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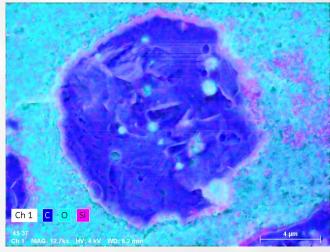
## The Sol-Gel Microencapsulation Platform

Silica-based microencapsulation delivery system allows to develop drugs that have the potential to be more effective and tolerable than existing drugs without the need to introduce new chemical entities

Particle size and release rate are precisely tuned to allow efficient delivery of the entrapped API

Core/shell structure is designed to boost tolerability

High encapsulation efficiency (>99%) allows improved stability

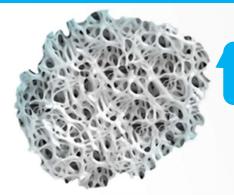


Cryo-SEM pictures of silica-based microcapsules



# Sol-Gel Microencapsulation vs. Microsponge®

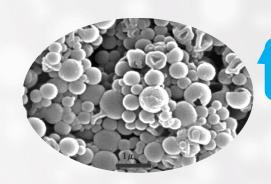
#### Microsponge®



Tunnel structure of microsponge® delivery systm

- Only one encapsulation delivery technology, Microsponge®, approved by the FDA for topical drug products
- This was for Retin-A Micro® in 1997\*, requiring the approval of a novel organic excipient (methyl methacrylate/glycol dimethacrylate cross-polymer porous microspheres)
- \* Three years later Carc® was approved using the same technology

#### Sol-Gel



Core-shell structure of Sol-Gel's delivery system

- Unlike Microsponge® for which the approval of a novel excipient was required, silica is approved by the FDA as a safe excipient for topical drugs
- The core-shell structure of Sol-Gel's delivery system allows a high load of drug substance and its modular construction enables a high degree of flexibility in tuning the drug's release rate