

# Antimicrobial and Bone Growth Responses to Porous Tantalum Coatings

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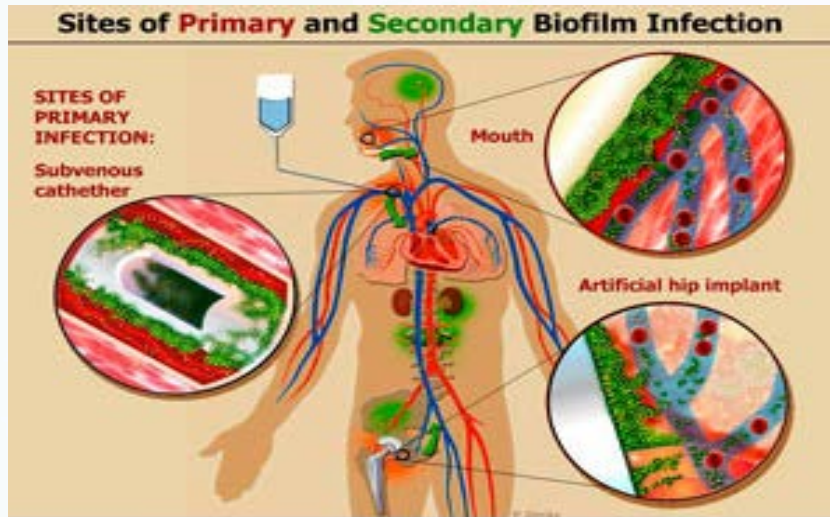
**Northeastern University**



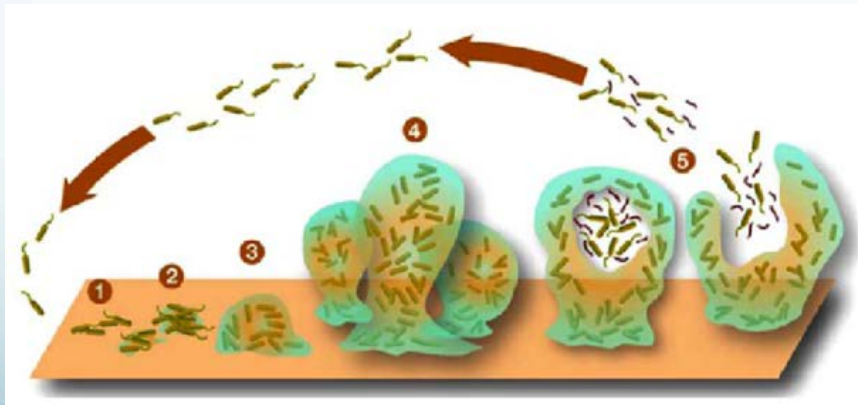
# Outline

- Introduction and Background
- Experimental Procedures
  - Tantalum Deposition Conditions and Coating Properties
  - Antimicrobial and Bone Growth Measurements
- Experimental Results
- Conclusions

# Bacterial Biofilm



Common sites of biofilm infection.<sup>[1]</sup>



The biofilm life cycle.<sup>[2]</sup>

- Hydrated polymeric matrix<sup>[3]</sup>
- More tolerant to antibiotic therapies than planktonic bacteria
- Easy to form but hard to treat
- Causes wide-spread infections<sup>[4]</sup>

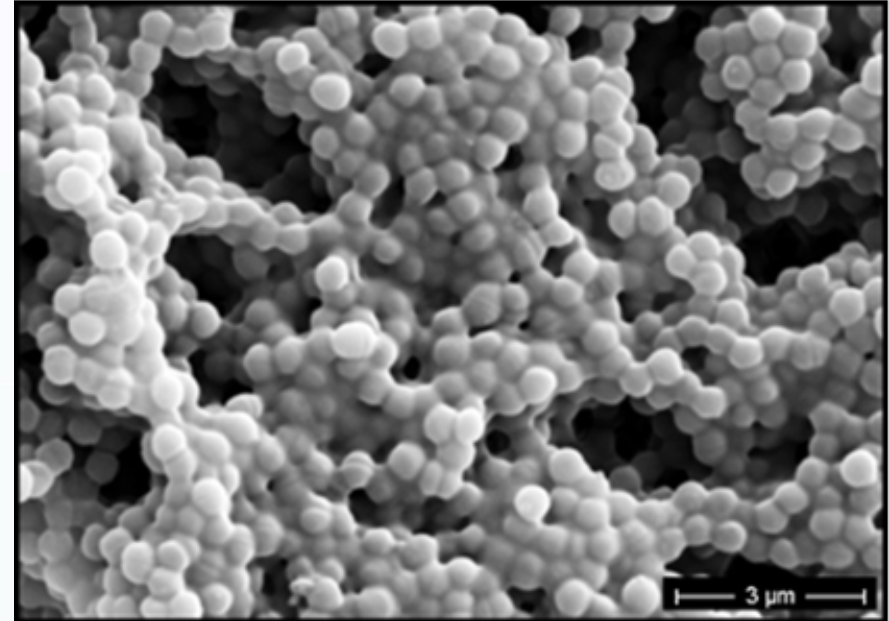
[1] Center for Biofilm Engineering, Montana State University, P. Dirckx. Used with permission.

[2] Cunningham, A. B., et al. Biofilm hypertextbook, Montana State University Center for Biofilm Engineering, 2005.

[3] Costerton JW, et al. Science. 1999;284:1318-1322. [4] Costerton JW. Int J Antimicrob. 1999;11:217-221.

# Staphylococcus Aureus

- Numerous infections, such as orthopedic, pimples, impetigo, pneumonia, endocarditis and sepsis
  - ***11 million outpatients, US<sup>[5]</sup>***
- Medical Devices
  - Catheters
  - Orthopedic prostheses
  - Contact lenses

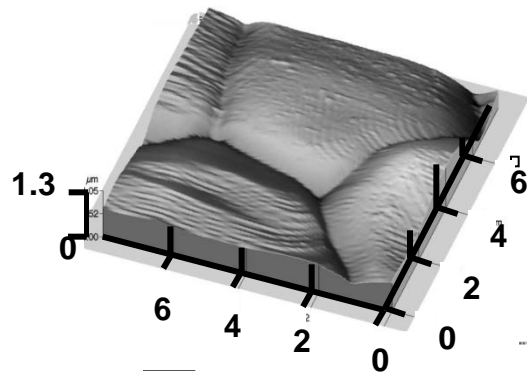


SEM of Staphylococcus Aureus biofilm<sup>[6]</sup>

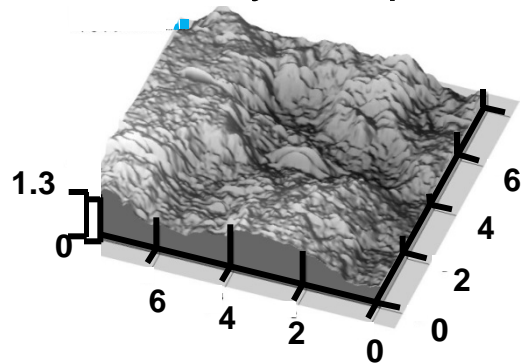
[5] Martinez LR, et al. J Invest Dermatol. 2009; 129(10):2463-2469.

[6] E. Swogger, Center for Biofilm Engineering, Montana State University, Bozeman

# Nano-structured Medical Materials



Today's Implant



Nano-structured Implant

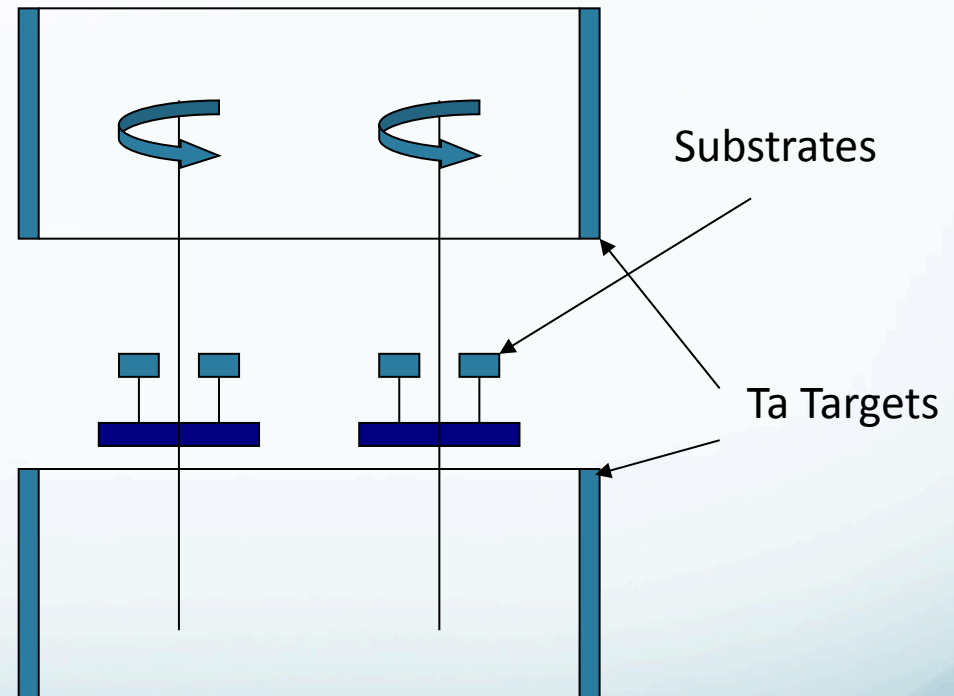
**Dimensions in Microns**

Compared to today's implants, nano-structured materials possess enhanced:

- Surface area
- Radiopacity
- Catalytic effects
- Optical properties
- Mechanical strength
- Electrical properties
- Surface properties that may decrease bacteria function

# Tantalum Deposition Conditions

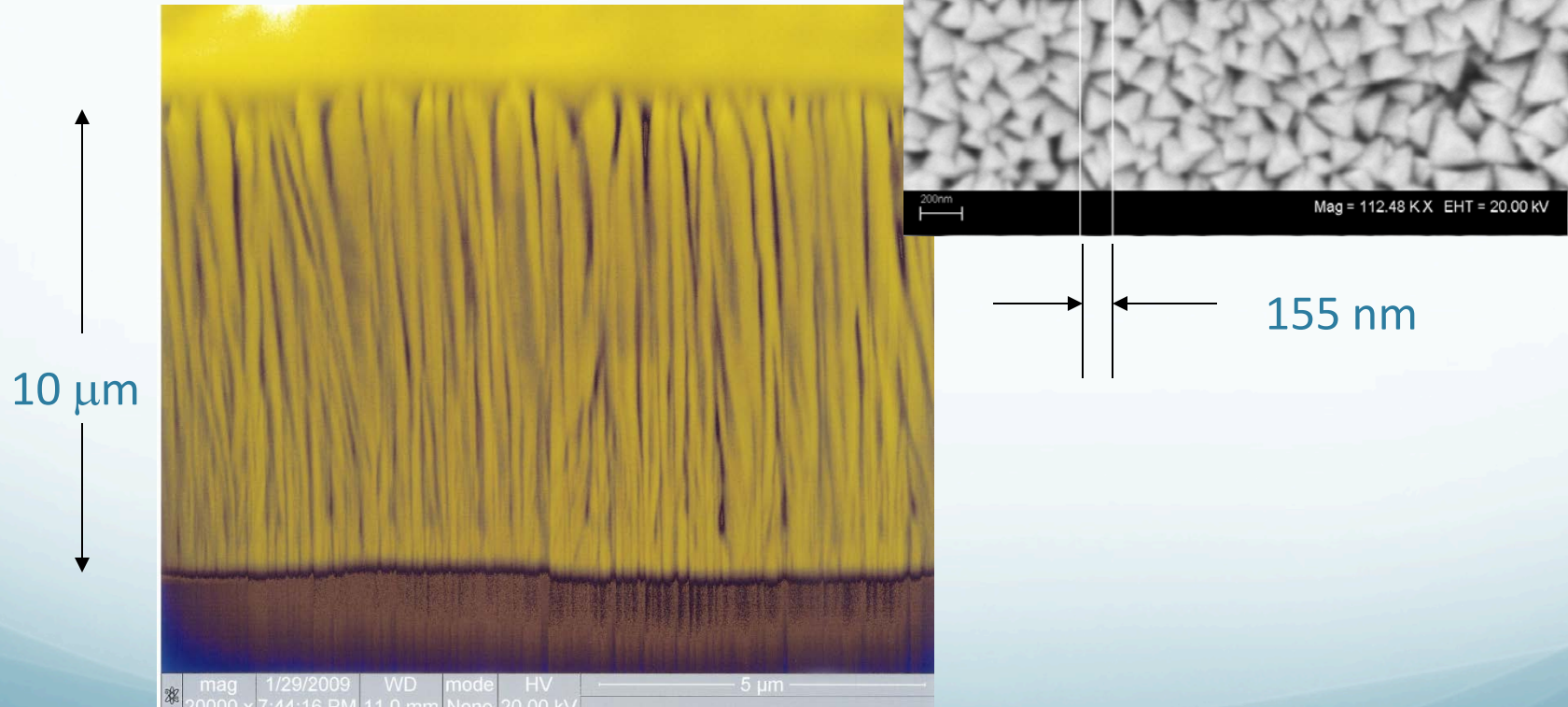
- Two Ta inverted cylindrical targets,  $\phi$  33 cm by 10 cm high, separated by 10 cm
- Total power: 2 kW DC
- Pressure: 8 mT Kr
- Deposition Rate: 33 nm/min
- Thickness: 10 nm
- Substrates: Ti or PEEK





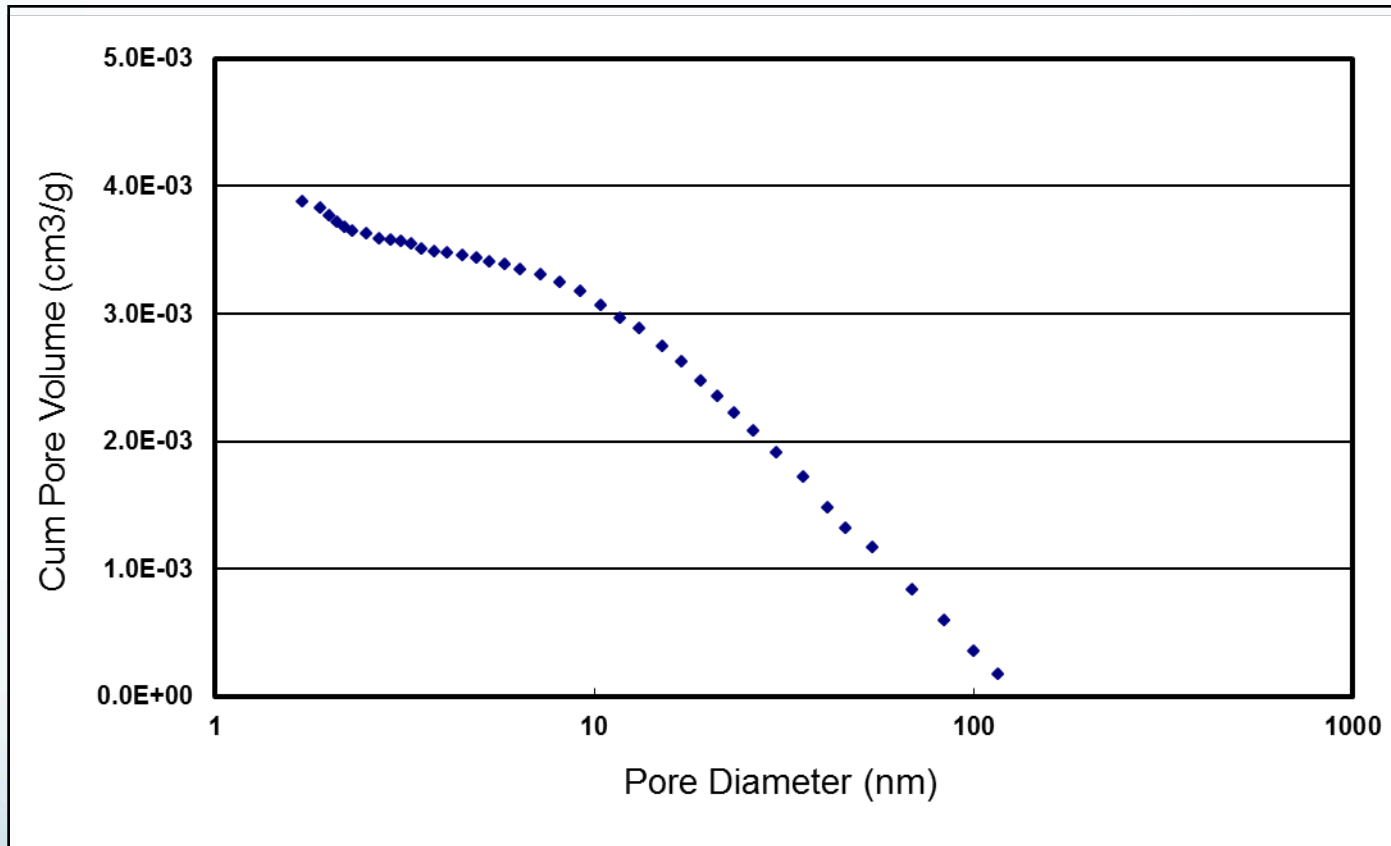
# Resulting Coating Properties

- Extreme Zone 1 structure



# Coating Pore Size Distribution

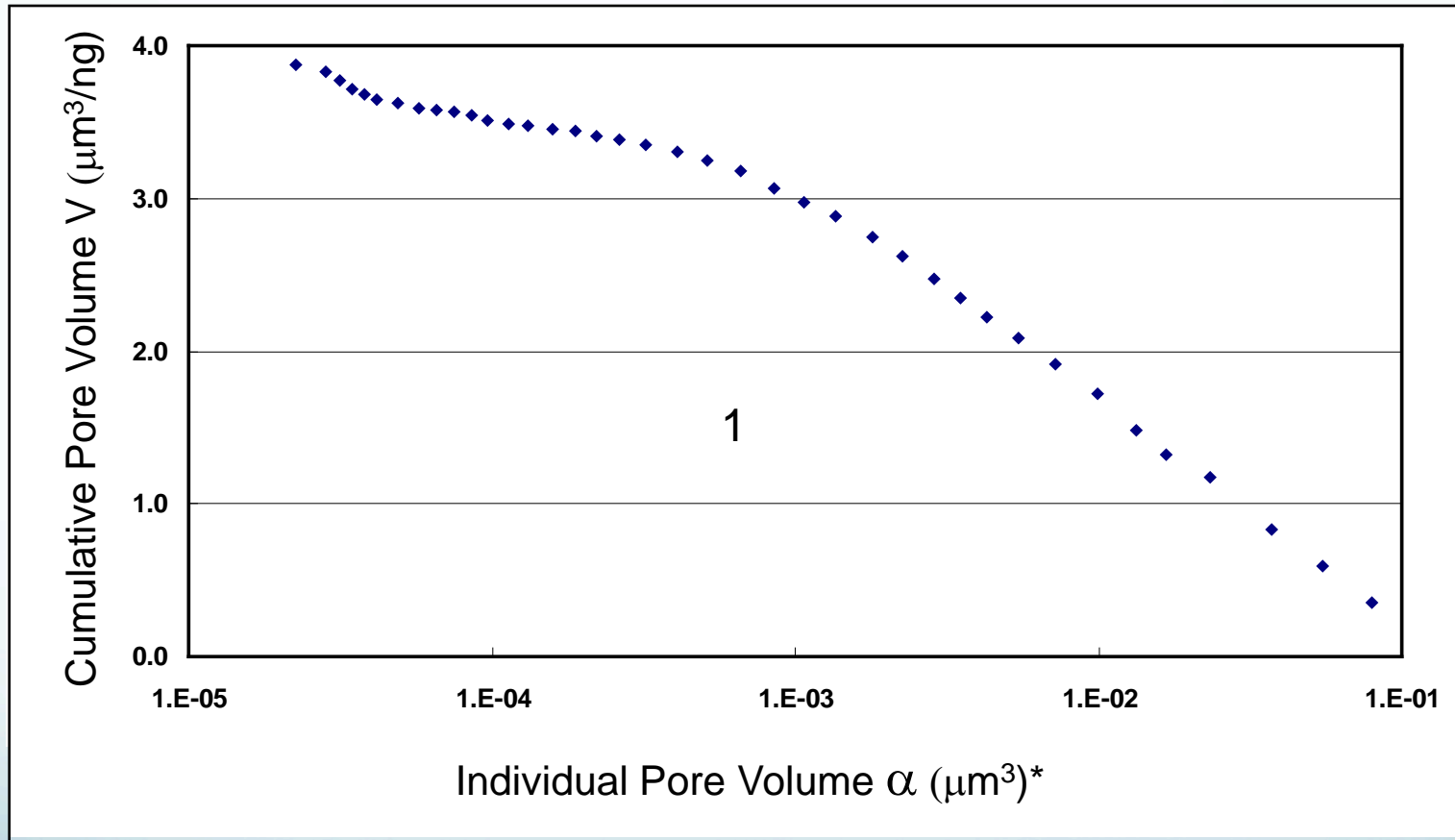
## BET Nitrogen Adsorption Isotherms





# Coating Pore Size Distribution

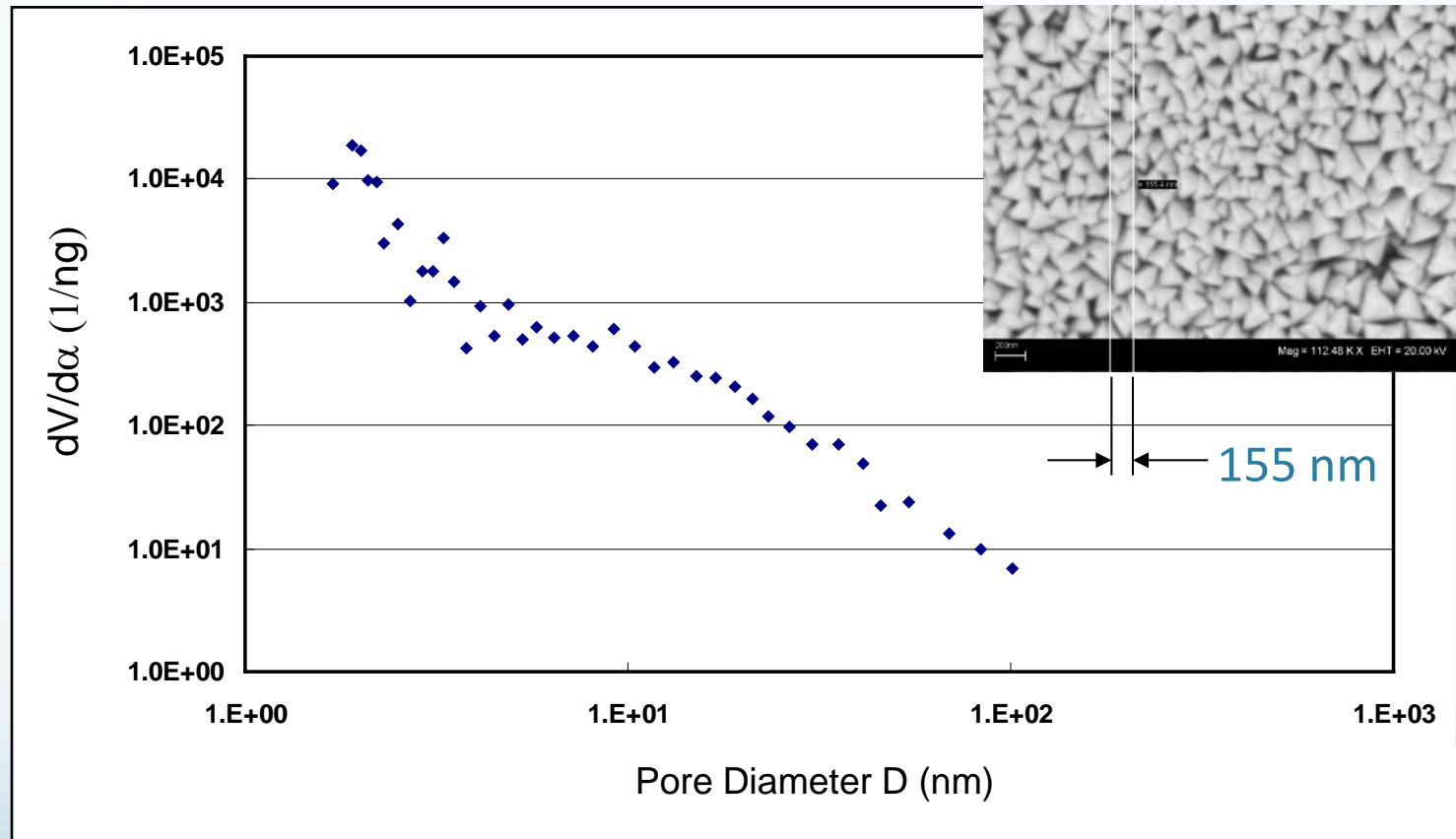
## Cumulative Pore Volume vs. Individual Pore Volume



\*Assuming cylindrical pores and a 10  $\mu\text{m}$  thick coating

# Coating Pore Size Distribution

## Number of Pores vs. Pore Diameter

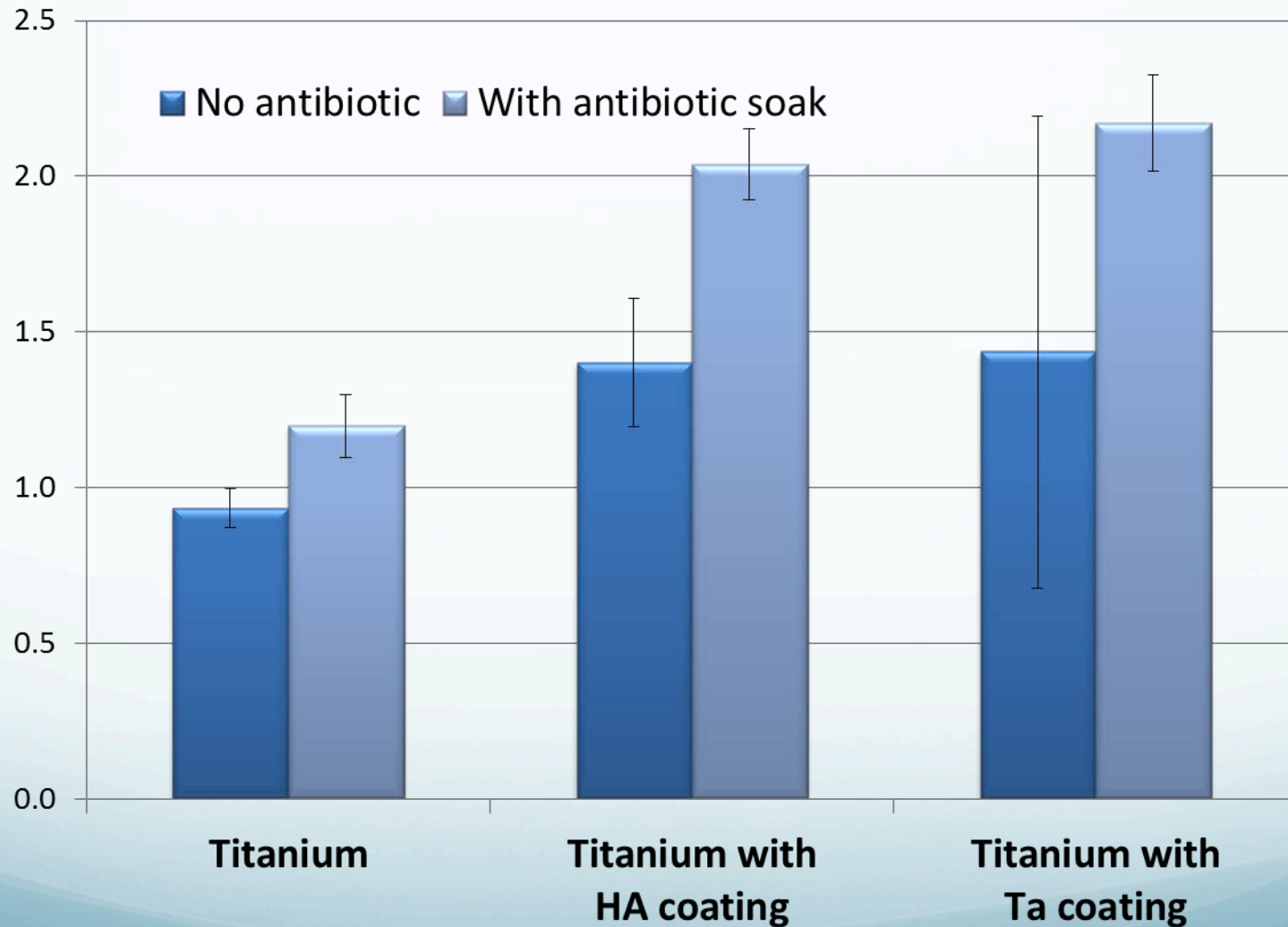


(1 g  $\sim 5 \times 10^9 \mu\text{m}^2$ )

# *In vivo* Infection Model

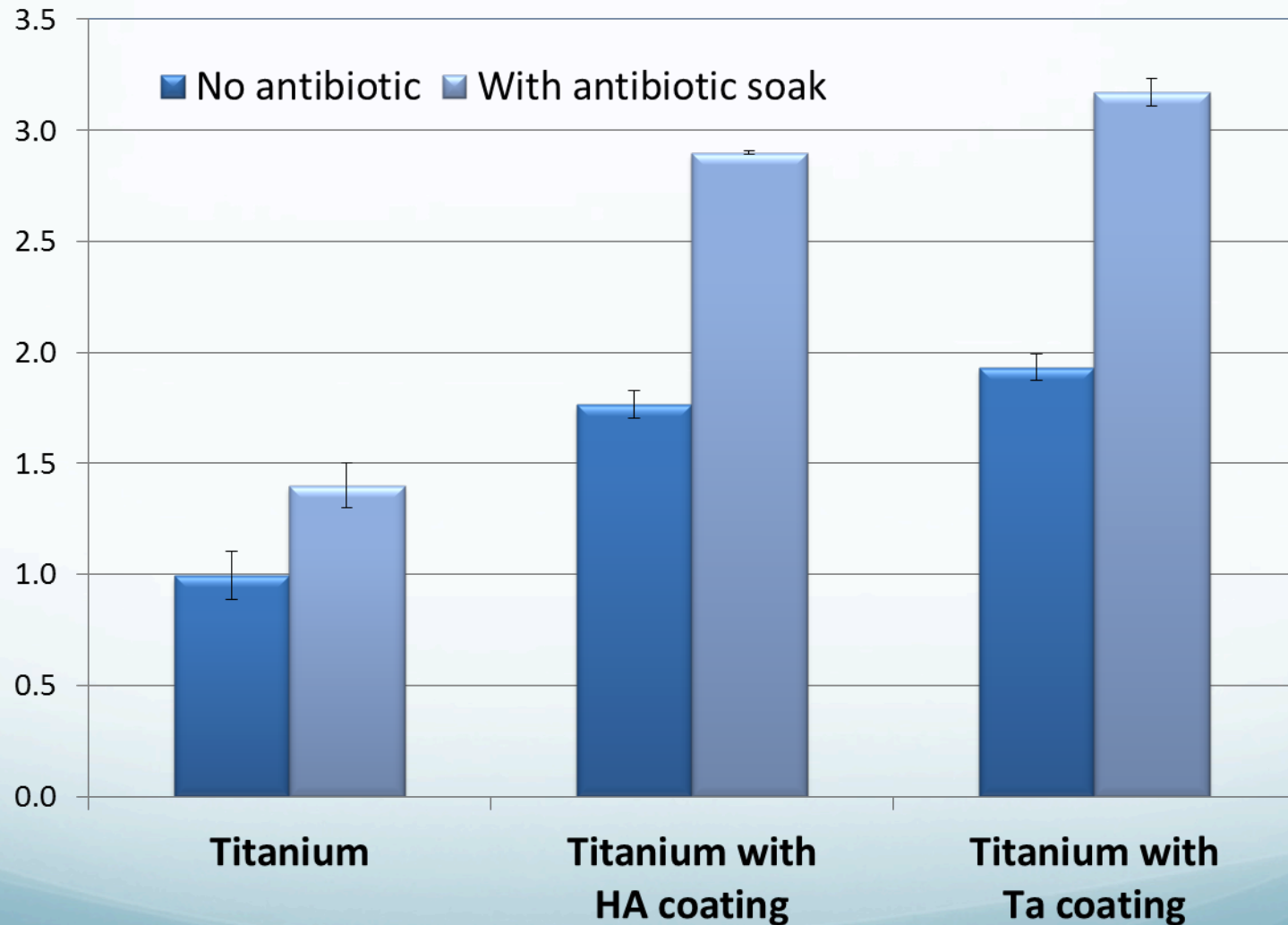
- To determine the ability of bone to grow on the proposed materials in the presence of bacteria:
  - Some samples were used as-is while some were soaked in antibiotics
  - Samples were then inoculated with  $10^5$  *Staph. epidermidis* colony forming units and implanted into rat calvarial defects
  - After 1 or 4 weeks, samples with juxtaposed bone were removed and tested for bone push-out strength

# Improved Push-Out Strength for Coated Titanium (1 Week)



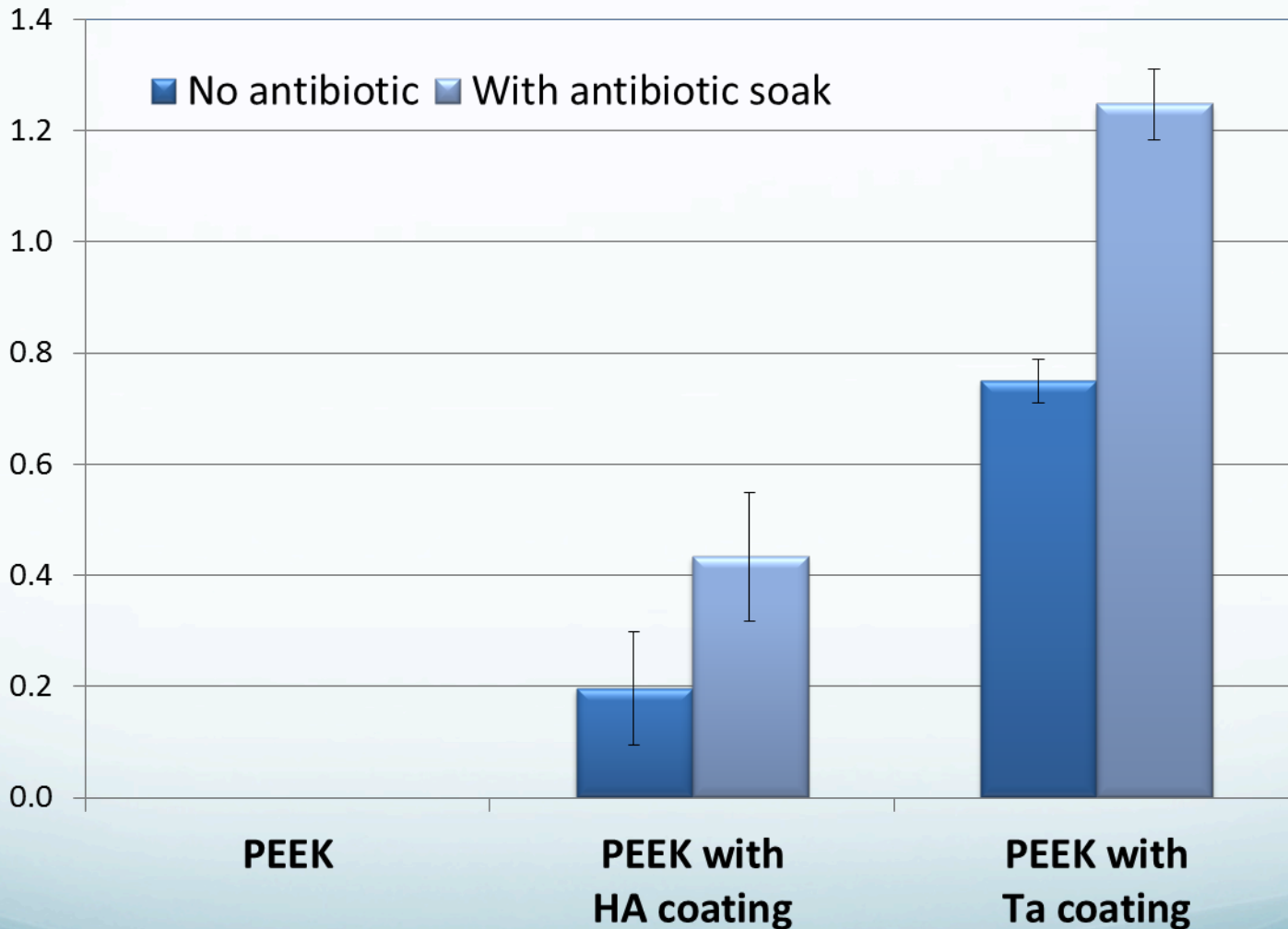
Y axis = push-out strength in Mpa. Data = mean  $\pm$  SEM; N = 3.

# Improved Push-Out Strength for Coated Titanium (4 Weeks)



Y axis = push-out strength in Mpa. Data = mean  $\pm$  SEM; N = 3.

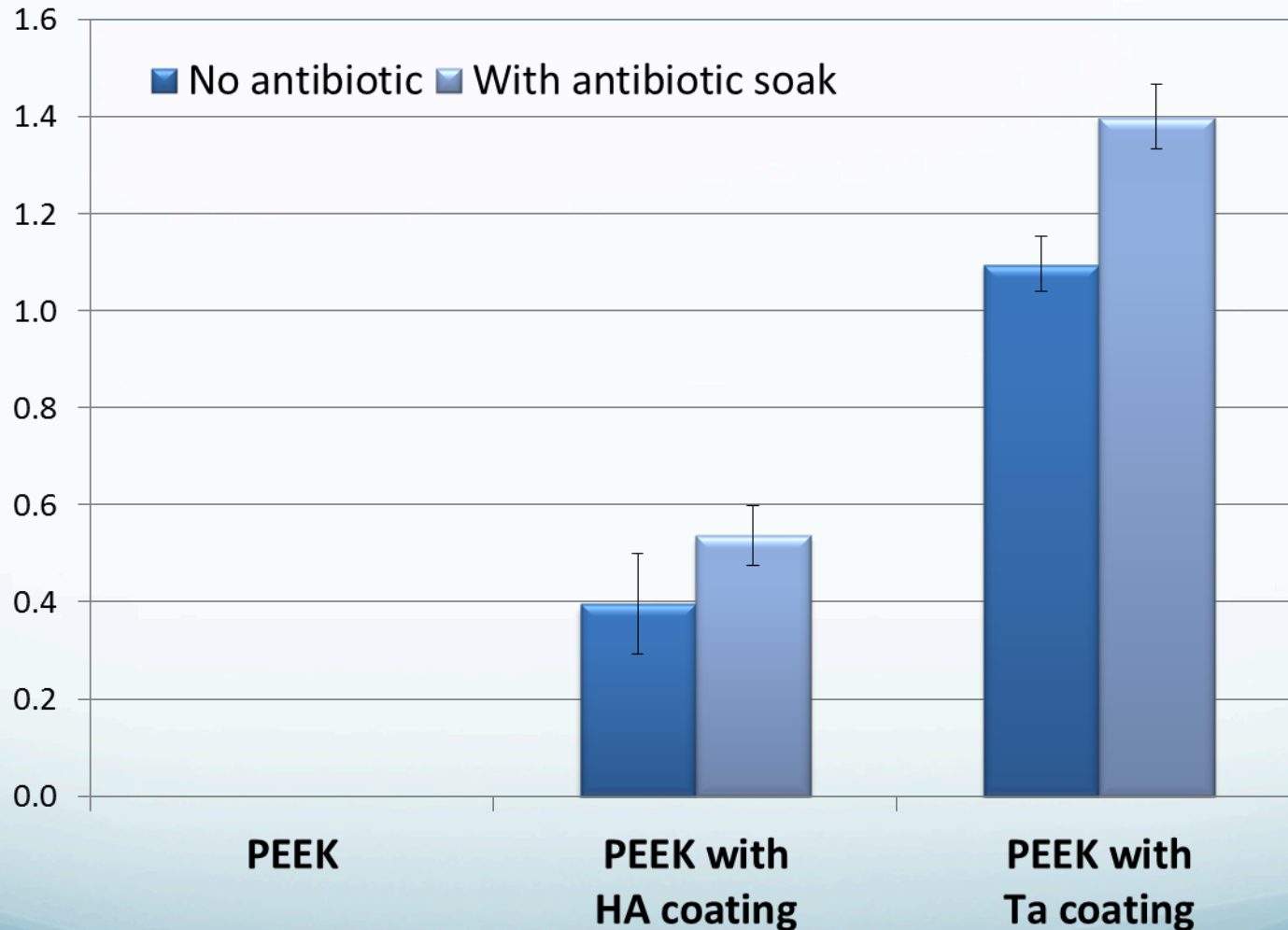
# Improved Push-Out Strength for Coated PEEK (1 Week)



Y axis = push-out strength in MPa. Data = mean  $\pm$  SEM; N = 3.  
Isoflux TA coating  $p < 0.0004$  compared to PEEK without coating.

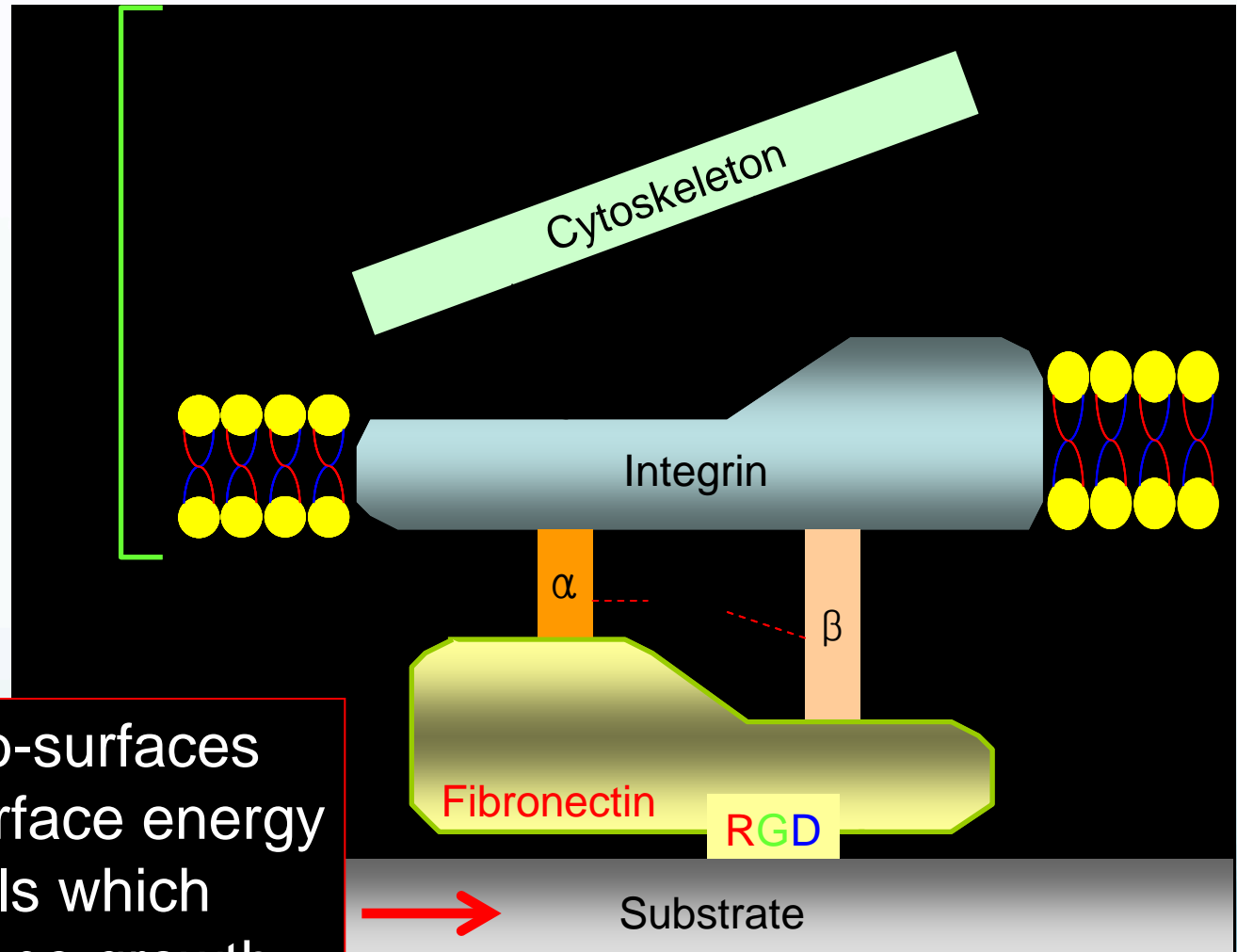


# Improved Push-Out Strength for Coated PEEK (4 Weeks)



Y axis = push-out strength in MPa. Data = mean  $\pm$  SEM; N = 3.  
Isoflux TA coating  $p < 0.0004$  compared to PEEK without coating.

# Increasing Bone Growth and Decreasing Bacteria Growth on Nanofeatured Materials



Create nano-surfaces to increase surface energy on materials which increases bone growth

# Conclusions

- Nanoporous tantalum coated materials improved bone growth in the presence of bacteria to significantly improve push-out strength.
- Future studies should determine the exact mechanism of increased bone growth and decreased bacteria growth on the proposed materials.

***Thank You!***