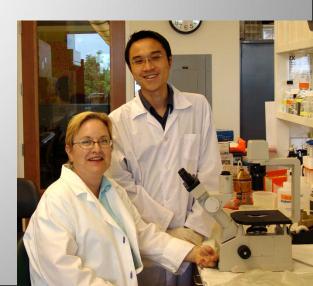
### Impact of Islet Size on Graft Function

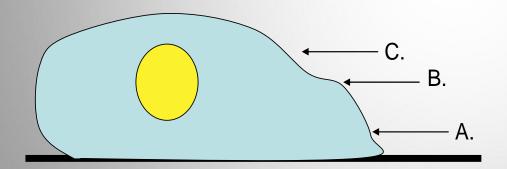


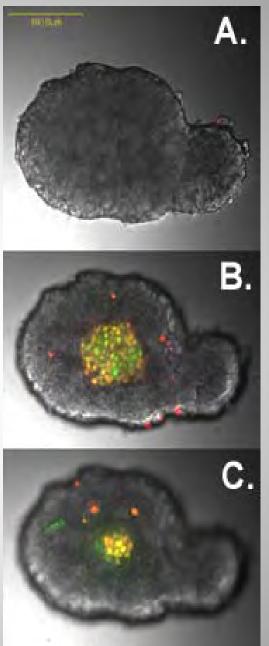
Lisa Stehno-Bittel, PhD, PT
University of Kansas Medical Center
Great Plain Diabetes Institute

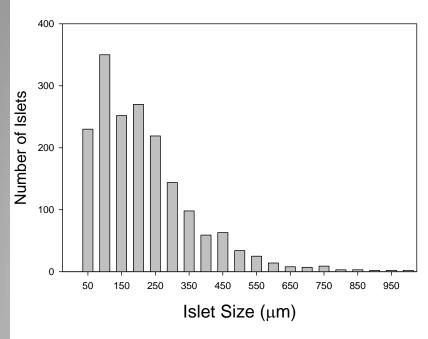


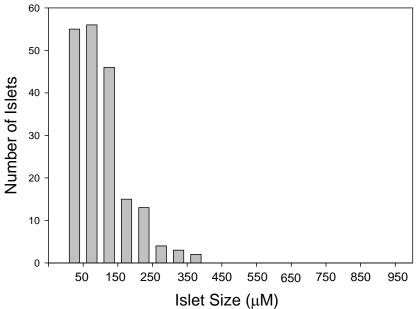


## Core Cell Death in Low-Insulin Secreting Islets







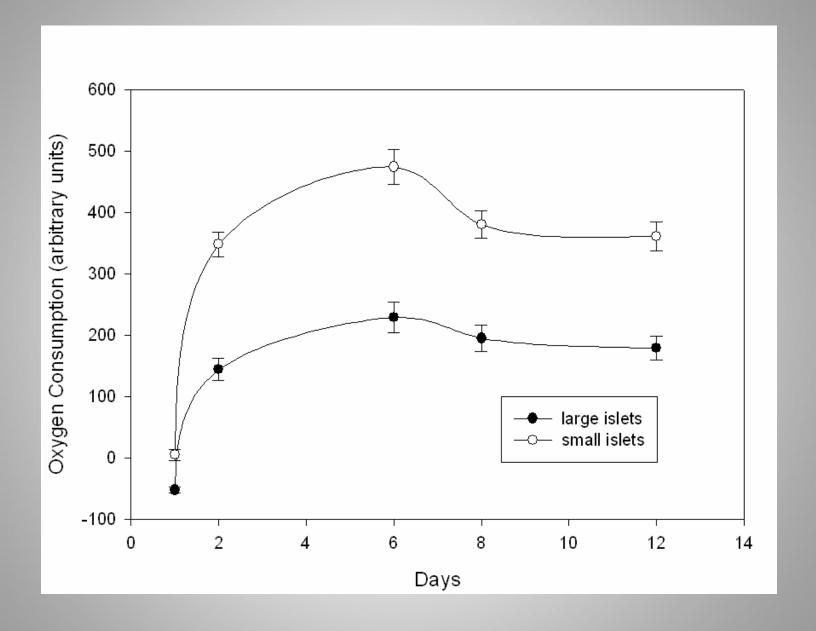


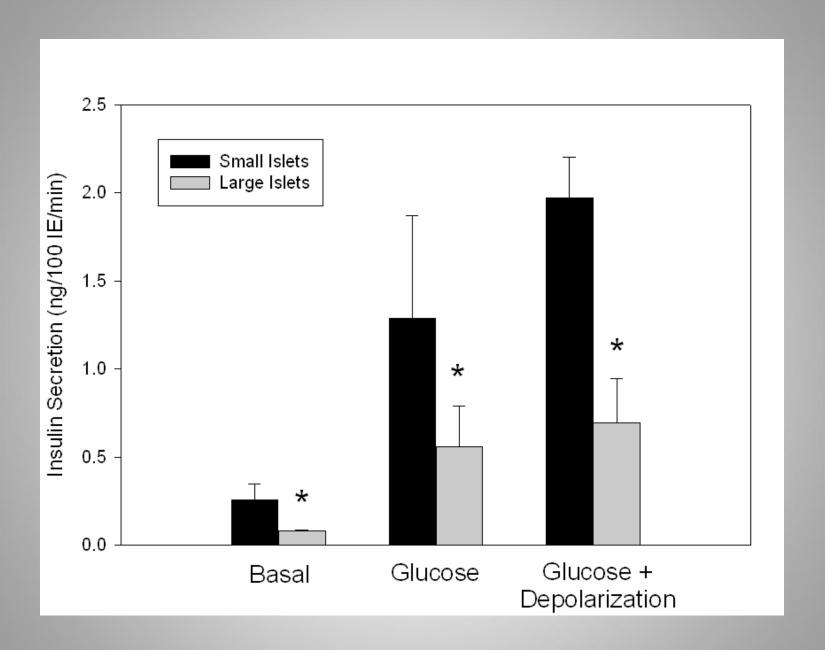
#### **Human Islet Survival**

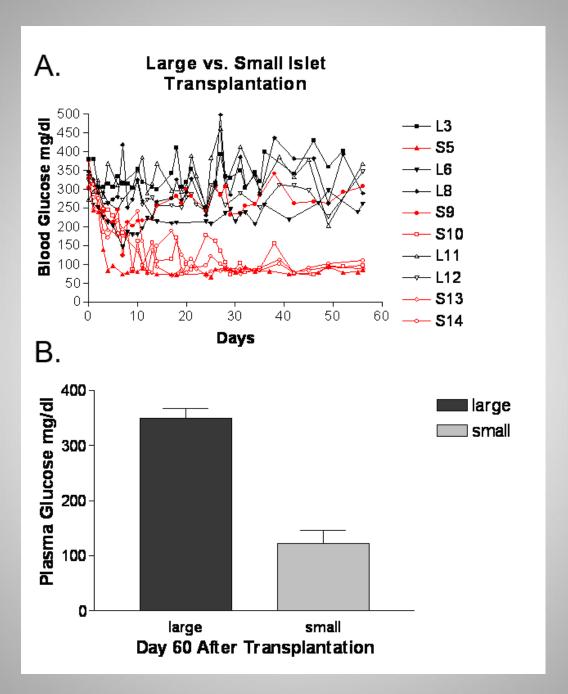
Day 1

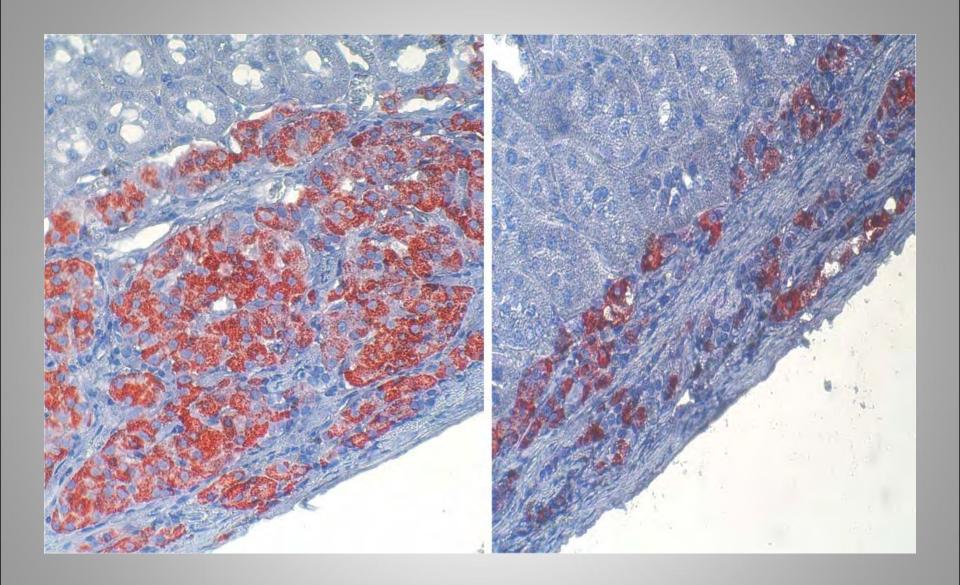


Day 12

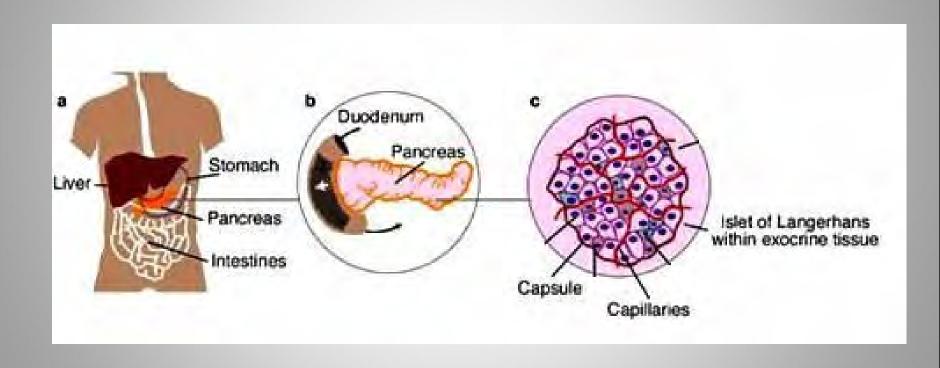


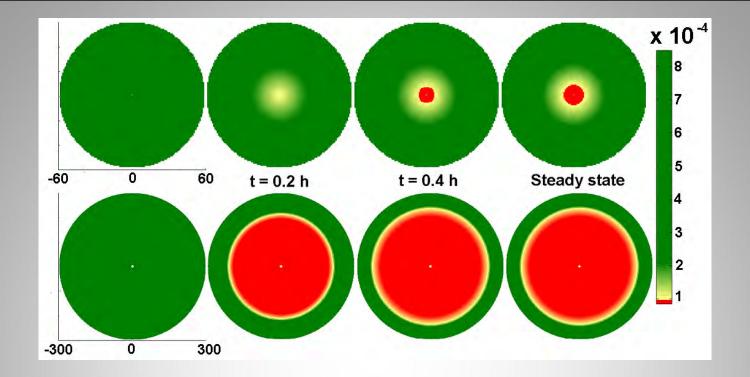






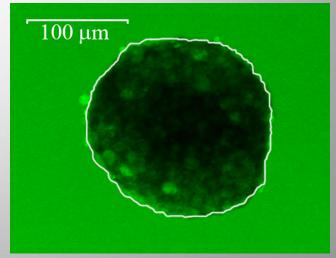
## Are Decreased Functional Outcomes for Large LIS Islets Due to Diffusion Barrier?





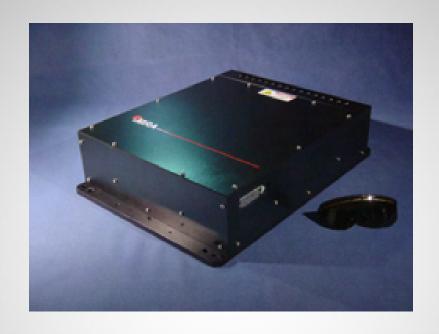
Dynamic partial differential equations for a spherical islet were solved numerically using finite-difference method in spherical coordinates

Confirmed with 2 NBDG diffusion experiments

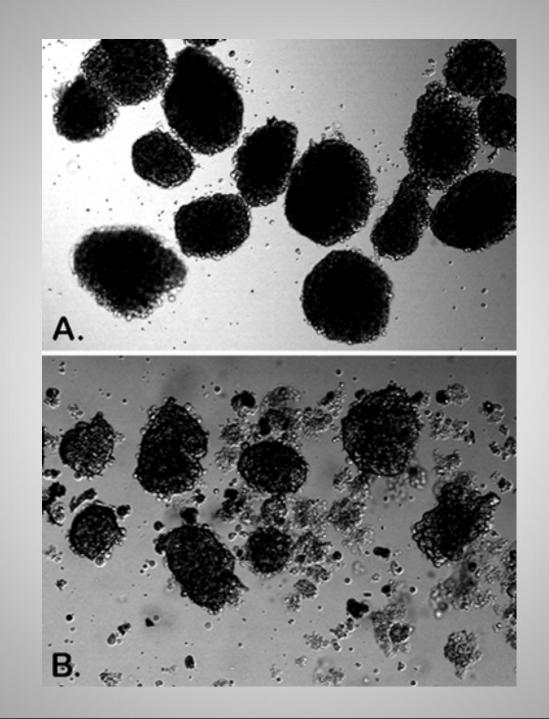


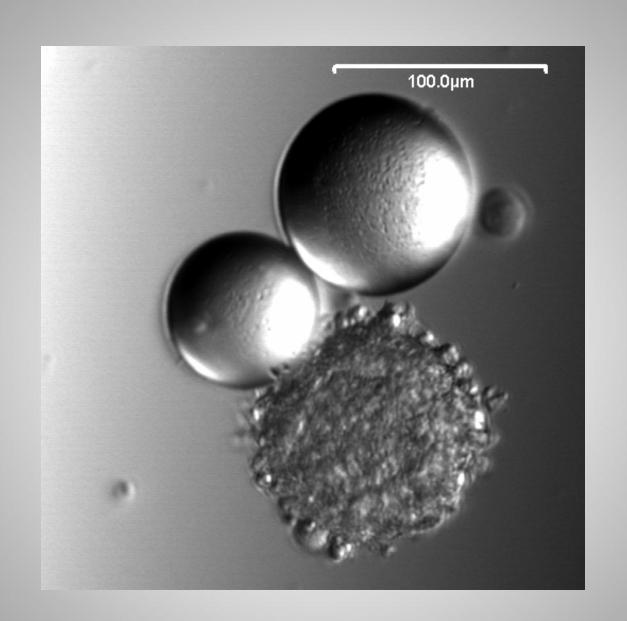
# Will reducing the diffusion barrier in large islets improve their function?

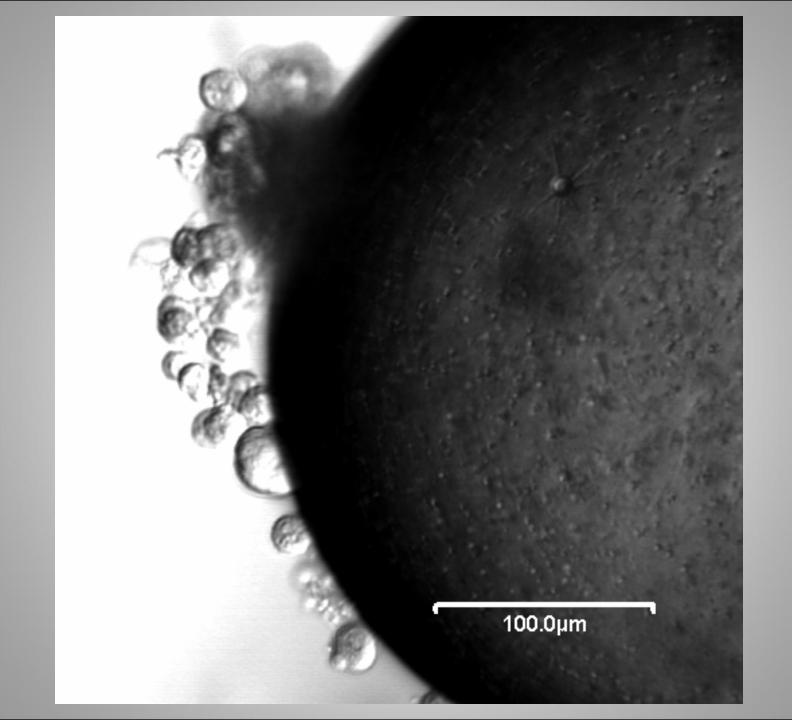
- 1) Cut islet into segments
- 2) Engineer islets
- 3) Make islets porous

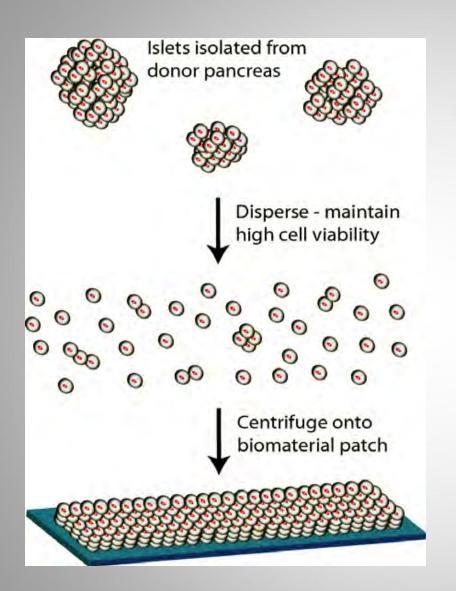


- IMRA FCPA μJ laser
- Yb-fiber oscillator / amplifier system 1  $\mu$ m wavelength output.
- Pulse widths to < 500 fs

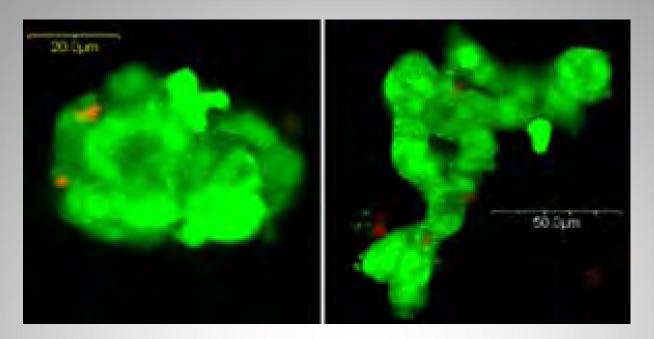


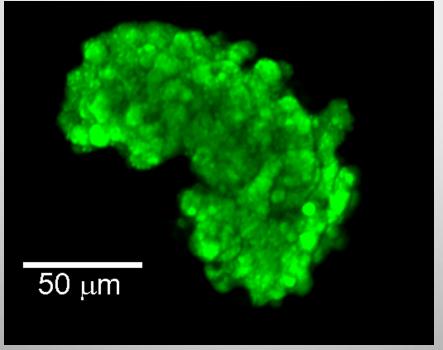




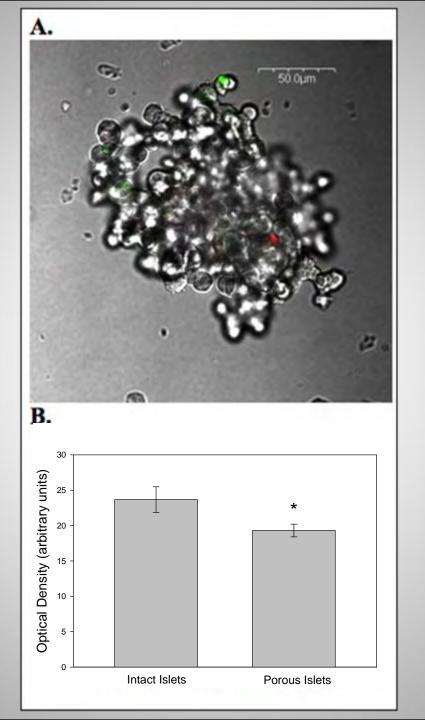




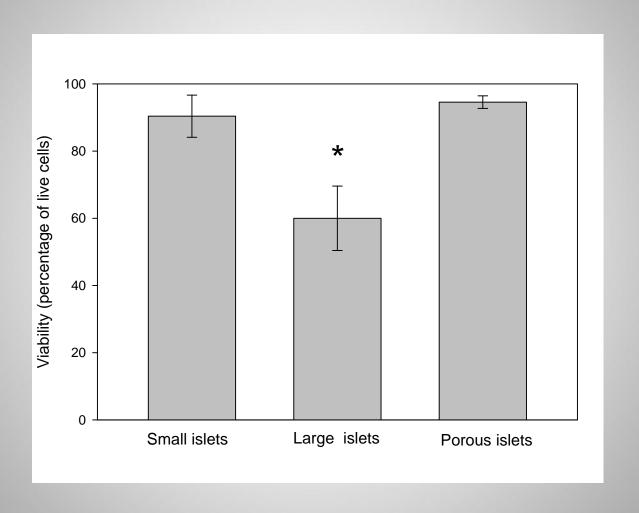


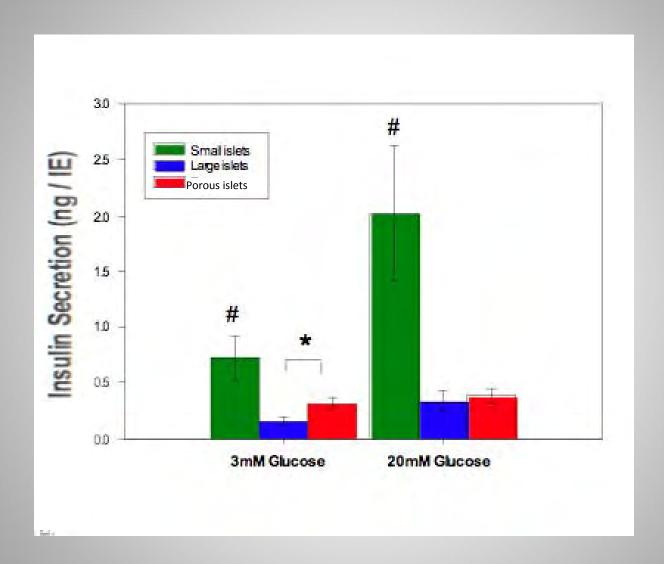


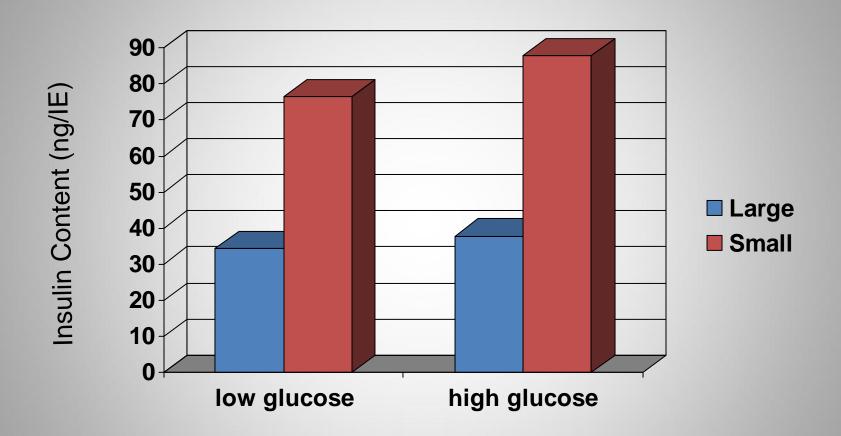
How can we prove that islets are porous?



#### **Increasing Surface Area Increased Viability**







# Is there something inherently different between small and large islets?

Are these different subpopulations of islets?

### Evidence of Islet Subpopulations

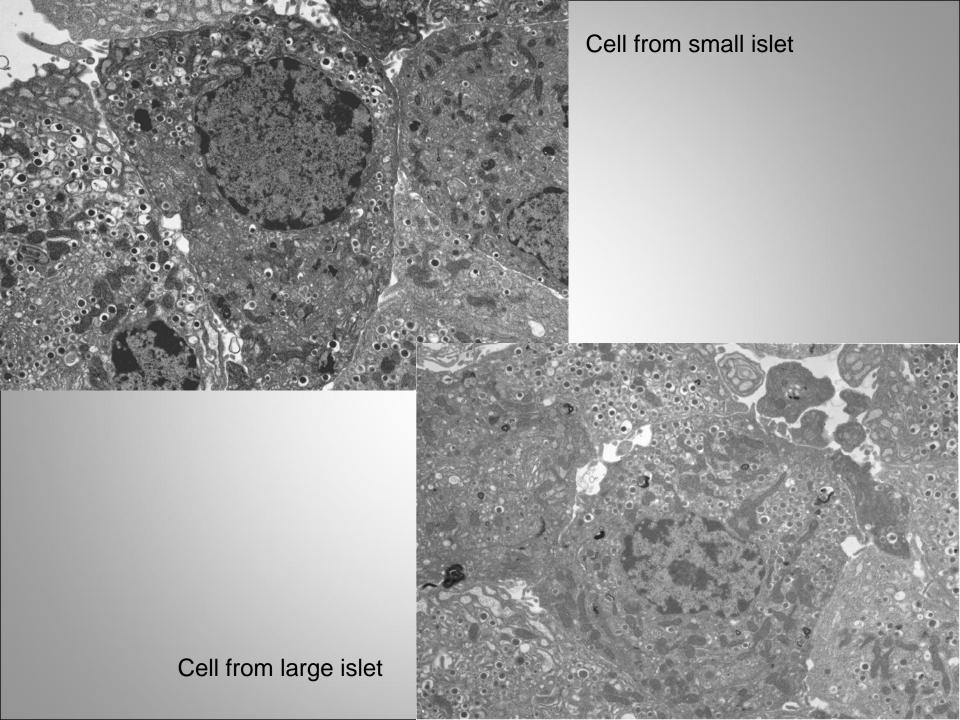
Morphological analysis, first reported differences in size distribution, number and volume in several species (Haist & Pugh, *Am. J. Physiol.* 1947)

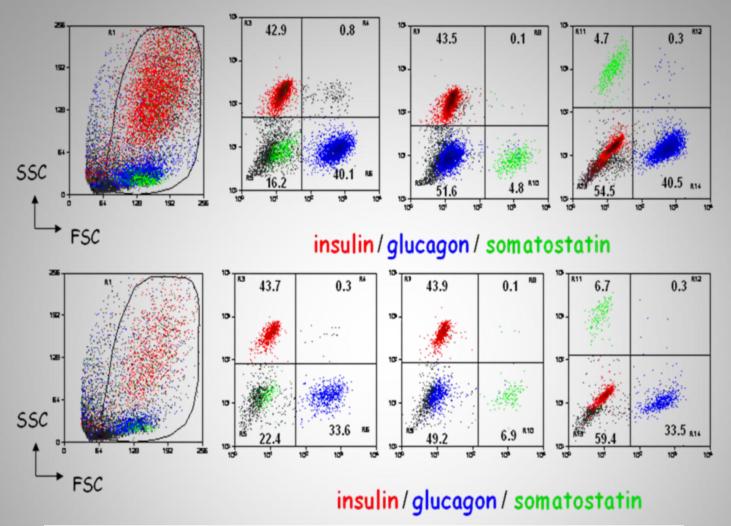
Morphological differences in human islets (Saito et al., *J. Exp. Med.* 1978)

3-D reconstruction demonstrates 2 types of islets (Baetens et al, *Science*, 1979)

Histochemical differences is sub-populations in rat islets (Elayat et al, *J. Anat.* 1995)

Functional differences in islet populations in healthy animals (Aizawa et al, *Life Sci.* 2001)



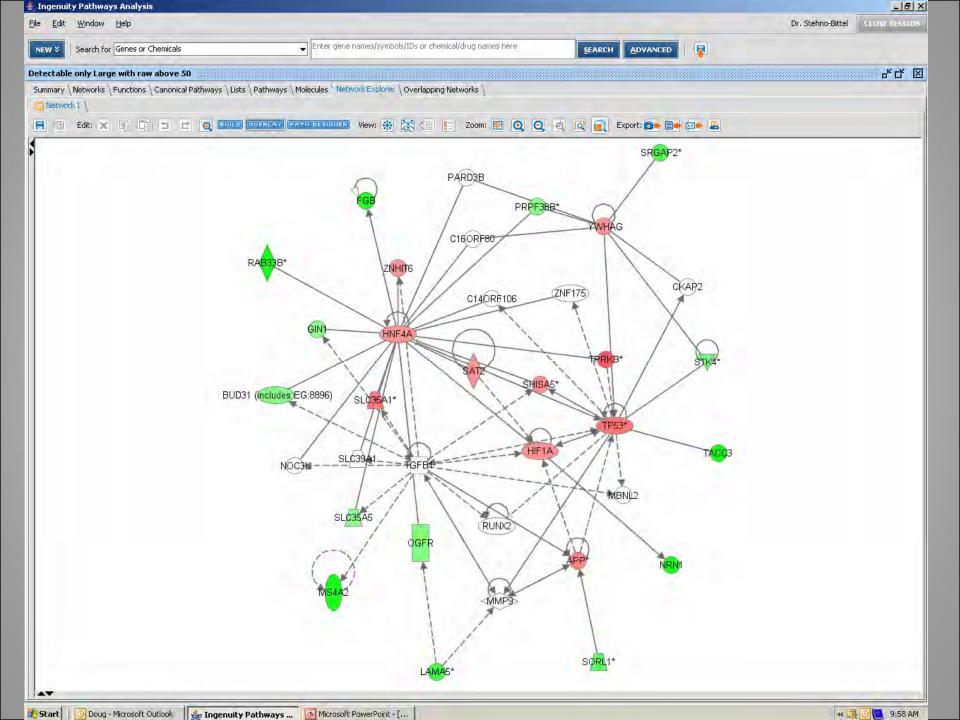


Type of cell	Large Islets	Small Islets
Beta (insulin)	52%	57%
Alpha (glucagon)	38%	30%
Delta (somatostatin)	11%	6%

Total DNA content was 3 times higher in small islets than large when normalized for EI (rats).

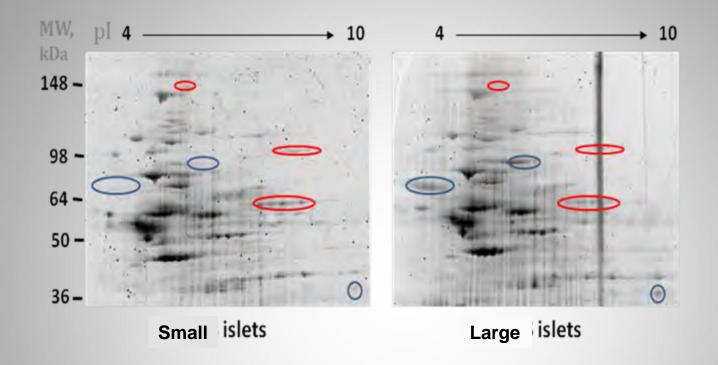
# Is there a difference in genetic regulation in large and small islets?

	Gene (protein product)	Fold difference in expression
Reg 1	Regenerating Gene	7.11 greater in small islets
Atk1	Protein kinase B	6.10 greater in small islets
Pdx-1	Pancreatic Duodenal Homeobox-1	2.41 greater in large islets
VEGF	Vascular endothelial growth factor	12.04 greater in large islets
IAPP	Islet Amyloid Polypeptide	2.55 greater in small islets
LDLR	Low Density Lipoprotein Receptor	4.26 greater in large islets
Ins2	Pre-insulin	2.97 greater in large islets
Irs2	Insulin receptor substrate	15.27 greater in large islets
Ddit3 (	part of CHOP 10) (differentiation and apoptosis)	4.56 greater in large islets
HNF4a Hepatocyte Nuclear Factor (beta cell development)		2.38 greater in small islets
GLUT 2	2/Slc2a2 Glucose transporter	8.88 greater in large islets
NOS2	Nitric Oxide Synthase	3.71 greater in small islets



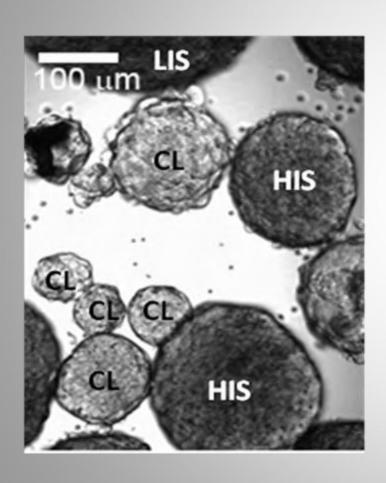
Total Protein Content in an islet	μg/islet
Small	0.04
Large	0.35

Total Protein Content per volume	μg/IE
Small	0.58
Large	0.10



2D PAGE
Small > Large Red
Large > Small Blue

### Islet Subpopulations



Small = High insulin secreting islets Under 125 µm diameter

Large = Low insulin secreting islets Over 150  $\mu$ m diameter

CL = Clear islets
Range from  $5 - 200 \mu m$ 

### Summary

- Islet sub-populations are associated with different functions.
- Small islets are more viable in vitro
- Small islets secrete more insulin in vitro
- Transplantation with small islets reverse diabetes
- Reducing the diffusion barrier in large islets increases viability, but does not improve in vitro insulin secretion or islet transplantation outcome
- Small islets have greater insulin content
- Ultrastructural differences exist between large and small islets
- Small islets have a higher % of beta cells
- Small islets have more total protein content
- Selective genes are expressed in detectible levels in large islets that are not detected in small islets
- Selective proteins are found in either small or large islets

### Summary

Why do we care?

### Acknowledgements

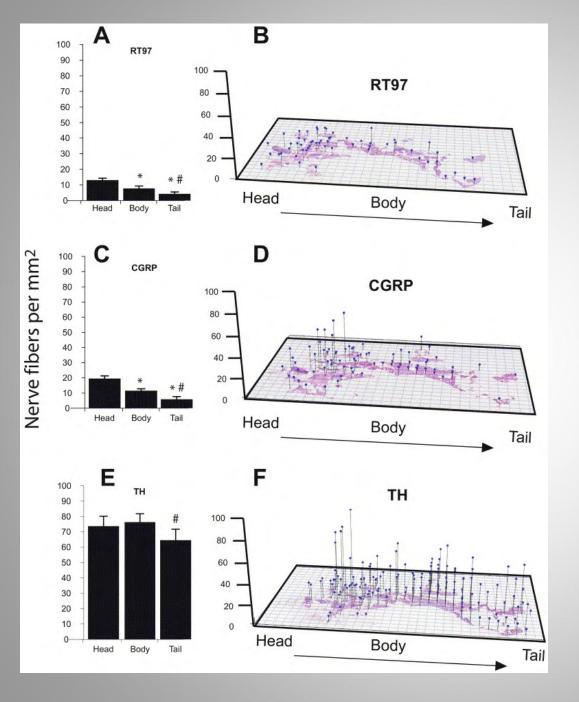
- KU Diabetes Research Lab
  - Dr. Irina Smirnova
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  - S. Janette Williams
  - Floyd Huang
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  - Katie Holztman
  - Dr. Rajprasad Loganathan
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  - Dr. Kristin Lindsey Woo
- KU, Anatomy and Cell Biology
  - Dr. Ronal MacGregor
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  - Dr. Karen Kover
  - Pei Tong





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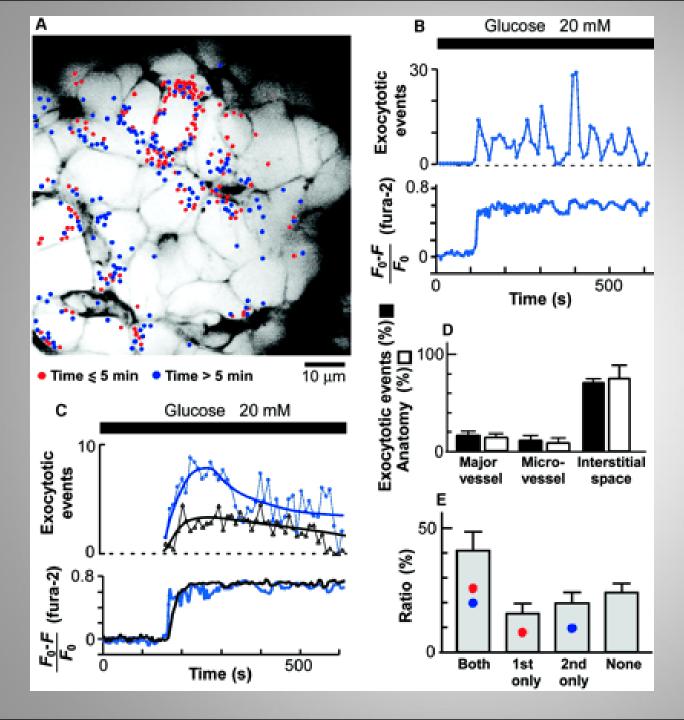


Large diameter, myelinated

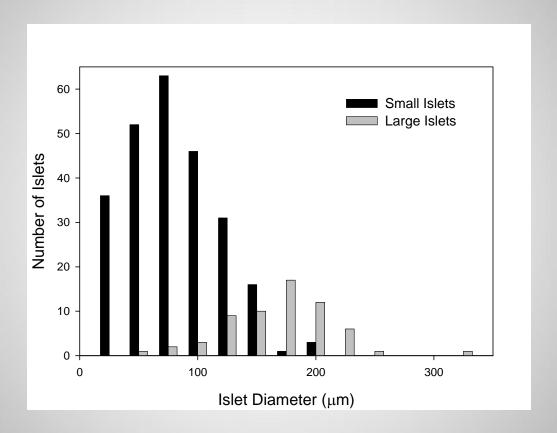
Small diameter thinly myelinated and medium diameter unmyelinated peptidergic

Sympathetic nerve fibers

Lindsay et al., 2006



**Takahashi** et al., Science 2002



#### Distribution of Cells the Same in Both

