



TNO innovation
for life

TNO 3D PHARMA PRINTING

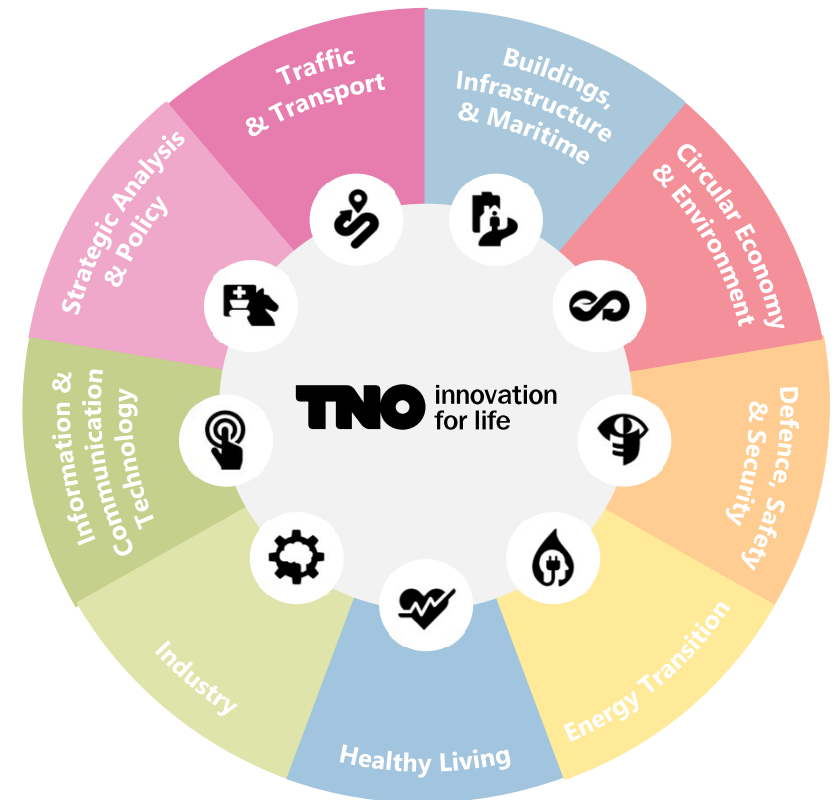
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3D Pharma printing @ TNO, 2022

› TNO

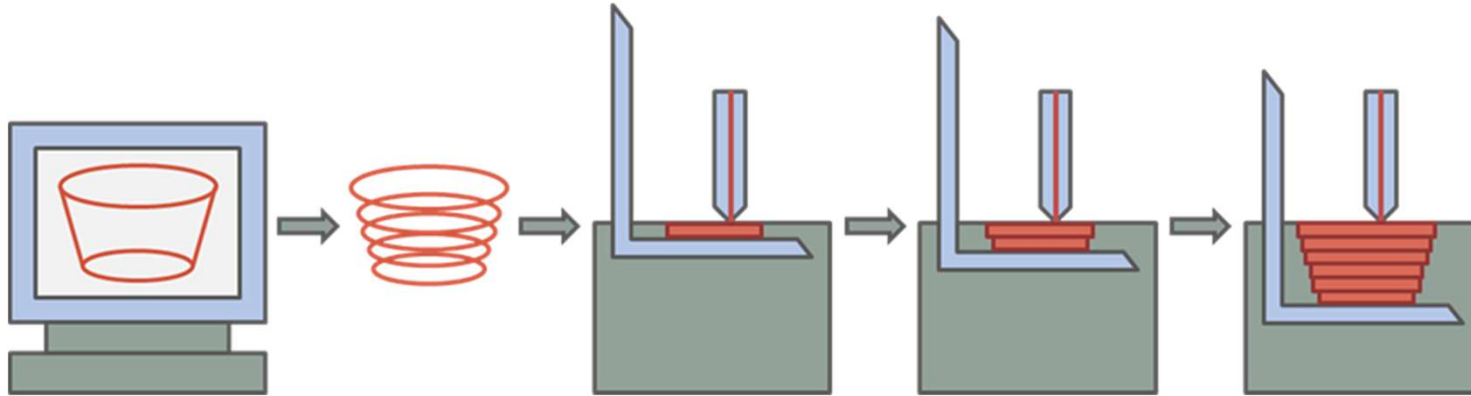
WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

- › Largest independent contract research and innovation organization in The Netherlands, est. 1932
- › Over 3400 researchers active in 9 Units
- › Positioned between Universities and commercial companies
- › **Mission:** Apply scientific knowledge to boost the innovative strength of our partners
- › *Active in 3D printing for 30+ years*



WHAT IS 3D PRINTING?

HOW IT IS BEING USED ALREADY.



General Electric invests 100 million euros into German 3D printing site

General Electric (GE) is continuing to focus its gaze squarely on the EU 3D printing industry, with a game-changing investment of 100 million euros (\$109 million USD) into a newly acquired production site in Lichtenfels, Germany.

Just last year, the multinational producer of jet engines, power plants, and other industrial equipment poured a total of \$1.3 billion into Concept Laser, a privately held German 3D printing firm, and Swedish 3D printer-manufacturer Arcam. The strategic move secured GE majority shares in both companies, cementing its position as a global leading player in additive manufacturing.



Adidas to mass-produce 3D printed Futurecraft 4D shoe with Carbon's 3D printing technology

California 3D printer manufacturer Carbon (Carbon3D) has teamed with German sportswear giant Adidas to create a new 3D printed shoe. The companies will use Carbon's Digital Light Synthesis technique to mass-produce more than 100,000 pairs of Adidas' Futurecraft 4D shoe before 2019.



› **3D PHARMA PRINTING**

OVERVIEW OF THE FIELD

IMPORTANT TRENDS IN PHARMA

- › Time to market -> maximize benefits from patent life
- › Personalization -> smaller batch sizes
- › Focus on continuous manufacturing, Quality by design

WHY 3D PHARMA PRINTING?

USP'S OF 3D PRINTING

- › Personalization
- › Small batches
- › Unique functionalities: release profile, poly pill, shape
- › Distributed local manufacturing

3D Pharma printing @ TNO, 2022

3D PHARMA PRINTING

SOCIETAL IMPACT

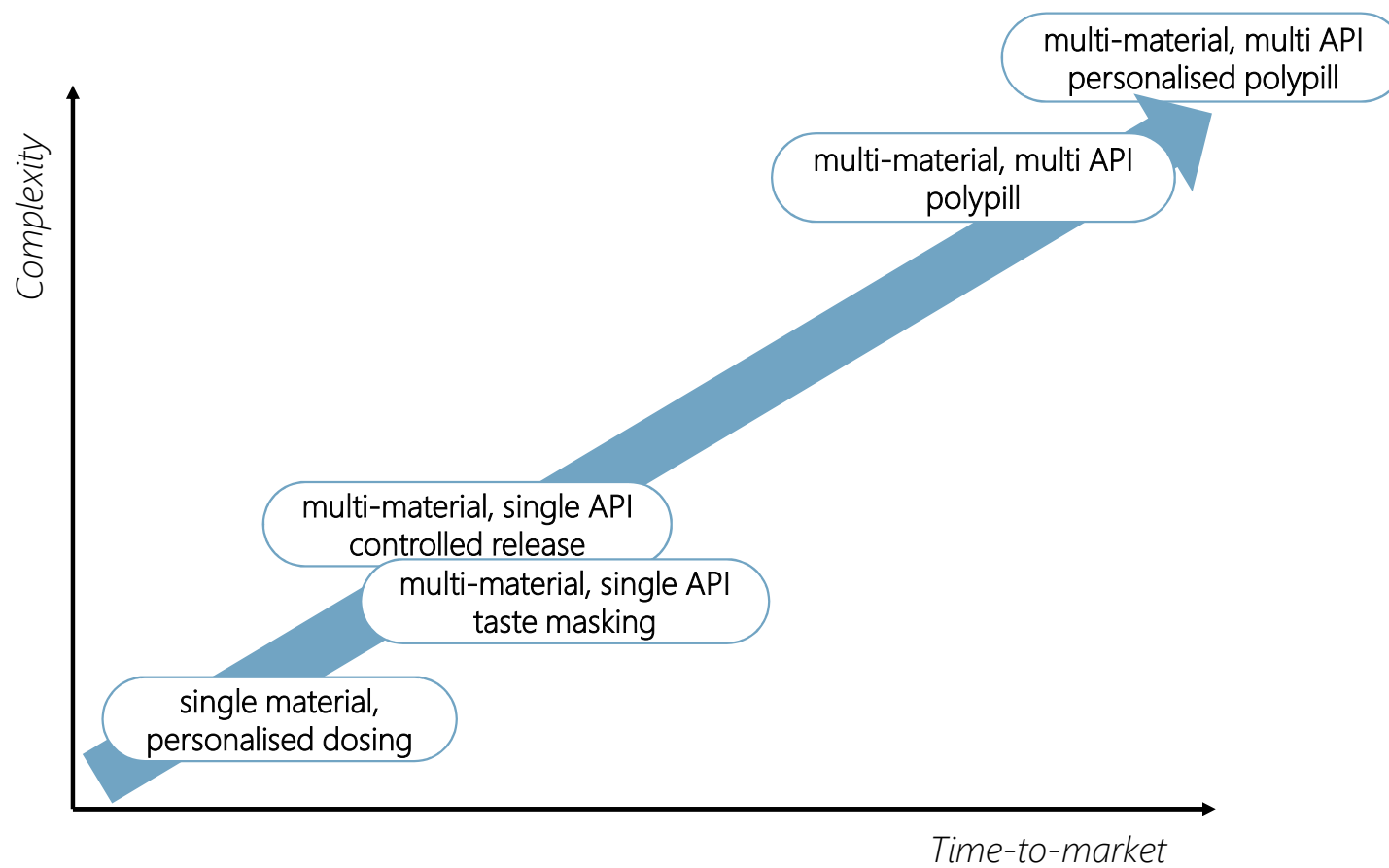
Contribution to:

- › Better Health
- › More effective medication
- › Better patient comfort



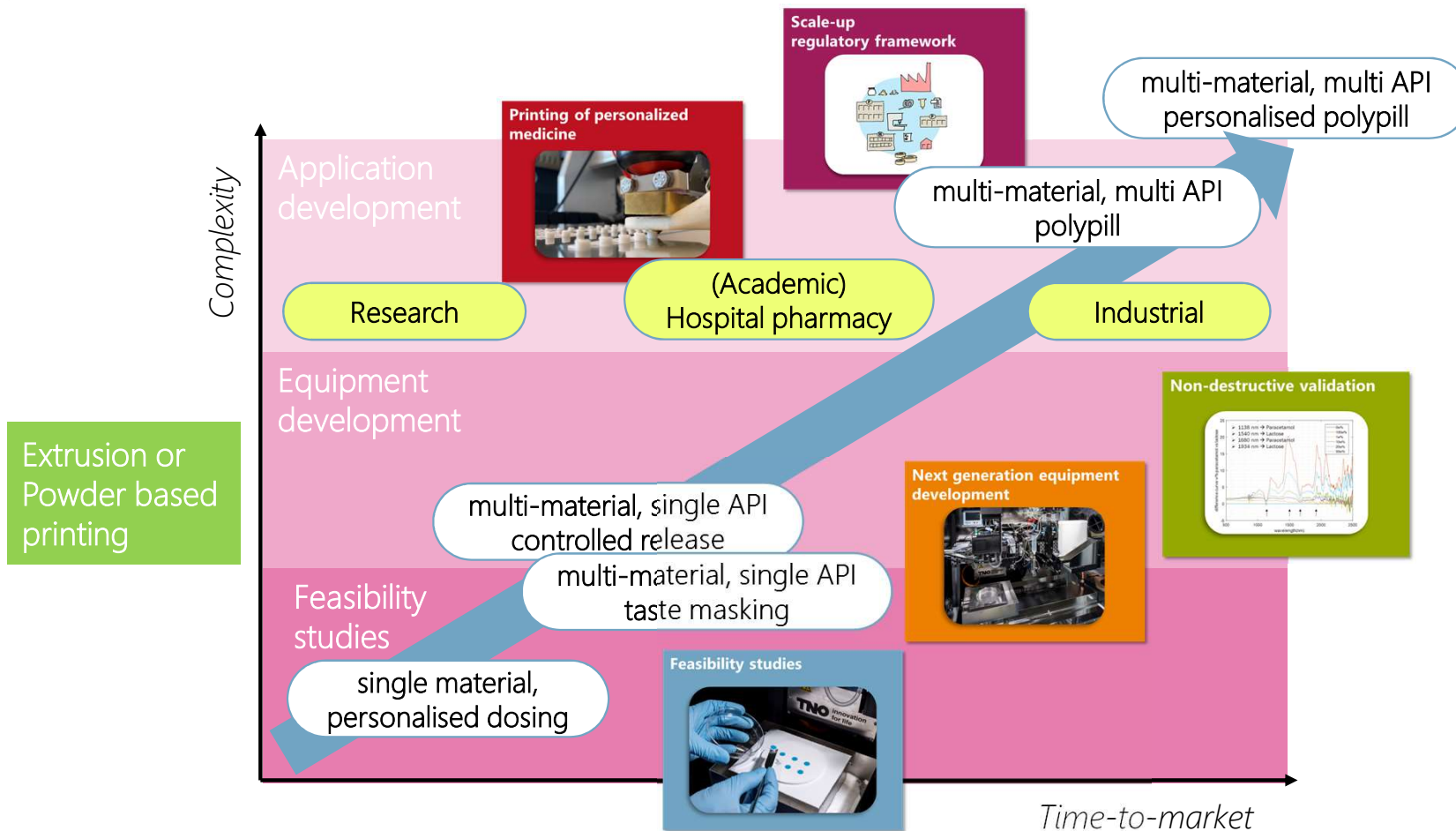
3D PHARMA PRINTING @ TNO

ROADMAP



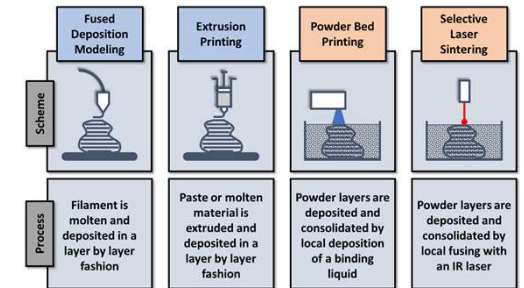
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ROADMAP



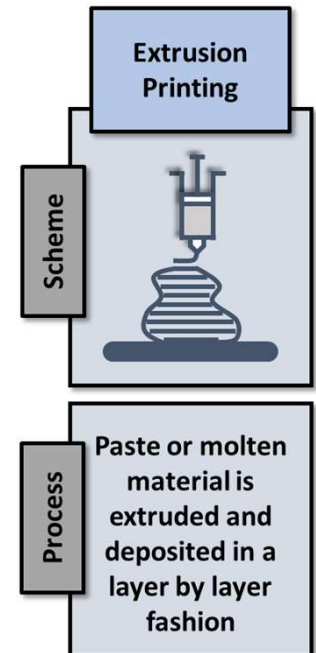
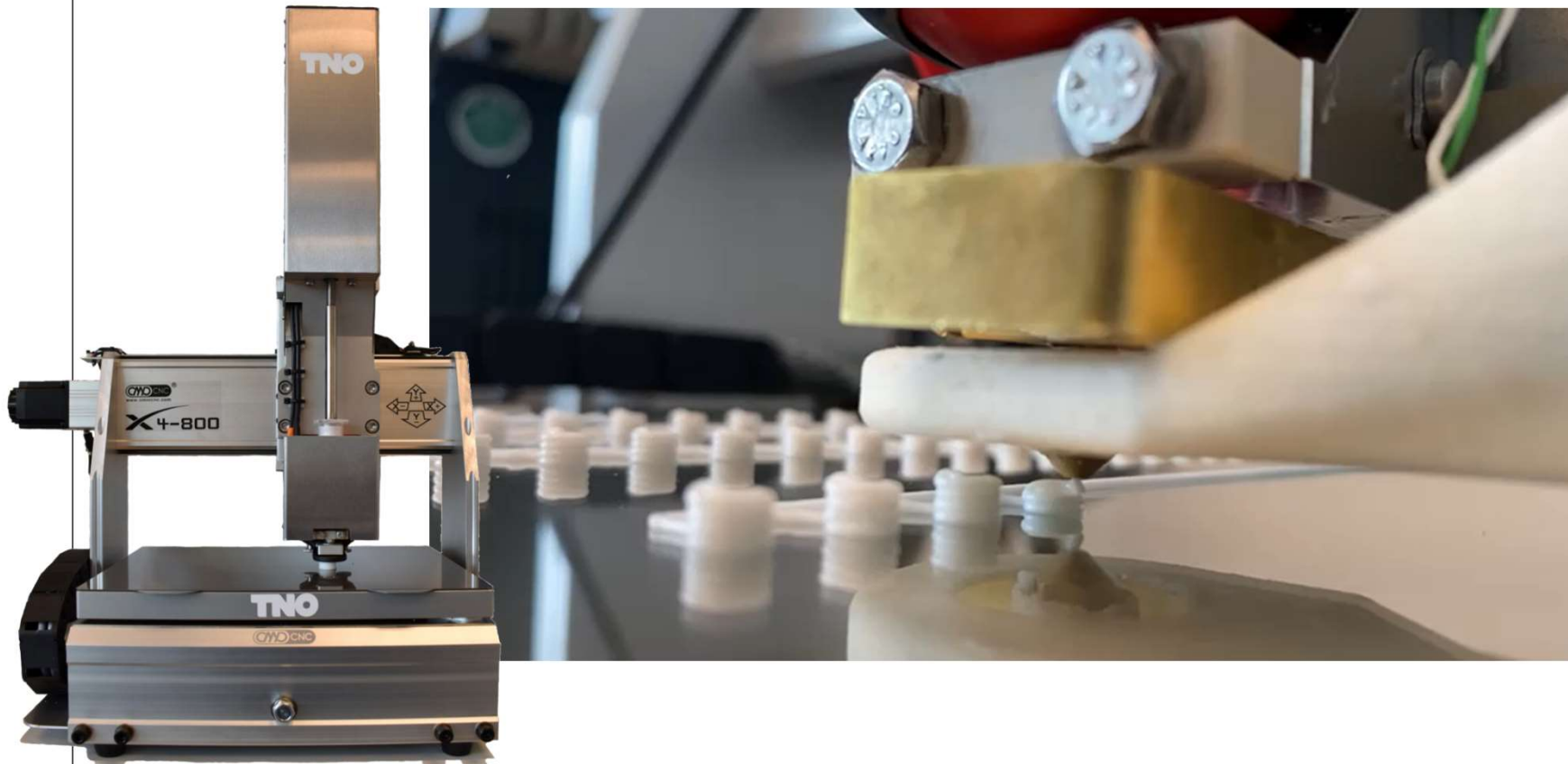
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IN-HOUSE DEVELOPED TECHNOLOGY PLATFORMS



3D PHARMA PRINTING @ TNO

FEASIBILITY STUDIES - EXTRUSION PRINTING

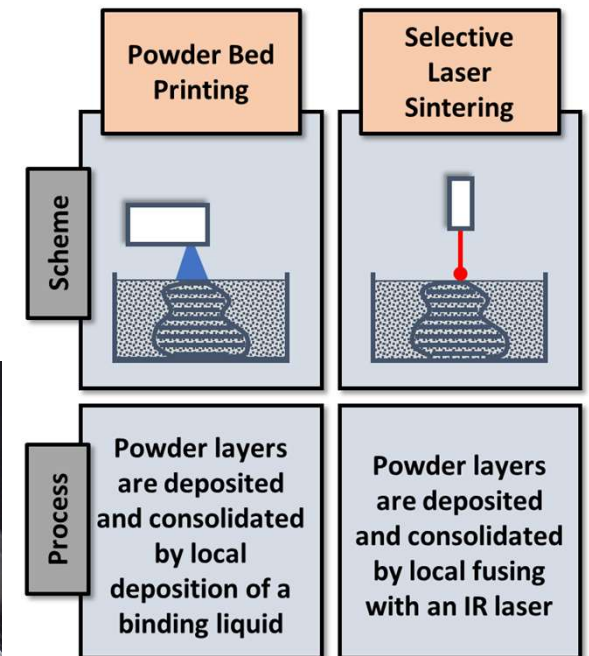
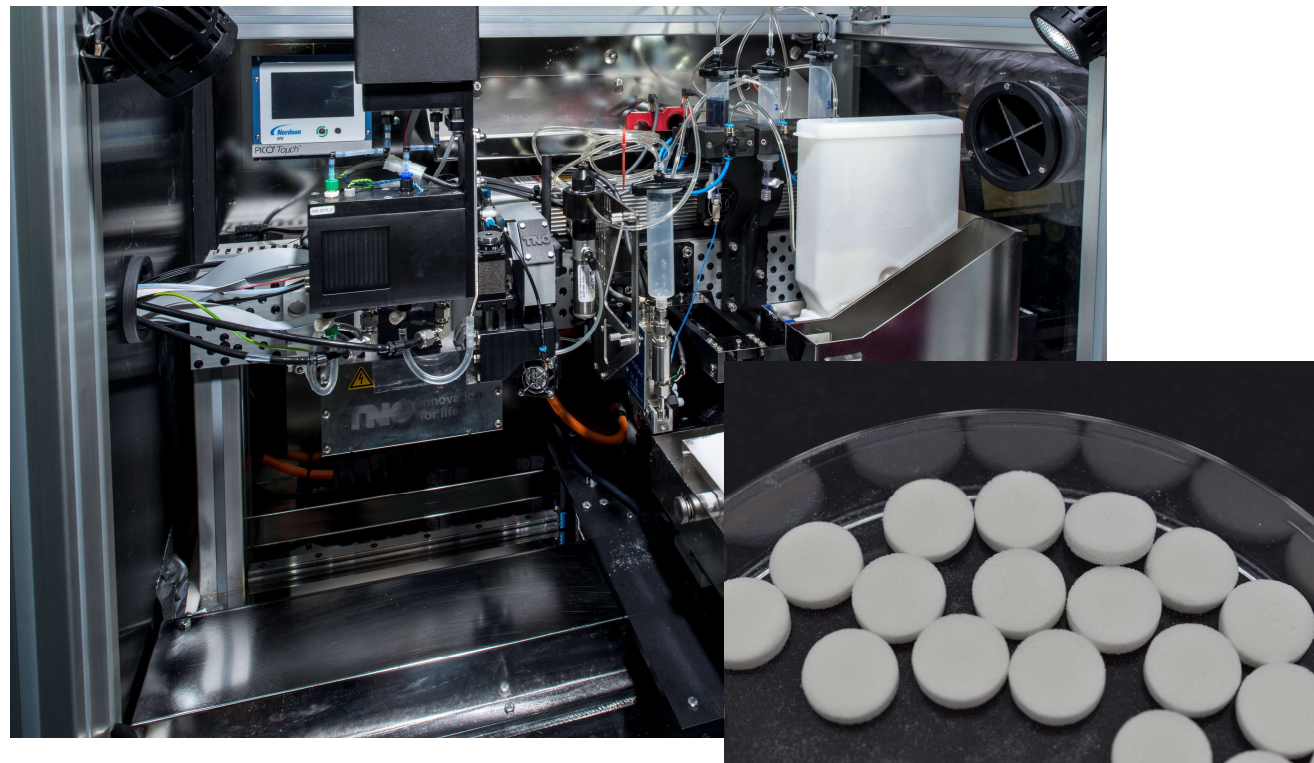


› 3D PHARMA PRINTING @ TNO

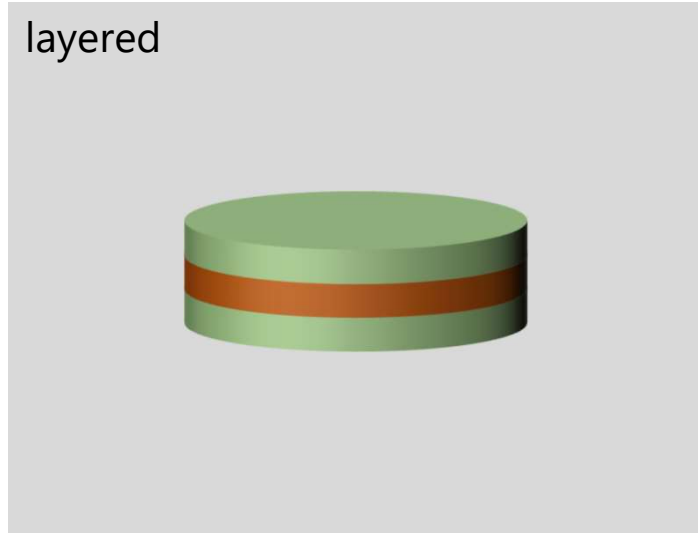
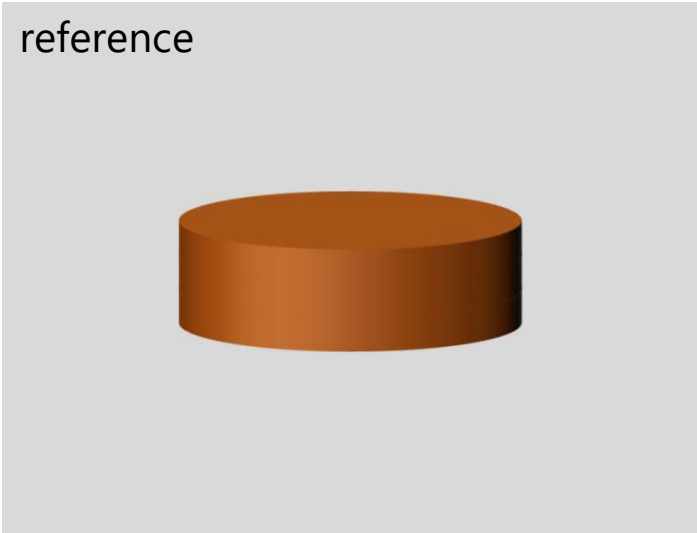
FEASIBILITY STUDIES – PBP/SLS





› Combination Binder Jetting and Selective Laser Sintering



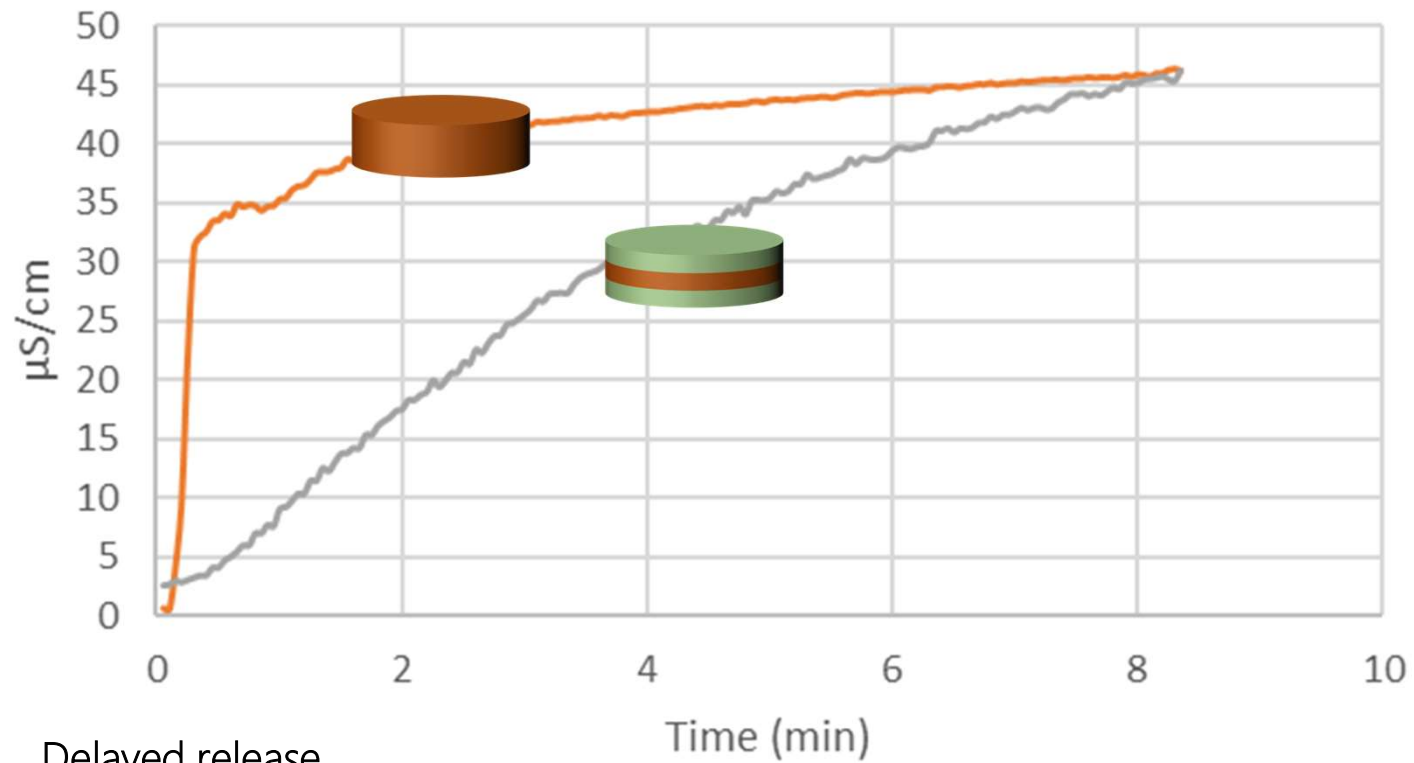
› LAYERED TABLET CONCEPT



Layer Types
Differences created through printing liquid:

-  Slow dissolving
-  Fast dissolving

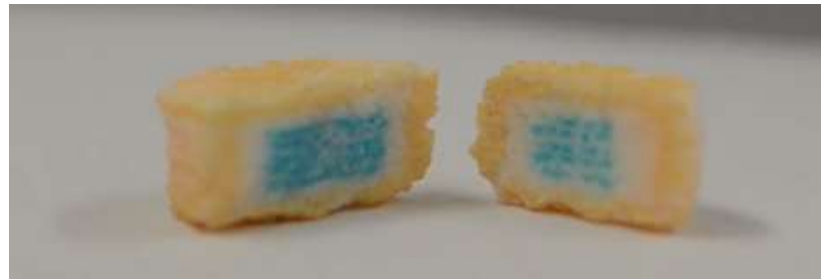
API RELEASE



Delayed release

Model API (ionic species) release was monitored by conductivity measurements.

SEGMENTED TABLET CONCEPT



3-tone variation

Complex geometry

Fast dissolving + API 1



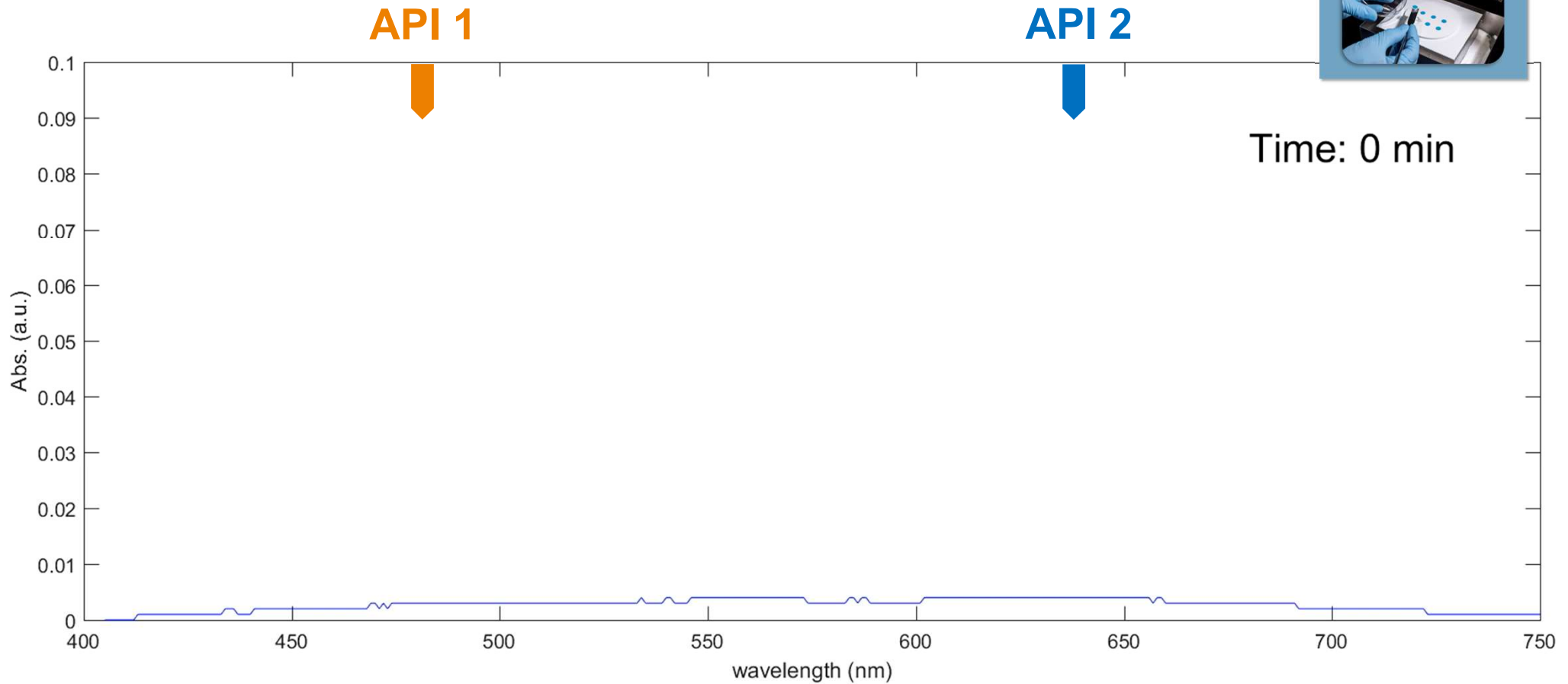
Slow dissolving



Fast dissolving + API 2

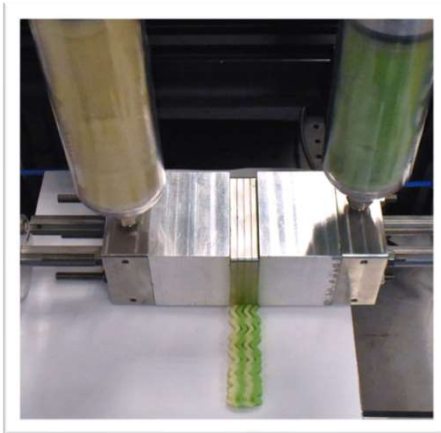
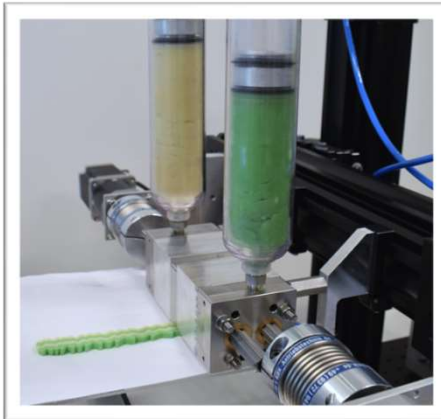


COMPLEX RELEASE PROFILES

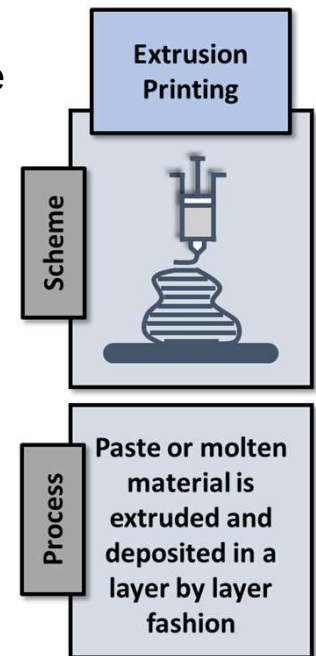


› 3D PHARMA PRINTING @ TNO

NEXT GENERATION EQUIPMENT DEVELOPMENT



- › Our multi-nozzle printhead platform allows printing with multiple materials simultaneously.
- › This experimental printhead platform can be used to explore the potential of novel extrusion concepts for continuous and large-scale production.



PROJECT EXAMPLE

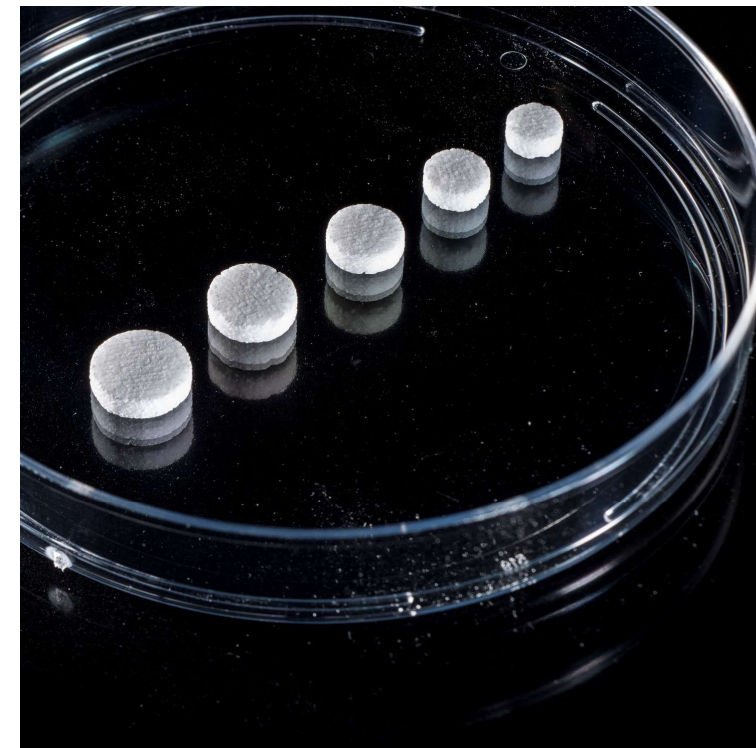
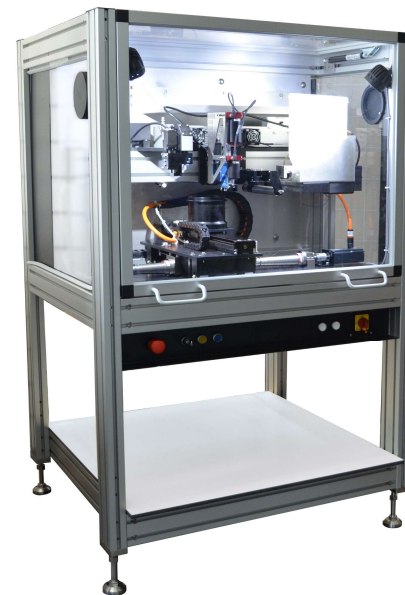
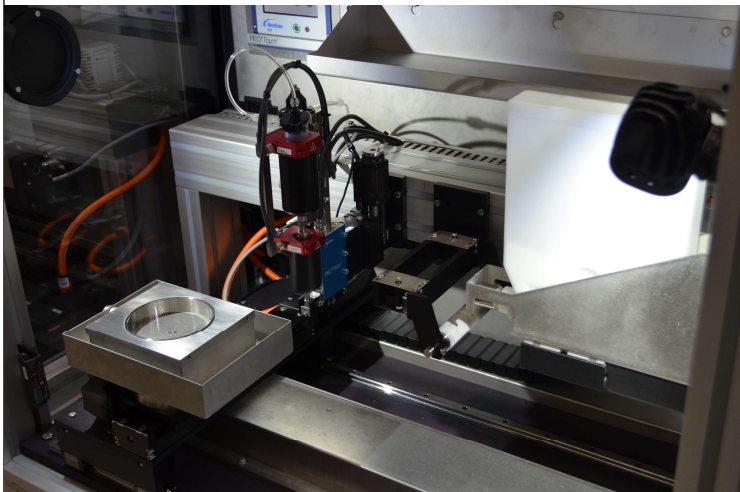
MERCK – PHARMA R&D SETUP

MERCK

Next generation equipment
development



- › TNO built a dedicated powderbed-printing setup for Merck so they could research their proprietary powder formulas and APIs.
- › Using powderbed printing, tablets for preclinical development and screening of APIs can be made more efficiently and with higher accuracy.
- › Merck is using the setup to determine their own roadmap for 3D pharma printing



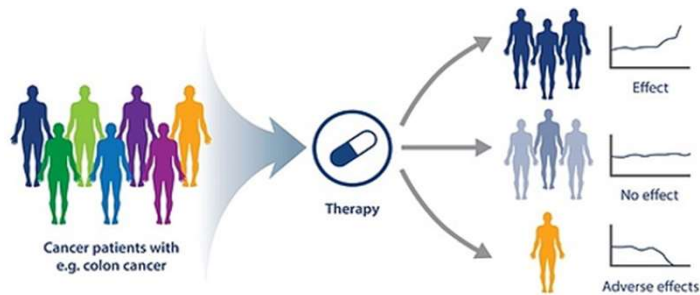
3D PHARMA PRINTING

PRINTING OF PERSONALIZED MEDICINE



Current Medicine

One treatment fits all



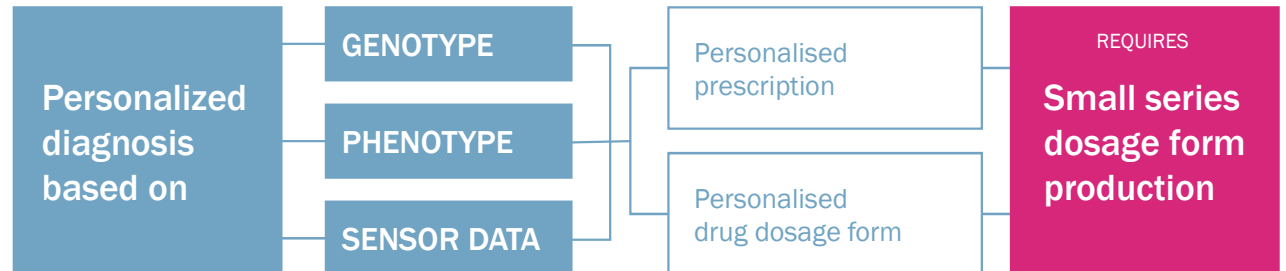
Future Medicine

More personalized diagnostics



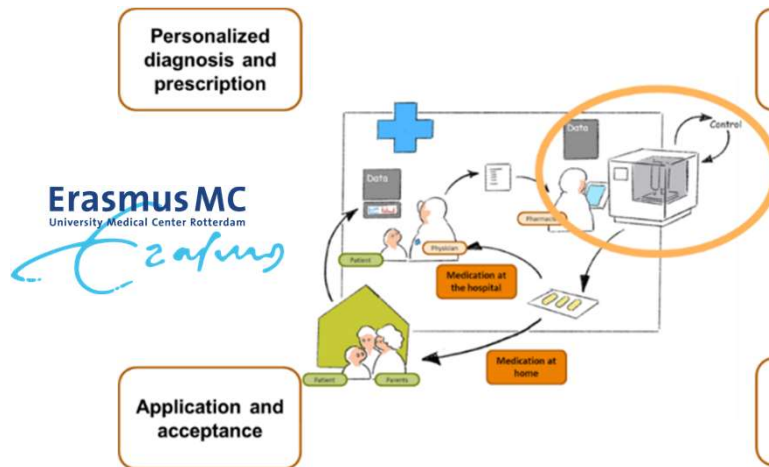
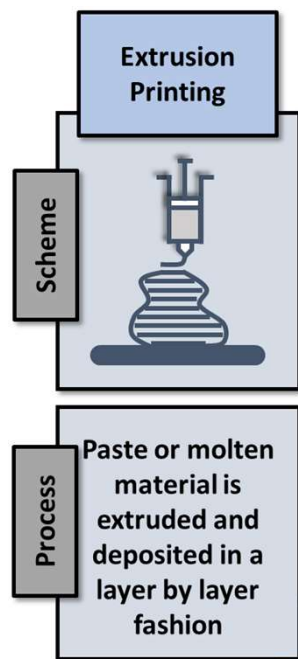
Source: crownbio.com

FROM:
ONE SIZE FITS ALL
TO:
TAILORED APPROACH



3D PHARMA PRINTING @ TNO

PRINTING OF PERSONALIZED MEDICINE



Allow for safe and affordable production of tailor made medication for individual patients by developing technological solutions for automated production in the hospital pharmacy

SEMI SOLID EXTRUSION 3D PRINTING OF CAFFEINE AND FLECAINIDE TABLETS FOR PERSONALIZED TREATMENT OF CHILDREN.

E.E.M. (Eveline) van Kampen, MSc.; B.A. (Bilgehan) Candir BSc.; L. (Luc) Willemstein BSc.; dr. E. J. (Elsabeth) Ruijgrok
Erasmus MC, University Medical Center Rotterdam, Department of Hospital Pharmacy.

Introduction

Age-appropriate dosage forms for children are urgently needed. Most authorized pharmaceutical products are developed for use in adults, resulting in a lack of authorized pediatric-appropriate dosage forms. 3D printing of personalized drug dosages could expand the options for child-tailored therapy. This technology offers dose flexibility and a large variety in shape and taste.

We used a plunger based semi solid extrusion printer to print flecainide and caffeine tablets at low temperature of max. 80°C work under the degradation temperatures of resp. 148°C and 20°C. The process- and product development and quality control of printed formulations is described.

Results

- ✓ Weight of all printed tablets complied with EP.
- ✓ Caffeine + 1% MgSt → RSD = 3% (0.26 – 4.42)
- ✓ Caffeine + 2% MgSt → RSD = 3% (0.03 – 3.59)
- Caffeine + 1% SiO₂ → RSD = 3% (0.46 – 8.79)
- ✓ All caffeine tablets dissolved complying with EP.
- Flecainide tablets need further development.

Methods

Materials

Pharmaceutical grade caffeine and flecainide were used as API. Different formulations were prepared with poloxamer 407 (PLX) as polymer, lactose (LAC) for stand-up and magnesium stearate (MgSt) or silicon dioxide (SiO₂) as dispersing agents.

reparation and printing process

low melt mixture was prepared by weighing and mixing all raw materials. While mixing, the formulations reached a temperature round 80°C resulting in a viscous molten mixture. A syringe was led with the molten mixture and placed in the printer, which was controlled by a G-code generated using custom build computer aided design (CAD) software.

Analysis

The tablets were analyzed on their:

- Weight distribution (caffeine and flecainide)
- Uniformity of content (caffeine)
- Dissolution properties (caffeine and flecainide)

Uniformity of mass and dissolution profiles were assessed according to the European Pharmacopoeia for conventional-release solid dosage forms (EP 2.9.5 and 2.9.3 resp.).

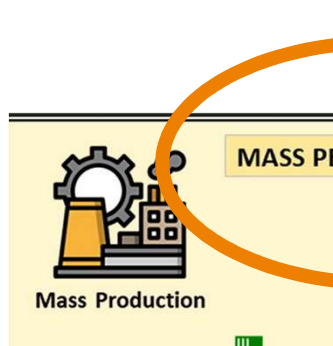
Conclusion and outlook

- ✓ Mini tablets of caffeine and flecainide were printed by semi solid 3D printing technology
- ✓ Addition of MgSt ensured that quality assessment criteria on uniformity of content were met for 3D printed caffeine tablets.
- ✓ All caffeine tablets met the dissolution testing requirements stated by European Pharmacopoeia. 3D printed flecainide tablets need further development.
- Optimization and validation of the printing process should be done prior to clinical implementation.



Image from Nour Project by LAPS, Linnaeus Studio and Nour Pavoni

3D PHARMA PRINTING ROADS TO MARKET



Scenarios for 3D printing of personalized medicines - A case study

Netta Beer^a, Kasper Kaae^a, Marie Louise De Bruin^{c,d}, Natalja Genina^a,
 Robert^b, Sofia Kälvemarm Sporrang^{a,e,*}

^aand the Environment (RIVM), Bilthoven, the Netherlands
^bcy, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark
^cUtrecht Institute for Pharmaceutical Sciences, Utrecht University, Utrecht, the Netherlands

Scenario	Industry	Compounding facility	Large hospital pharmacy	Community pharmacy or small hospital pharmacy	Home
HTA					
Regulatory					
Economic					
Ethical					
Organizational					

Disaster Areas

Serious challenge Moderate challenge Minimal challenge

Source: Scenarios for 3D printing of personalized medicines - A case study; Netta Beer et al. 2021

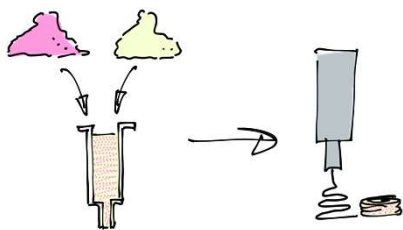
d clinical applications.
 ivery Reviews (2021)

3D PHARMA PRINTING

SMALL SERIES OR COMPLICATED TABLETS

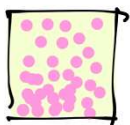
- HOW TO VALIDATE QUALITY?

- When producing ever smaller series of tablets of ever more complicated tablets (f.i. polypill)
 - > Destructive testing will be no longer a valid solution.

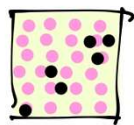


Which API?
API dose?

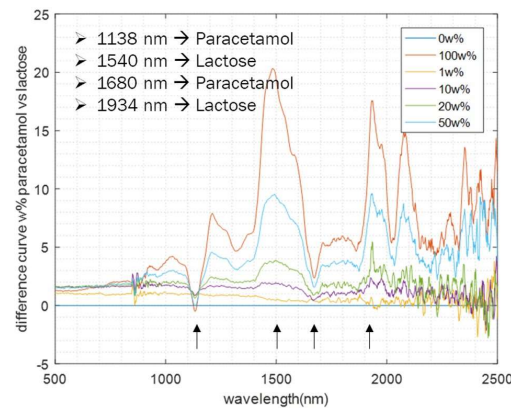
API dose = Tablet weight x API % in bulk



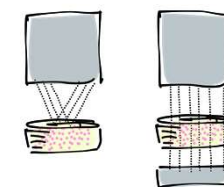
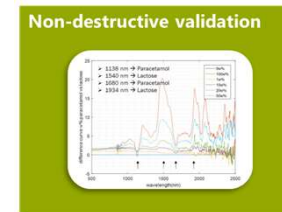
If: No inhomogeneity



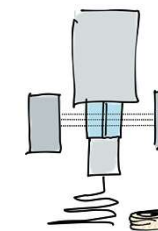
If: No API degradation



Spectral analysis



Look at tablet



Look at filament



› **THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION**
WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO PRINT?

Pieter.Debrauwer@tno.nl

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