

## 3D Frontiers InFocus

3D *in vitro* technology news | November 5, 2020

Curated for you by 

### UNDER THE MICROSCOPE

## From lab-grown brains and lungs to leukemia-on-a-chip

Hi reader,

In this issue of *InFocus* | 3D *In Vitro* News I would like to draw your attention on the following selected topics:

**Can in vitro brain organoids become conscious?** An interesting question from the authors, as these organoids can produce coordinated waves of activity, mimicking those seen in premature babies.

**Lab-grown Mini-Lungs** for studying SARS-CoV-2 infection hold great potential to better understand the disease.

I am also very excited to share the news with you about a **Leukemia-on-a-chip** mapping the pathophysiology and heterogeneity of leukemic bone marrow niches.

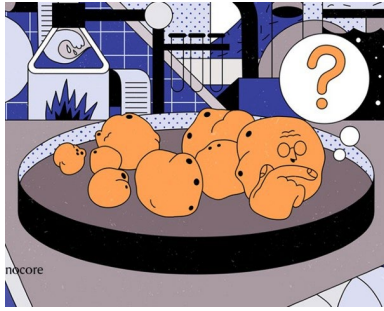
I hope you find some inspiring ideas in the presented articles and stay tuned for the next update in two weeks.



Frank Junker, PhD, MBA  
Chief Business Officer at  
InSphero

## FRESH FROM THE PRESS

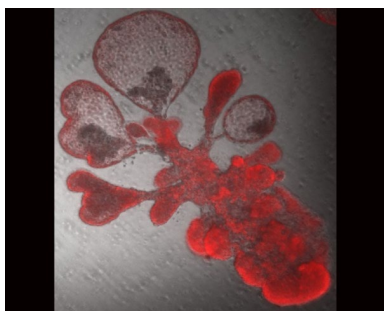
### Can lab-grown brains become conscious?



The idea of bodiless, self-aware brains is already on the minds of many neuroscientists and bioethicists. Human brain organoids coordinate electrical activity, which is one of the properties of a conscious brain.

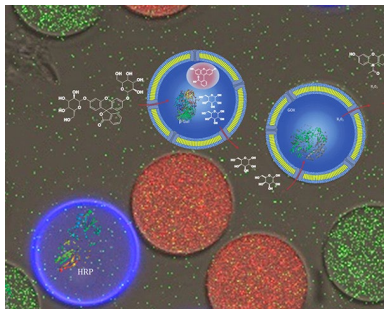
## INSIGHTS FROM RESEARCH

### Lab-Grown Mini-Lungs Mimic the Real Thing - Right Down to Covid Infection



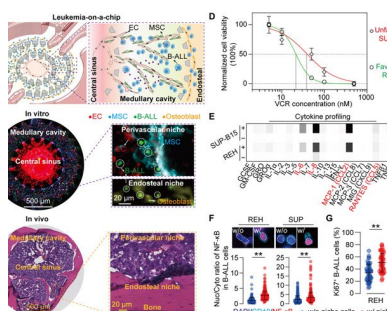
A team of Duke University researchers has developed a lab-grown living lung model that mimics the tiny air sacs of the lungs where coronavirus infection and serious lung damage take place.

### An Artificial Cell on a Chip



Researchers at the University of Basel have developed a cell on a chip. It is useful for studying processes in cells, the development of new synthetic pathways for chemical applications or for biologically active substances in medicine.

### Leukemia-on-a-chip: Dissecting the chemoresistance mechanisms in B cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia bone marrow niche

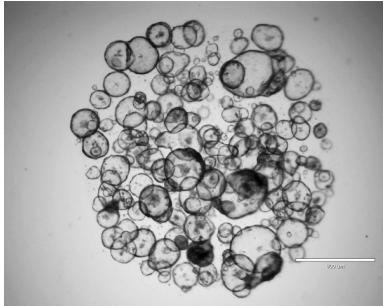


A unique 3D organotypic leukemia-on-a-chip microphysiological system that maps the *in vivo* pathophysiology and heterogeneity of leukemic BM niches. Authors show a preclinical proof of concept utility of this model.

## INDUSTRY REPORTS

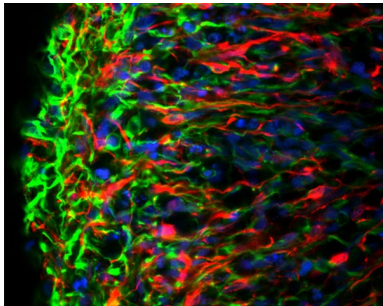
---

### Spheroids, Organoids Replacing Standard Cultures for Cell-Based Assays



2D cell cultures lack the structure, function, dimensionality, cellular diversity, and cell-cell interactions that make living tissue unique. 3D cell cultures better capture *in vivo* conditions and are poised to improve drug screening.

### Midbrain Organoids for Automated Chemical Screening and Disease Research



Max Planck Institute for Molecular Biomedicine has succeeded in using human cells to produce midbrain organoids in a fully automated process. These can be produced, grown, and analyzed in detail within a high-throughput workflow.

## WHAT WE ARE READING

---

- [A human tissue screen identifies a regulator of ER secretion as a brain size determinant](#)
- [OrganoidTracker: Efficient cell tracking using machine learning and manual error correction](#)
- [Engineering Liver Microtissues for Disease Modeling and Regenerative Medicine](#)

THE FUTURE OF *IN VITRO* RESEARCH IS 3D

Join the movement



Developed with care by:

InSphero AG, Wagistrasse 27A, 8952, Schlieren, Switzerland  
[info@newfrontiersin3d.com](mailto:info@newfrontiersin3d.com)