



Materials Science and Technology



## Textil-basierte Wearables

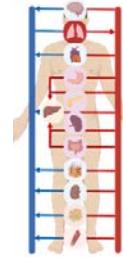
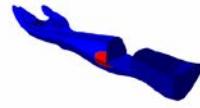
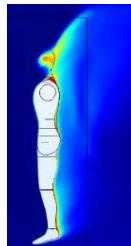
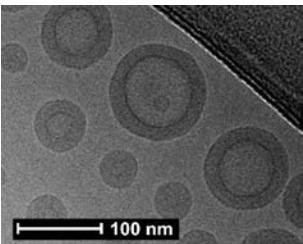
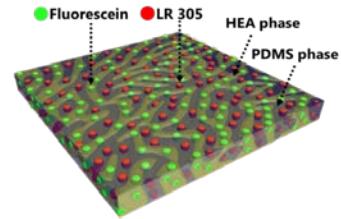
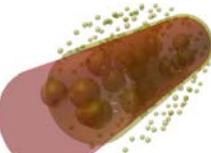
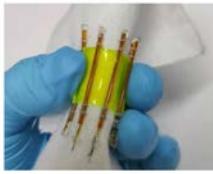
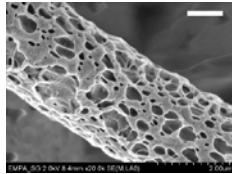
Dr. Simon Annaheim

Swiss Engineering / Tage der Technik

25.09.2025

# Biomimetic Membranes and Textiles

We design soft materials to monitor and support body functions

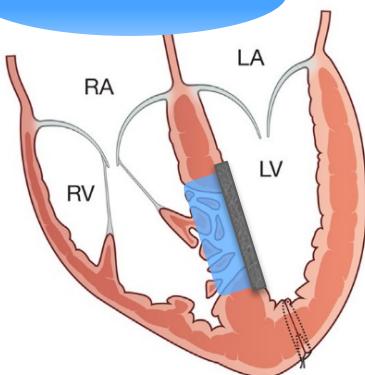
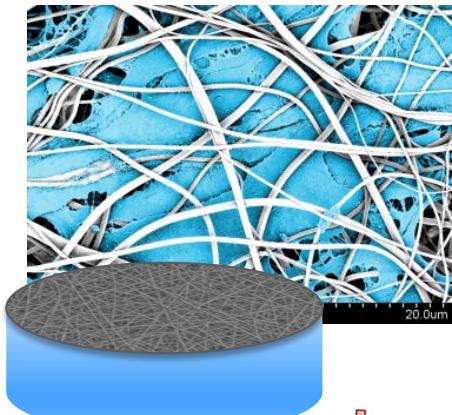


We pioneer manikins and digital twins for tailoring biomimetic solutions

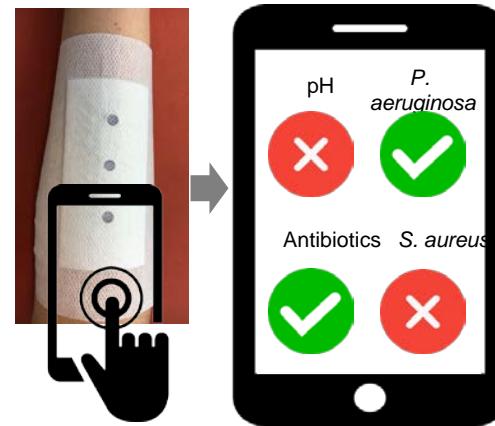
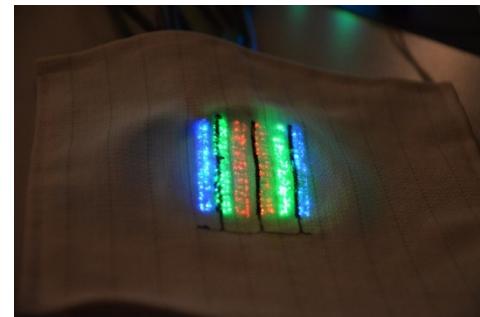


# Forschungsschwerpunkte (2025 – 2028)

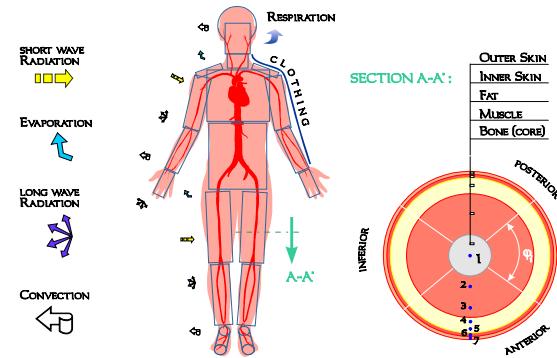
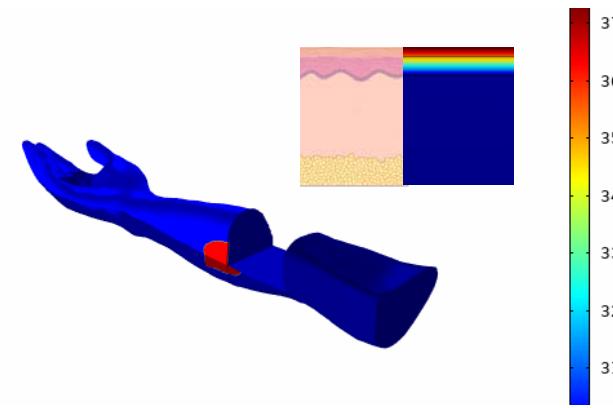
## Functional Hydrogels



## Wearables and Biosensing



## Digital Health Solutions



# Continuous Patient Monitoring

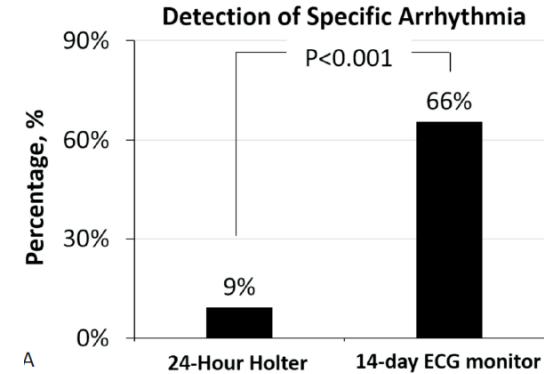
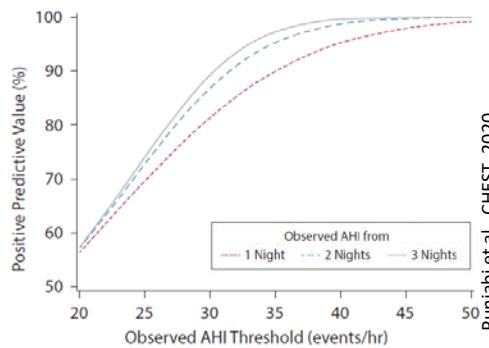


## Fields of application

- ❖ Out-patient screening
- ❖ In-patient therapies at high risk of infection (sepsis)
- ❖ Acute post-operative phase
- ❖ Out-patient follow-up

## Benefits

- ❖ Appropriate assessments
- ❖ Early detection of adverse effects
- ❖ Evaluation of therapeutic efficacy

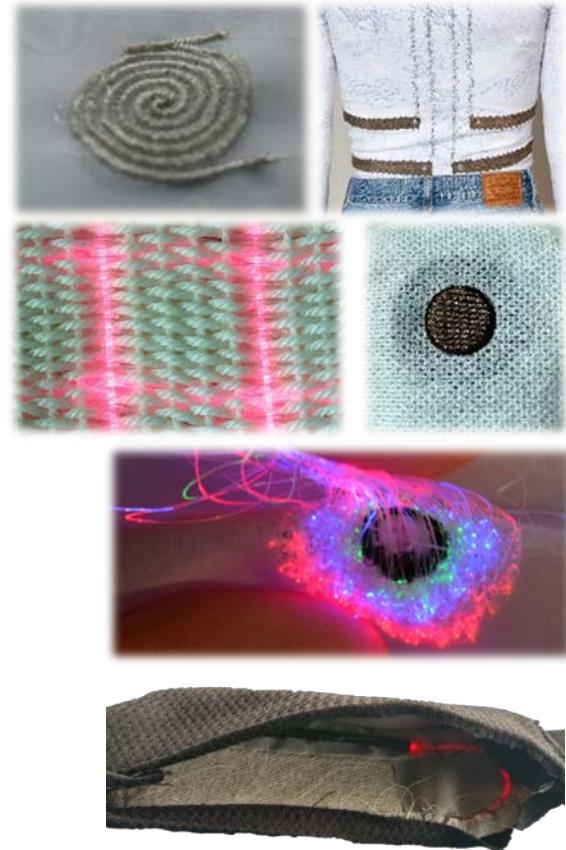




# Textile-based Sensors

## Opportunities

- ❖ Integration in (existing) textile systems (disappearable)
- ❖ Unrestricted wearing comfort (comfortable)
- ❖ Applicable for continuous monitoring (permanent)



## Challenges

- ❖ Resilience during demanding use
- ❖ Reliability in demanding conditions
- ❖ Accuracy despite demanding operation

# Conductive Fibres (E-Fibres)

## Textile ECG sensor for long-term monitoring

Die Befeuchtungseinheit



Die Textile Elektrode

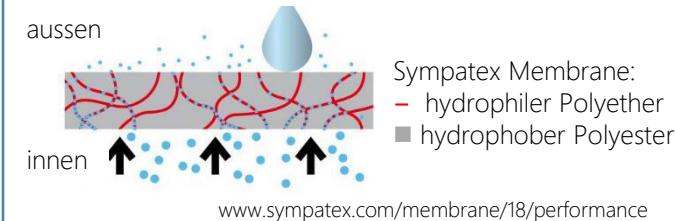


Textile Eigenschaften der Elektrode

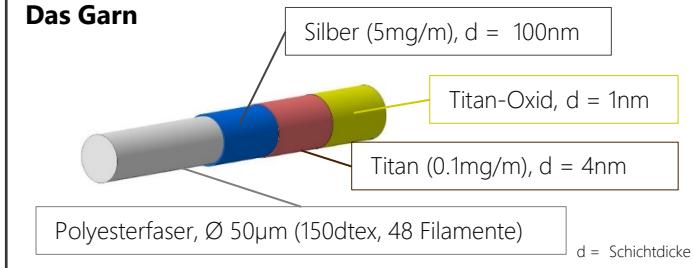
- ❖ flexibel
- ❖ porös
- ❖ hohes Oberflächen-Volumen Verhältnis
- ❖ gewohnt, auf der Haut zu tragen



Die wasserdampfdurchlässigen Membrane



Das Garn

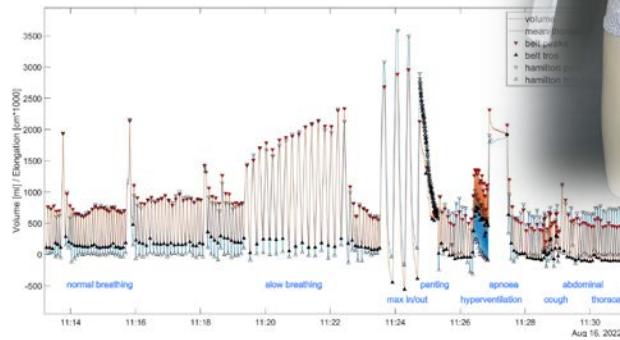
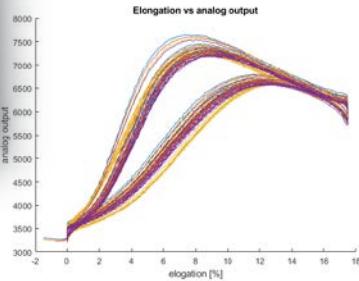
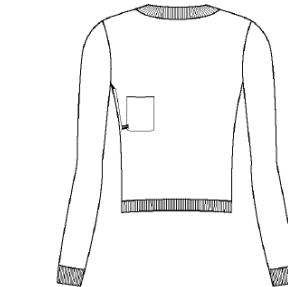
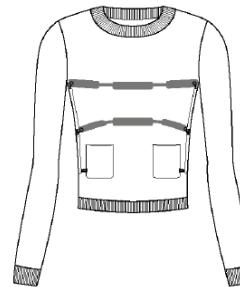


# Conductive Fibres (E-Fibres)

Textile breathing sensor

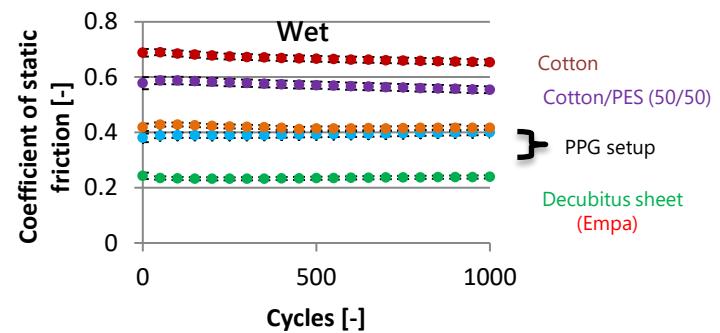
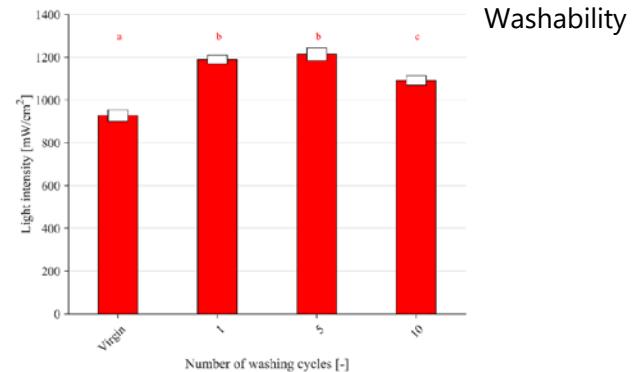
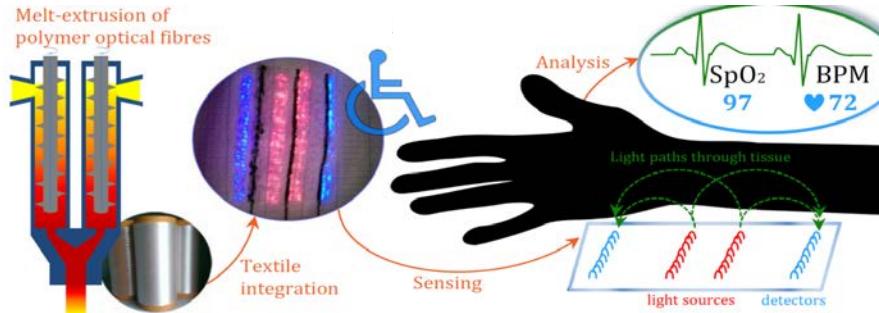


early stage



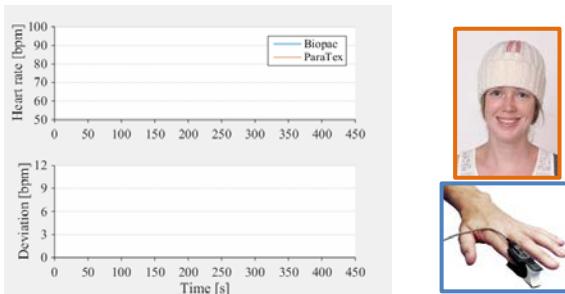
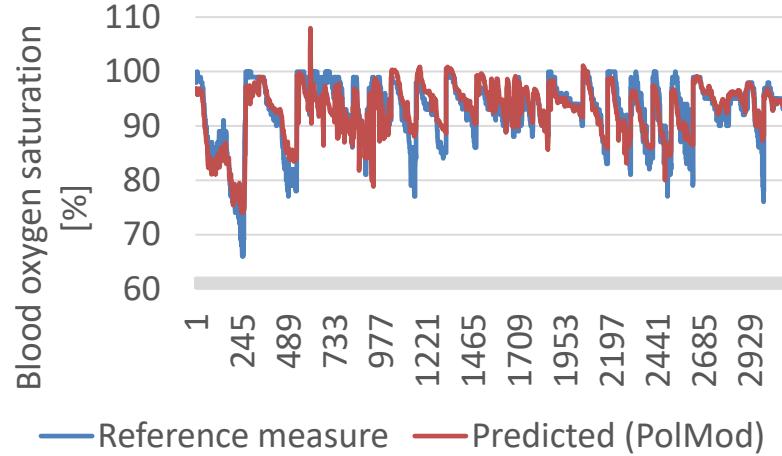
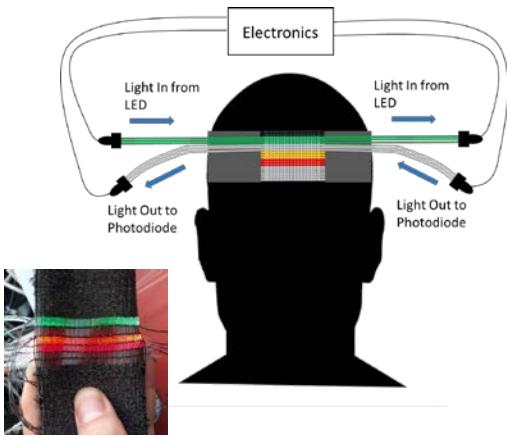
# Light applications on the skin (O-fibres)

Fibre development and textile integration for local light applications and monitoring



# Textile photoplethysmography sensor

## Validation lab trial

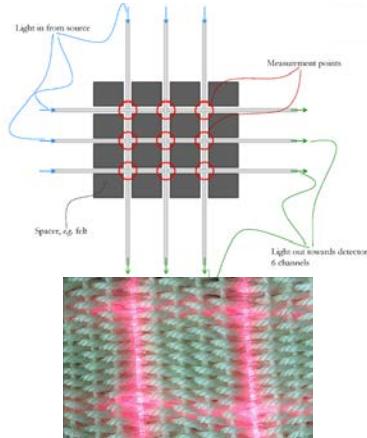
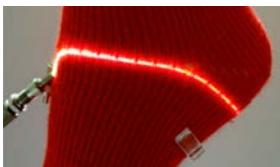
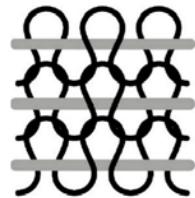


## Applications of interest

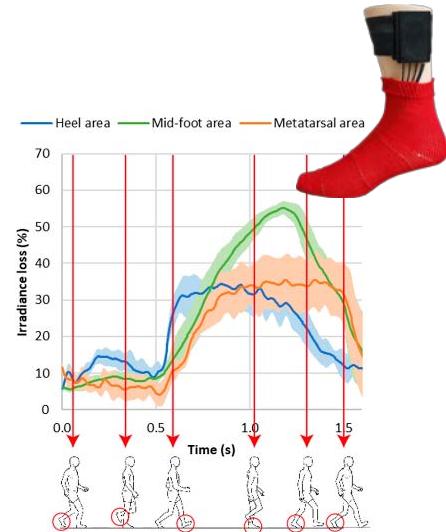
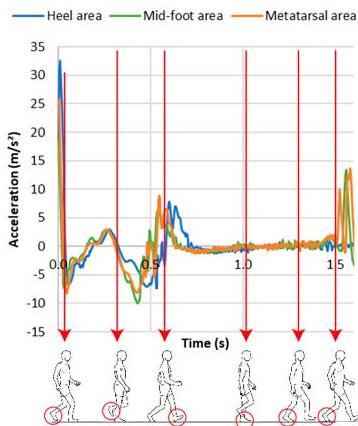
- ❖ Sleep monitoring (sleep apnea)
- ❖ Continuous in-patient monitoring (sepsis)
- ❖ Continuous monitoring of newborns ( $\text{SpO}_2$ , bilirubin)

# Textile pressure sensor

Fibre development and textile integration  
for pressure sensitive light extraction



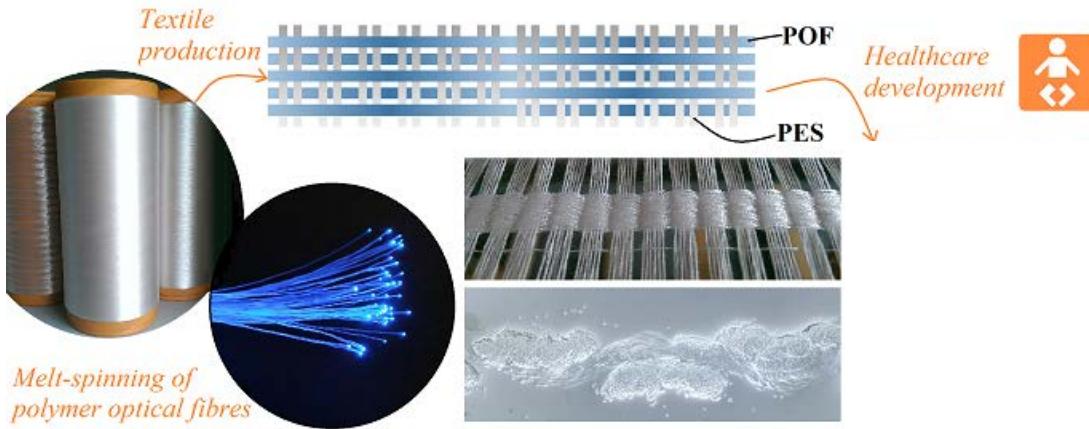
## Proof of concept study



## Applications of interest

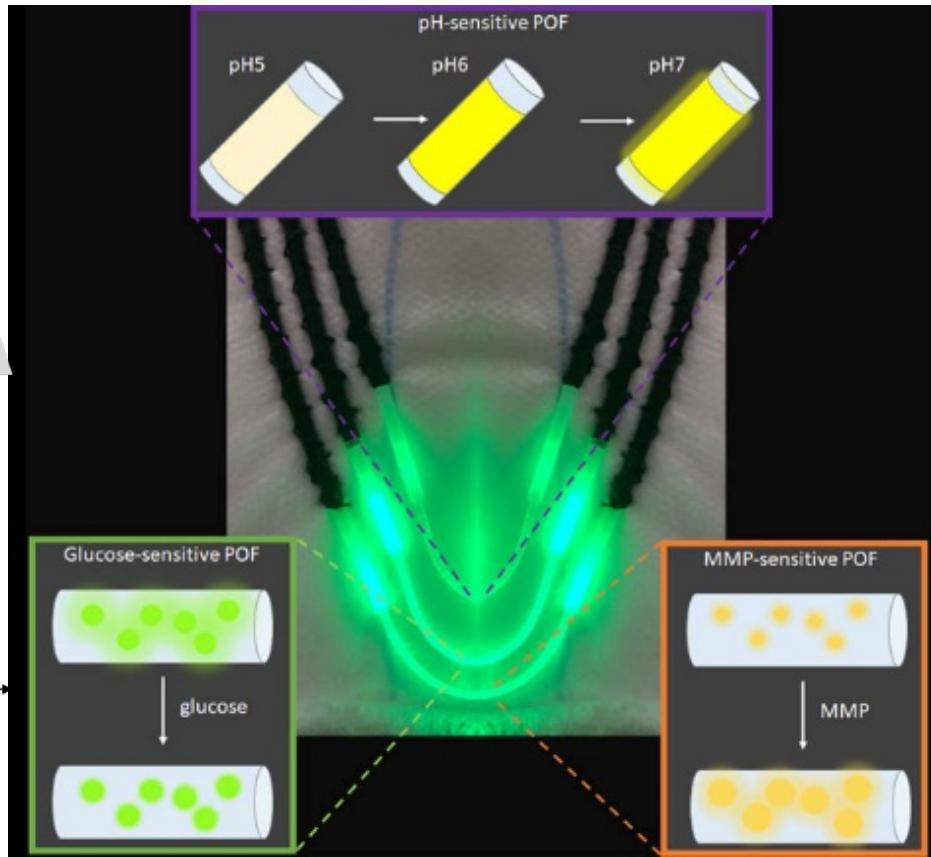
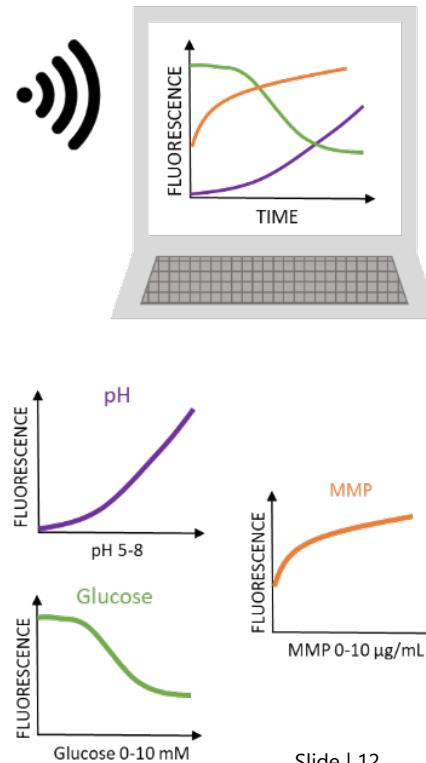
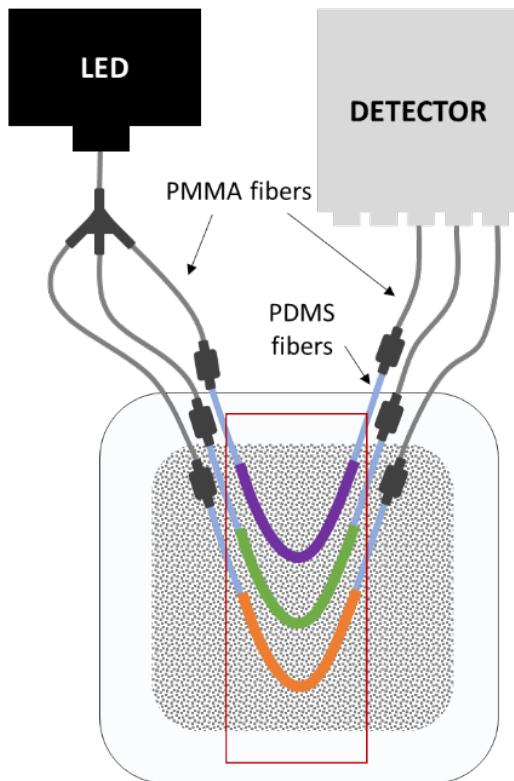
- ❖ Detection risk for pressure injuries (paraplegics, neuropathies, newborns)
- ❖ Pressure monitoring in supporting structures and robotics (casts, exoskeleton, gloves)

# Wearable phototherapy



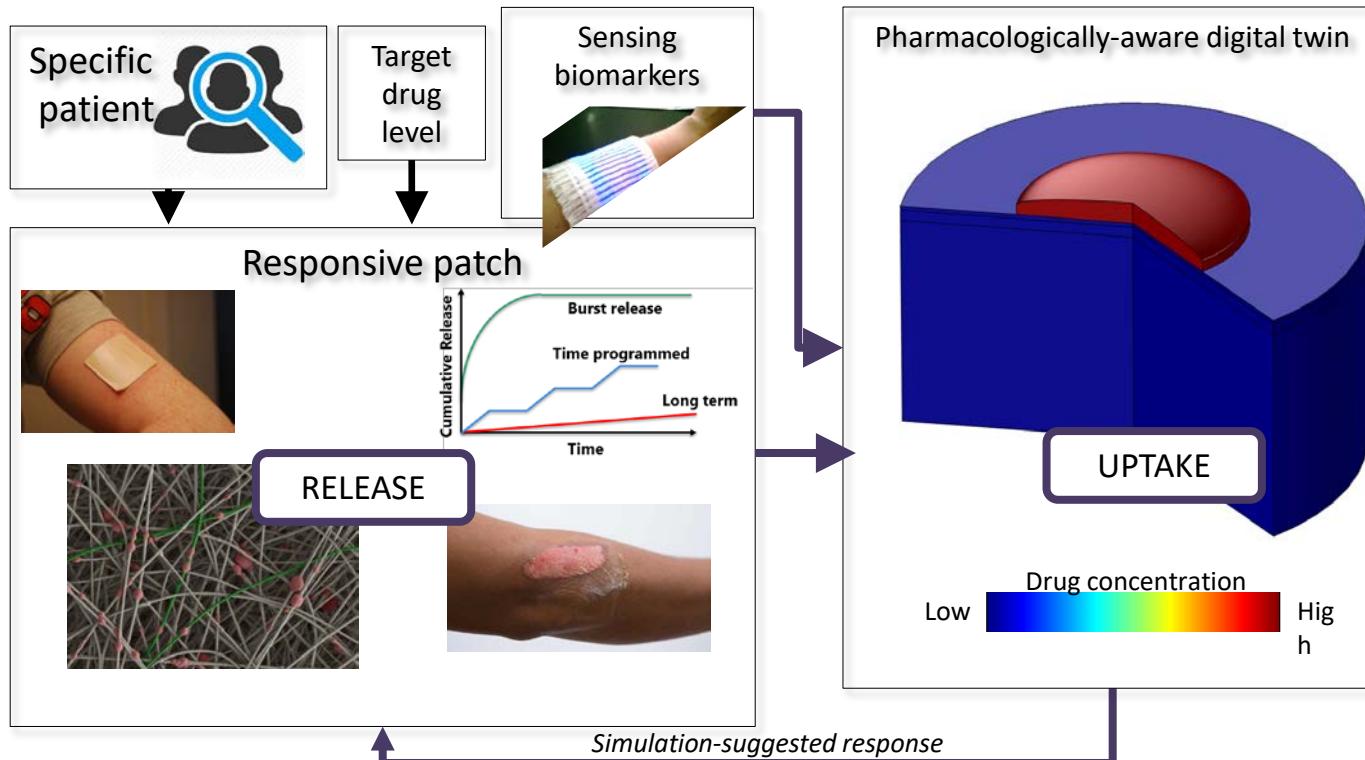


# F-fibres: Multimodal biosensors for wound monitoring

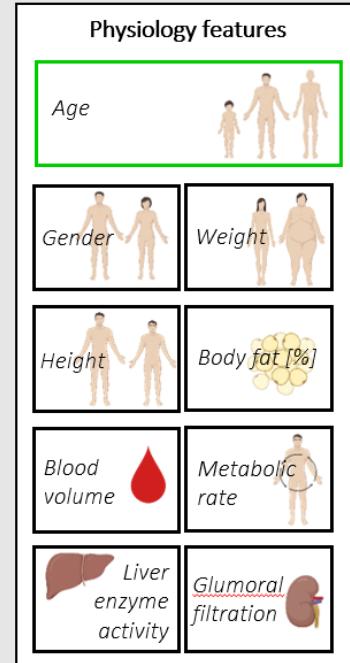




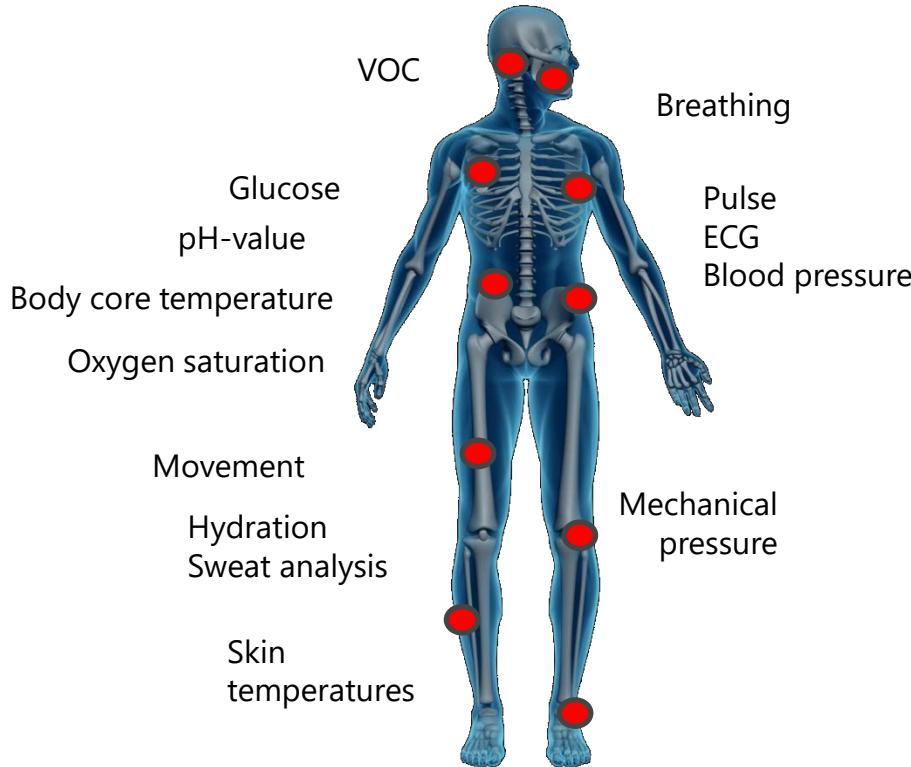
# Digital twins for patient-specific therapies



Inter-individual variability



# Future textile-based monitoring opportunities



Textile-based sensors for digital health solutions

- ❖ **Key success factors**

- ❖ Reliability and accuracy of signals
- ❖ Biocompatibility of sensors
- ❖ Unobtrusive nature and high wearing comfort
- ❖ Applicability for telemedical applications
- ❖ **Early detection** due to continuous monitoring
- ❖ **Appropriate assessments** due to screening at home
- ❖ **Individualized therapies** due to patient follow-up at home

# Vielen Dank für Ihre Aufmerksamkeit!



[simon.annaheim@empa.ch](mailto:simon.annaheim@empa.ch)