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Inhaled Microbiomics, Pharmaceutical Formulation and Disease Considerations in Patients with Cystic Fibrosis

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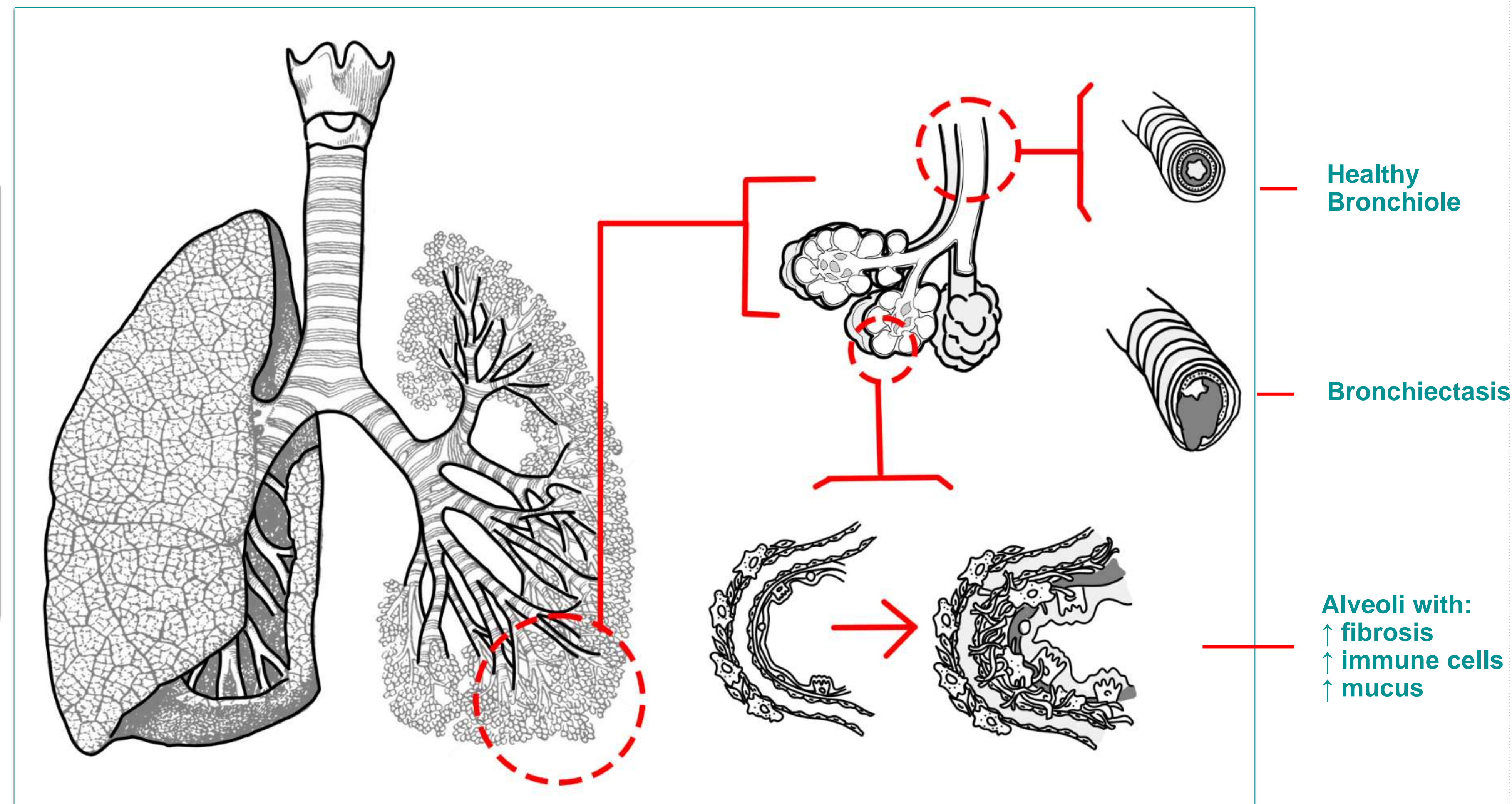


INTRODUCTION

Cystic Fibrosis (CF)

- Chronic disease, with estimated frequency between 1/3000 and 1/6000 new births (1).
- New treatments have significantly prolonged patient's life expectancy.
- With almost 3-fold increases in life expectancy, there is a new aging patient population with CF. These patient's quality of life are often in direct relation to their exacerbations.

CF Lung Pathology



Microbiomics of the respiratory tract

- Key data has shown that decreased bacterial diversity with an increase in bacterial abundance is a sign of poor CF prognosis (2).
- CF has important anatomical changes as it relates to the microenvironment (viscosity, pH, oxygen/blood supply) and structure (fibrosis and bronchiectasis) of the respiratory system (3).
- Thus, CF is seen to have characteristic microbiomic changes as it relates to the inhabitation, virility, and abundance of bacteria (4,5).

Hypothesis

- Formulations which contain appropriate doses and species of a healthy respiratory microbiome, offer a viable inhaled therapy option to slow CF progression and morbidity.

METHODS

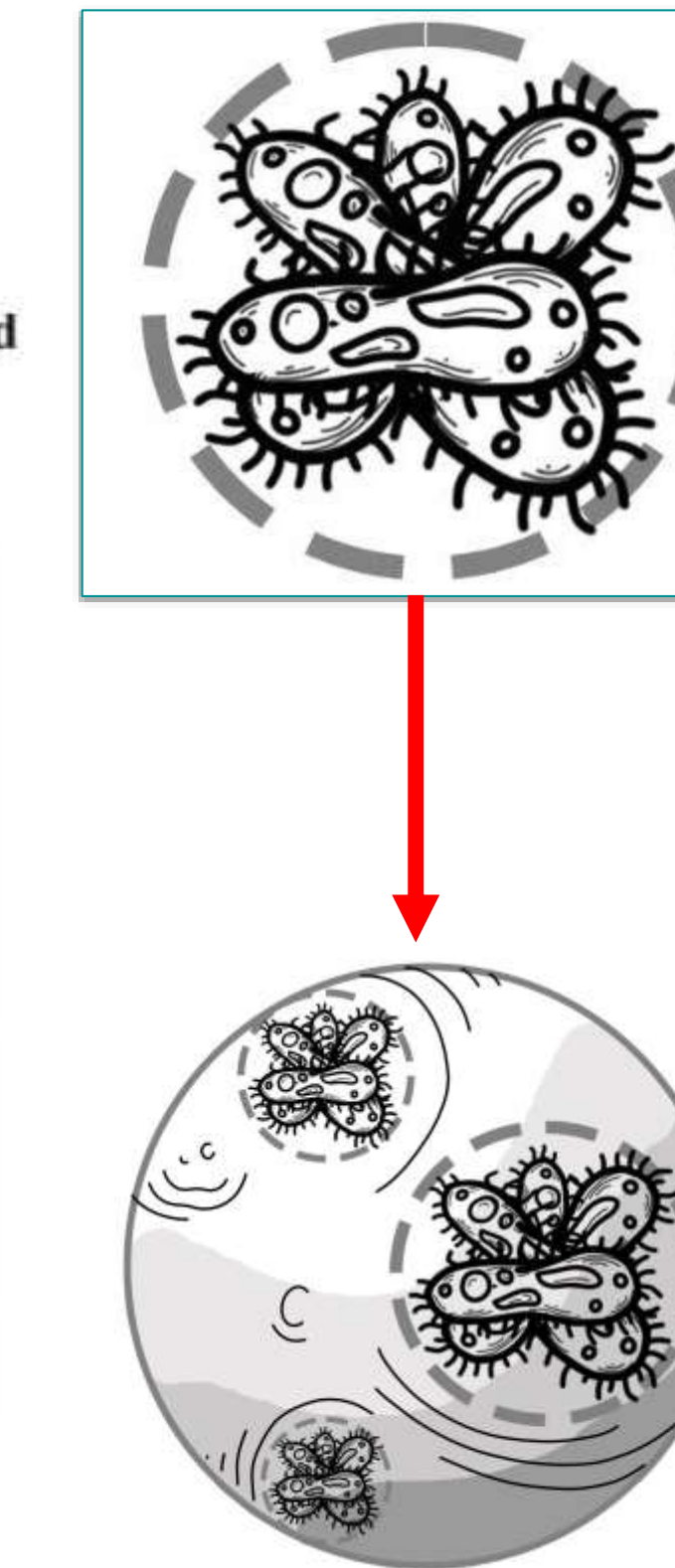
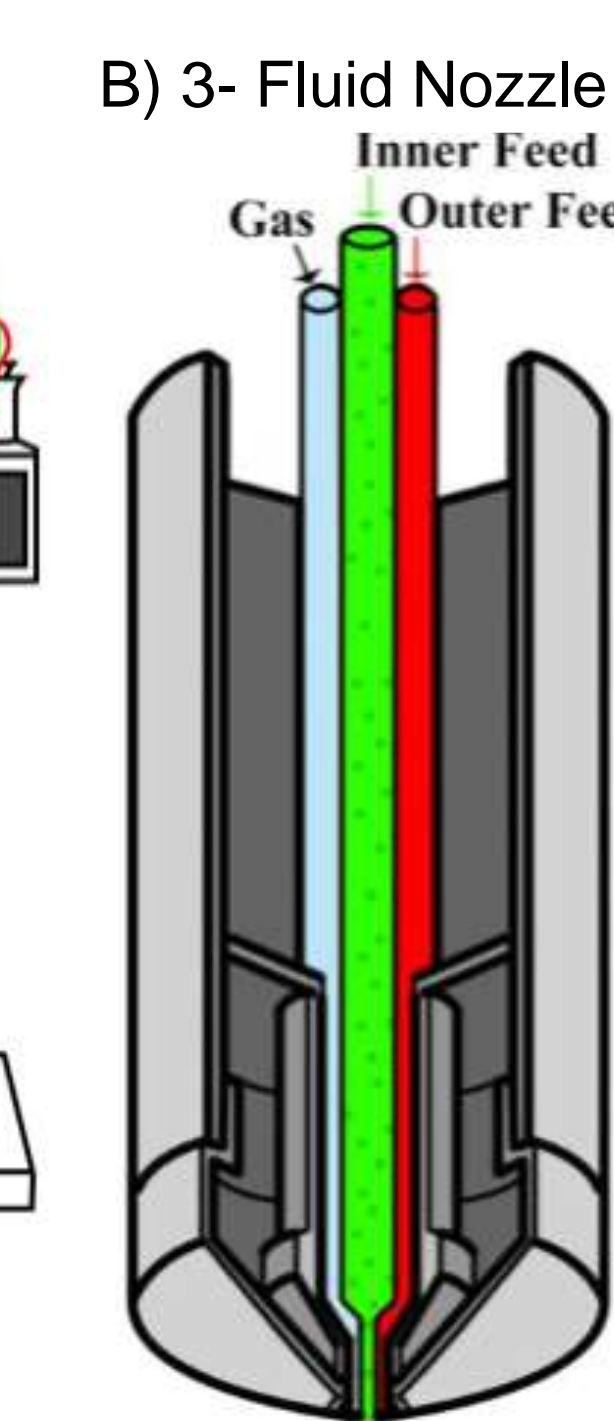
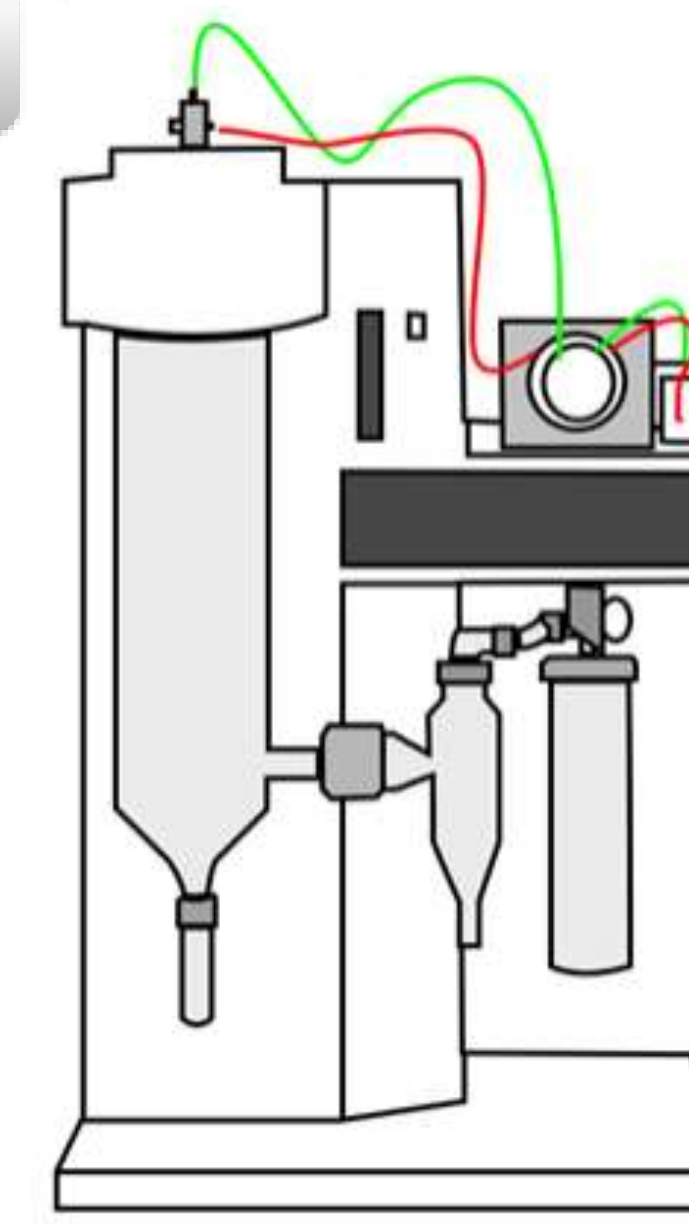
Spray Drying (SD)- Buchi B-290 Mini

- Bottom-up manufacturing process used to formulate microparticles (MPs) in the 1–10-micron size range.
- Used to engineer MPs containing drugs and vaccines compatible with pulmonary delivery.

Formulation Design

- SD dry powders containing:
 - Bacteria of a healthy respiratory microbiome
 - Mannitol for osmotic effect
 - Sodium for mucus lysing effect
 - Citrulline
 - Tobramycin

A) Buchi B-290 SD



Powder assessments

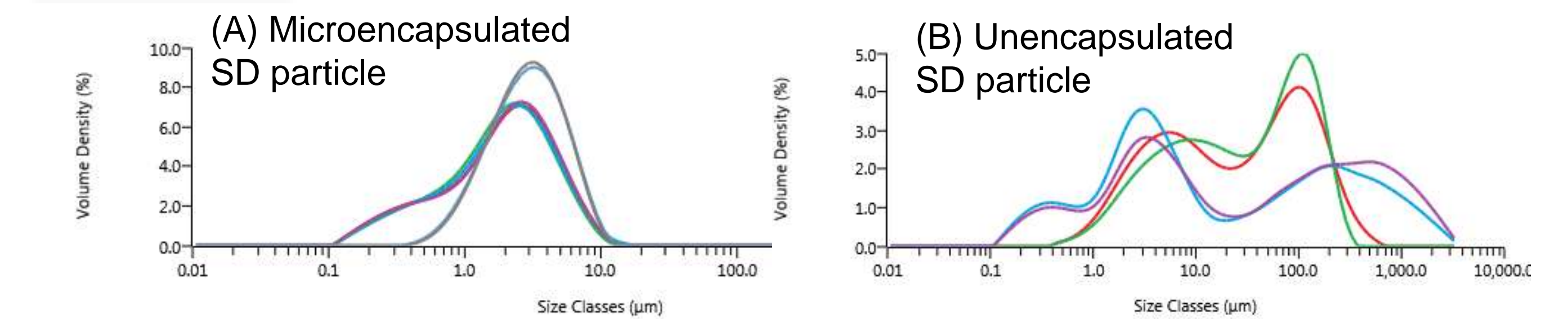
- Assessment for process optimization, yield, and manufacturing consistency.
- (1) Particle size distribution (PSD) via laser diffraction.
- (2) Mean mass aerodynamic size (MMAD) via next generation particle impactor.
- (3) Particle morphological assessment via scanning electron microscopy (SEM)

Pharmaceutical assessments

- Bacterial loading, viability, and survival post SD
- Epithelial cell studies
- Animal studies (CFTRtm1Unc)

RESULTS

(1) PSD



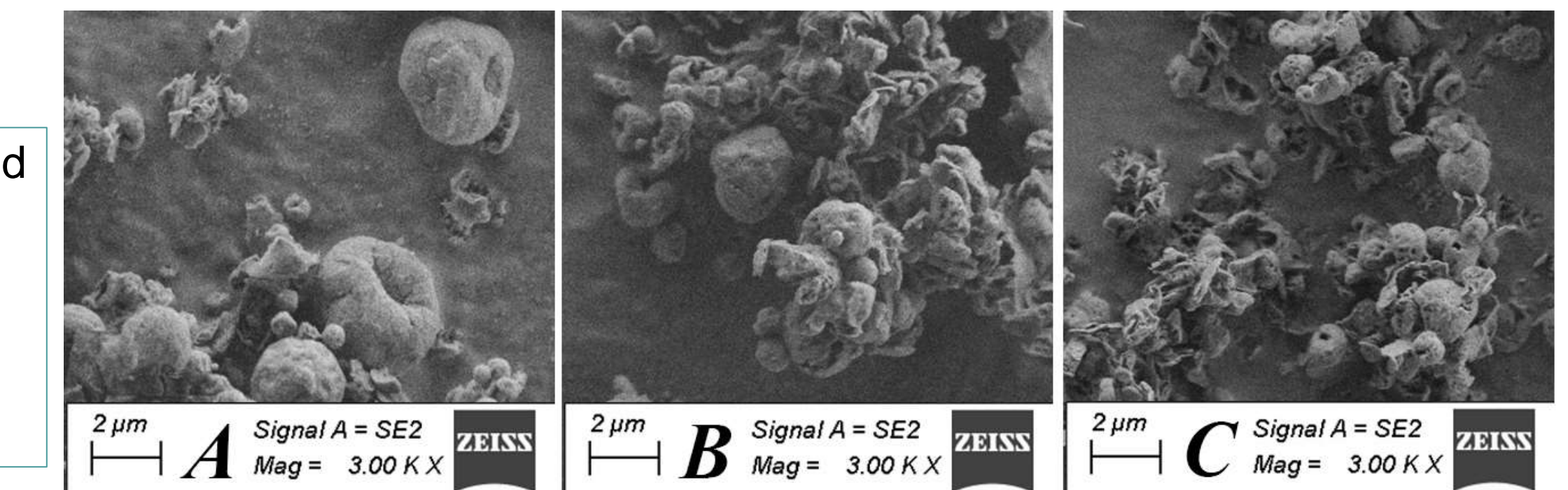
(2) MMAD

S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
μm	8.1	4.5	2.8	1.7	0.9	0.6	0.3

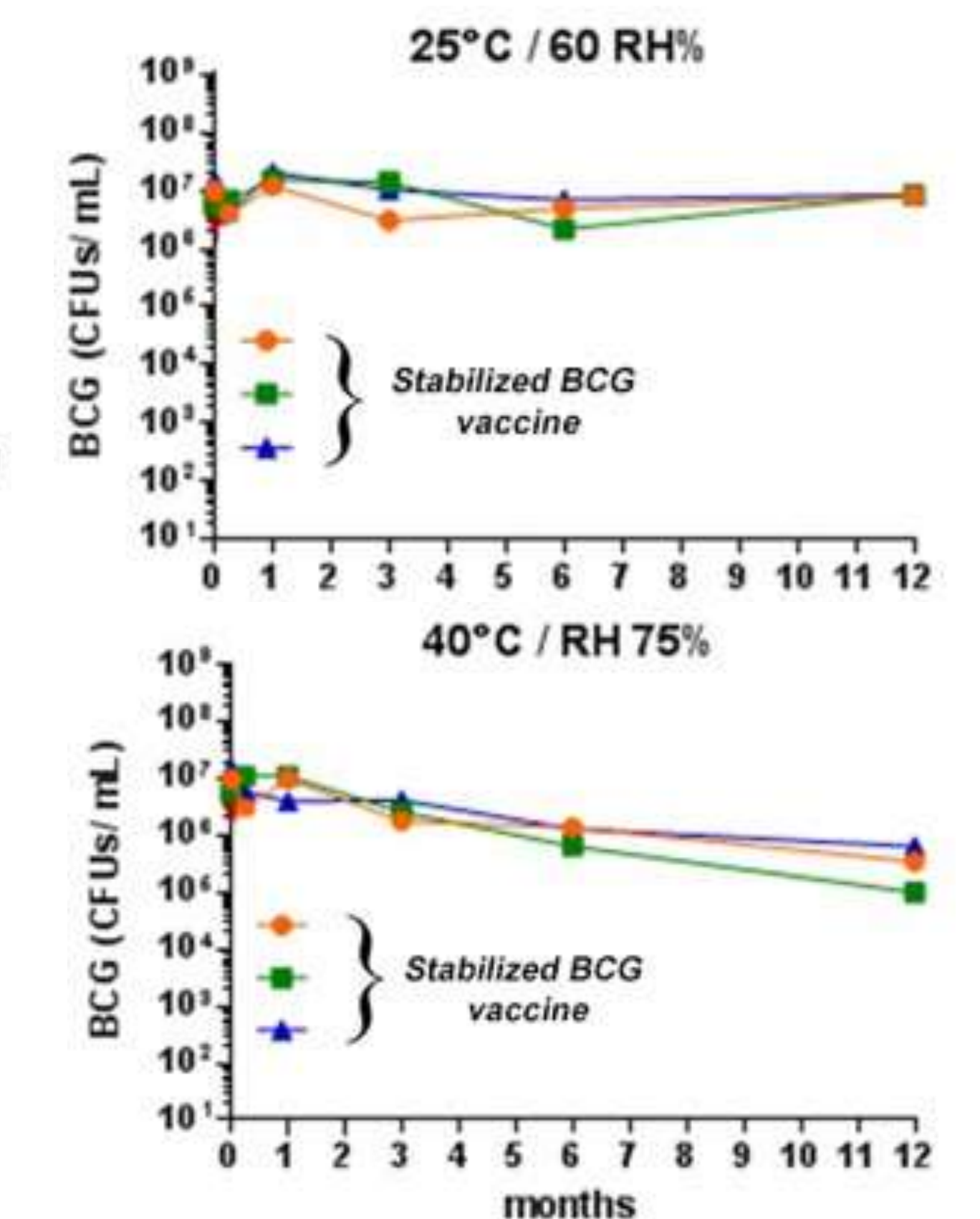
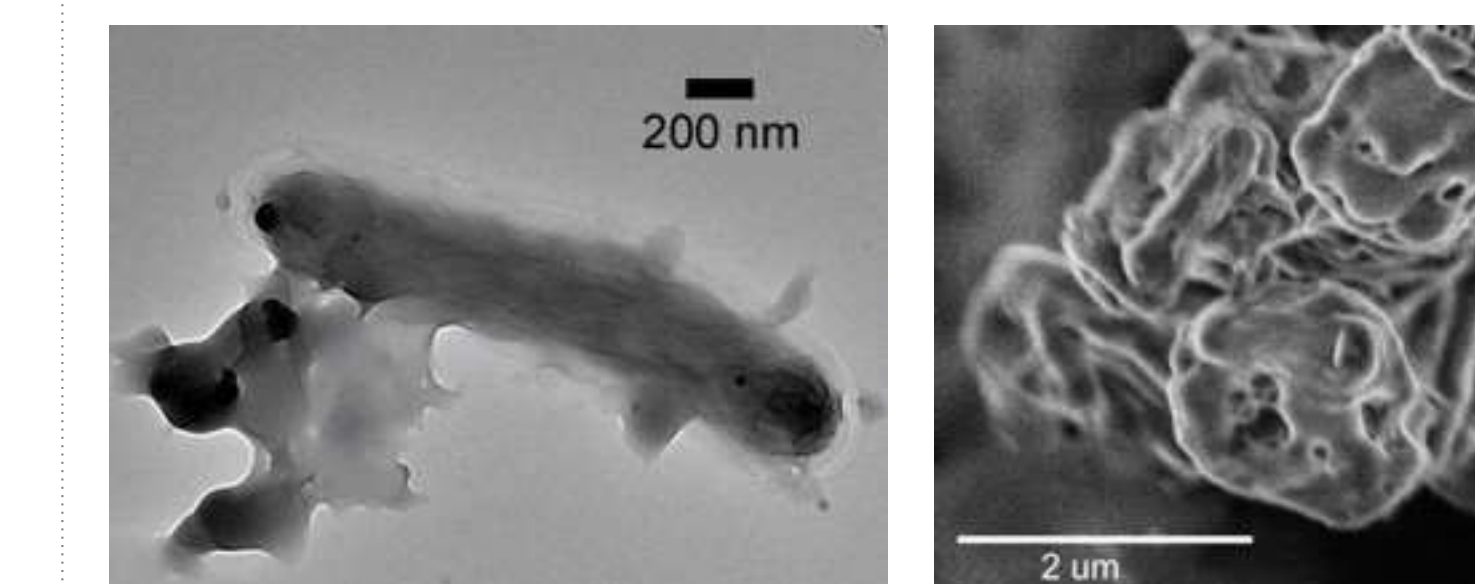
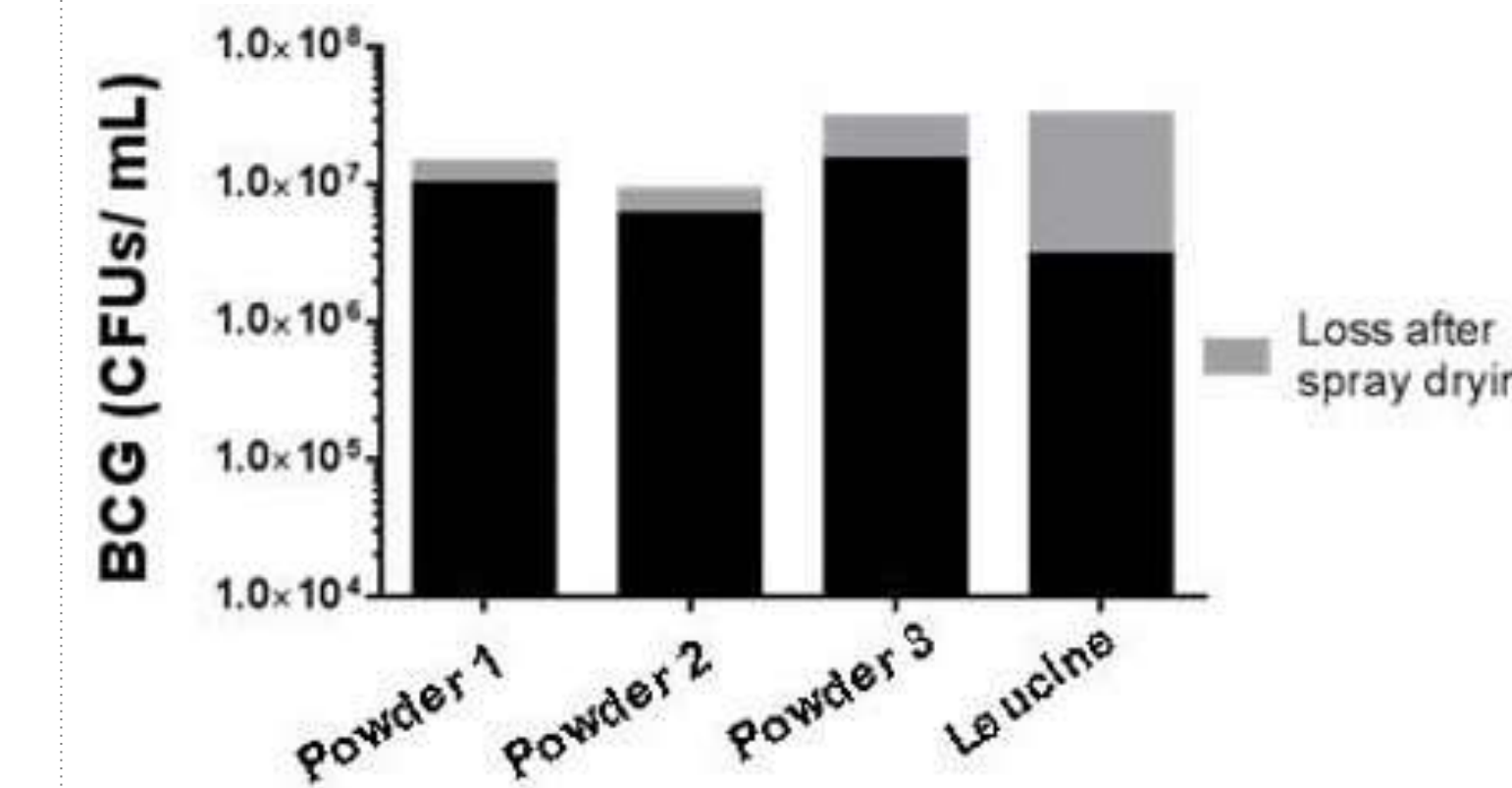


(3) SEM

(A) Microencapsulated SD particle
(B) Unencapsulated SD particle
(C) Un-optimized SD pump system



Bacterial Assessments



Future Directions

- Optimization of dry powder formulation containing bacteria and key additives in the treatment of CF.
- Evaluation in animal models, including CF models.
- Understand the interactions of inhaled microbes with the host microbiome, immune system, and health status.

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