

Motivation and Objectives

Problem:

- Anastomotic leakage after intestinal surgery
- Risk of sepsis with subsequent operation and prolonged hospitalization
- No direct way of detecting an anastomotic leakage during its formation or early stages

Proposed approach:

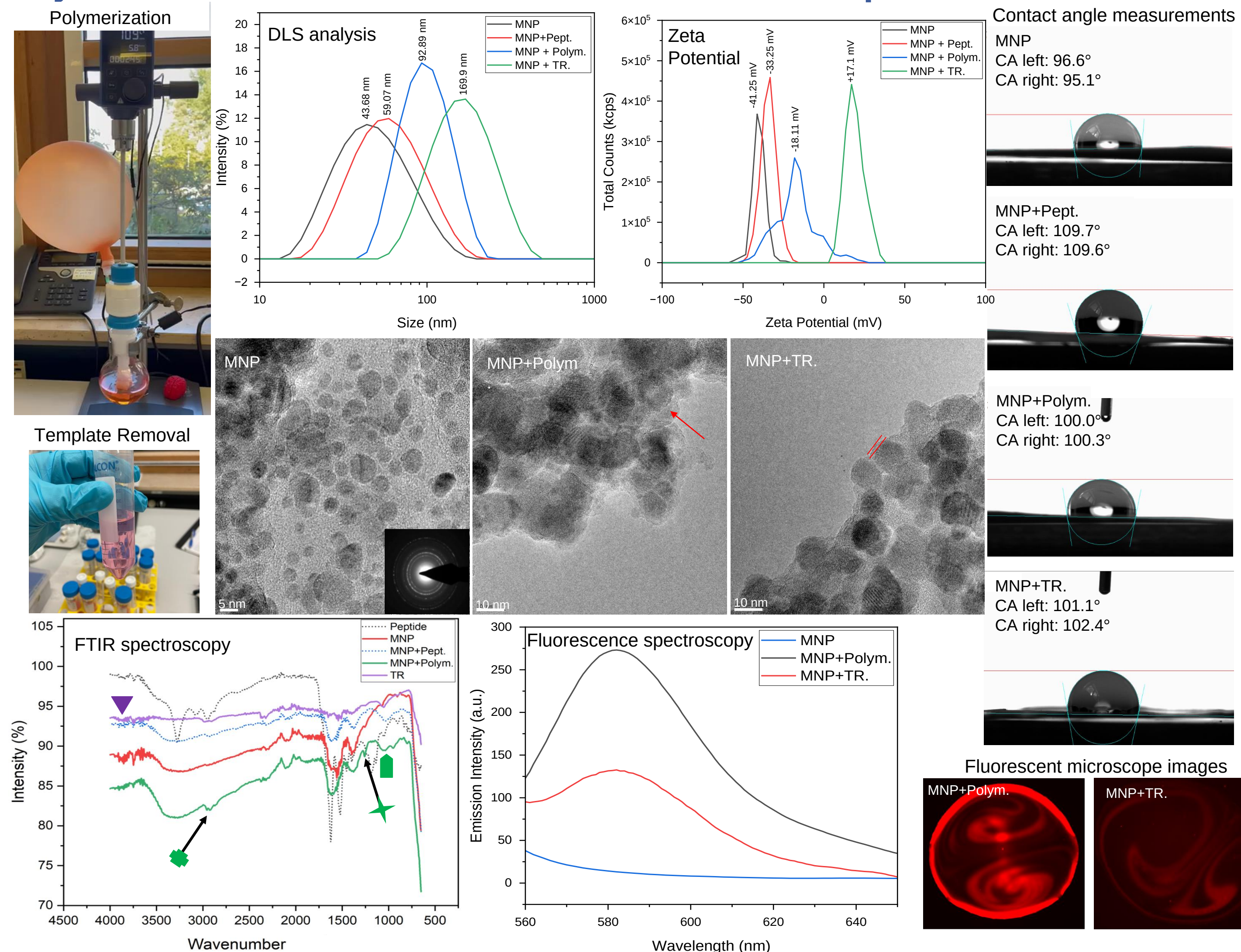
Development of an *in vivo* diagnostic implant to detect the biomarkers overexpressed in the leak relying on magnetically labeled synthetic receptors combined with a wireless magnetic-field readout system based on magnetoelectric sensors

Main objectives:

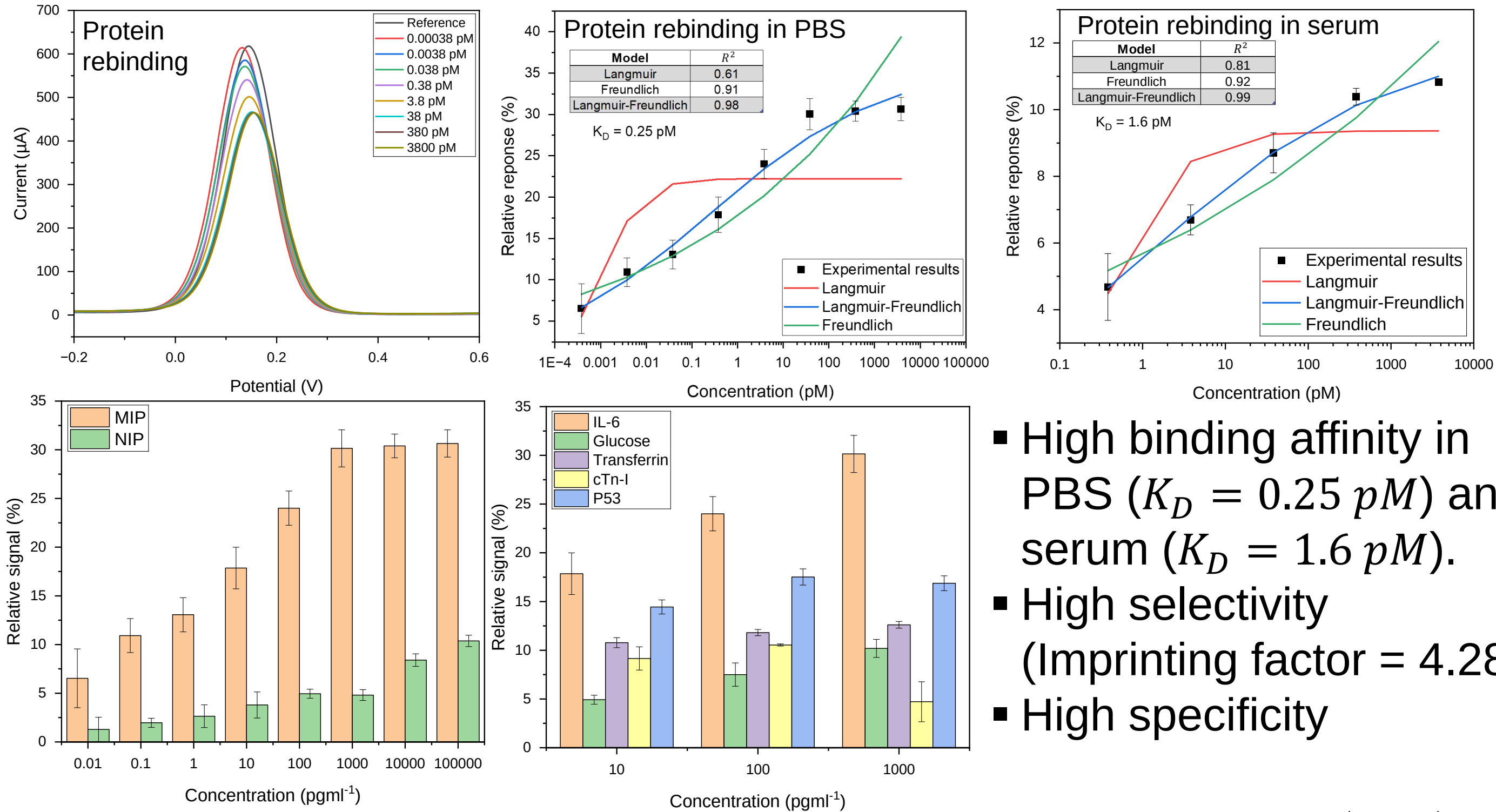
- Identification of suitable biomarkers
- Development of a bio-implant based on magnetic nanoparticles functionalized with molecularly imprinted polymers (MIP-MNP)
- Realization of a readout system based on magnetic field detection
- Validation of the approach on a cell assay, *in vitro* and *in vivo*

Preliminary Work

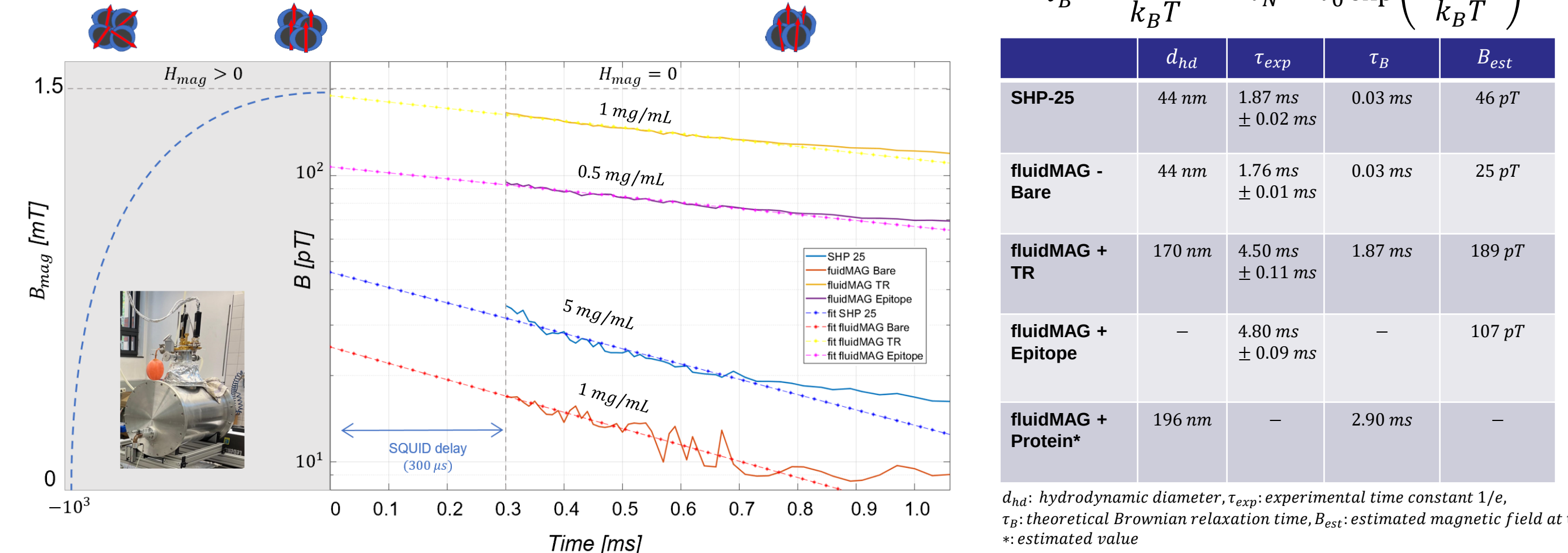
Synthesis and characterization of the nanocomposites



Binding properties of the MIP-MNPs using electrochemical sensors

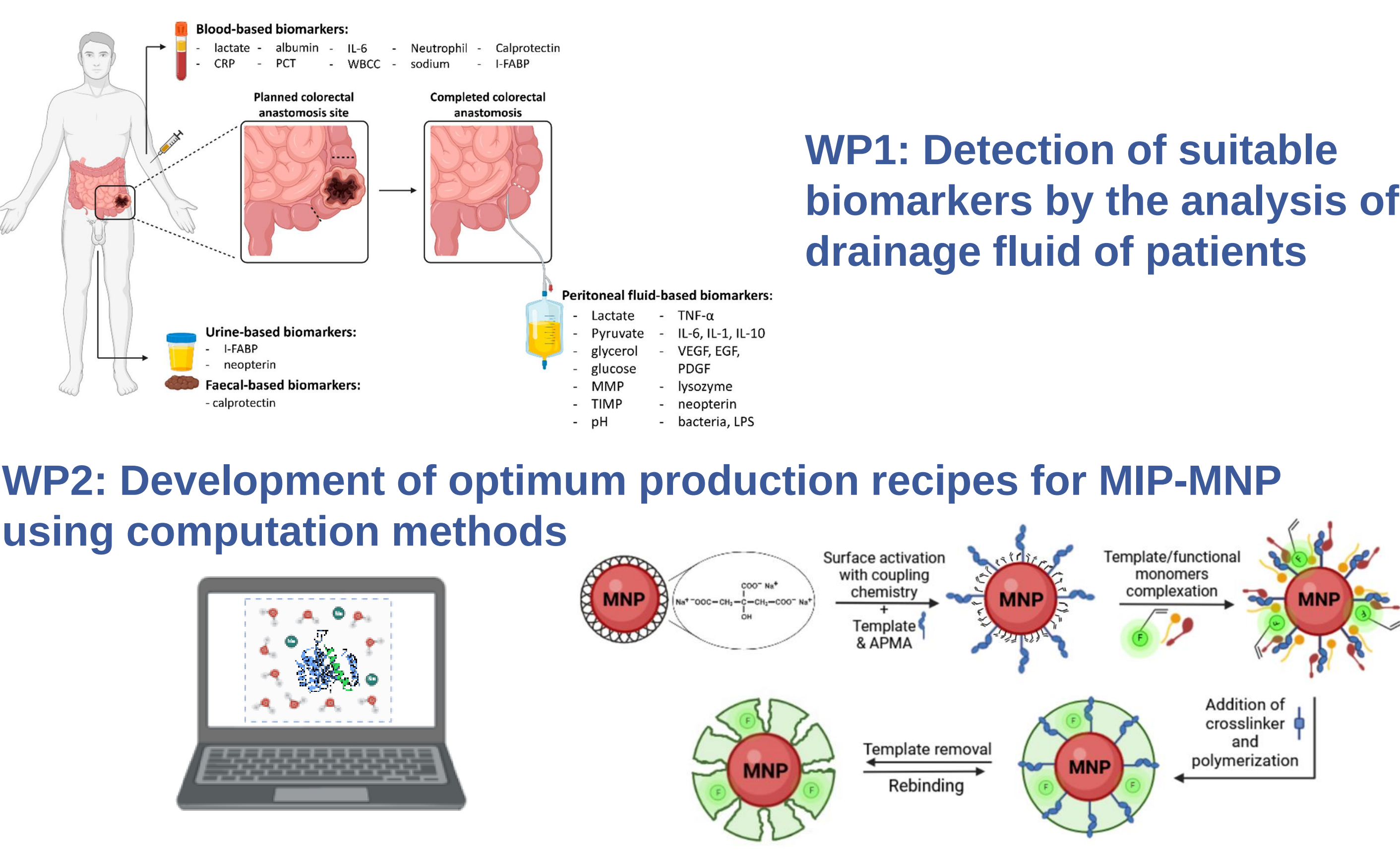


Magnetic response of the particles



Preliminary work with SQUID system for magnetorelaxometry. Example curve of magnetization of disordered MNPs by 1.5 mT field and magnetization relaxation signal in the pT-range after turning off the excitation field. The relaxation time constant τ_{exp} is slower than the expected values from theoretical Brownian relaxation times.

Work Plan for Third Funding Period

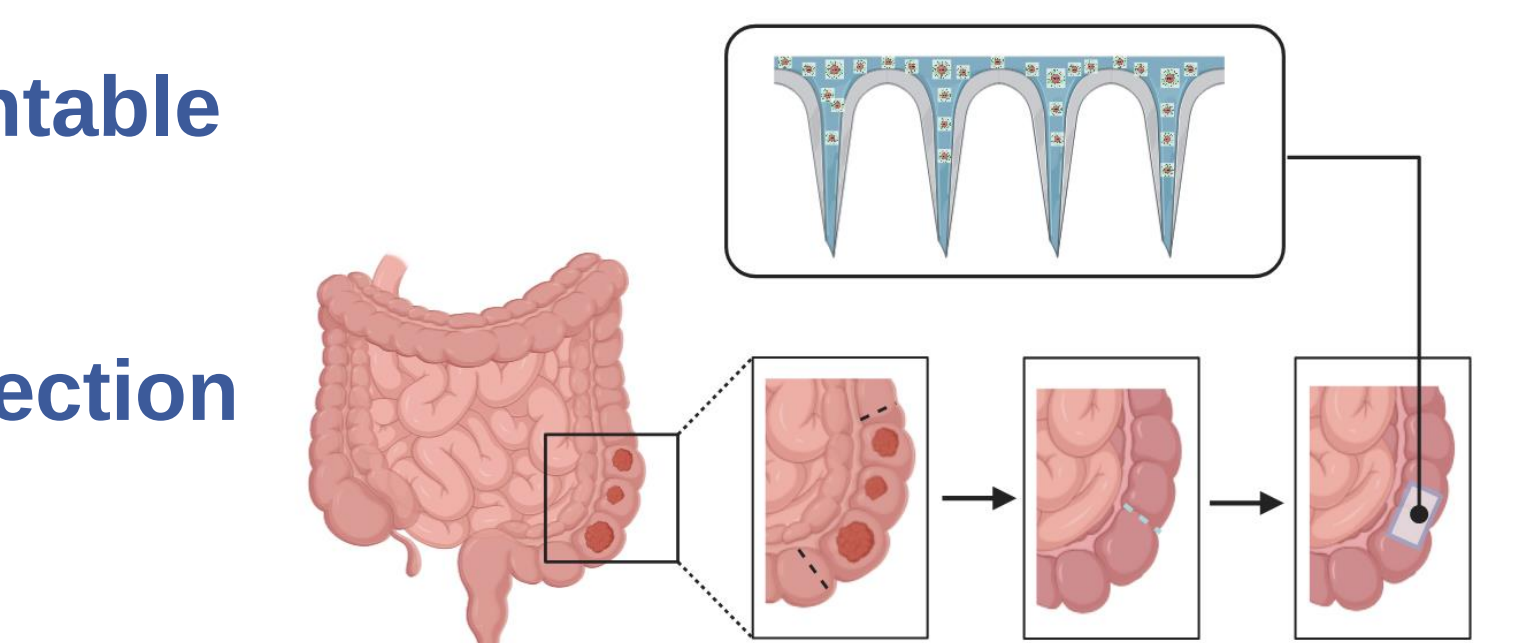
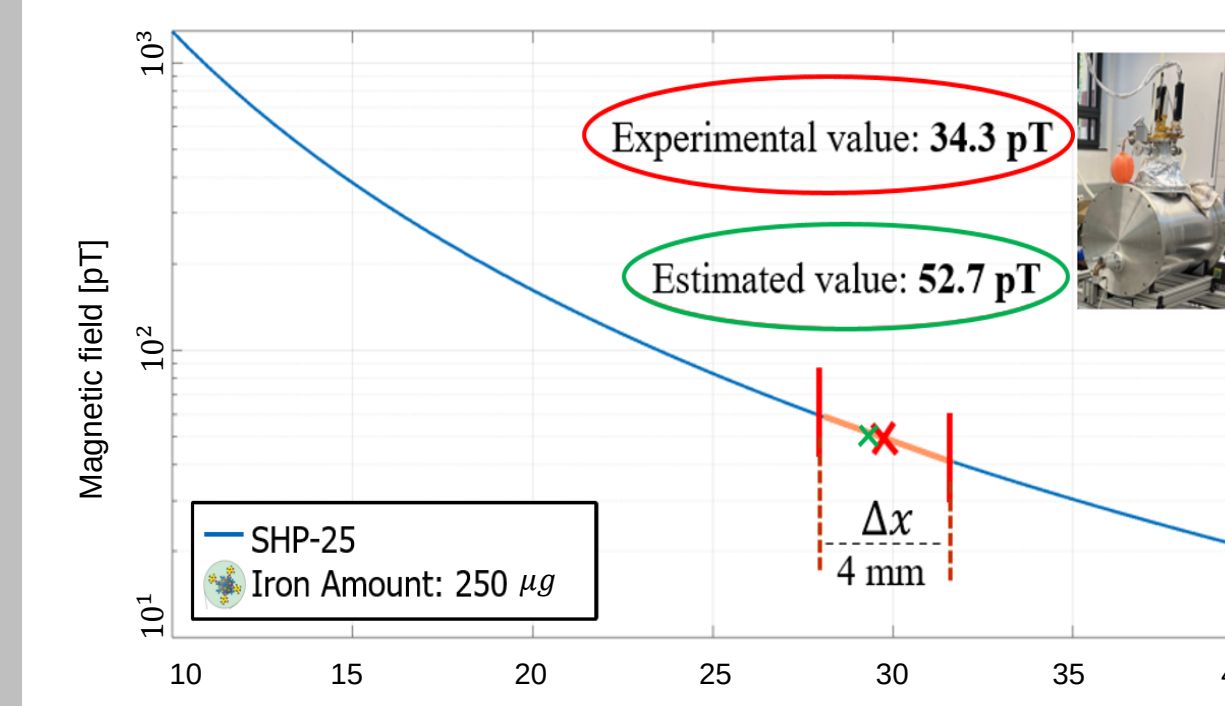


WP1: Detection of suitable biomarkers by the analysis of drainage fluid of patients

WP2: Development of optimum production recipes for MIP-MNP using computation methods

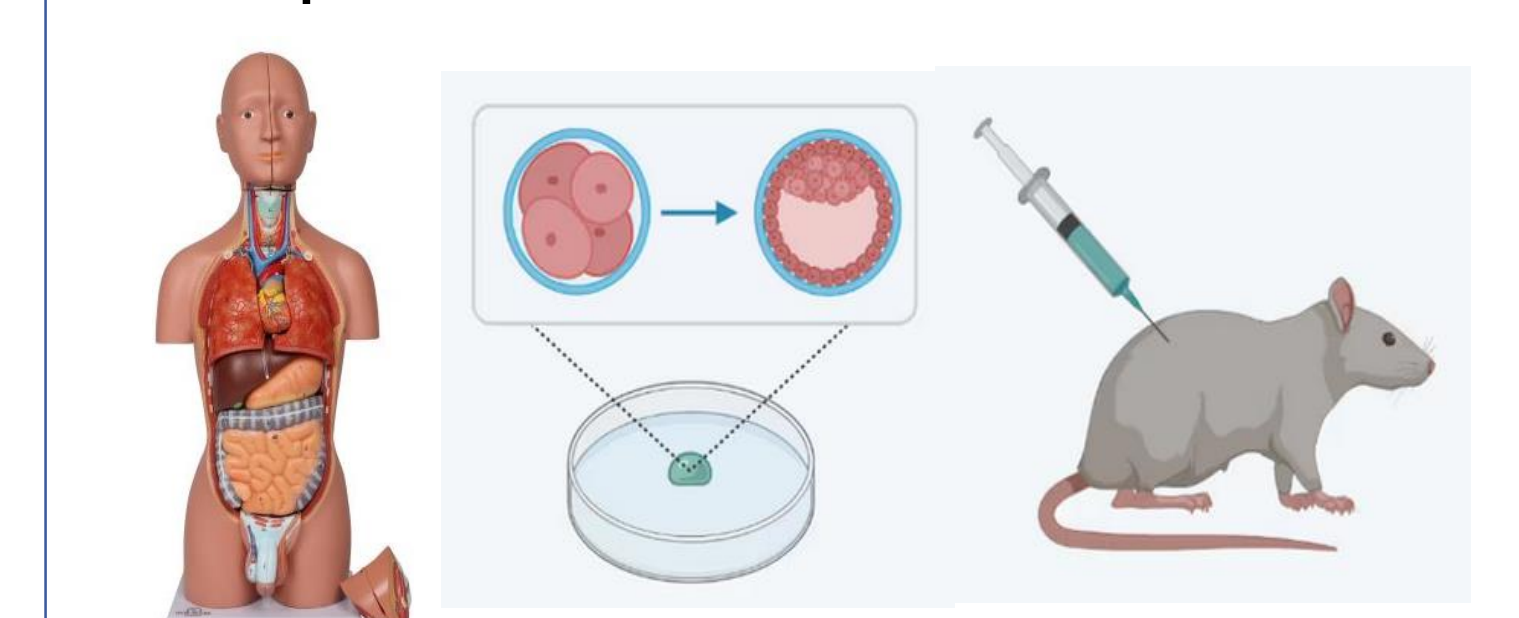
WP3: Hydrogel-forming implantable smart dressing

WP4: ME sensors for MNP detection



WP5: Torso phantom experiments:

Large coil placed outside the body and the sensor system attached to it. The MIP-MNP implant is at a distance of up to 15 cm away on the inside of the body.

Torso phantom, *in vitro* & *in vivo*

	2024		2025		2026		2027		2028
	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III
WP1 – Selection of suitable biomarkers									
WP2 – MIPs-functionalized magnetic nanoparticles									
WP3 – Hydrogel-forming implantable smart dressing									
WP4 – ME sensors for MNP detection									
WP5 – Torso phantom experiments									
WP6 – Cell culture and in vivo studies with MIPs-MNP implant									

Med. Doc. Gundlach Doc. res. 1 Altintas Doc. res. 2 Gerken

Collaborations

- A4: ΔE —Effect sensors obtained from A4. Experimental results to A4.
A6: MIPs-functionalized MNPs provided to A6 for TEM analysis.
A7: Converse ME sensors obtained from A7. Experimental results to A7.
A8: Simulations on MNP ensemble behavior during biomolecular binding. Experimental results given by A8 modelling group.
A9: SAW sensors obtained from A9. Experimental results provided to A9.
B1: Readout electronics developed in close interaction with B1.
B2: Digital signal processing developed in close interaction with B2.

Funds Requested

- 2 Doctoral researchers + Consumables (100%)
1 Medical doctor + Consumables (50%)