



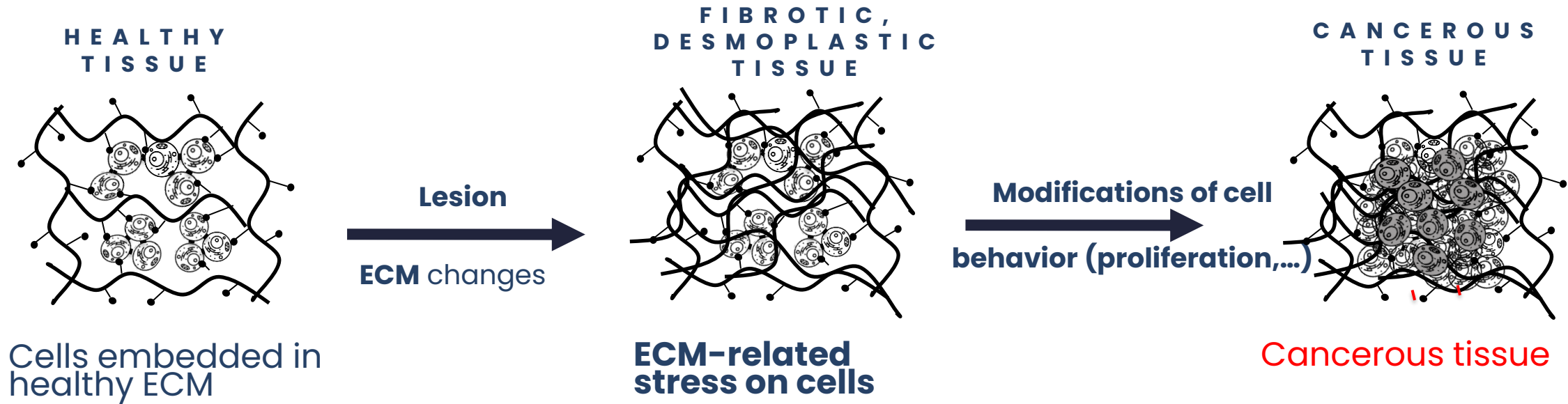
# HCS Pharma

## Bridging the gap between *in vitro* & *in vivo*: 3D cell culture considering the extracellular matrix

Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup> 2023

Elodie Vandenhaute

# PROBLEM & SOLUTION IN CANCER RESEARCH



## Problem

**CURRENT *IN VITRO* MODELS do not reproduce the *in vivo* tumoral microenvironment, in particular the ECM.**

## Solution

**To properly reproduce cancer pathophysiology, the cancerous ECM should be taken into account (composition, stiffness) in addition to the cells.**

# BIOMIMESYS® hydroscaffold for 3D cell culture

## Hydrogels



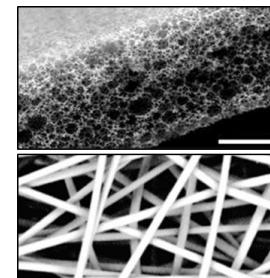
Biohydic properties,  
Cell-matrix interactions

Encapsulated cells  
Pathological or non-  
physiological origin

## Solid Scaffolds

Porosity,  
Structural maintenance

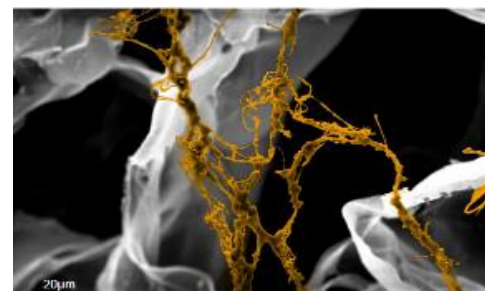
Non-physiological



## Hydroscaffold™

**Bio MIMESYS®**

Interpenetrated network HA/collagens



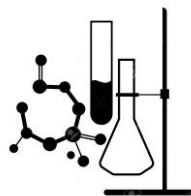
**Hyaluronic Acid (HA  
grafted with Adhesive  
proteins**

+

**Structural proteins  
(Collagens ...)**

+

**Peptidic based Cross-linker**



100% animal-free  
components

Hydrogel

Long-term rigid & stable Hydroscaffold™

From 100 Pa to 16 kPa pre-defined elastic  
modulus (stiffness)

Porosity 100µm

HCS Pharma's Patented Process



# BIOMIMESYS® 3D cell culture & cancer research

By  
organ/tissue

**BioMIMESYS®**  
**Brain**

HA + RGDS + collagen IV + cationic polymer  
E = 0.1 kPa

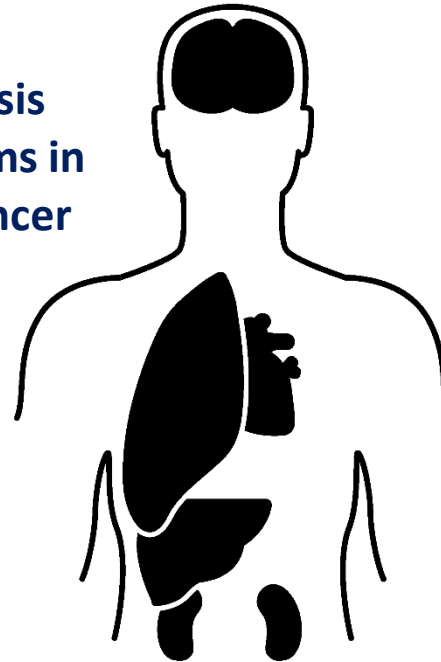
**BioMIMESYS®**  
**Liver**

HA + RGDS + Galactose + Collagen I & IV  
E = 0.6 kPa

**BioMIMESYS®**  
**Adipose Tissue**

HA + RGDS + Collagen I & VI  
E = 0.5 kPa

Metastasis  
mechanisms in  
breast cancer



+ *in vivo*/*in vitro*  
correlation

By  
pathology

**BioMIMESYS®** (generic)  
**Oncology**

HA + Collagen I  
E = 1, 8, 16 kPa

- Cancer cell behaviour depending on ECM composition & stiffness
- Lung cancer responses to targeted therapies

To know more, come to see poster #7!

# Conclusions

- **BIOMIMESYS<sup>®</sup> 3D system reproduces the ECM, being composed of well-controlled, animal-free components.**
- **Reproducing the stiffness & composition of healthy or diseased tissues in an organ-specific way, it allows a better *in vivo/in vitro* correlation, for a higher predictability of *in vitro* models and efficient drugs.**

