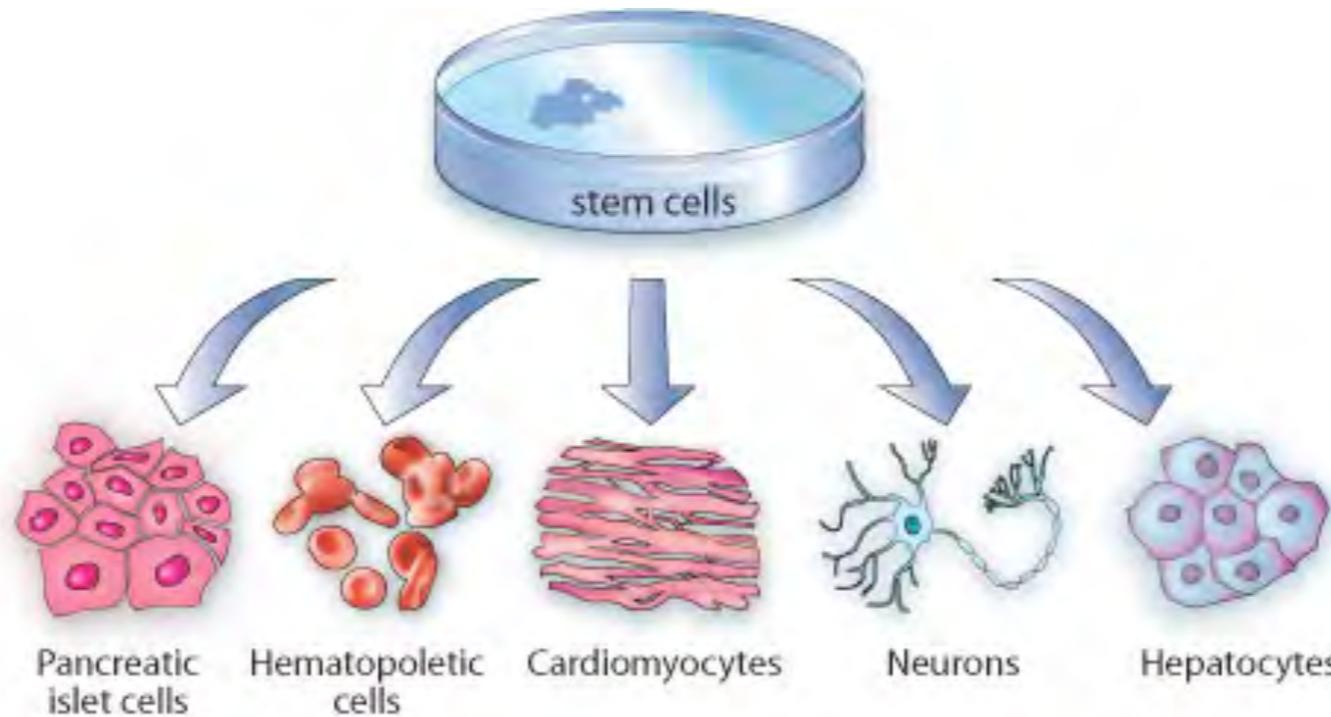
## multipotent

can become multiple but limited number of cell types

examples: embryonic stem cells, induced pluripotent stem cells

examples: adult stem cells

# The pros and cons of stem cells



## pluripotent

can become any cell type in the body

## multipotent

can become multiple but limited number of cell types

### PROS:

- enormous potential
- self-renewal

### PROS:

- derived from patient
- reduced risk of immune rejection

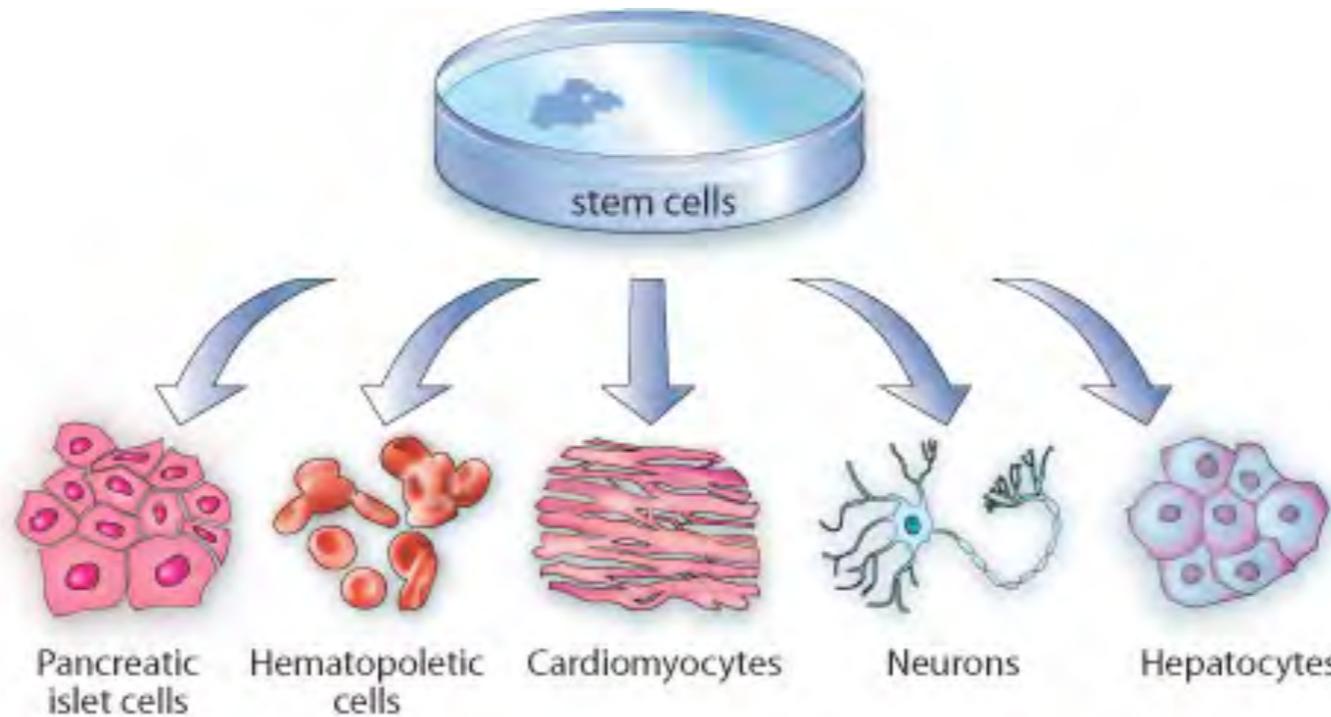
### CONS

- controversial source
- immune rejection
- risk of tumor

### CONS

- cannot differentiate into all cell types
- limited self-renewal
- rare in mature tissue

# The potential of stem cells is vast

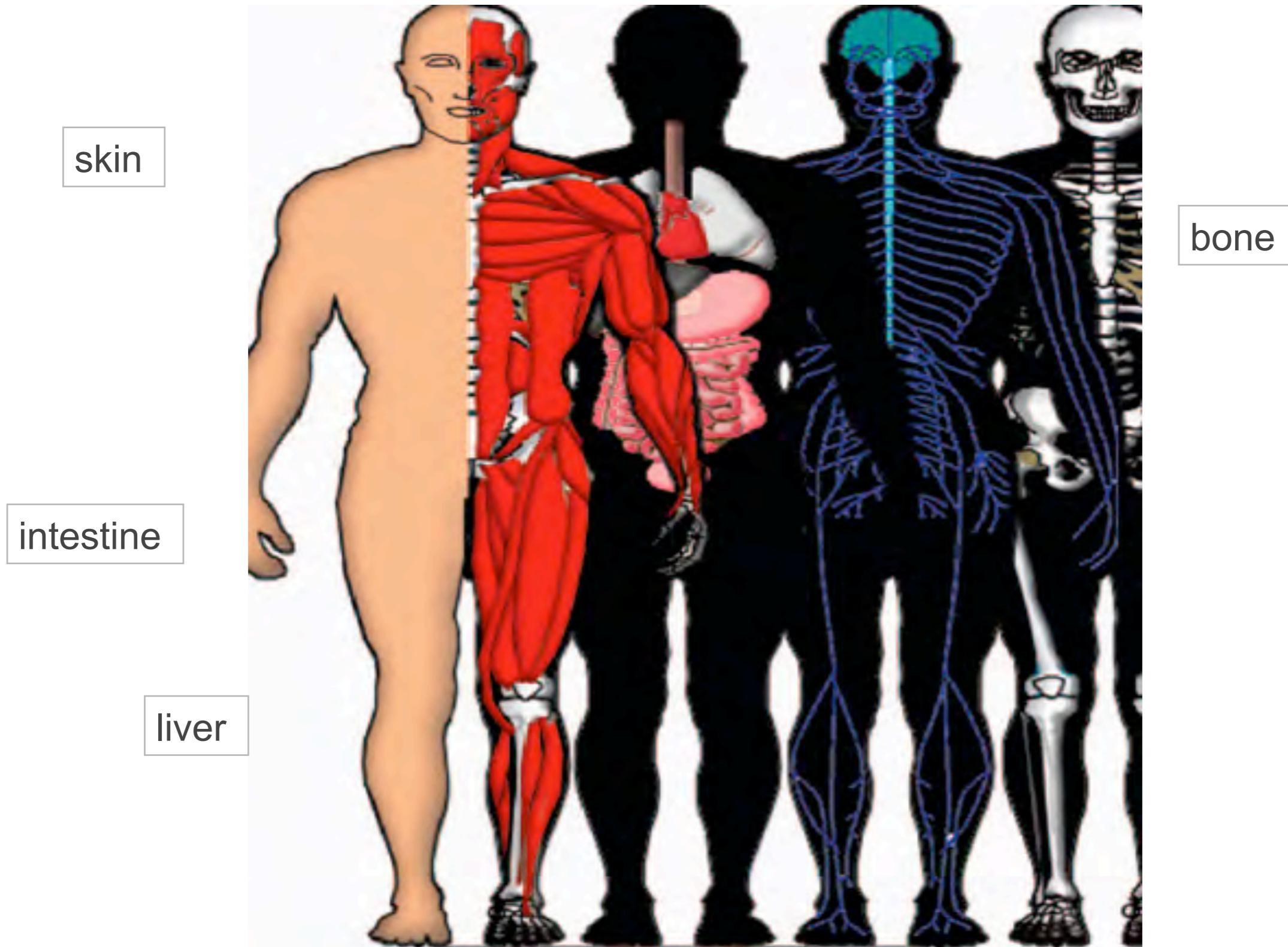


- renewable source of replacement cells and tissues to replace need for donors
- potential to treat diseases or injuries that affect tissues that cannot regenerate
- current research applications: cardiovascular disease, diabetes, osteoarthritis, spinal cord injury, Alzheimer's, strokes, burns, drug discovery,...

...especially for the salamander

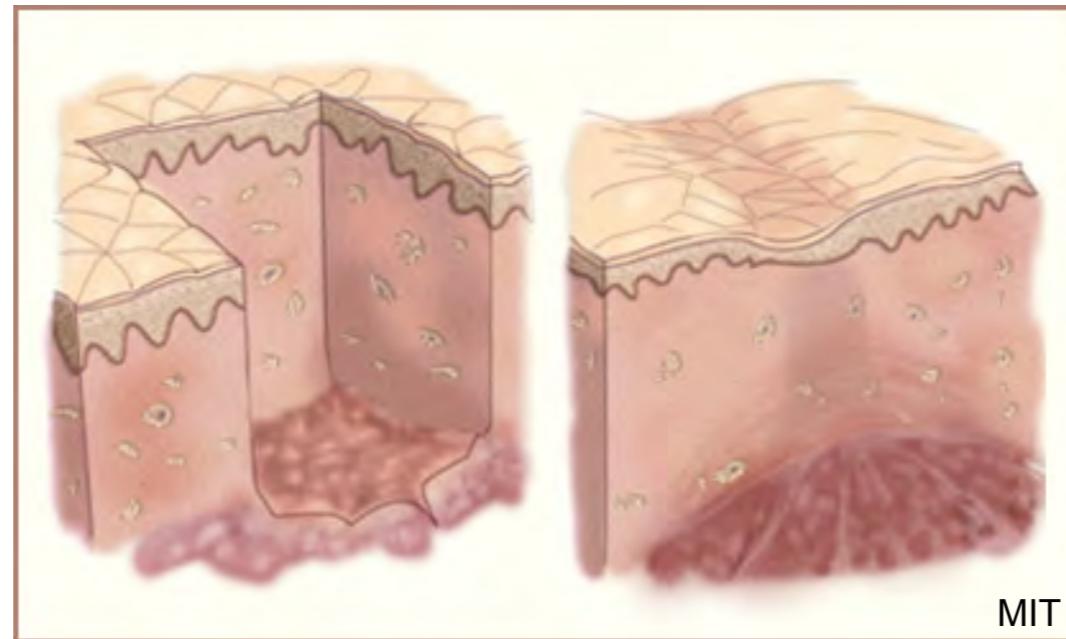


# Human body has capacity to repair and regenerate



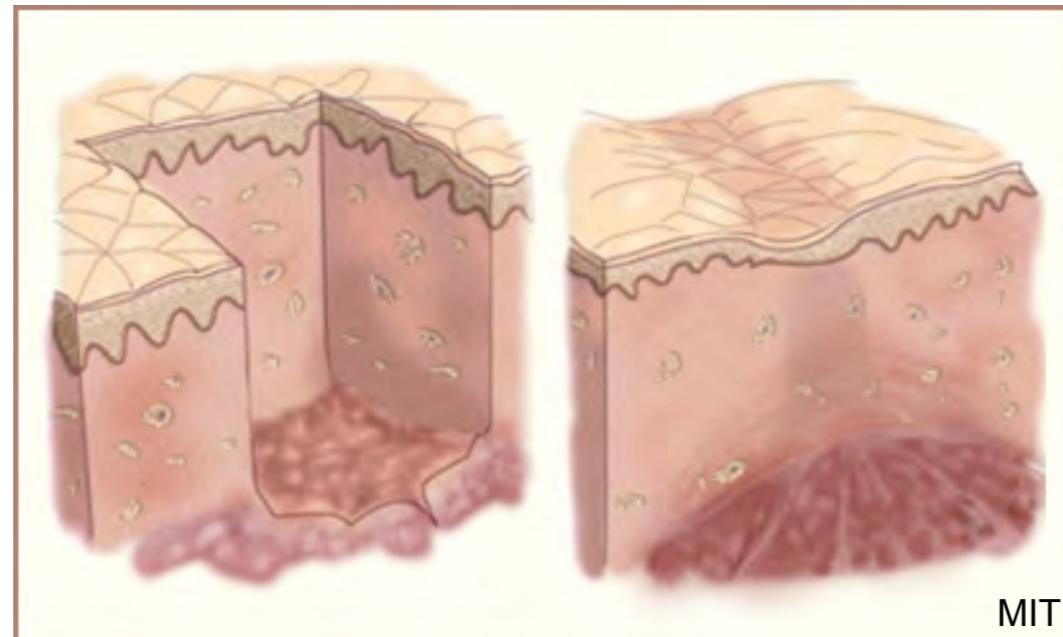
# Repair vs regeneration

**Repair** = reestablishing lost or damaged tissue to *retain continuity*



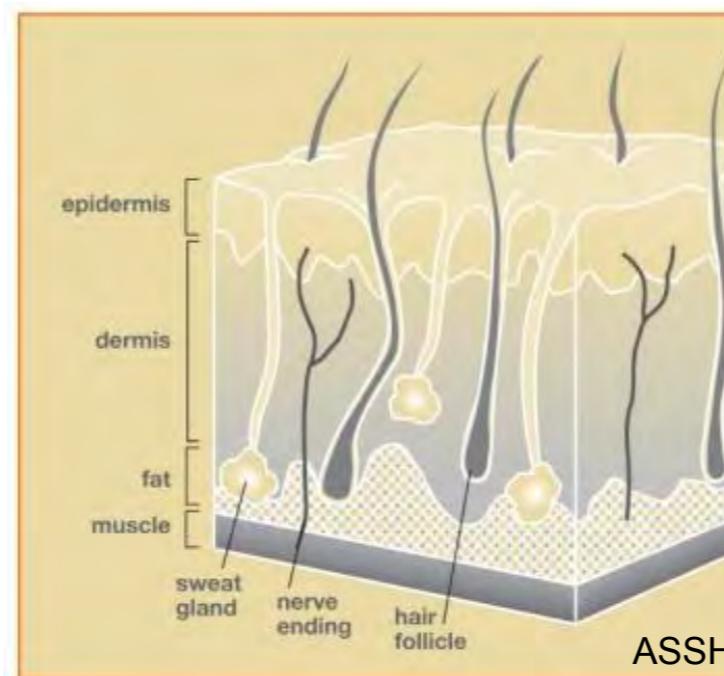
# Repair vs regeneration

**Repair** = reestablishing lost or damaged tissue to *retain continuity*



MIT

**Regeneration** = replacement of lost or damaged tissue with an exact copy so that *morphology and function are restored*



# Repair vs regeneration

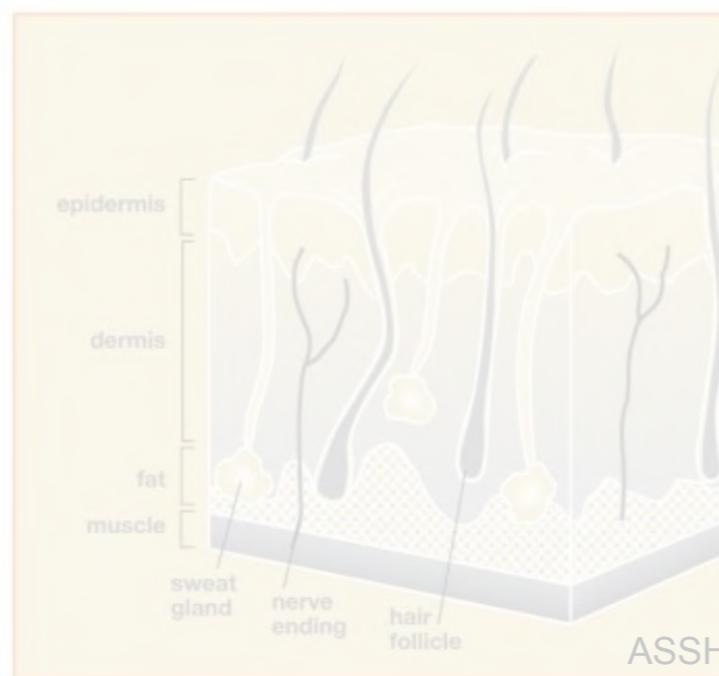
**Repair** = reestablishing lost or damaged tissue to *retain continuity*



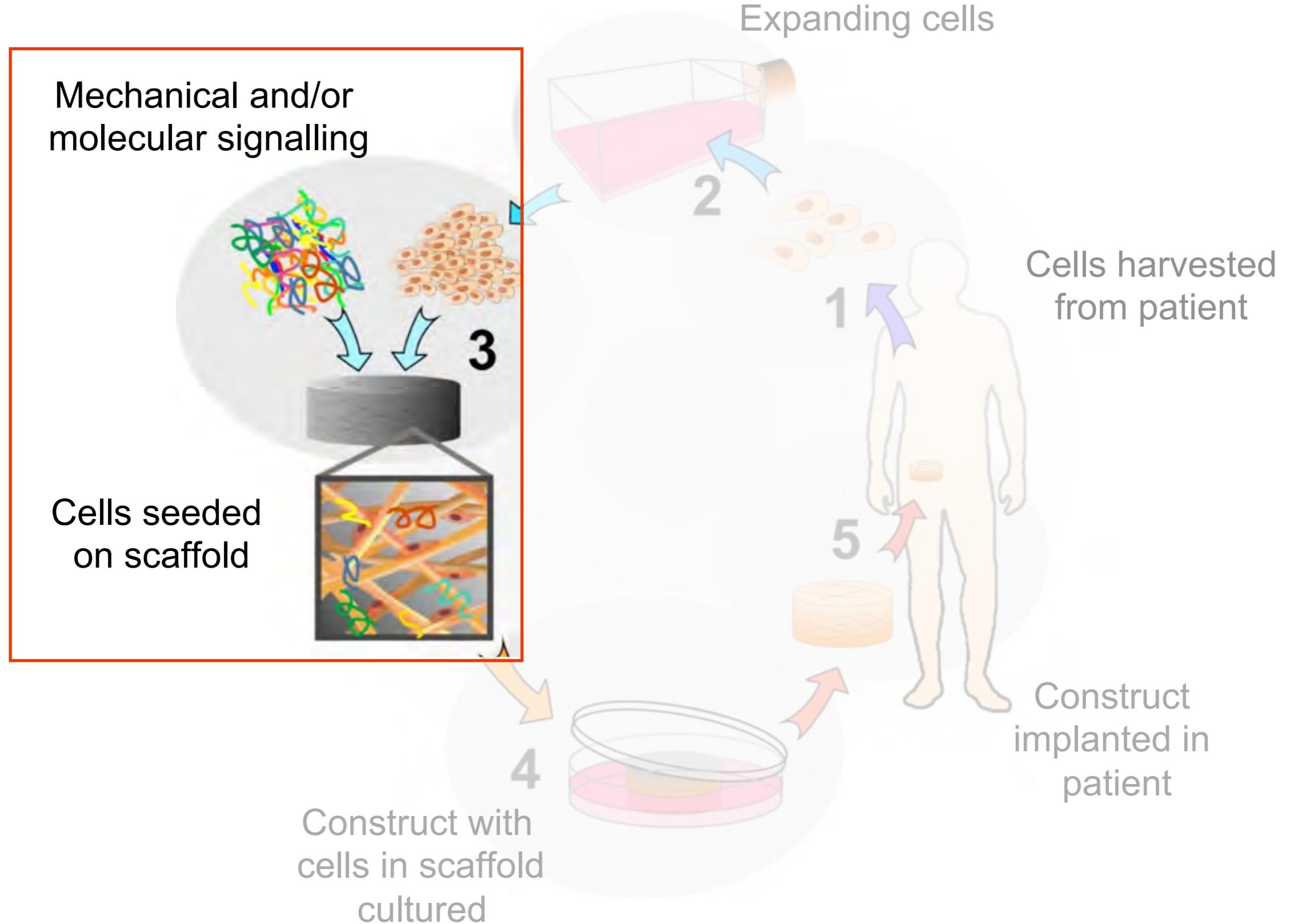
**Regenerative medicine** aims to replace, engineer, or regenerate human cells, tissues, or organs to restore or establish normal function

R

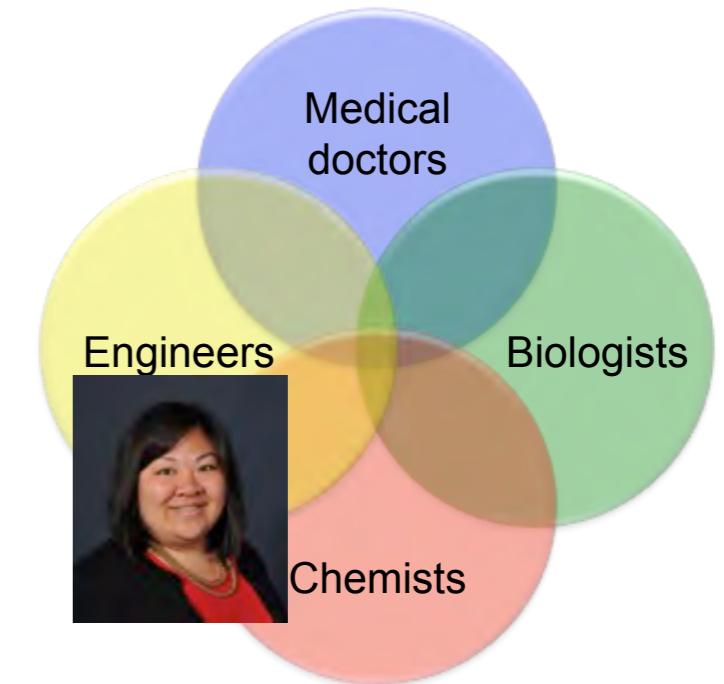
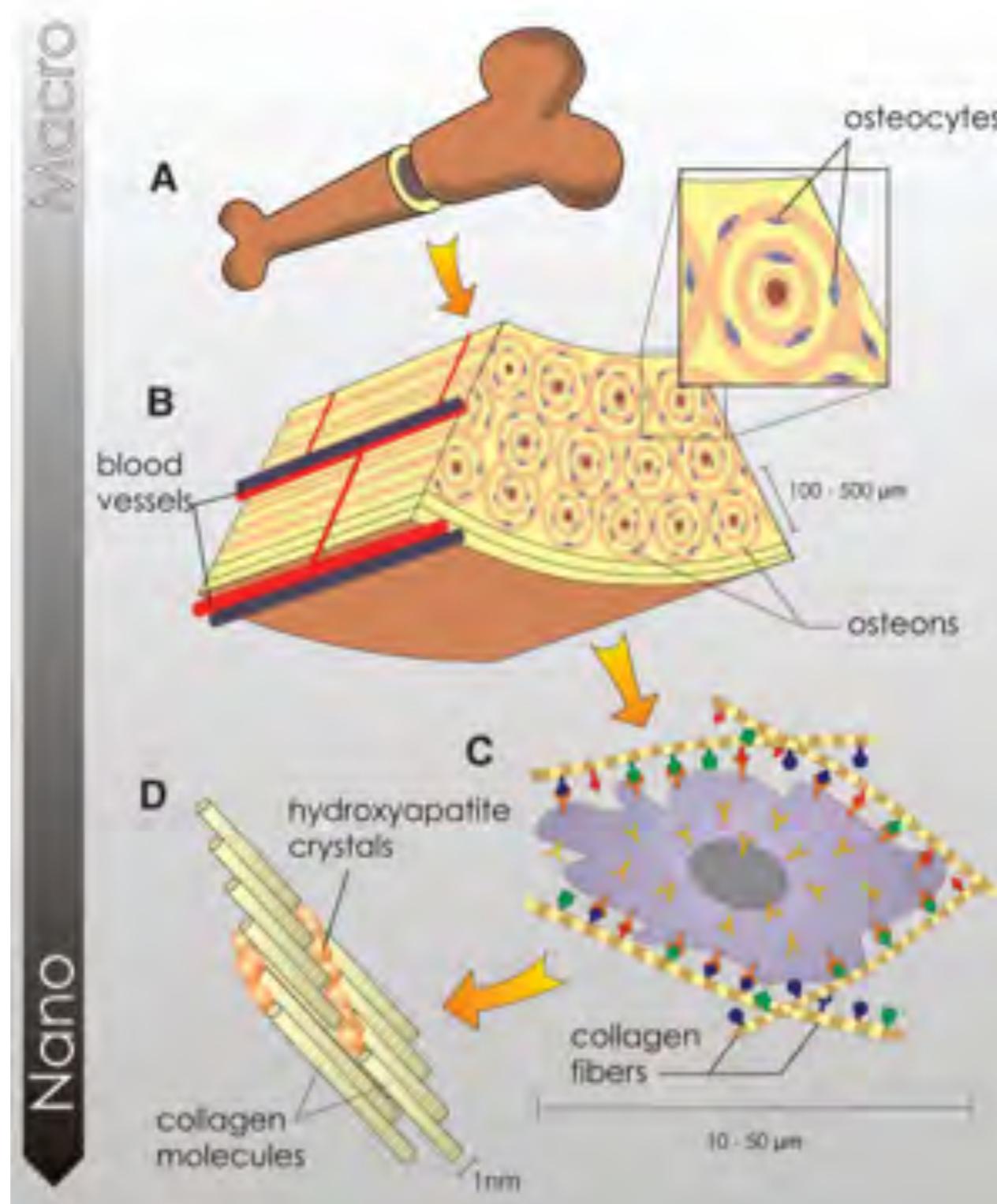
exact copy so that *morphology and function are restored*



# Can we create biomaterials to stimulate regeneration?

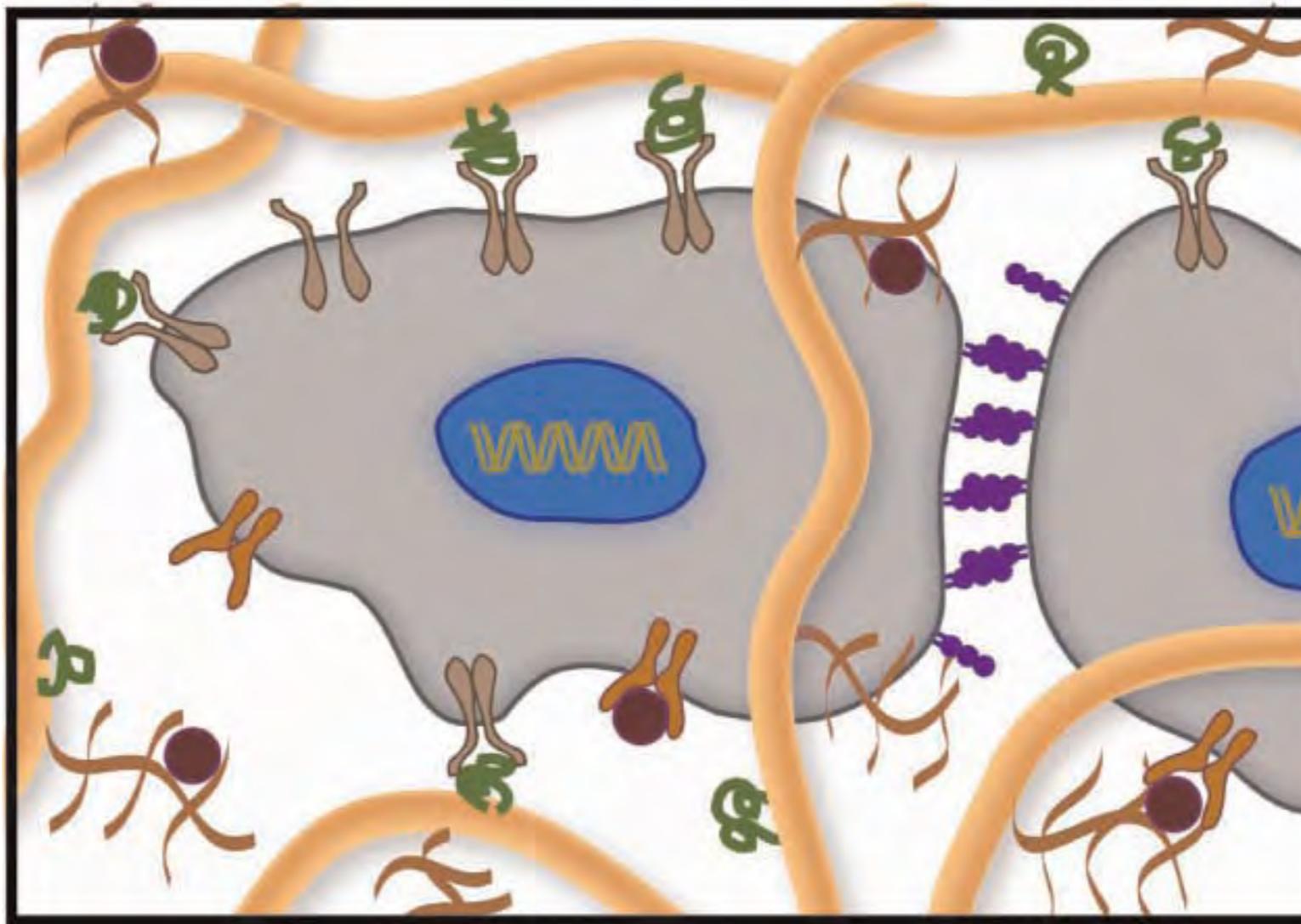


# Perspective from a materials scientist



*look at biological tissues as materials*

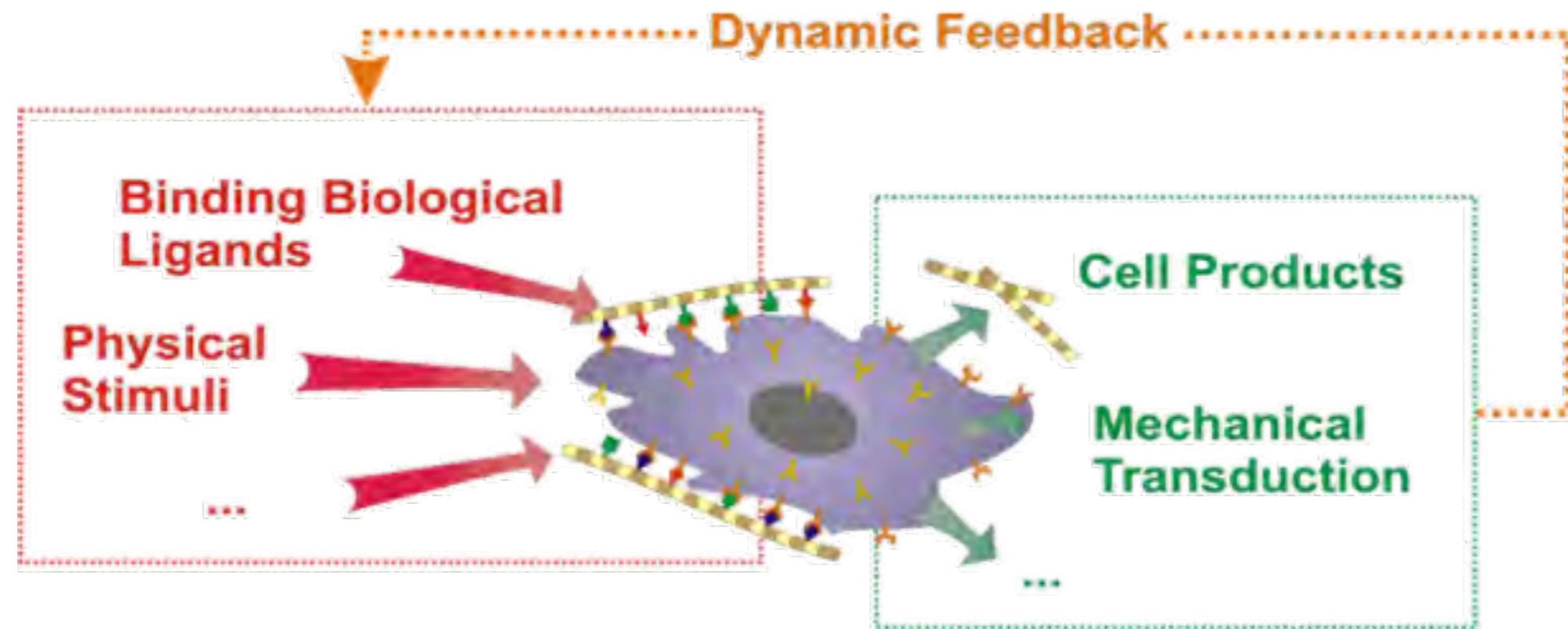
# Extracellular matrix (ECM): home for cells



Tibbitt & Anseth, *Biotech & Bioeng* 2009

- composed of many cross-linked proteins and biopolymers
- provides mechanical support
- regulates biological functions such as cell adhesion, proliferation, migration, differentiation, etc.

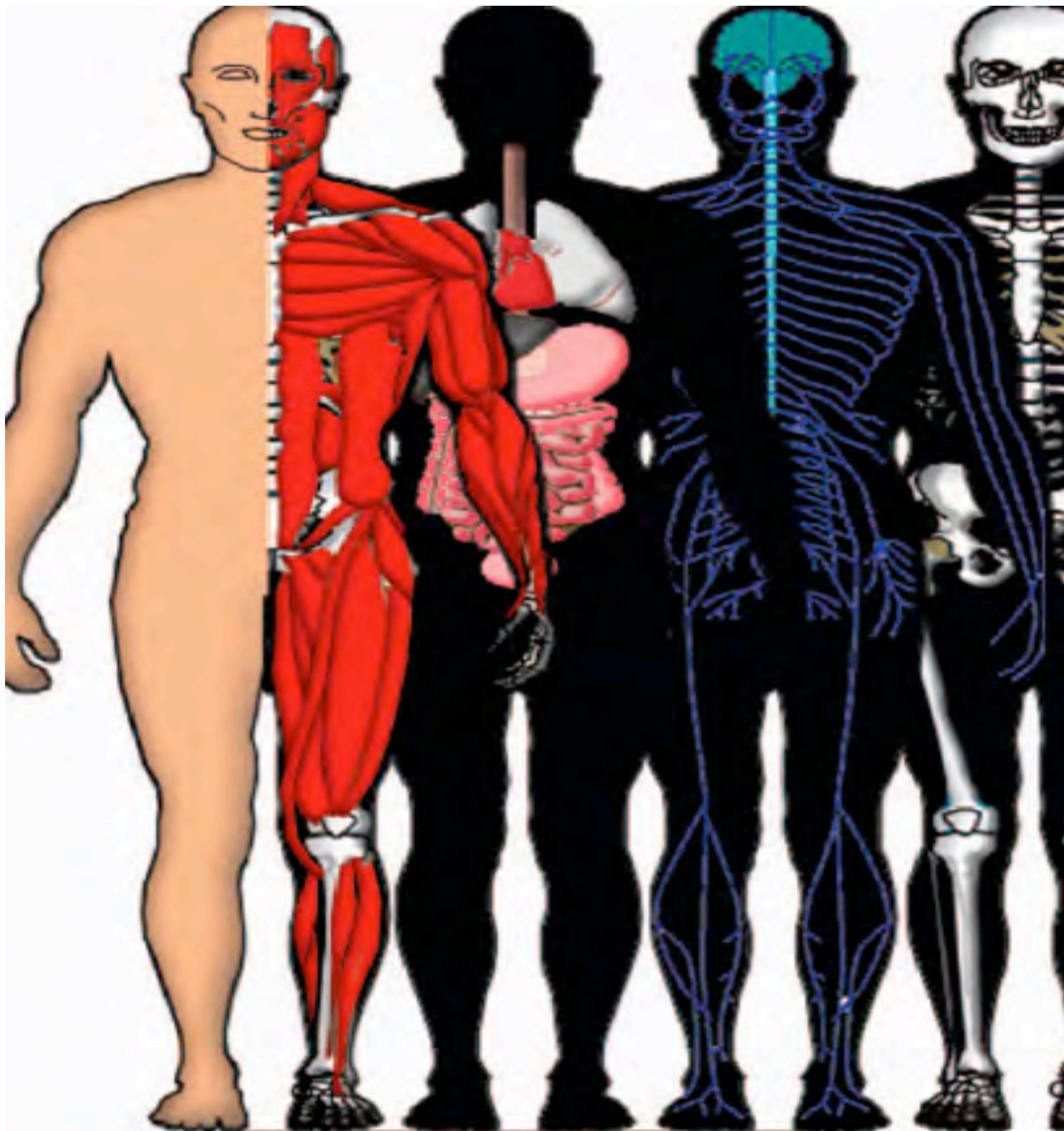
# Designing materials to mimic ECM to regenerate tissues



- apply principles and techniques from **materials science and engineering** to help understand biological processes and design systems
- take what we learn from nature to create **biomimetic materials** that can “jumpstart” regeneration

Can we mimic the ECM of biological tissues  
to ***direct the body to heal itself?***

# Tailoring biomaterials to the specific tissue



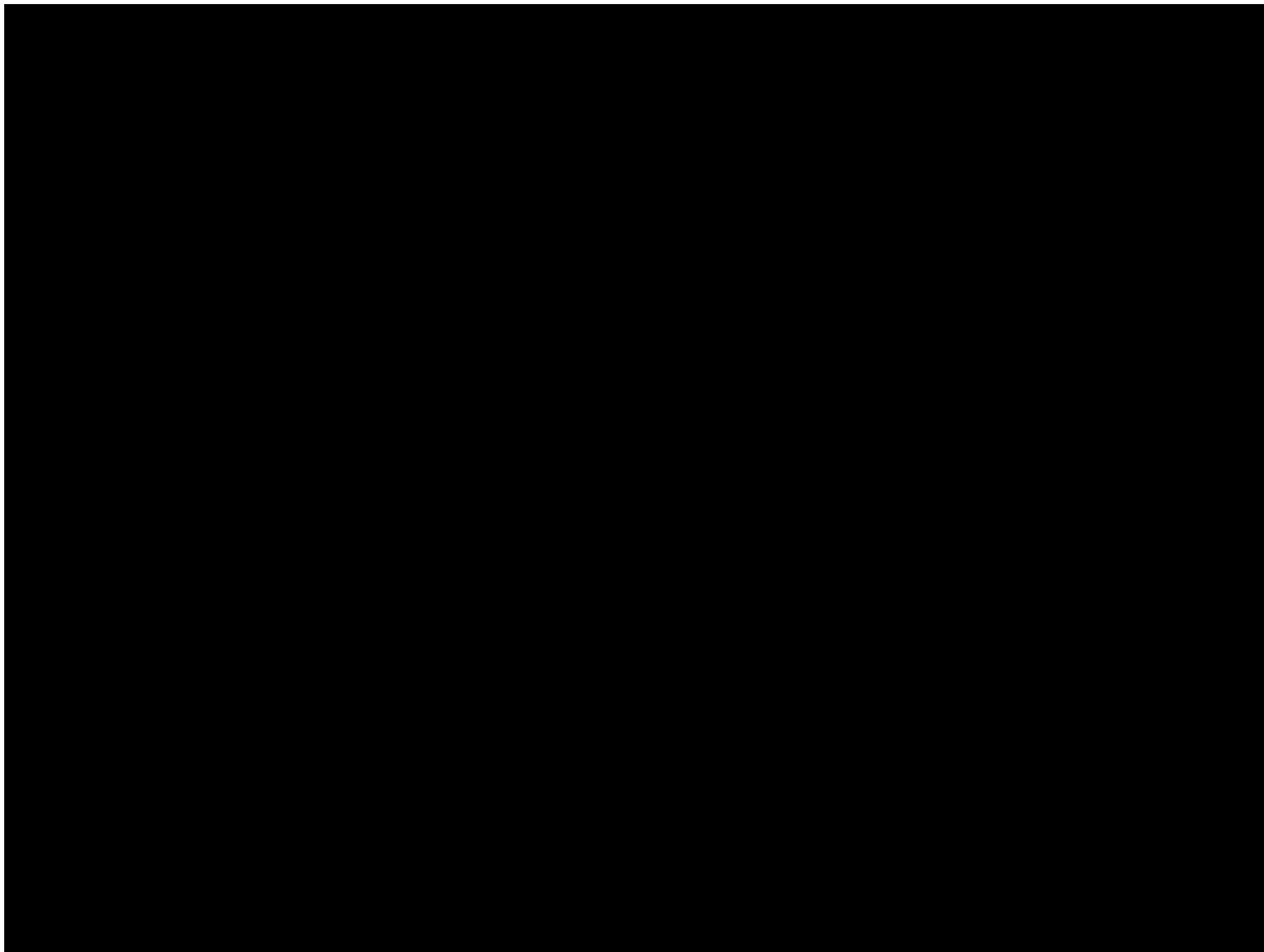
- tissue type
- biochemical and mechanical functions
- size and scale of defect
- age of the patient
- disease conditions
- etc...

# Decellularized heart maintains tissue architecture

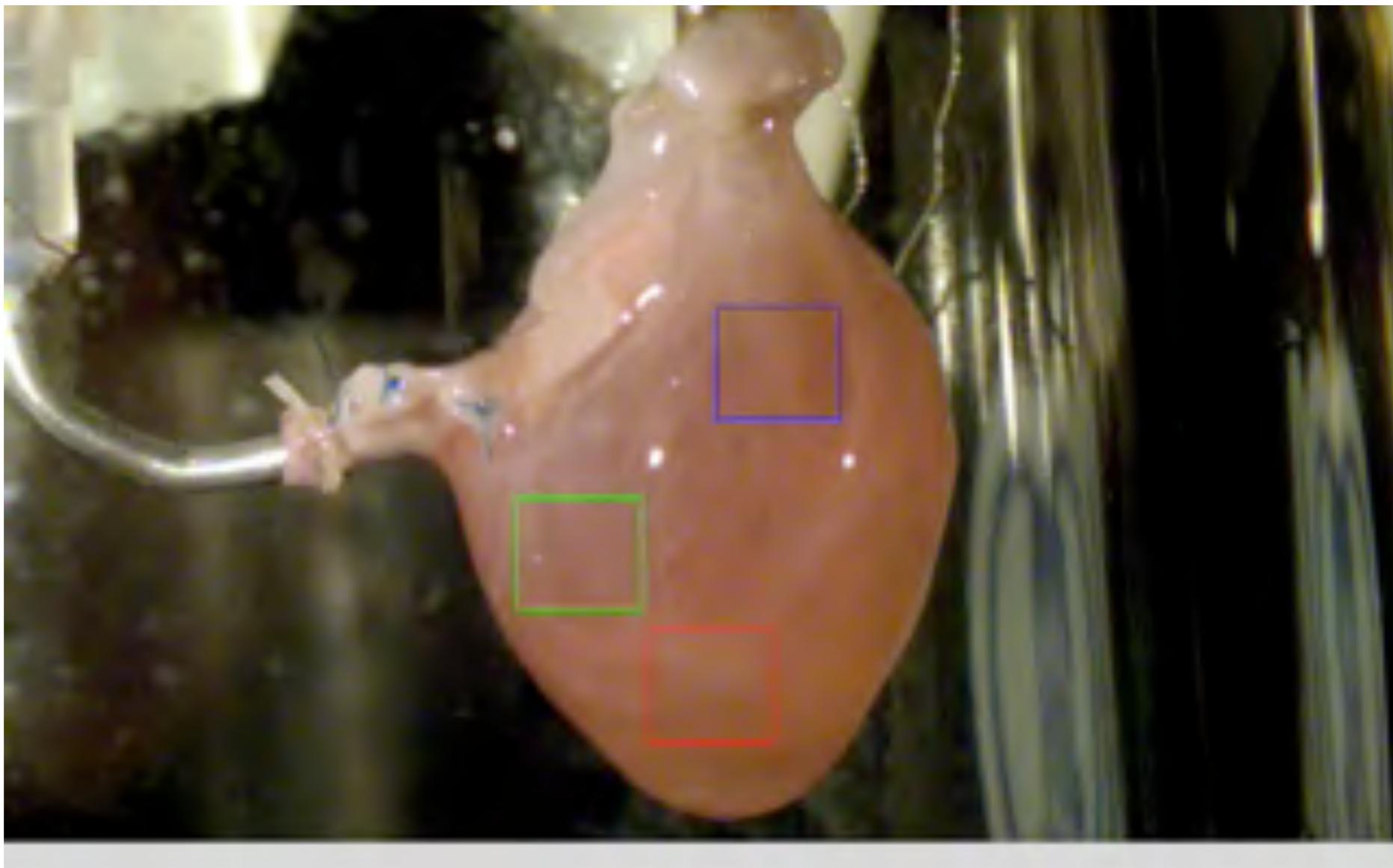


- composed of ***native ECM molecules***
- ***biodegradable*** and ***biocompatible*** after decellularization

# Decellularized heart can be recellularized

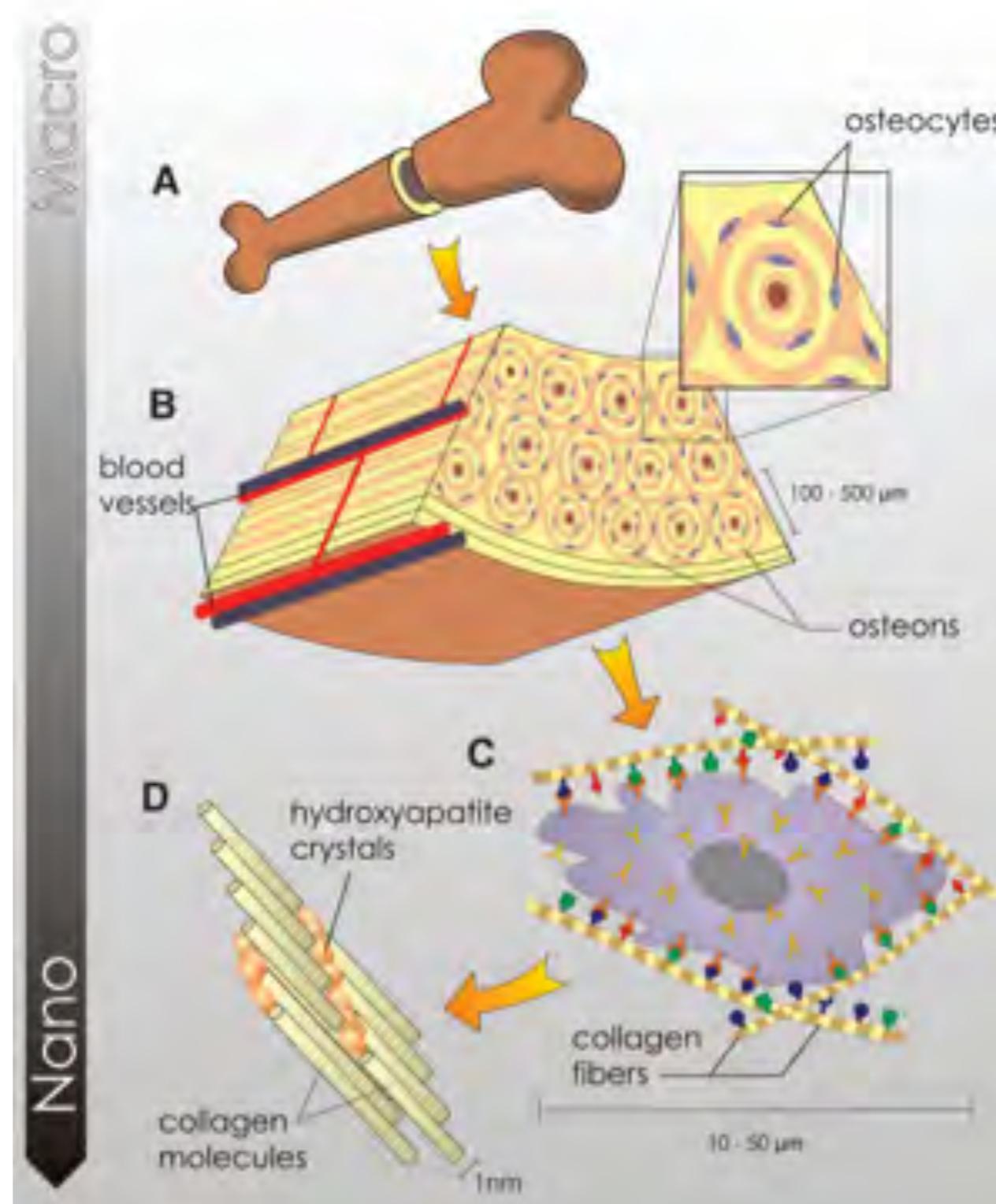


# Recellularized heart beats again!



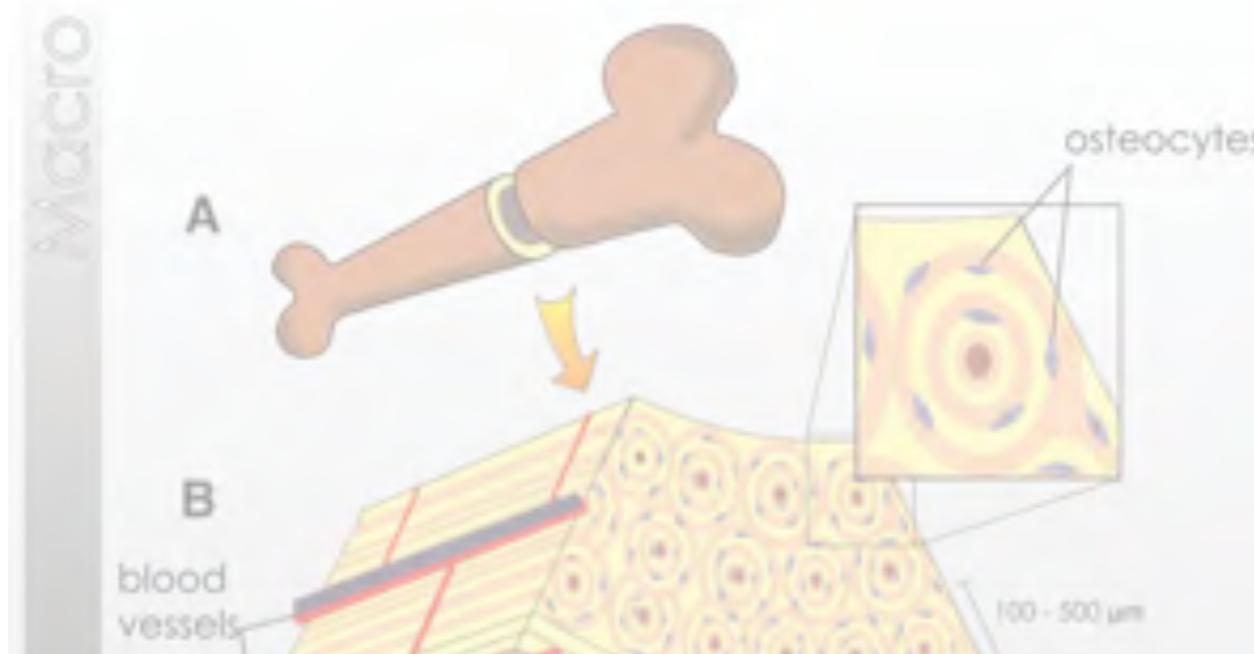
- composed of ***native ECM molecules***
- ***biodegradable*** and ***biocompatible*** after decellularization
- **requires donor...**

# Biological tissues are complex

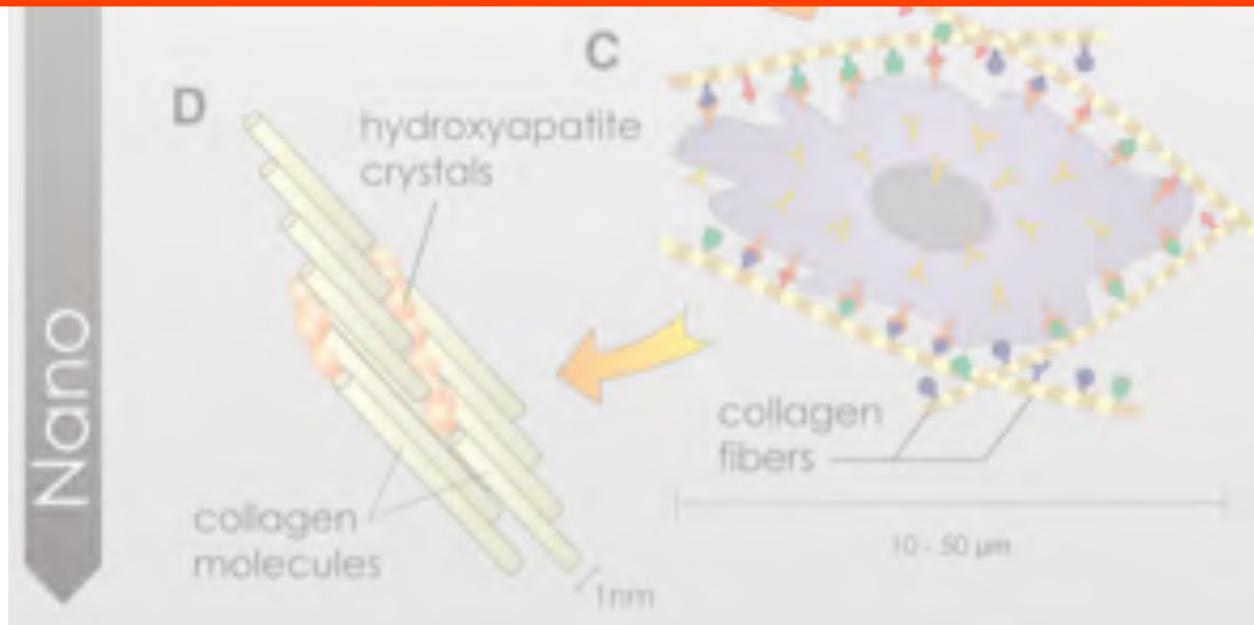


tissue composition and organization leads to biological function

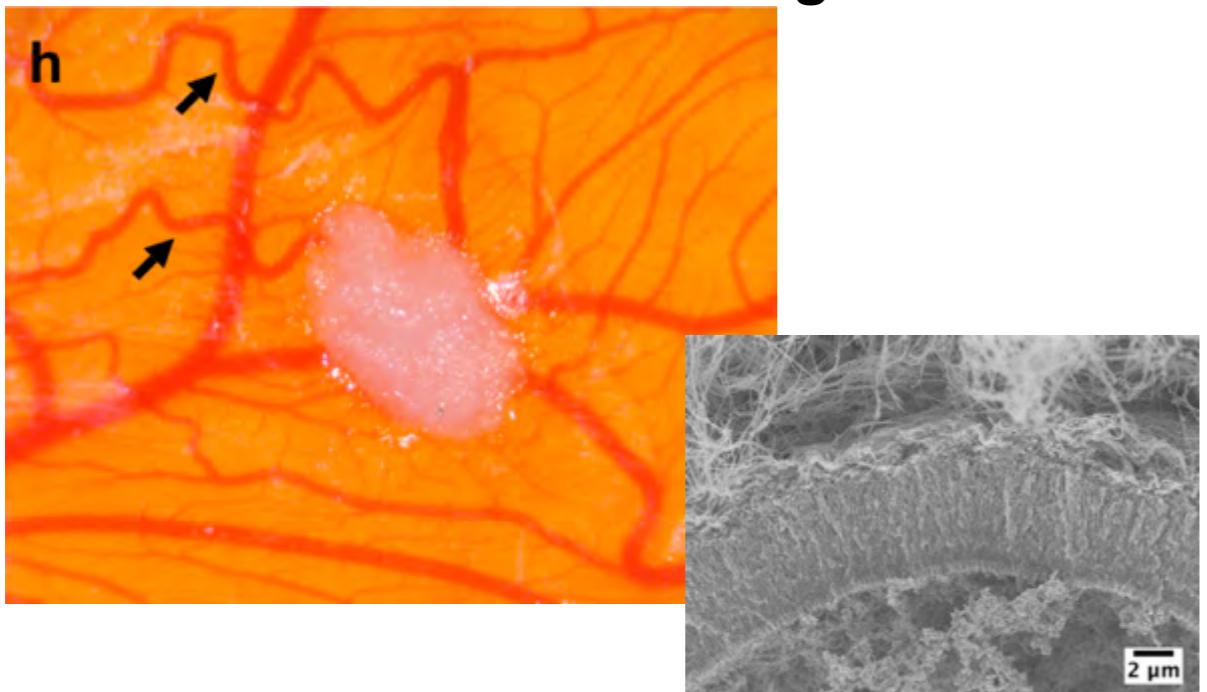
# Biological tissues are complex



Can we design synthetic biomaterials that  
***regenerate functional native-like tissues?***



## **Injectable hydrogels for wound healing**

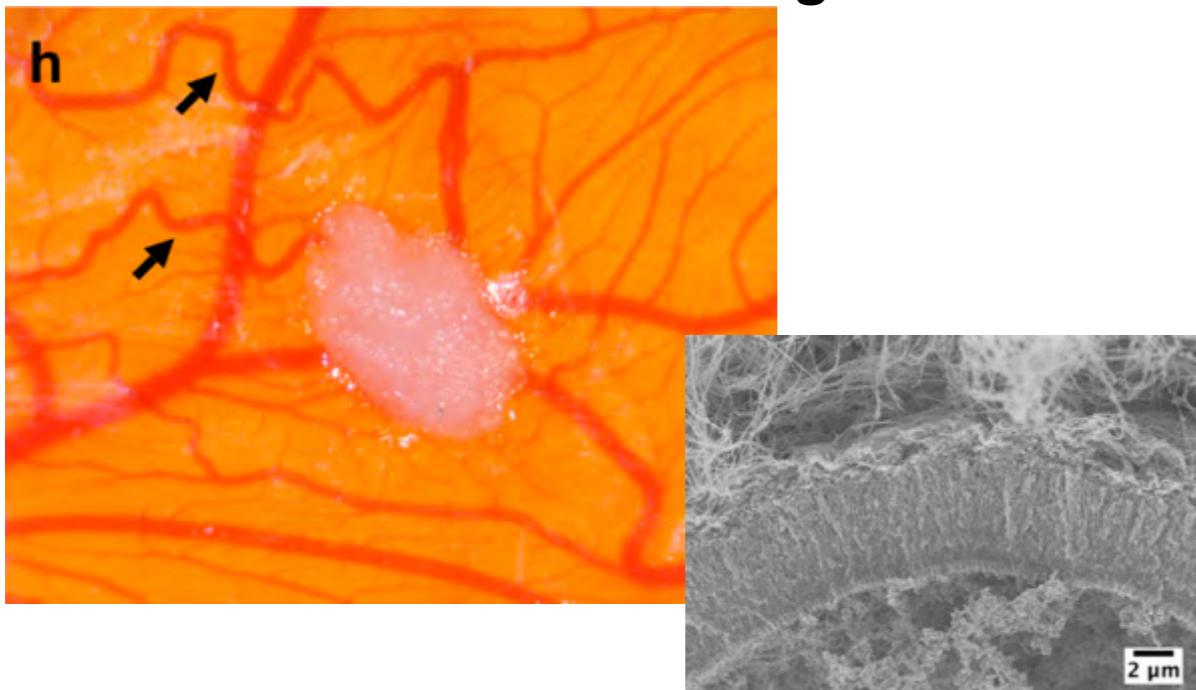


Chow LW, et al. *Biomaterials* **31**(24): 6154-6161, 2010.

Chow LW, et al. *Biomaterials* **32**(6): 1574-1582, 2011.

Chow LW, et al. *Small* **10**(3): 500-505, 2014.

## Injectable hydrogels for wound healing

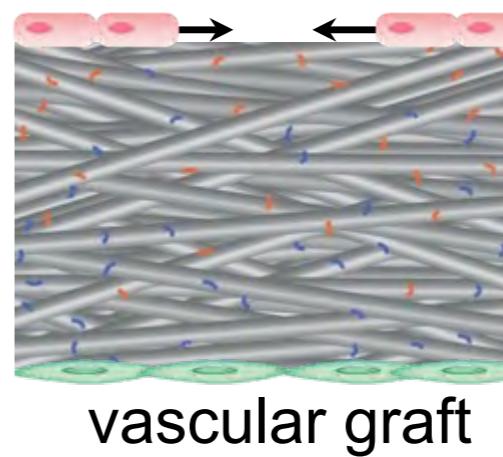


Chow LW, et al. *Biomaterials* **31**(24): 6154-6161, 2010.

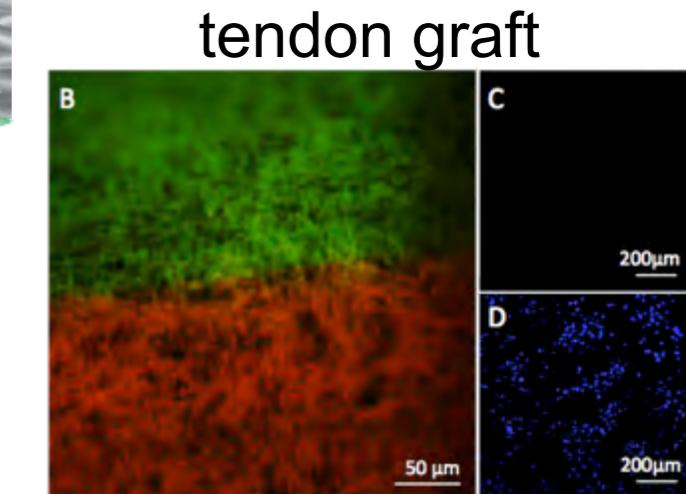
Chow LW, et al. *Biomaterials* **32**(6): 1574-1582, 2011.

Chow LW, et al. *Small* **10**(3): 500-505, 2014.

## Biodegradable scaffolds for tissue engineering



vascular graft

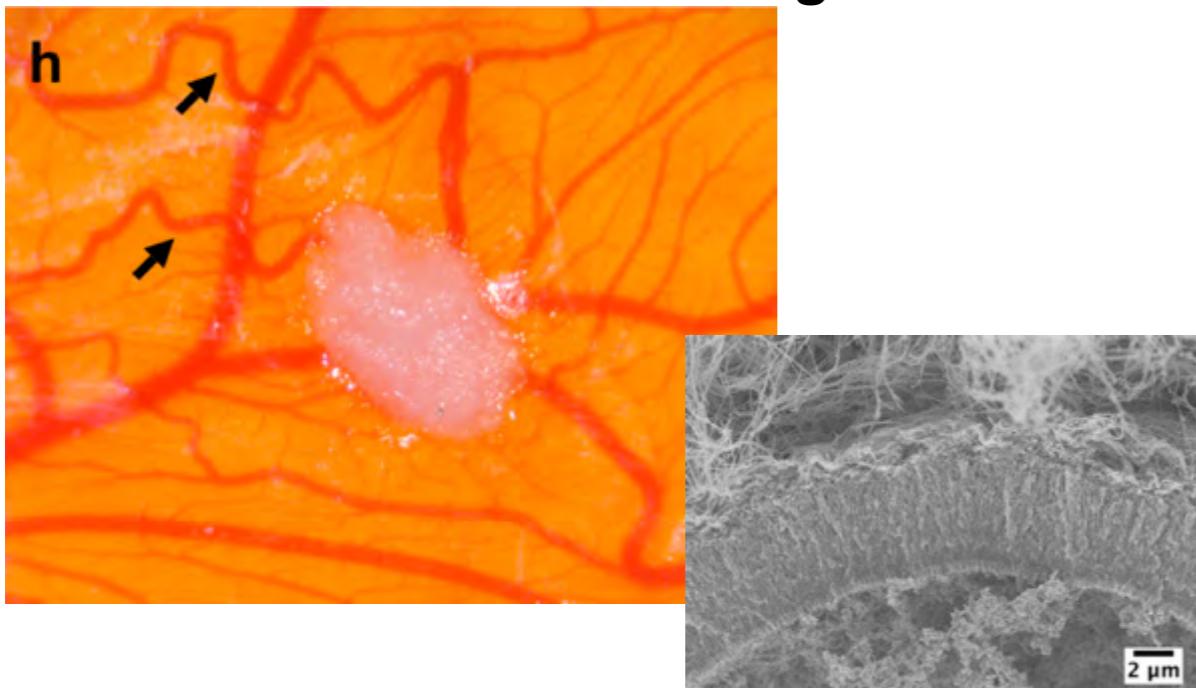


tendon graft

Campagnolo P, Chow LW, et al. 2015 (*in prep*).

Harrison RH, et al. *Adv Funct Mat* 2015 (*in press*).

## Injectable hydrogels for wound healing

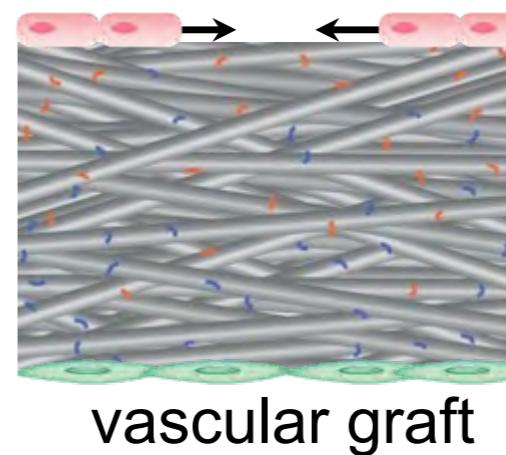


Chow LW, et al. *Biomaterials* 31(24): 6154-6161, 2010.

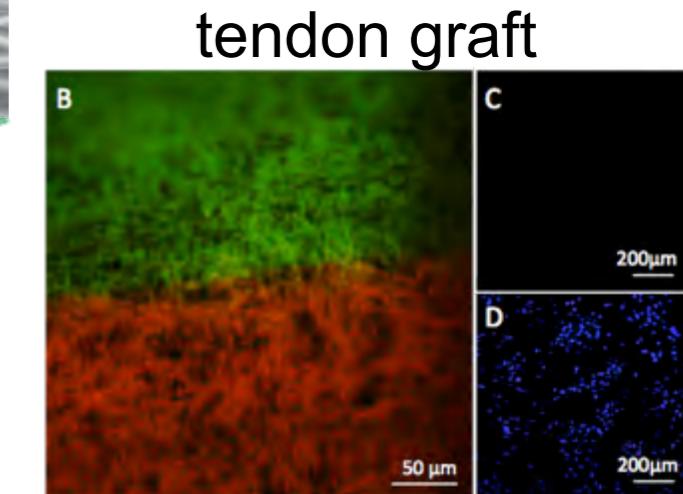
Chow LW, et al. *Biomaterials* 32(6): 1574-1582, 2011.

Chow LW, et al. *Small* 10(3): 500-505, 2014.

## Biodegradable scaffolds for tissue engineering



vascular graft



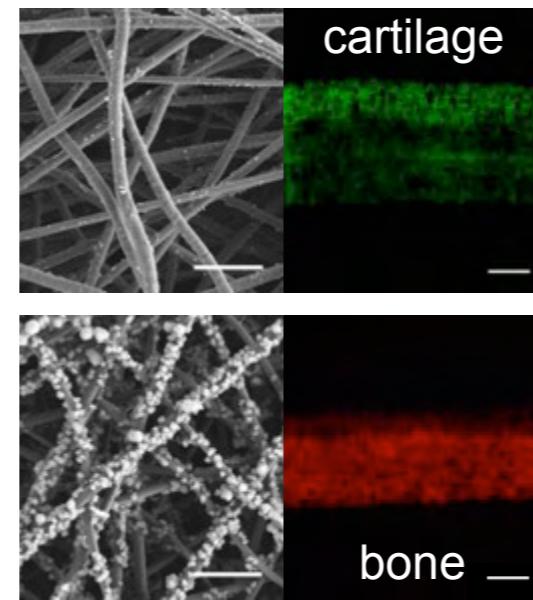
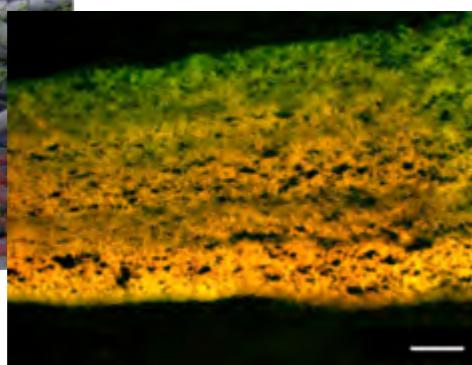
tendon graft

Campagnolo P, Chow LW, et al. 2015 (in prep).  
Harrison RH, et al. *Adv Funct Mat* 2015 (in press).

## Biodegradable scaffolds for regenerative medicine



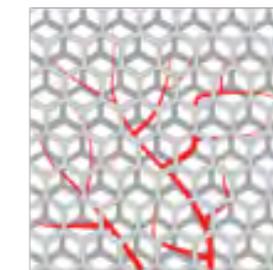
biomimetic gradients



3D bioprinting



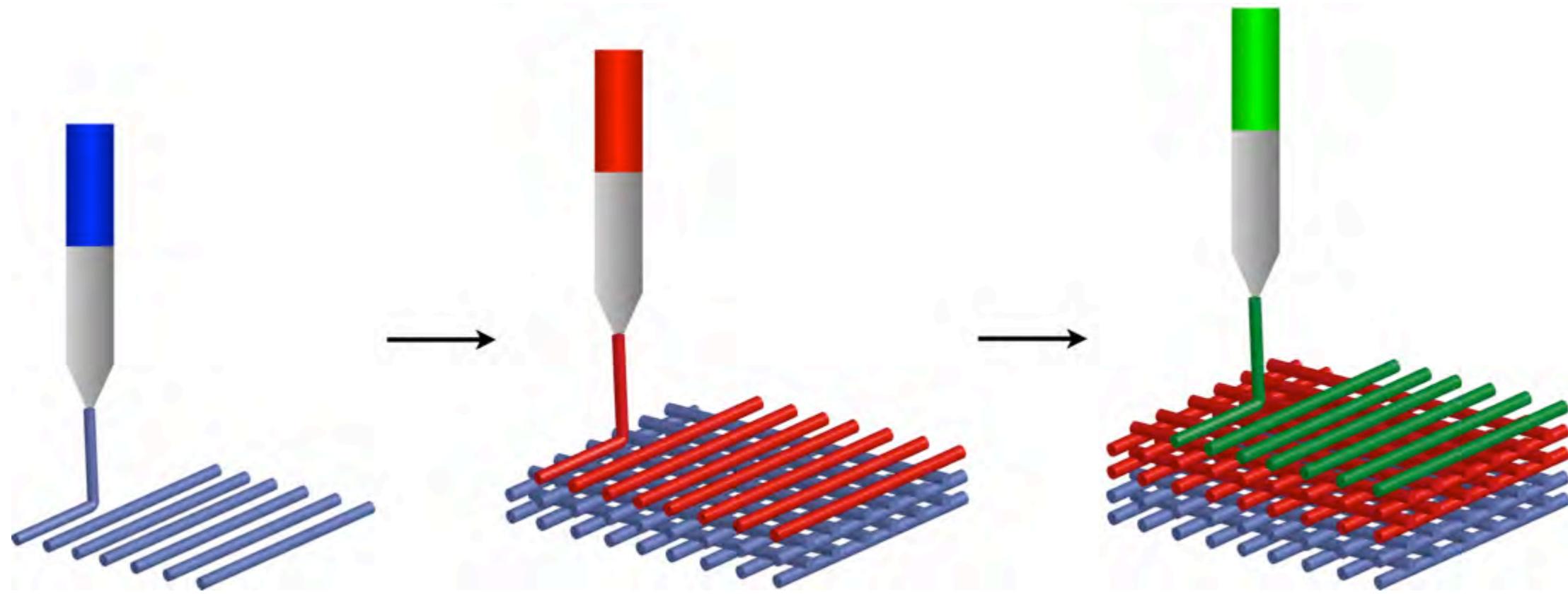
native architectures



Chow LW, et al. *Adv Healthc Mater* 3(9): 1381-1386, 2014.

Chow LW, et al. 2015 (in prep).

# Designer “bioinks” to print tissue-specific scaffolds



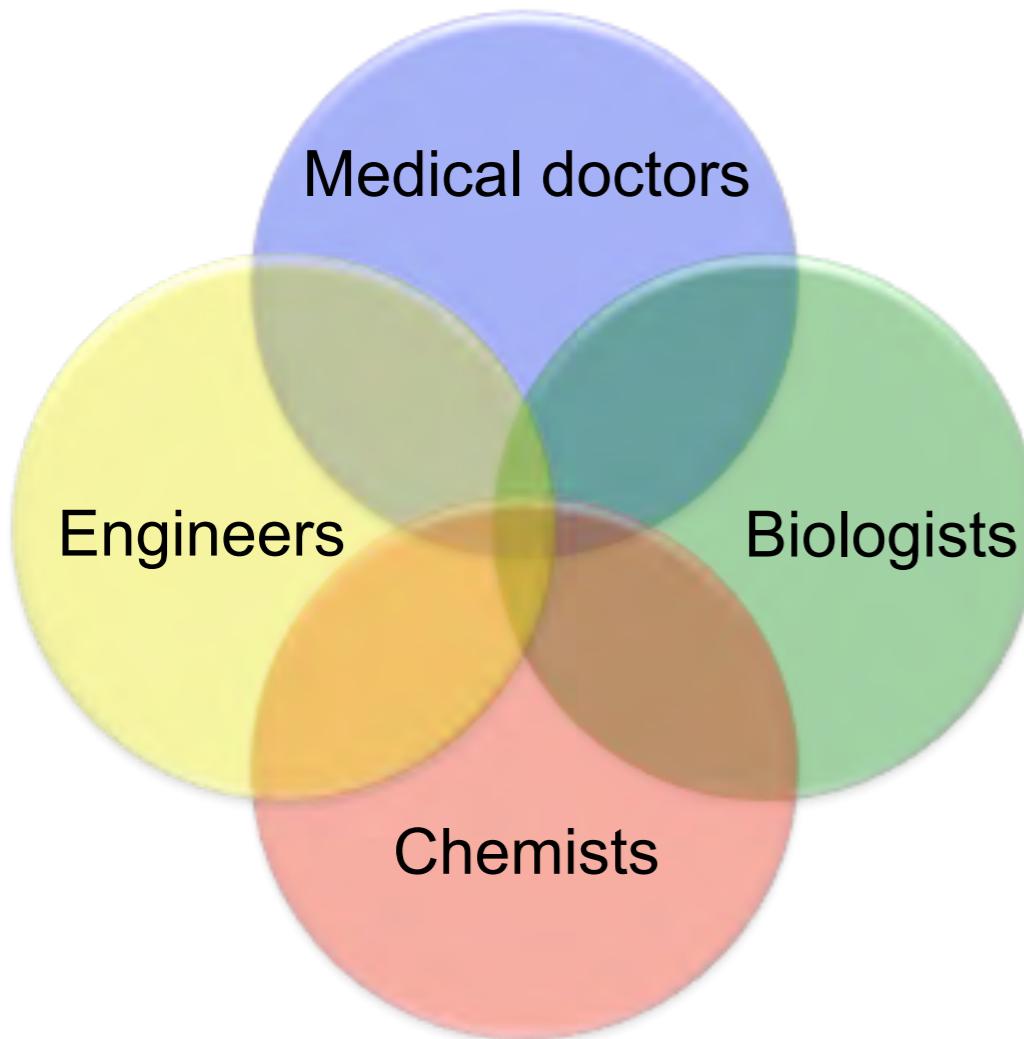
Combination of physical and biochemical cues  
influence cell behavior and tissue function

- polymers (e.g. biodegradable, co-polymers,...)
- bioactive groups (e.g., peptides, sugars, nucleic acids,...)
- functional groups (e.g., orthogonal chemistries, polymerization initiators,...)

# Tissue Engineering is...

***“an interdisciplinary field that applies the principles of engineering and life sciences towards the development of biological substitutes that restore, maintain, or improve tissue function or a whole organ”***

Langer and Vacanti, *Science* 1993



**Regenerative medicine** aims to replace, engineer, or regenerate human cells, tissues, or organs to restore or establish normal function

lesley.chow@lehigh.edu