

*In Vivo* Oxidative Stability and  
Clinical Performance for 1<sup>st</sup> – and  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Generation Highly  
Crosslinked Polyethylenes

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<sup>4</sup>Klein, G; <sup>4</sup>Hartzband, M; <sup>5</sup>Garino, J; <sup>6</sup>Marshall, A; <sup>7</sup>Mont, M;  
<sup>4</sup>Levine, H; <sup>8</sup>Kraay, M; <sup>9</sup>Stulberg, B; <sup>8</sup>Rimnac, C



U.S. Department of Health  
and Human Services

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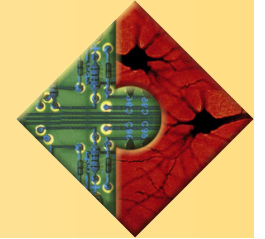
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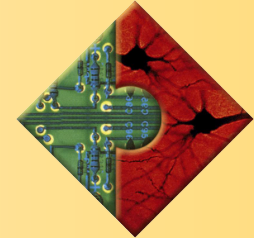


# Background



- Highly crosslinked polyethylenes have shown improved *in vivo* wear performance.
  - Significantly reduced osteolysis rates
- 1<sup>st</sup> Generation HXLPEs Concerns
  - Annealed → Oxidative Stability
  - Remelted → Reduced Mechanical Properties

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation HXLPE

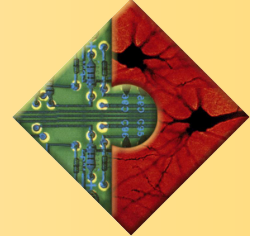


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	<b>Crosslinking Dose</b>	<b>Post-irradiation stabilization</b>	<b>Sterilization Modality</b>	<b>Total Irradiation Dose</b>
<b>Sequentially Annealed</b>	30 kGy in 3 steps	Annealing after each crosslinking dose	Gas Plasma	90 kGy
<b>Vitamin E</b>	100 kGy	Vitamin E doping with subsequent annealing	Gamma in argon	130 kGy

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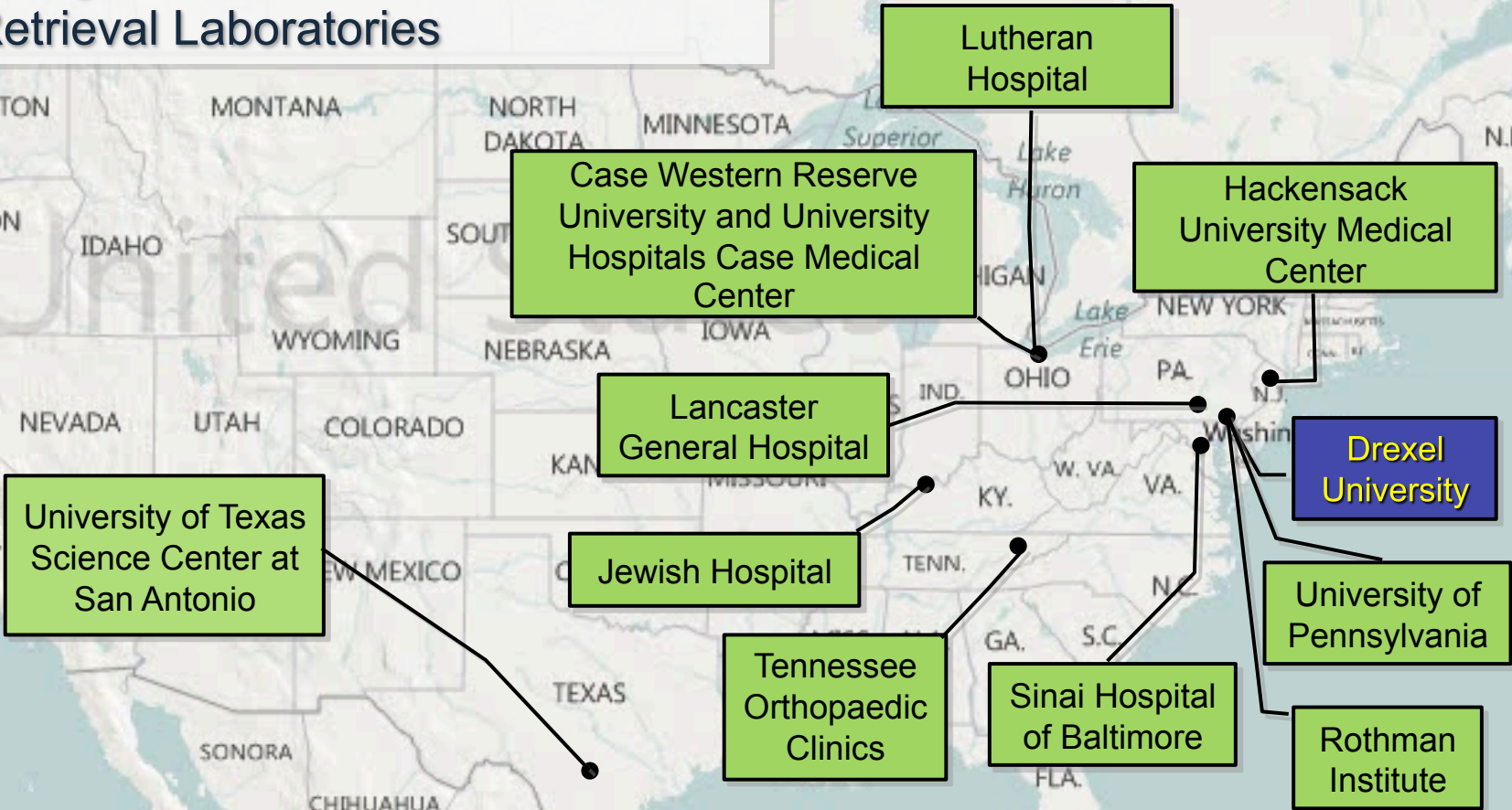
# Study Objective



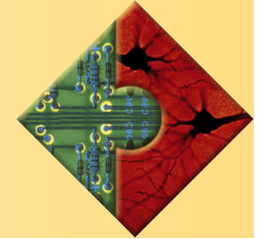
The purpose of this multicenter study was to assess the oxidative, mechanical behavior, wear, and reasons for revision of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> generation highly crosslinked polyethylenes.

## Drexel University Implant Repository

- 10 Surgical Centers
- 2 Retrieval Laboratories

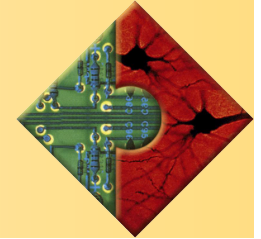


# Cohorts (n = 431)



Cohort	n	Manufacturer	Polyethylene Trade name	Terminal Sterilization	Total Irradiation Dose (kGy)
Gas Sterilization	27	Depuy S&N	N/A	Gas Plasma EtO	0
Gamma Inert	47	Depuy Zimmer	N/A	Gamma in inert environment	~35
Remelted	218	Wright Medical Zimmer Zimmer Depuy Smith & Nephew	A-Class Durasul Longevity Marathon XLPE	Gas Plasma or EtO	50 – 100
Annealed	84	Stryker	Crossfire	Gamma in Nitrogen	105
Sequentially Annealed	52	Stryker	X3	Gas Plasma	95
Vitamin E	3	Biomet	E1	Gamma in Argon	130

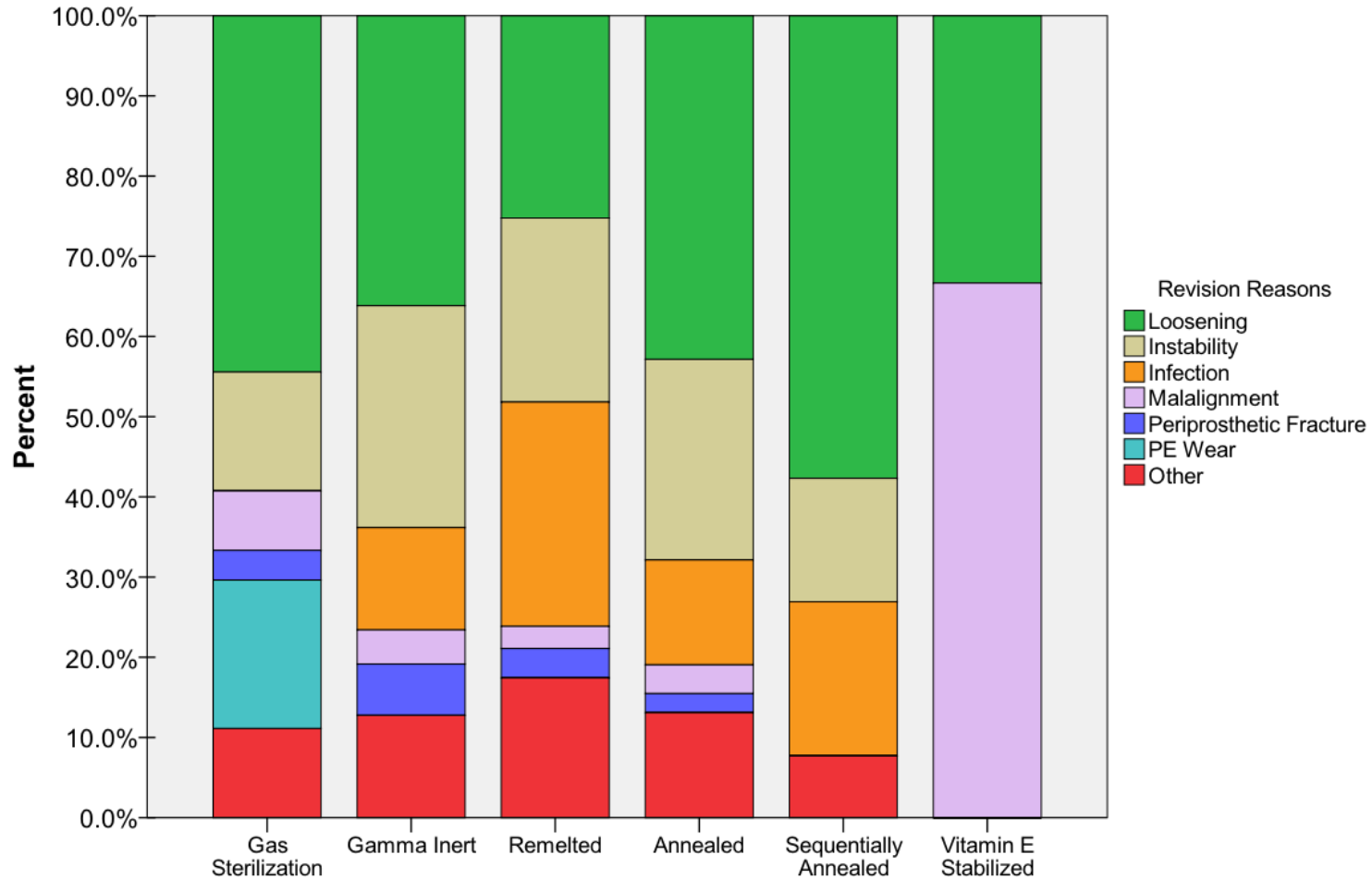
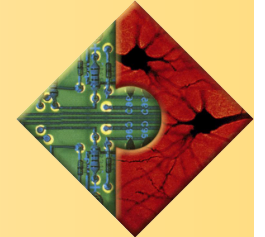
# Patient Demographics



Cohort	n	Age (years)	Gender (%F)	BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	Implantation Time (y)	Max UCLA Score (Range)
Gas Sterilization	27	49 ± 17	56%	32.4 ± 6.9	8.4 ± 3.7	7 (2 – 10)
Gamma Inert	47	59 ± 15	55%	29.4 ± 7.1	6.2 ± 3.8	6 (1 – 9)
Remelted	218	61 ± 13	54%	29.3 ± 7.2	1.9 ± 2.3	5 (1 – 10)
Annealed	84	62 ± 12	54%	28.4 ± 6.2	3.8 ± 2.9	5 (2 – 10)
Sequentially Annealed	52	58 ± 15	53%	31.7 ± 6.5	1.2 ± 0.9	5 (1 – 8)
Vitamin E	3	48 ± 25	0%	31.8 ± 2.8	1.2 ± 0.7	4 (3 – 5)

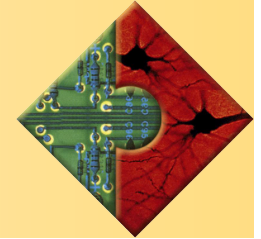


# Reasons for Revision



# Methods

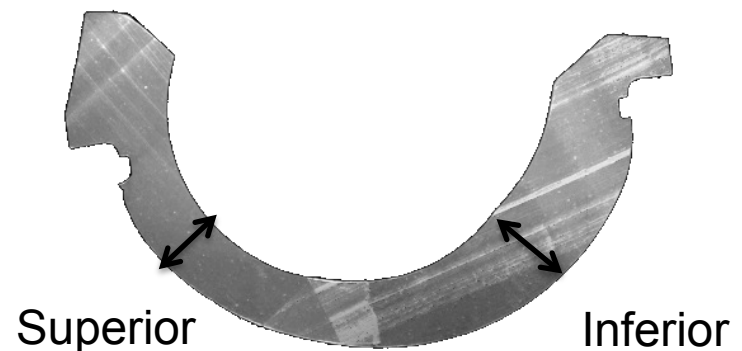
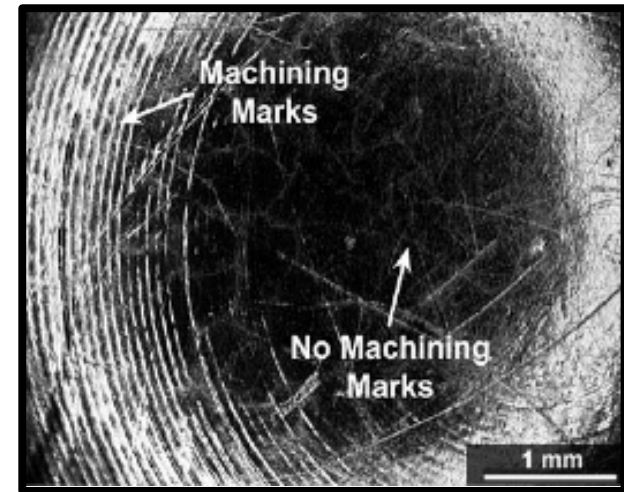
## Penetration Measurement



- Designate superior and inferior sides
- Measure thickness of superior and inferior regions
  - Point-tipped micrometer
    - Accuracy (0.001)

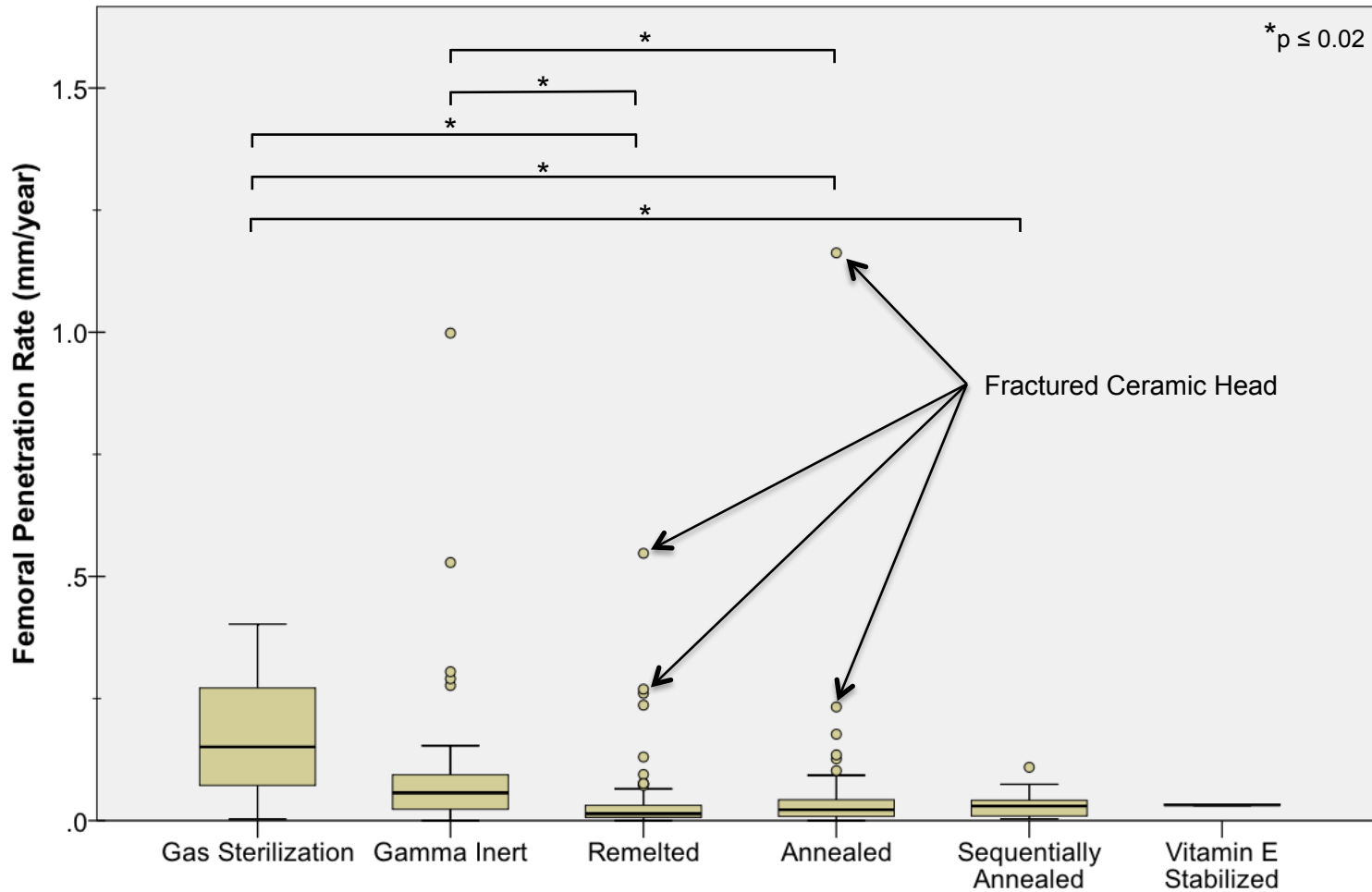
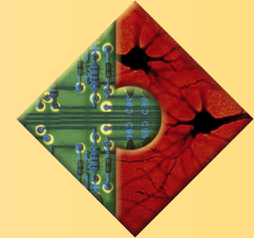
$$\frac{\text{Inferior Thickness} - \text{Superior Thickness}}{\text{Implantation Time}}$$

Linear Penetration Rate



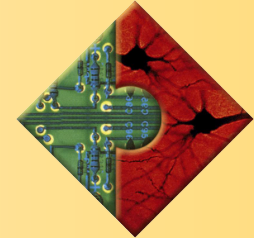
# Results

## Penetration Rates



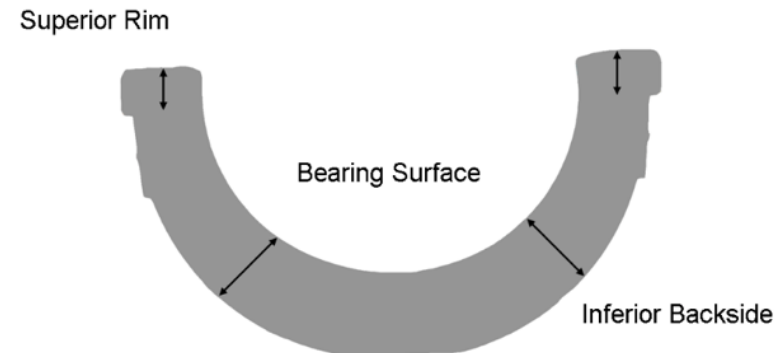
# Methods

## Oxidation Analysis

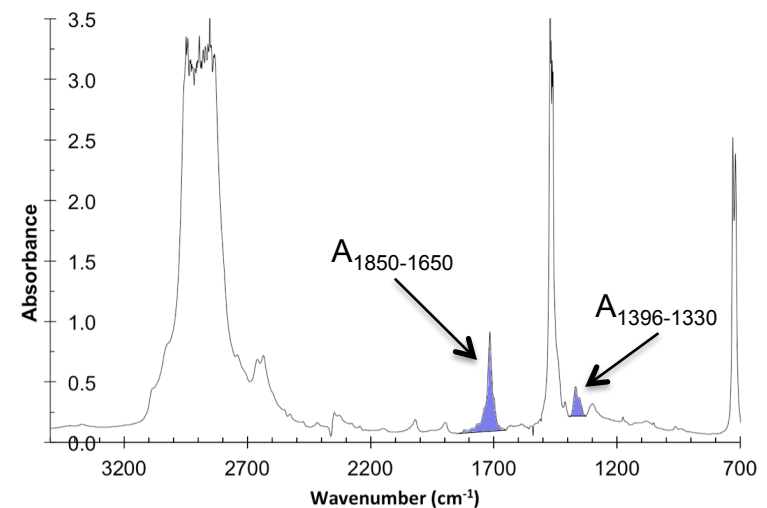


- 200  $\mu\text{m}$  sections taken:
  - From superior to inferior cross-section
- Boiled for 6h in heptane to avoid interference of absorbed lipids
- Scanned at 0.1 mm increments
  - 32 repeat scans per location
- Maximum Oxidation Index in accordance with ASTM F2102-01

$$OI = \frac{A_{1850-1650}}{A_{1396-1330}}$$

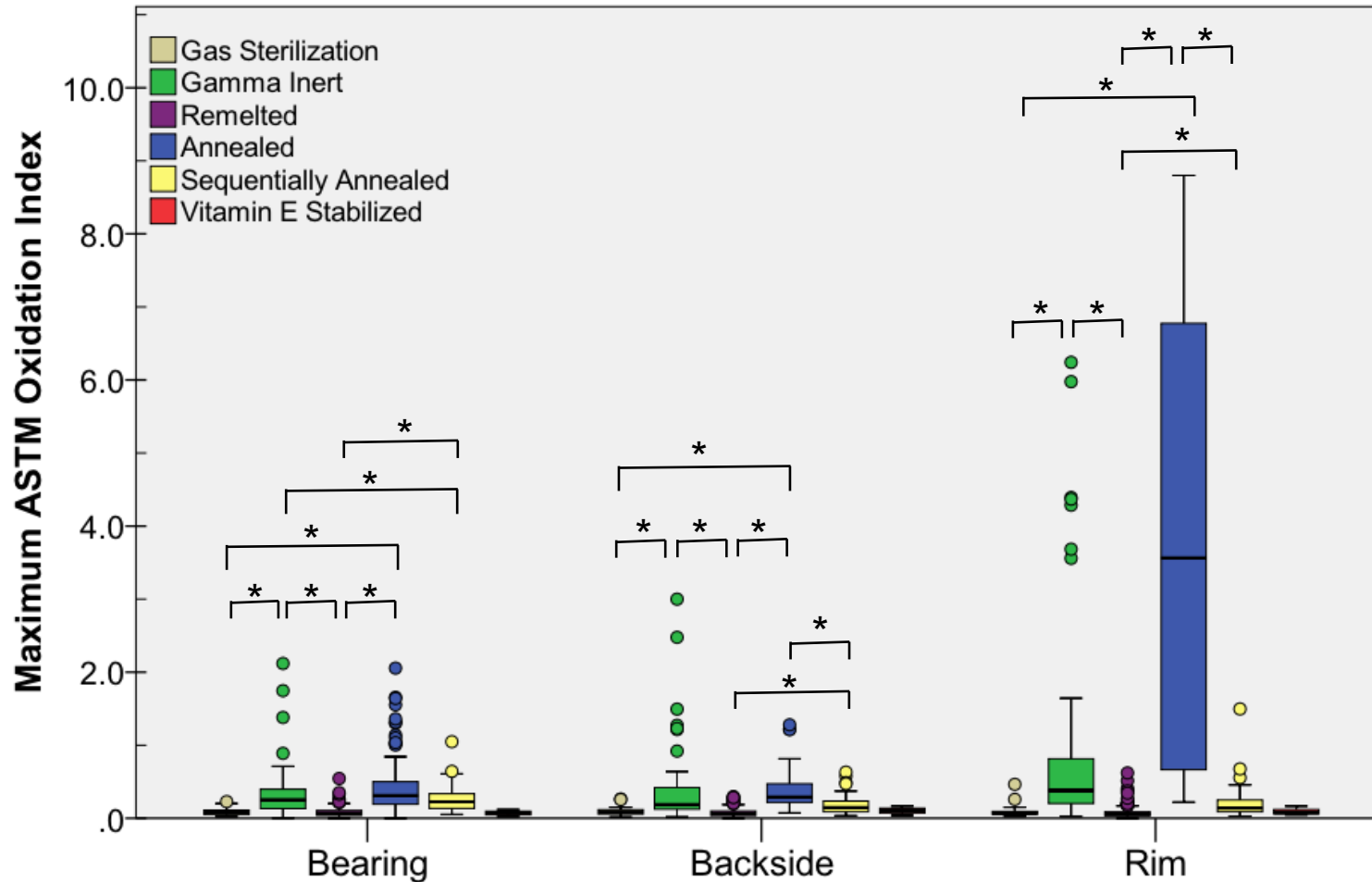
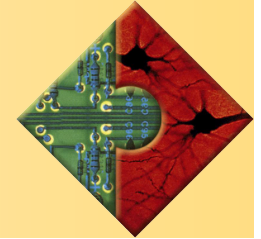


Regions of Interest



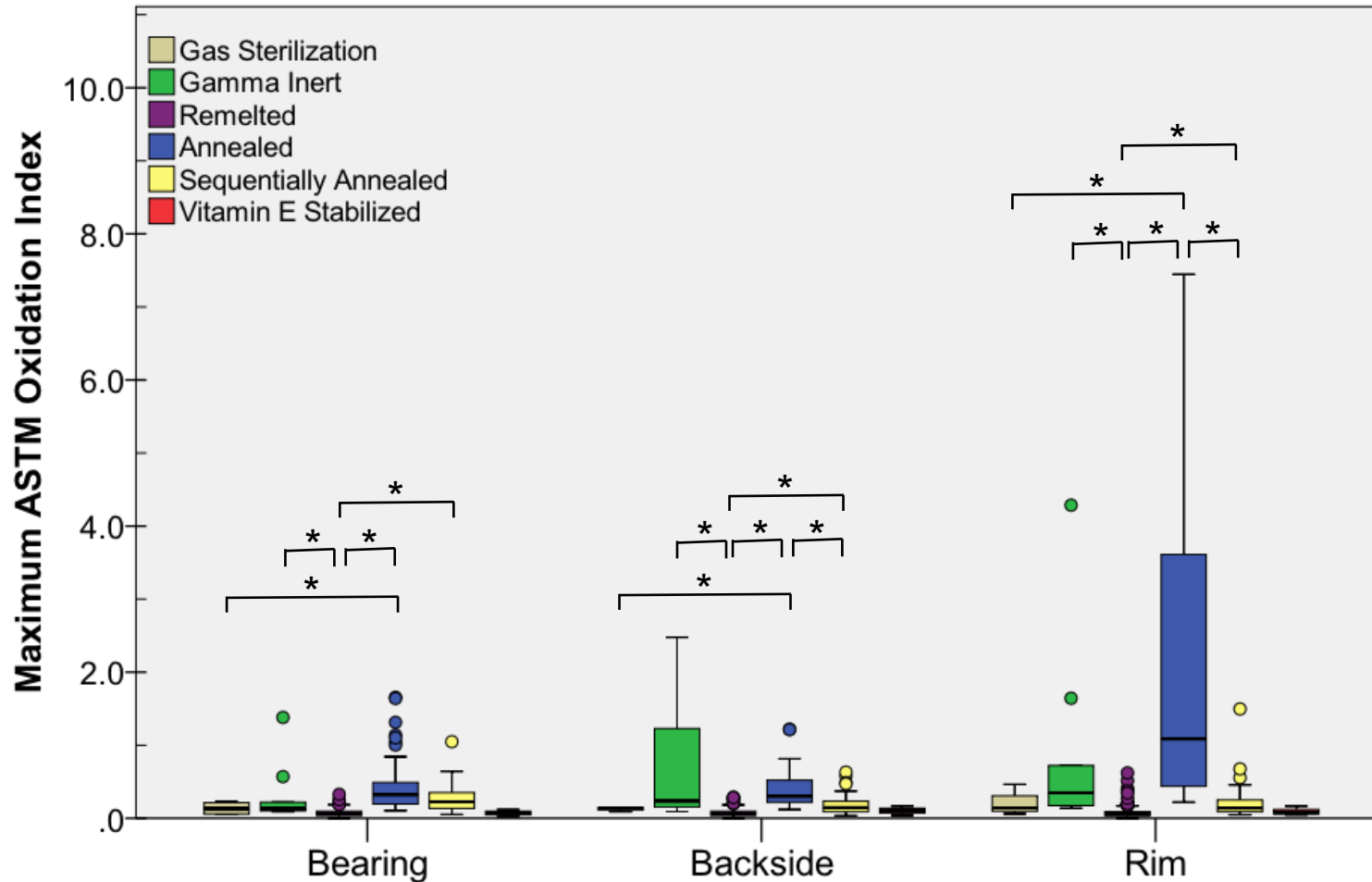
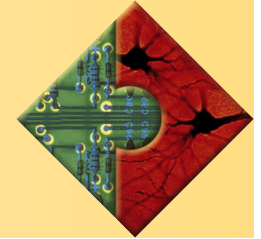
# Results

## Oxidation (All Liners)



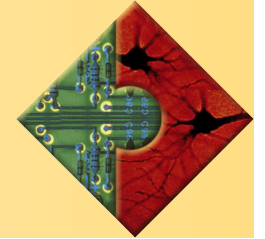
# Results

## Oxidation (*in vivo* $\leq 3.4y$ )



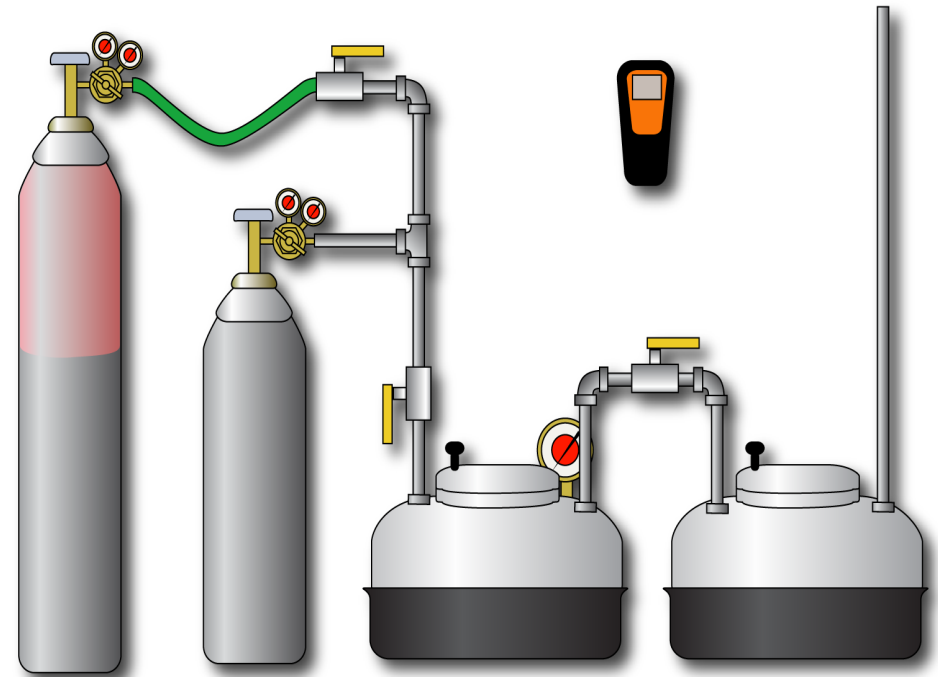
# Methods

## Hydroperoxide Analysis



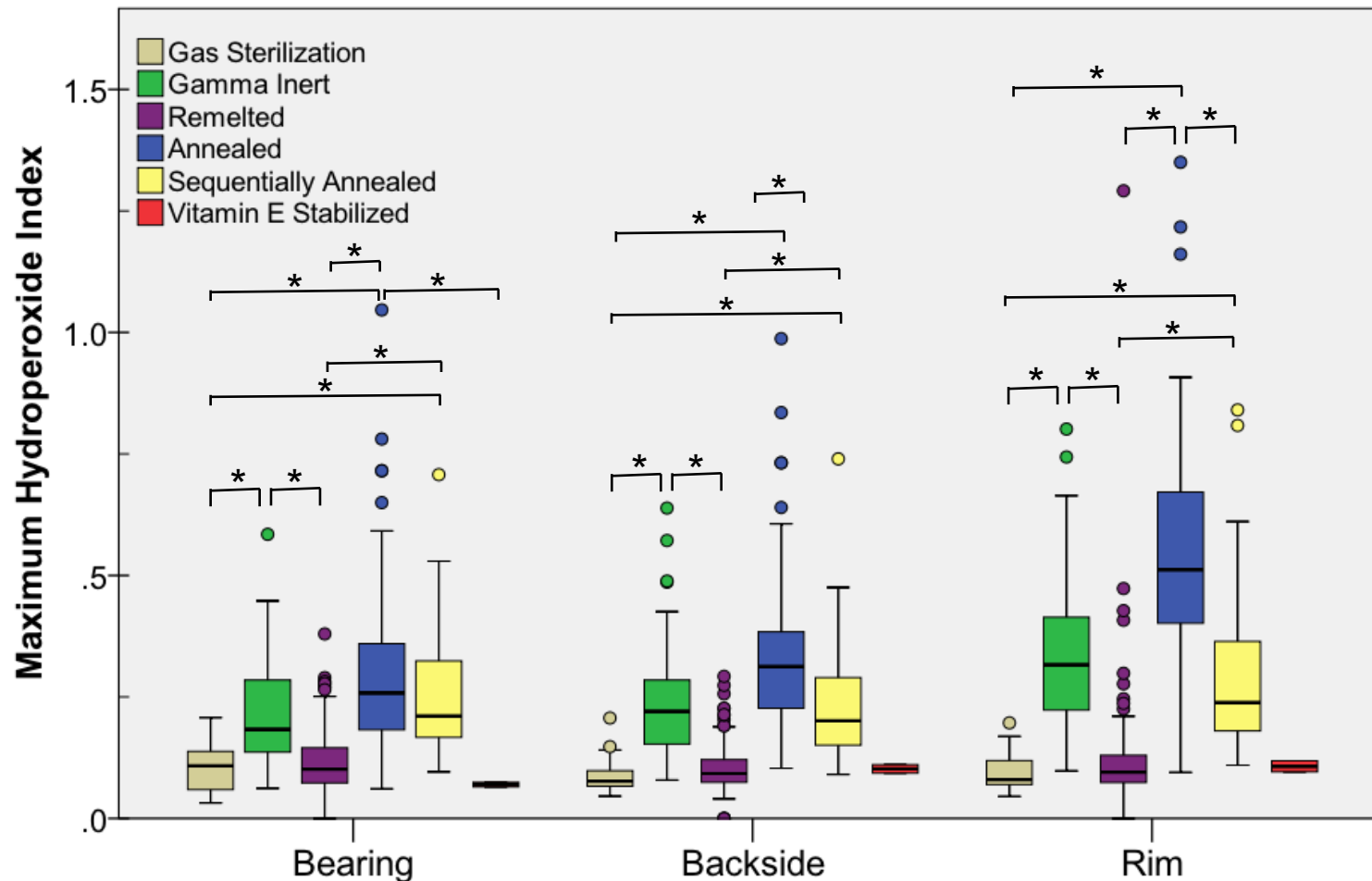
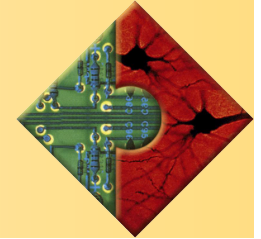
- Expose UHMWPE to nitric oxide (NO) gas in the absence of oxygen
  - Hydroperoxides → nitrates
  - Alcohols → nitrites
- Hydroperoxide index measured using FTIR
  - Represents oxidation potential for PE

$$HI = \frac{A_{1670-1600}}{A_{1396-1330}}$$



# Results

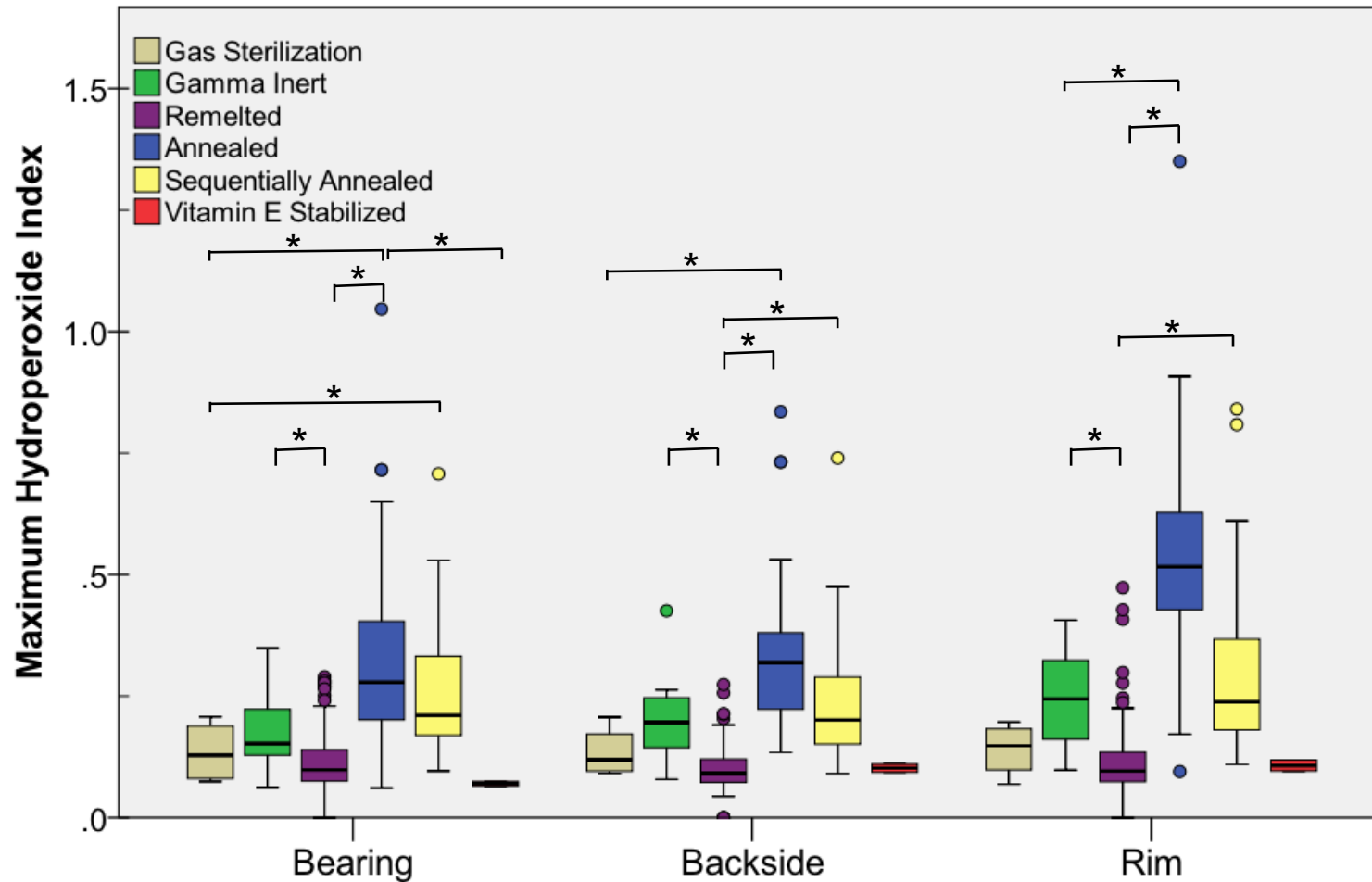
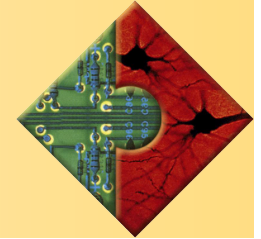
## Hydroperoxides (All Liners)





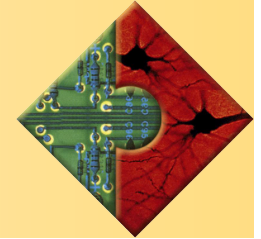
# Results

## Hydroperoxides ( $\leq 3.4y$ )

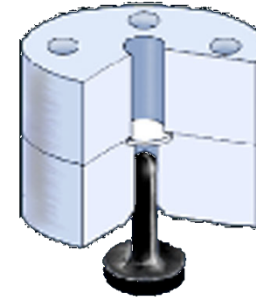


# Methods

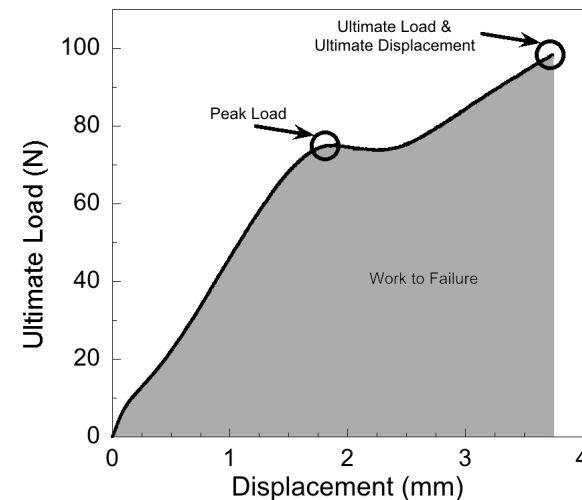
## Small Punch Test



- Cores taken from Inferior and Superior portions of the liner
- Miniature Disks machined from cores (Surface and subsurface specimens)
  - 6.4mm in diameter
  - 0.5mm in thickness
- Testing conducted in accordance with ASTM F2183
  - 4 Metrics Calculated
    - Peak Load
    - Ultimate Load
    - Ultimate Displacement
    - Work to Failure

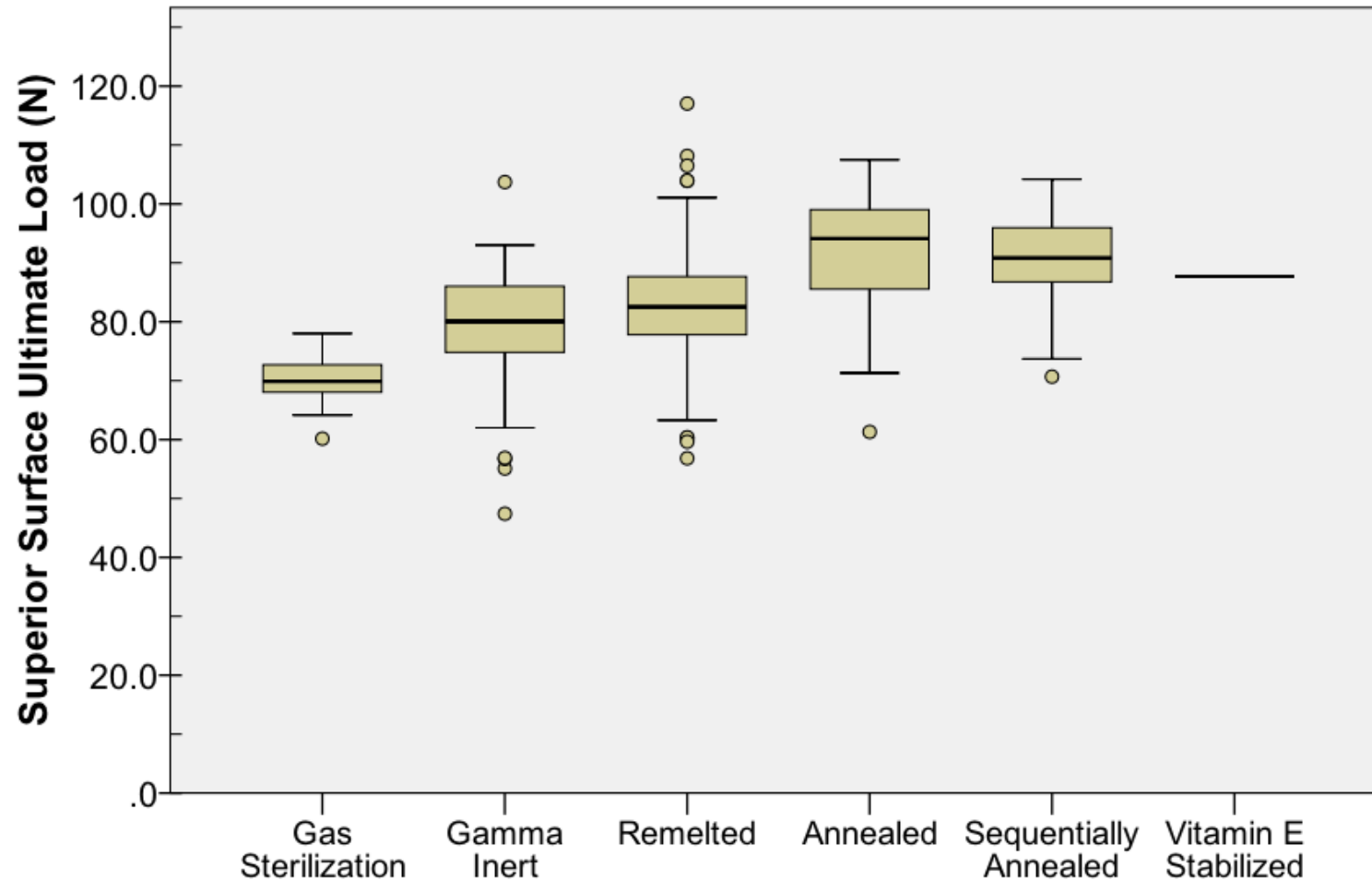
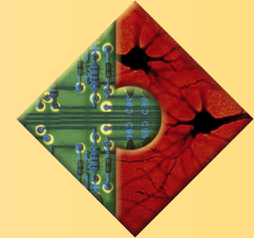


### Mechanical characterization



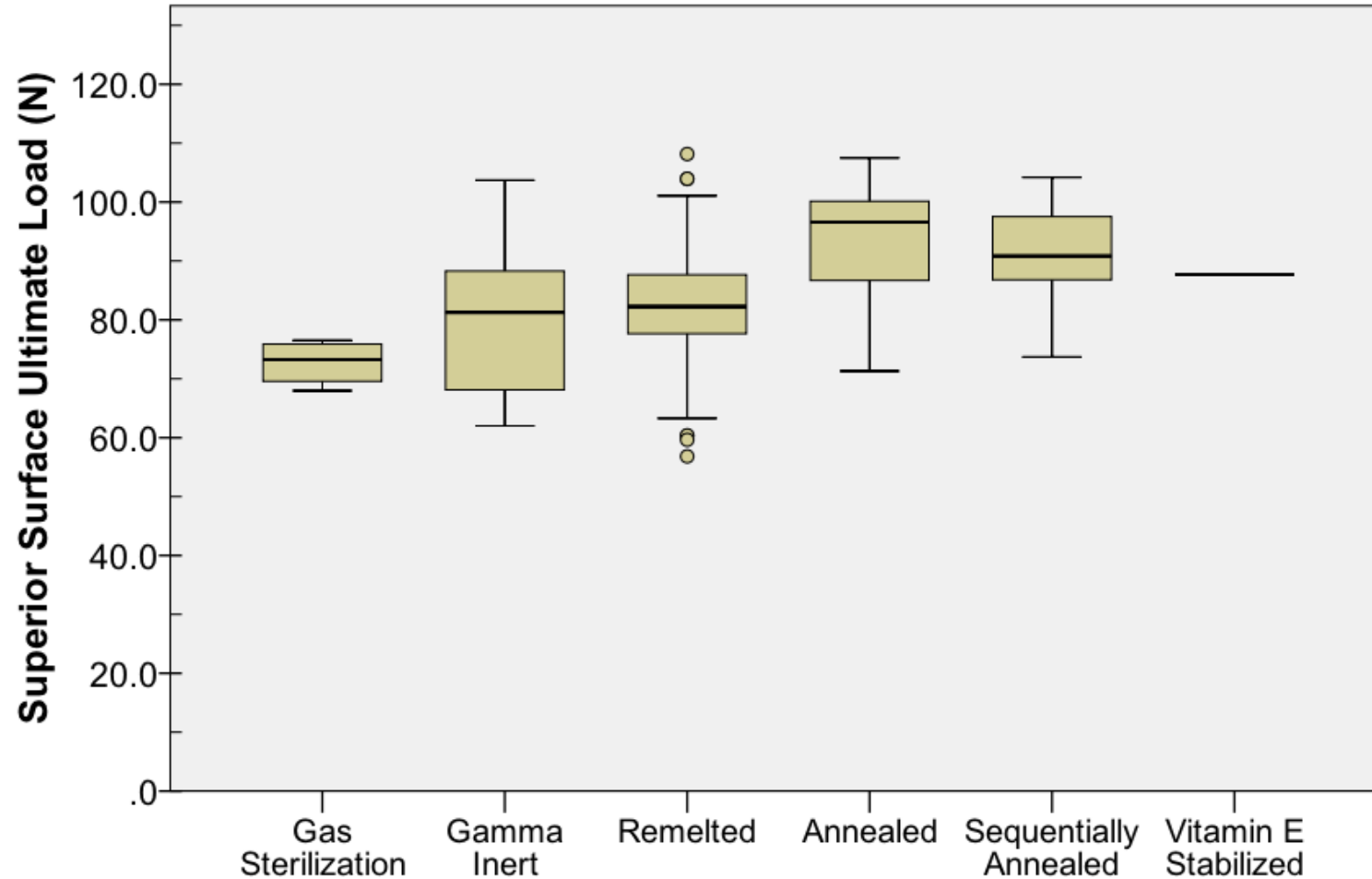
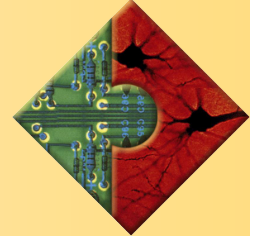
# Results

## Ultimate Load (All Liners)



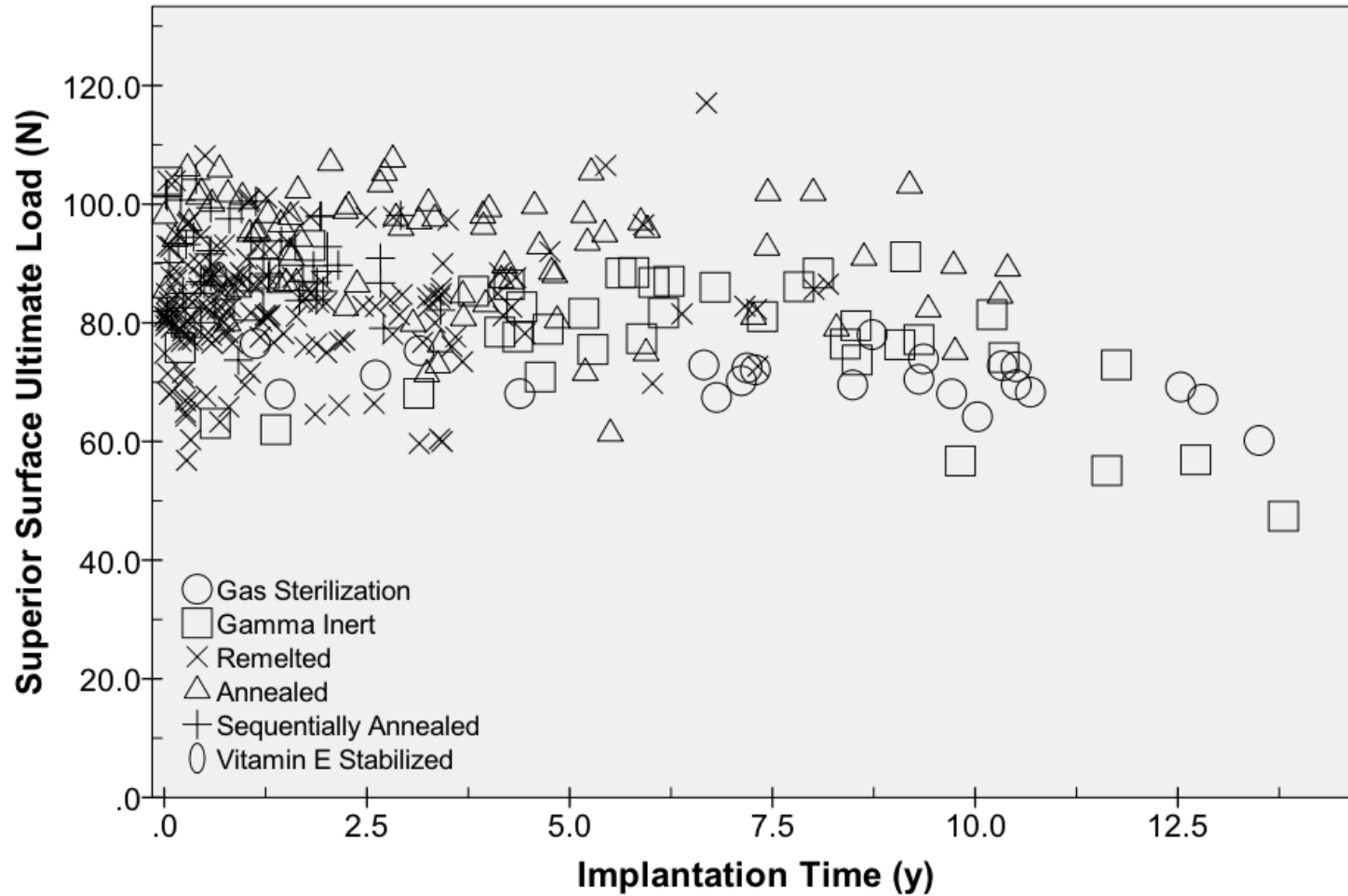
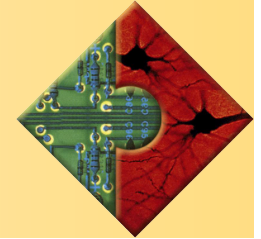
# Results

## Ultimate Load (Liners $\leq 3.4y$ )



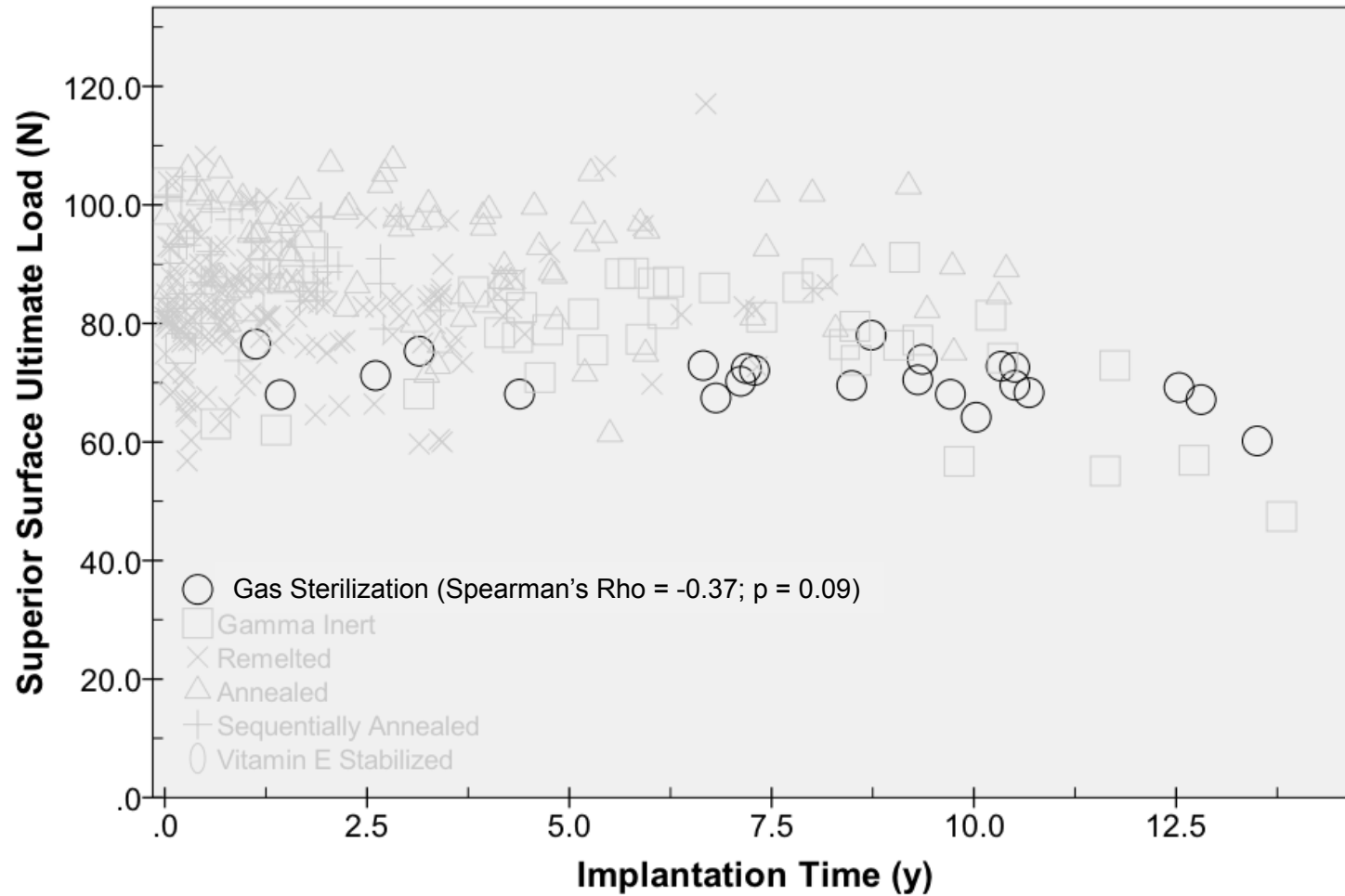
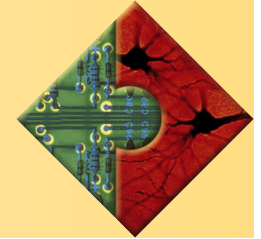
# Results

## Ultimate Load



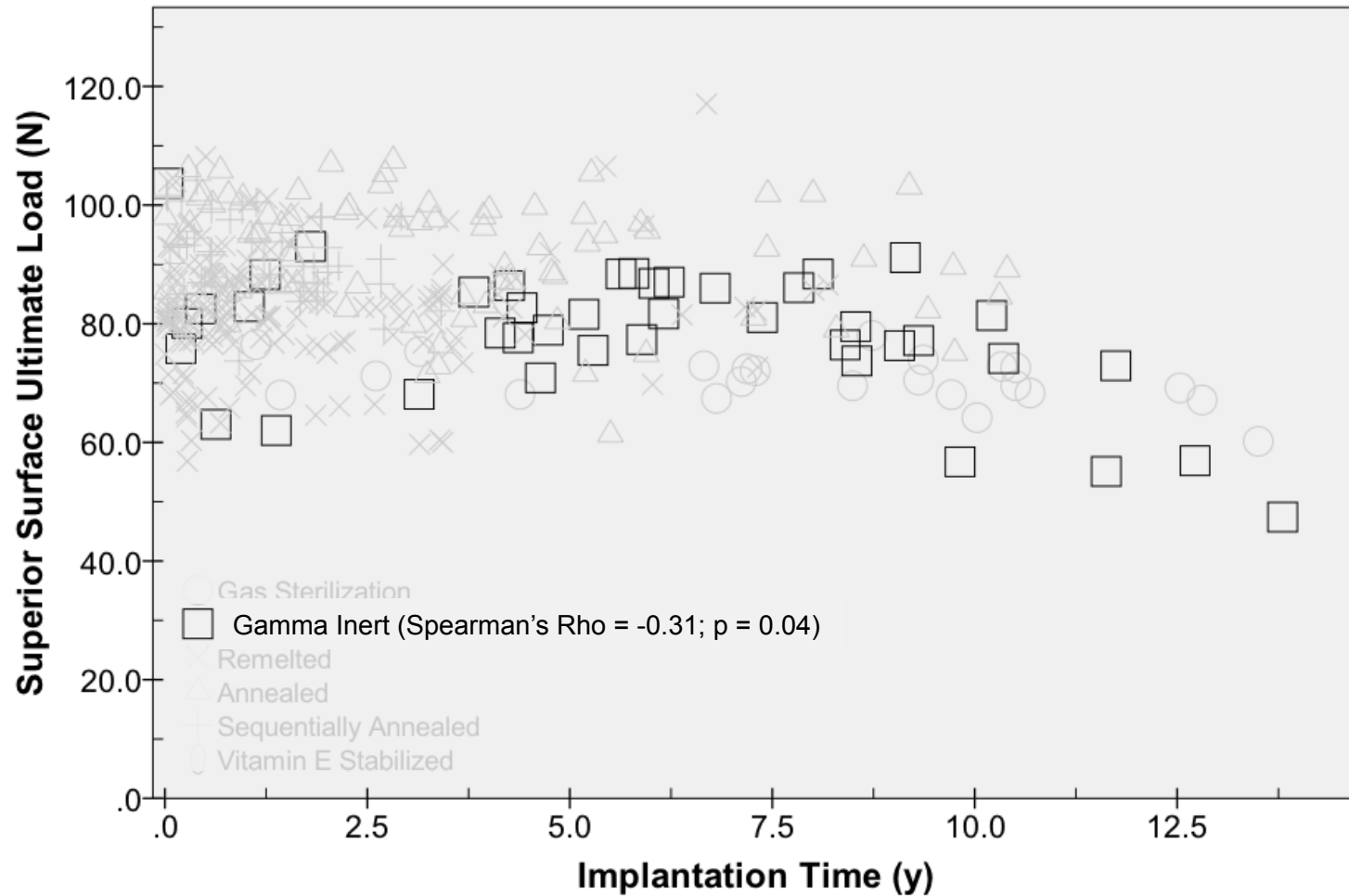
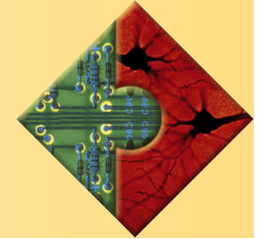
# Results

## Ultimate Load



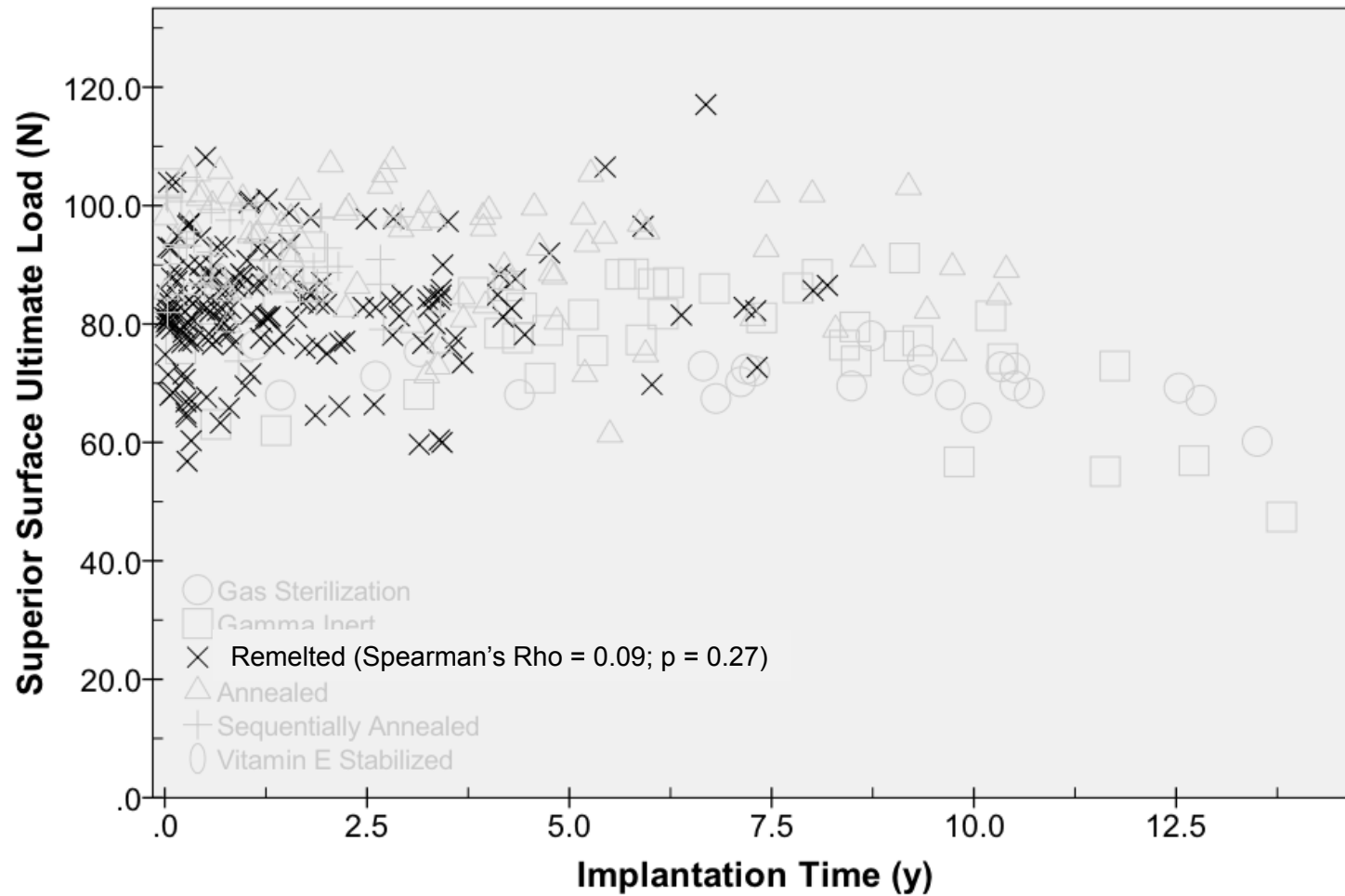
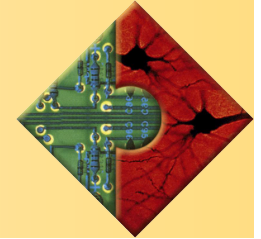
# Results

## Ultimate Load



# Results

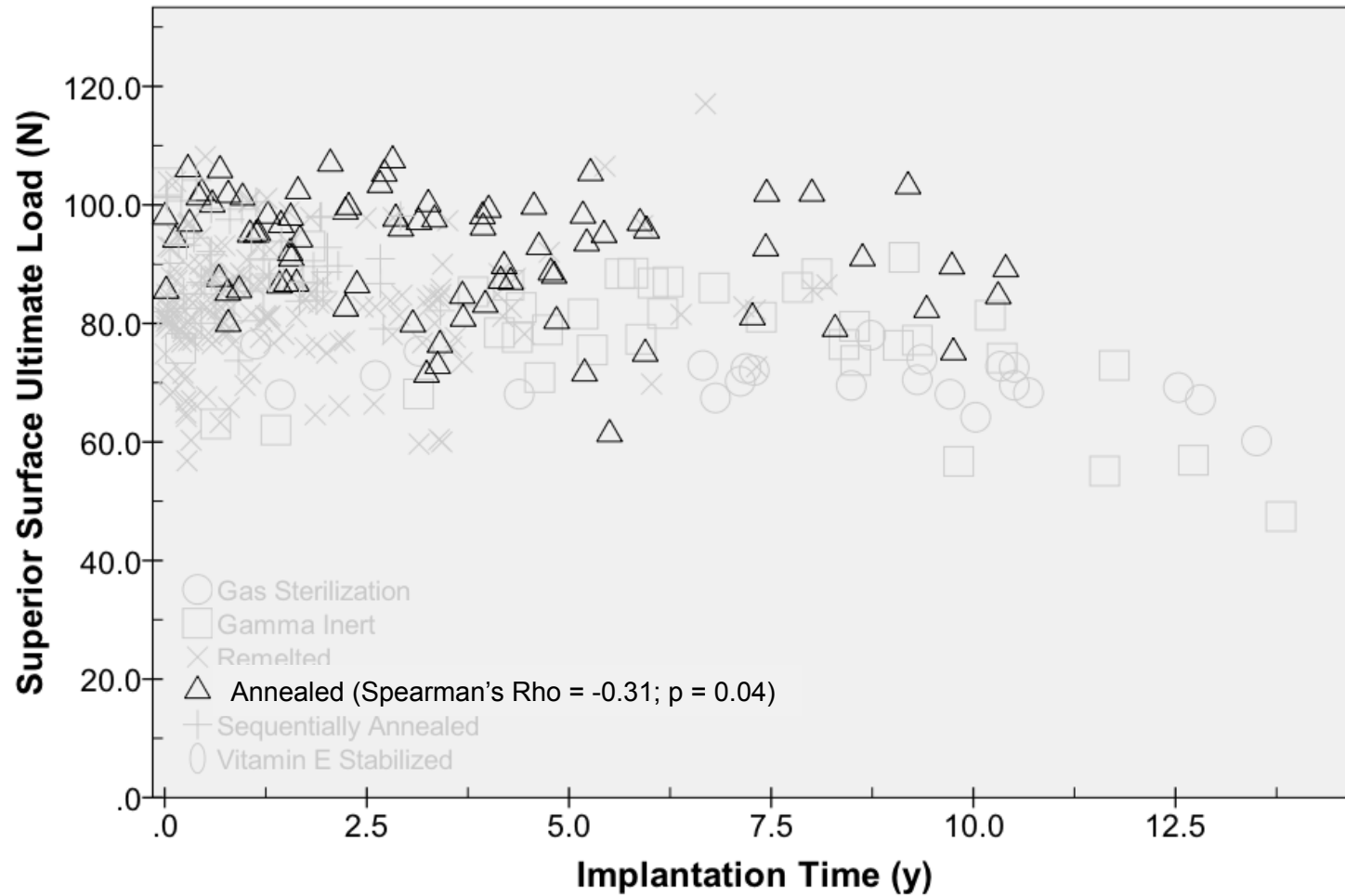
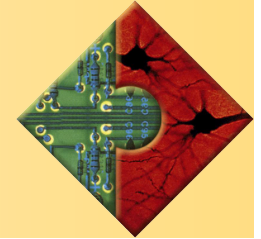
## Ultimate Load





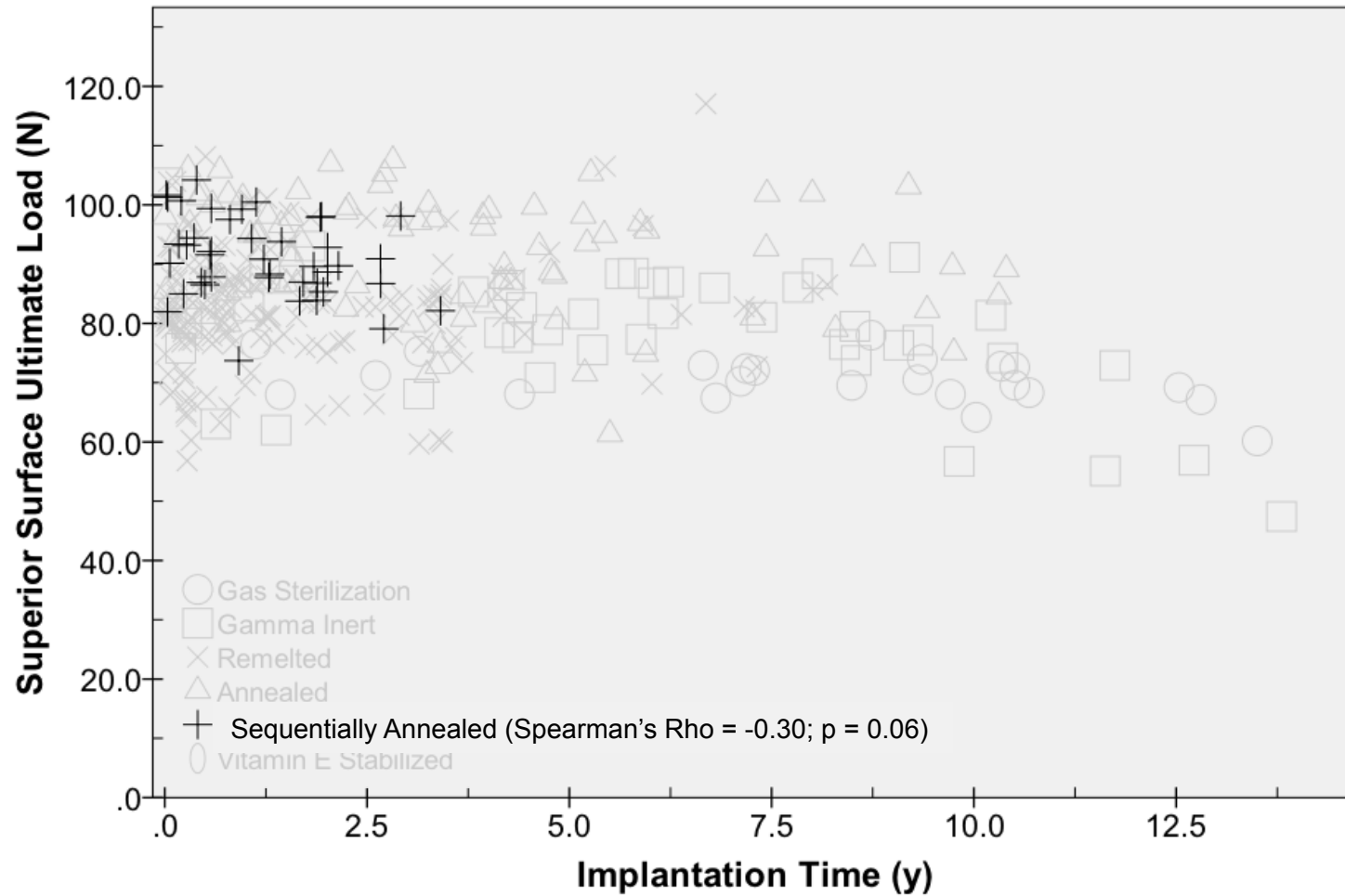
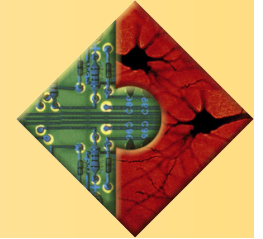
# Results

## Ultimate Load



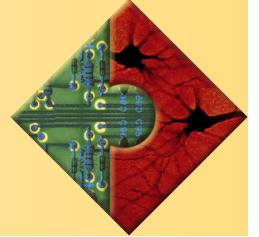
# Results

## Ultimate Load



# Case Study

## Sequentially Annealed



- Male, 59y
  - Black
  - BMI : 28
- Implanted 2006
  - DJD
- Revised 2010
  - Max UCLA Score: 6
  - Revised for Femoral Loosening

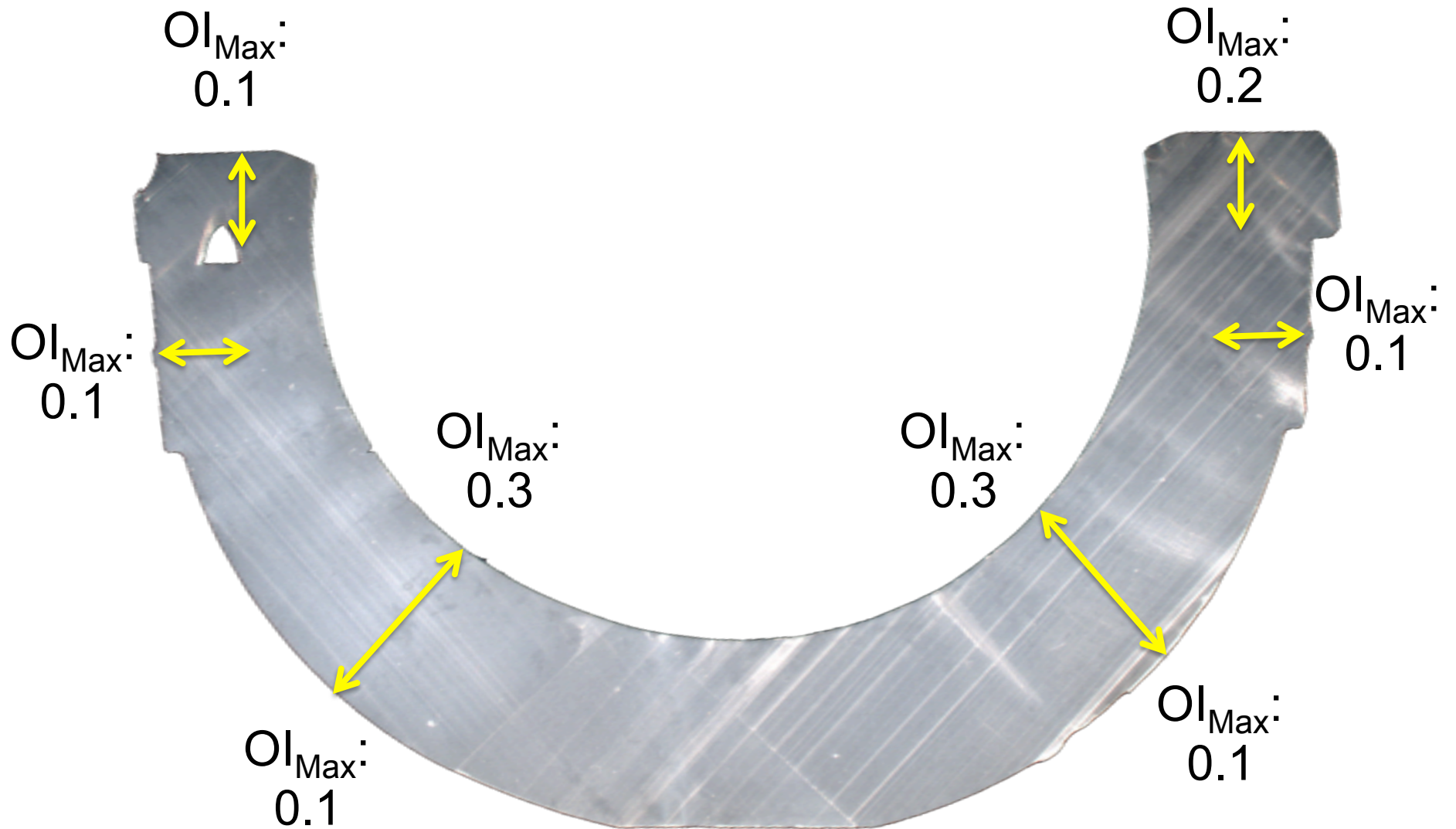


*In vivo 3.4 y*

R



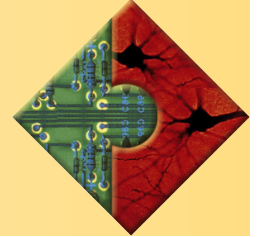
Inferior Rim



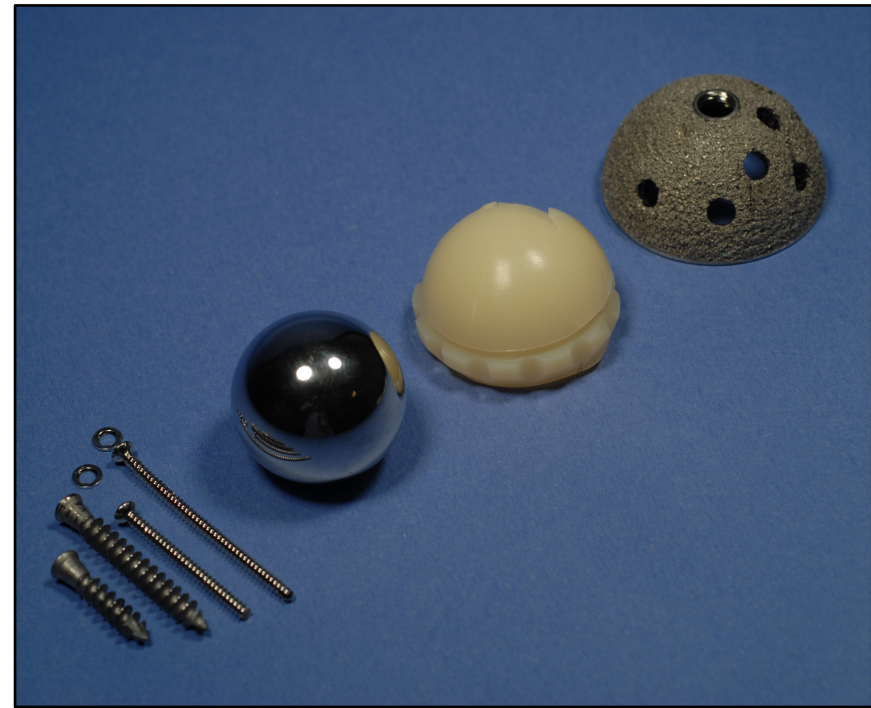
Superior Backside

# Case Study

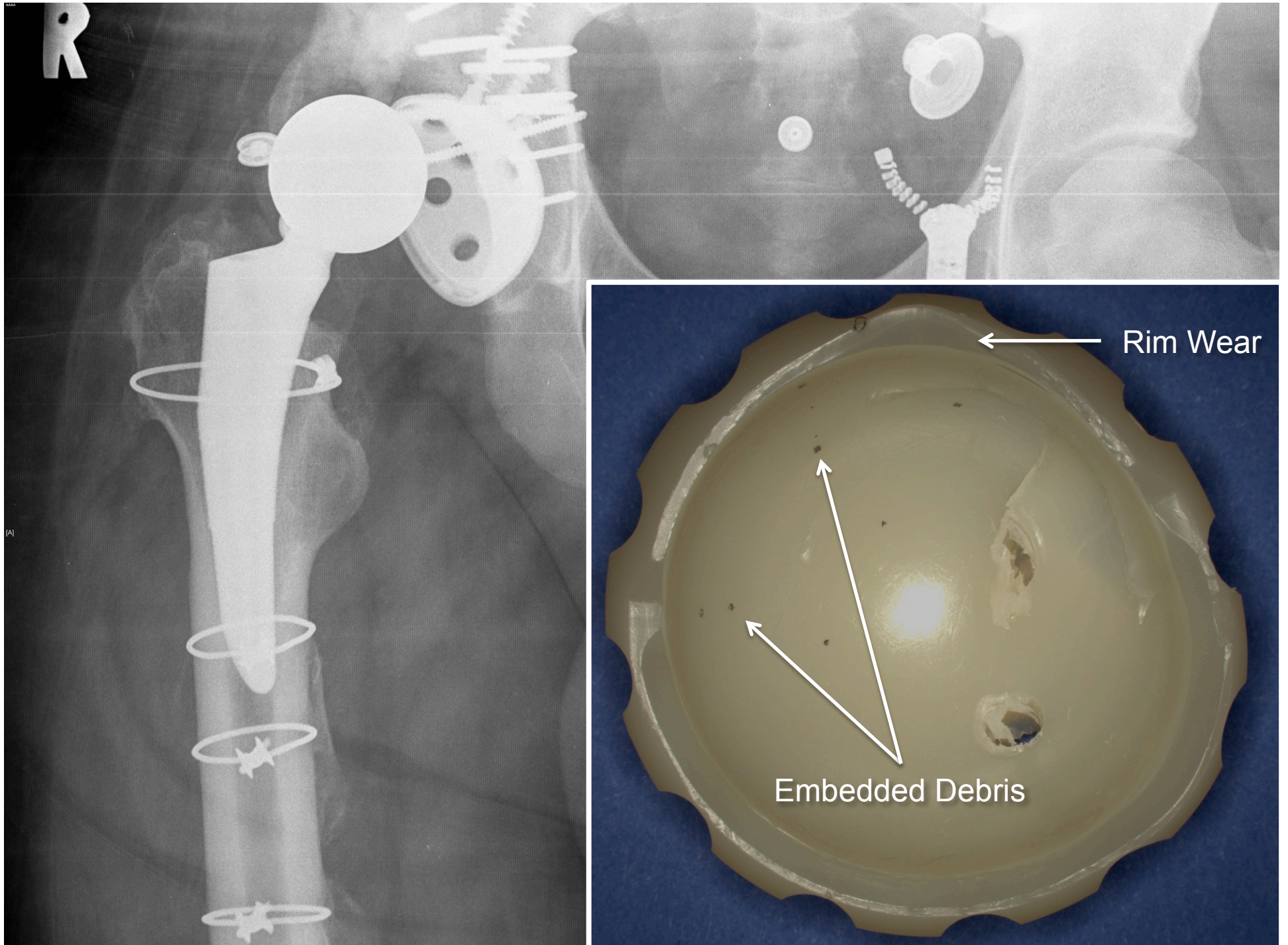
## Vitamin E Stabilized



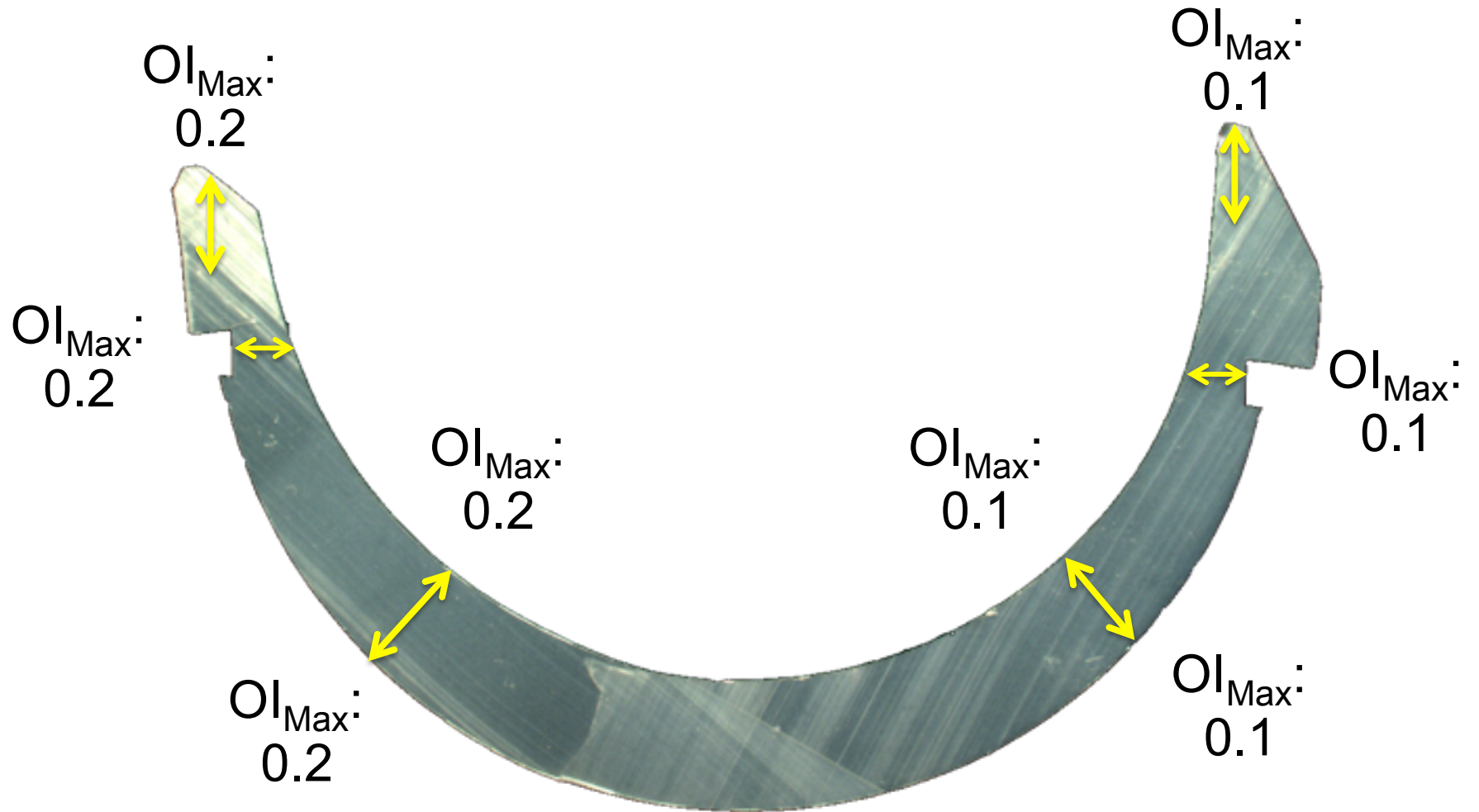
- Male, 21y
  - BMI : 34
- Implanted 2009
- Revised 2010
  - Max UCLA Score: 3
  - Revised for Malalignment and Instability



*In vivo 0.8 y*



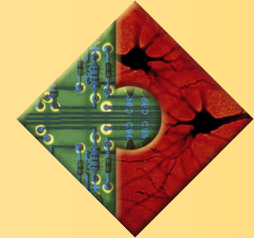
Inferior Rim



Superior Backside

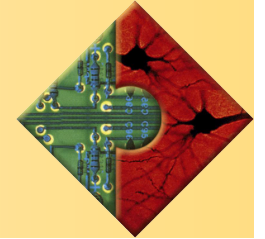


# Discussion



- All HXLPE materials in this study effectively reduced wear as compared to control.
- Oxidative stability is formulation dependent
  - Sequential annealing (X3™) reduces oxidation as compared with 1<sup>st</sup> generation annealing
  - Vitamin E (E1™) oxidation levels were low and uniform
    - Short implantation time

# Discussion



- Mechanical properties also formulation dependent
  - Only Gamma Inert and Sequentially Annealed groups negatively correlated with implantation time
- Additional Vitamin E retrievals necessary to fully characterize their *in vivo* behavior.

# Questions

