



# CBI

## Thermal Dermal Burn Modeling in Rats and Minipigs

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COMPARATIVE BIOSCIENCES, INC.  
A TRANSLATIONAL APPROACH TO PRECLINICAL RESEARCH

# COMPARATIVE BIOSCIENCES, INC.

- Premier Preclinical Contract Research Organization
- Specializing in Dermal and Ocular Pharmacology, Toxicology and Histopathology
- 17 Years in business
- Located in the heart of Silicon Valley
- State of the art, purpose-built facility
- ~30 employees with 7 PhDs, 2 pathologists
- Experienced study directors and scientists
- GLP, OECD, FDA, USDA, OLAW
- AAALAC Accreditation



# Model induction in MiniPigs

- CBI offers either full or partial thickness dermal burn modeling in minipigs that demonstrates dermal healing and is also humane and well tolerated by the rat and pig
  - Uniform full or partial thickness burns are surgically-induced under strict aseptic conditions with intense post surgical care, systemic antibiotics and pain control.
  - Device used is a stainless steel or brass block of defined weight (generally 300 gm) approximately 3x3 cm that is heated to a defined temperature (either 100 or 200C for partial or full thickness respectively) and held onto the skin for a defined time (generally 1 min for partial and 30 sec for full thickness). Alternatively, for partial thickness burns, hot water method (scald) may be used.
  - Test article and bandaging is administered appropriately
  - Grafting, escharectomy and other procedures available
  - Lesions are measured and photographed
  - Biopsy or histopathology for histology, IHC or bioanalysis may be performed



# Model induction in Rats

- CBI offers either full or partial thickness dermal burn modeling in rats that demonstrates dermal healing and is also humane and well tolerated by the rat
  - Uniform full or partial thickness burns are surgically-induced under strict aseptic conditions with intense post surgical care, systemic antibiotics and pain control.
  - Device used is a small aluminum rod that is heated to a defined temperature (either 100 or 200C for partial or full thickness respectively) and held onto the skin for a defined time (generally 30 sec min for partial and 45-60 sec for full thickness). Alternatively, hot water method may be used.
  - Test article and bandaging is administered appropriately
  - Lesions are measured and photographed
  - Biopsy or histopathology for histology, IHC or bioanalysis may be performed



# Typical Parameters for both pigs and rats

- Daily to weekly body weights
- Daily clinical observations
- Food consumption
- Clinical pathology
- Toxicokinetics or pharmacokinetics
- Measurements and photography
- Necropsy or site biopsy
- Histopathology with special staining
- Sponsor specific bioassays



# Typical findings for both pigs and rats for standard parameters

- For typical burn studies in which focal burns are placed on the dorsum:
  - Procedure is well tolerated with adequate pain relief
  - Daily to weekly body weights: There is mild body weight loss over the first week with return to weight gain after 1 week
  - Daily clinical observations: Animals may be slightly lethargic
  - Food consumption: No change or slight qualitative decrease
  - Clinical pathology: Within normal limits
  - For extensive burns (>50%) changes are seen in clinical pathology including glucose, total protein, albumin, LDH, insulin, BUN



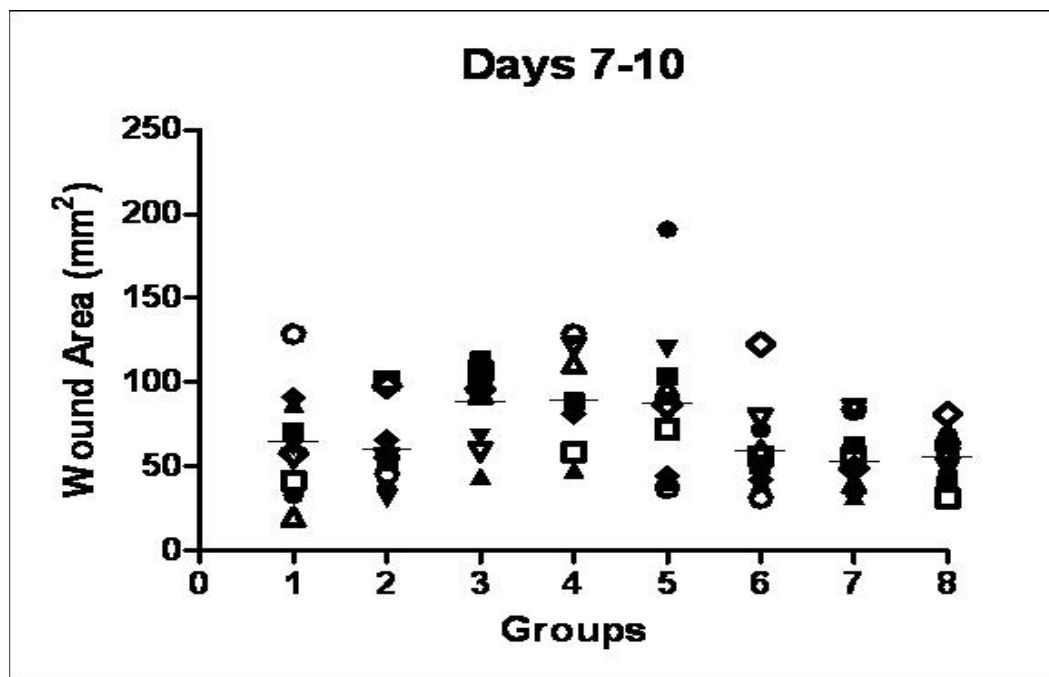
# Histopathology

- Surgical biopsies during course of study as well as necropsy
- Tissue stained with HE, trichrome, other stains upon request
- IHC for various markers upon request
- Digital image analysis for wound size, cellular infiltrates, inflammatory markers or other markers
- Photomicroscopy



# Full thickness dermal wound area Days 7-10

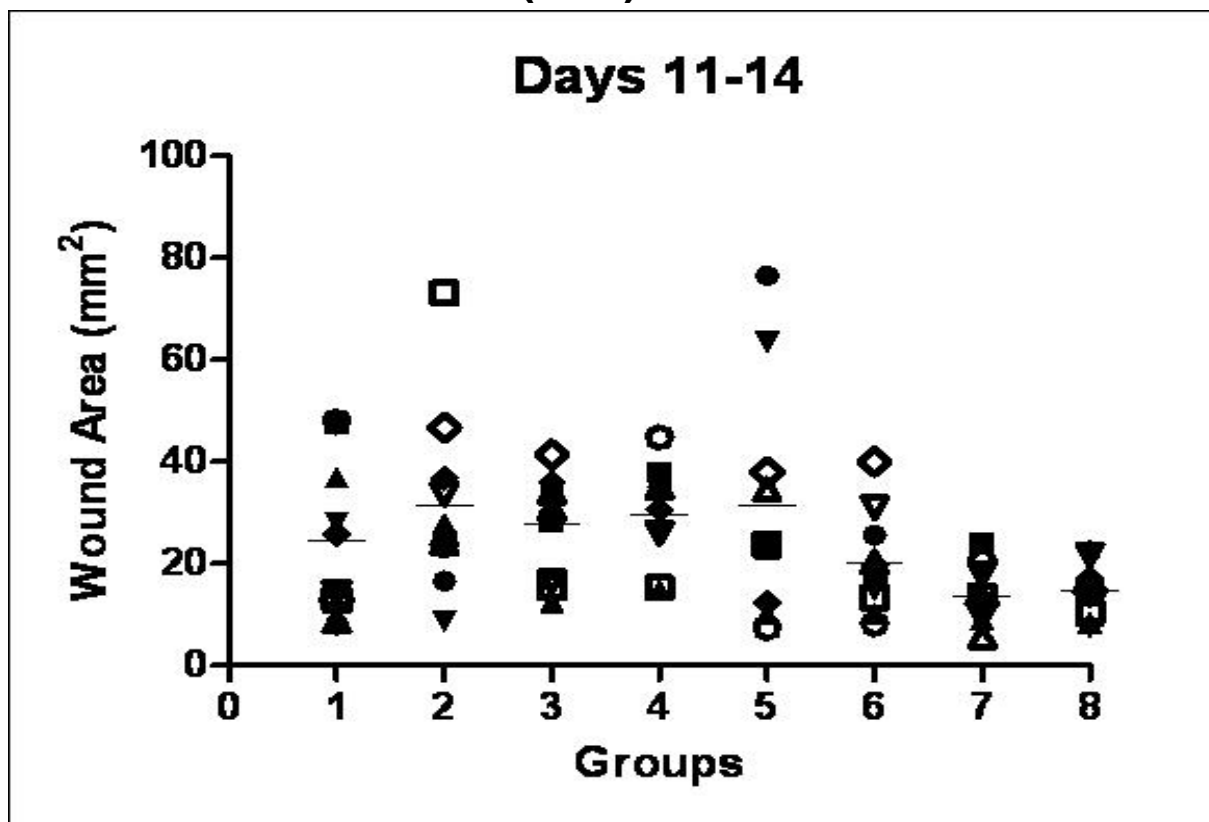
Dermal burn area following placement of 2 dorsal full thickness burns and treated with various topical test articles. (N=8)





# Full thickness dermal wound area Days 11-14

Dermal burn area following placement of 2 dorsal full thickness burns and treated with various topical test articles.  
(N=8)



## Sample data from a minipig burn study

- Data from several studies
- Burn study using 2-4 pigs per group, treated with no treatment, vehicle and 5 topical compounds for 4 weeks
- Six dorsal full thickness burns
- Body weights, clinical observations
- Wound area
- Histopathology



# Surgical procedures

Under strict aseptic conditions, burns are created.

Pig receives appropriate anesthesia, post operative pain control and antibiotics.



Sterile wound dressing with test article is applied as per protocol.



# Post-procedure bandaging

Stockinet covering



Bandage completed



## Burn research

- Partial and full thickness burns are typically created
- Mini pigs-skin is most similar to human and are a robust laboratory animal for this model
- Healing and re-epithelialization are of interest
- Biomarkers and cytokines are currently of interest and not well understood
- Histology is well characterized at CBI

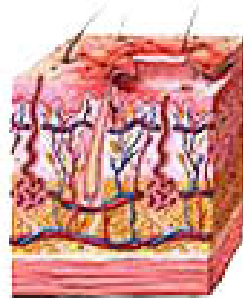
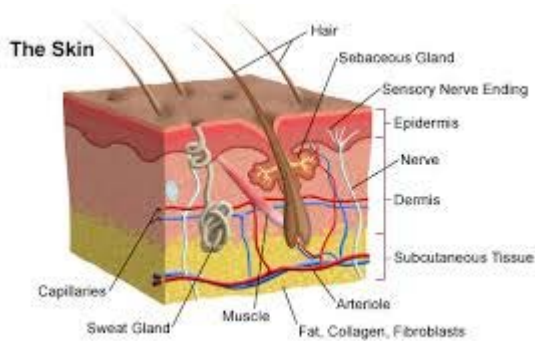


## Burn research

- Burn progression is also of research interest
- Following the initial burn, the lesion often worsens with time and is a significant adverse event
- Progression is not well understood, but appears to be related to vascular injury, tissue oxygenation and mediate release.



# Appearance of three types of burns: Full thickness burns extend to the underlying muscle layer



Superficial  
(first degree)  
burn



Partial thickness  
(second degree)  
burn

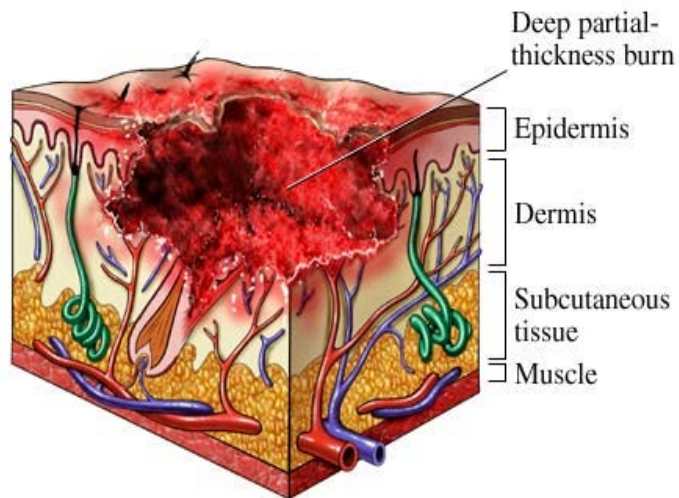


Full thickness  
(third degree)  
burn



# Deep partial thickness burns or second degree burns in patient and in pig model.

Burn extends into the dermis, but not to the muscle layer.





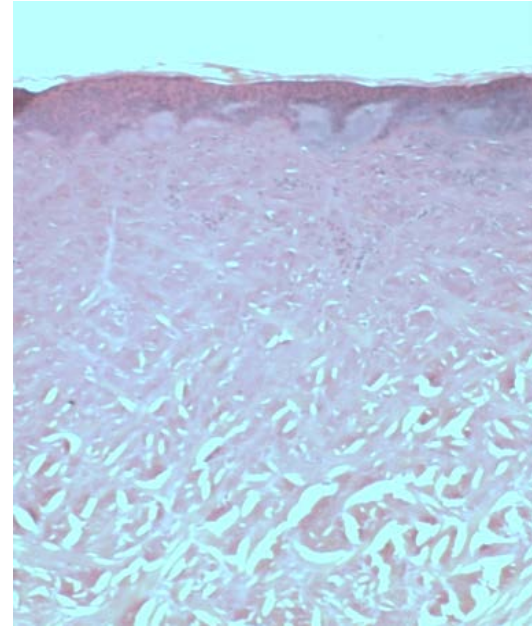
## Partial thickness burn Day 1:



Day 1-8 Focal area of blister and rim of hyperemia and edema.  
Day 11-21 Progressive re-epithelialization and healing



## Deep partial thickness burns or second degree burns in patient and in pig model.



The epithelium is still intact, but the superficial underlying collagen is bluish and amorphous. Vascular and cellular events have not yet occurred. Deeper collagen is not as effected.



## Partial thickness burns-Day 1



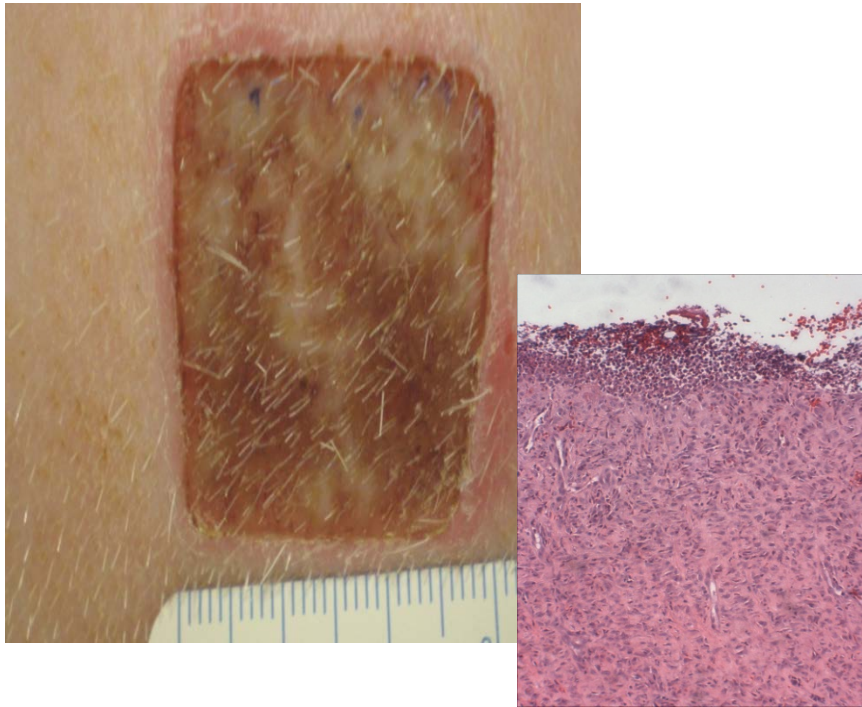
Day 1: Acute thermal damage to the epidermis post surgically. Note hyperemic zone at burn-dermis interface..



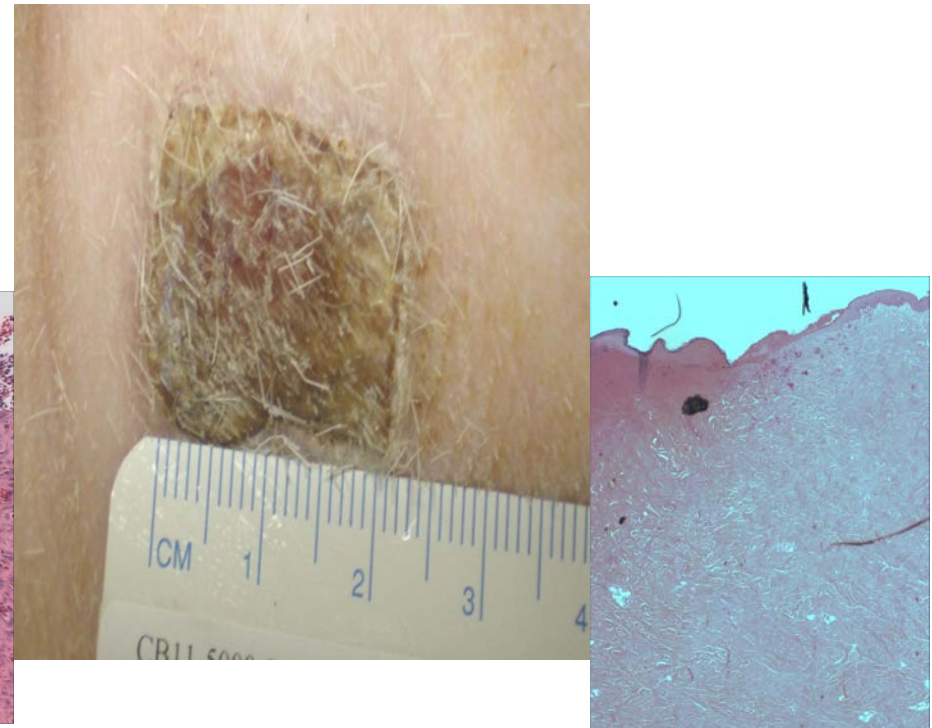
Day 1: Acute thermal damage to the epidermis. Note hyperemic zone at burn-dermis interface.



## Partial thickness burn-Day 8 and 21



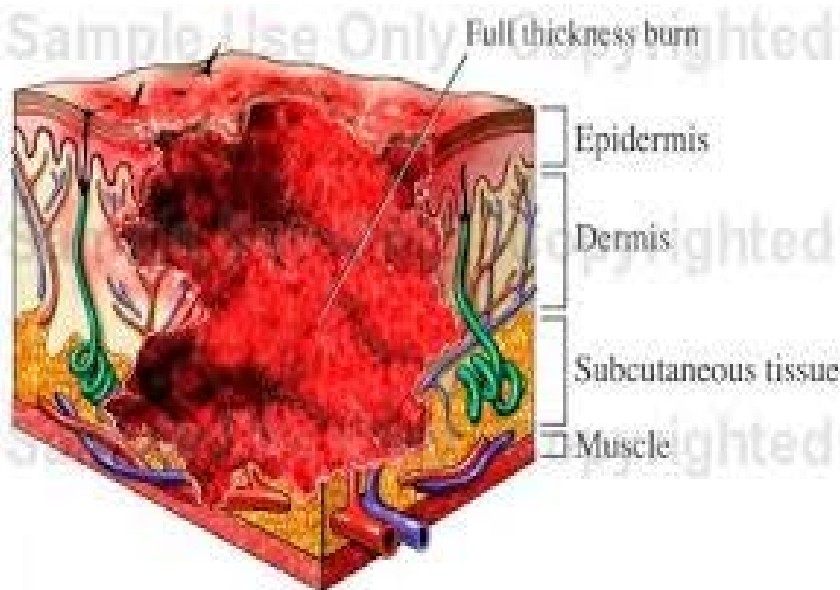
Day 8-Dense scab formation. There is little re-epithelialization but dense new granulation tissue with inflammation is present in the wound bed



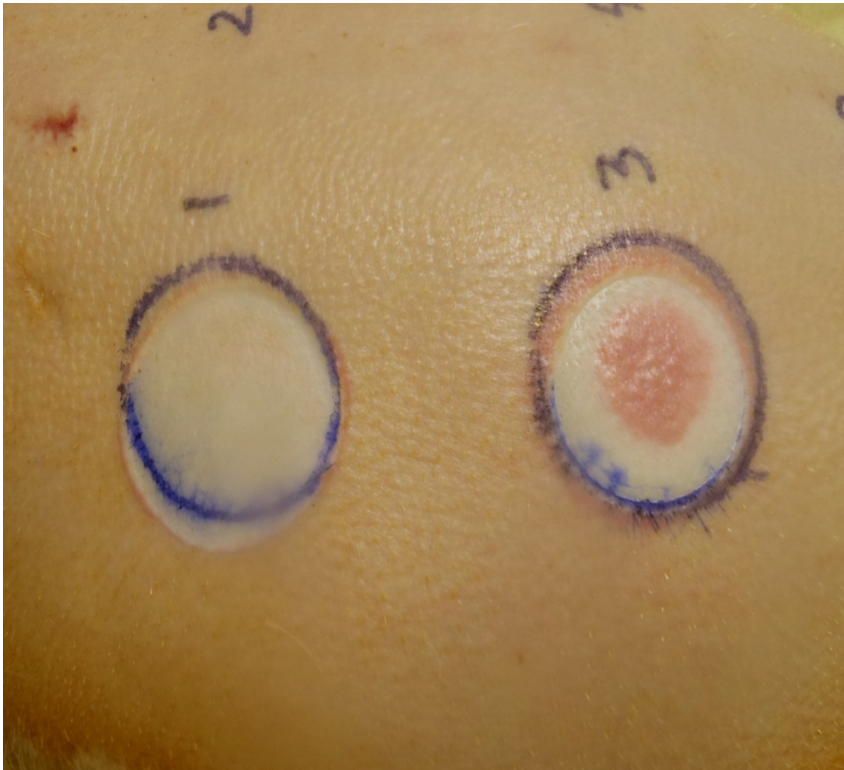
Day 21-Dense scab formation. There is little re-epithelialization but dense new granulation tissue with inflammation is present in the wound bed



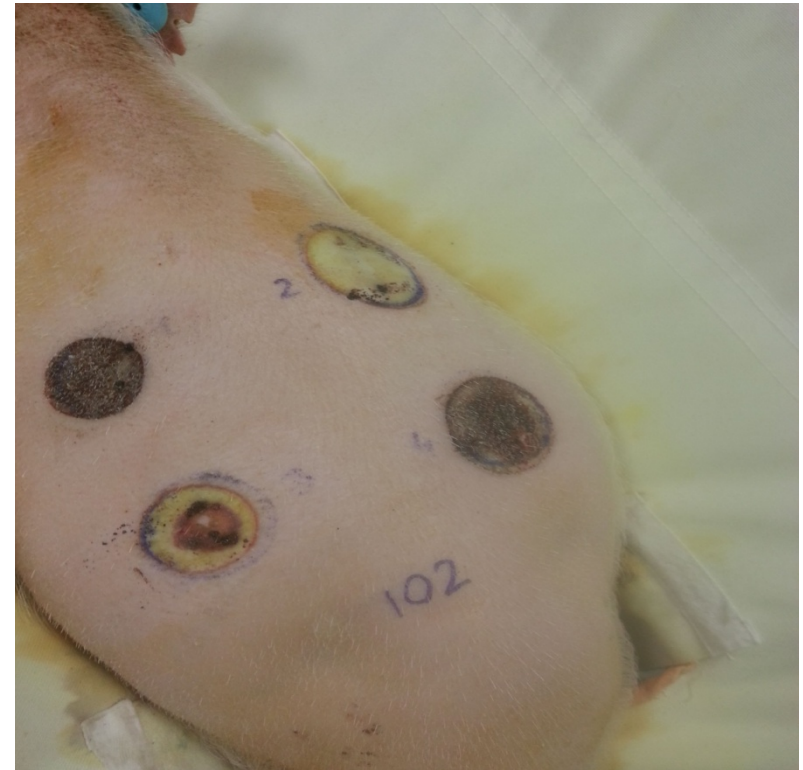
# Full thickness or 3rd degree burns. Damage extends to the underlying muscle.



## Full thickness burns-increased heat and time exposure



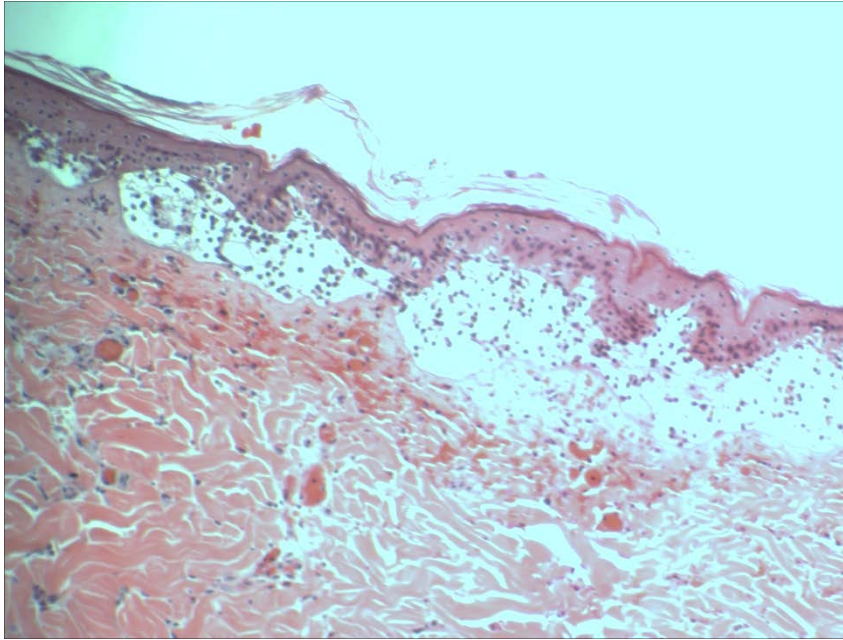
Day 1: Acute thermal damage to the epidermis post surgically. Note hyperemic zone at dermis-burn interface



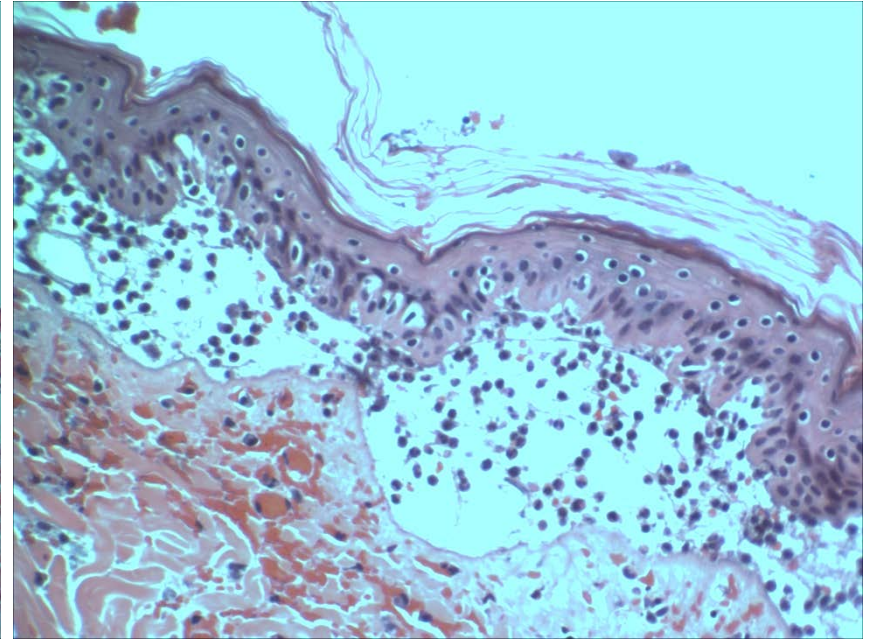
Day 8: The surface is necrotic with a deep escharotic crust overlying the lesion



## Histology, full thickness, with loss of epithelium-2 days



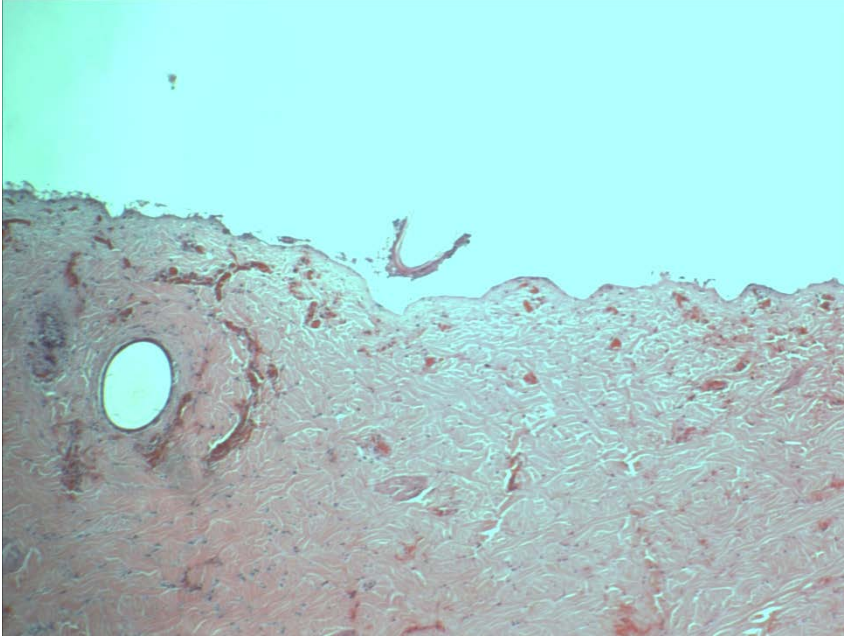
Full thickness burn, 2 days. There is a blister with separation of the epithelium from the underlying dermis. There are large, fluid fill blisters containing large numbers of neutrophils. The underlying dermis is exposed with inflammation, edema, hemorrhage and congestion. 40x HE



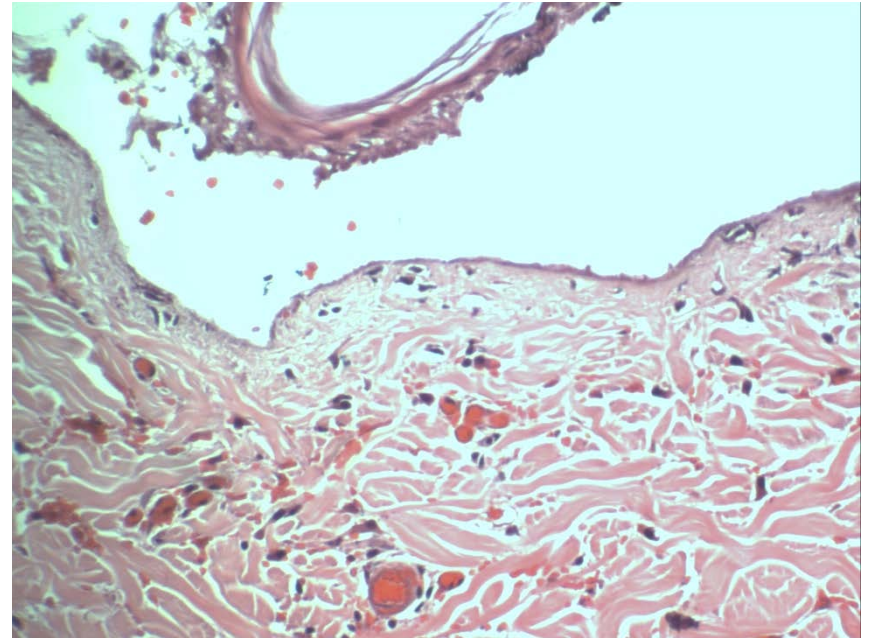
Full thickness burn, 2 days. There is a blister with separation of the epithelium from the underlying dermis. There are large, fluid fill blisters containing large numbers of neutrophils. The underlying dermis is exposed with inflammation, edema, hemorrhage and congestion. 40x HE



## Histology, full thickness, with loss of epithelium-3 days



Full thickness burn, 3 Days. There is complete loss of epithelium 40x HE

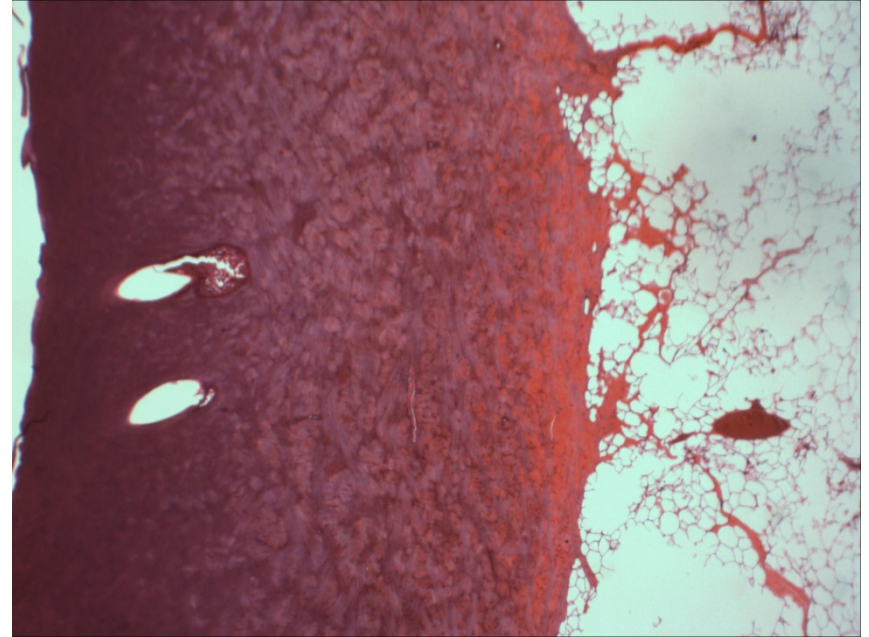
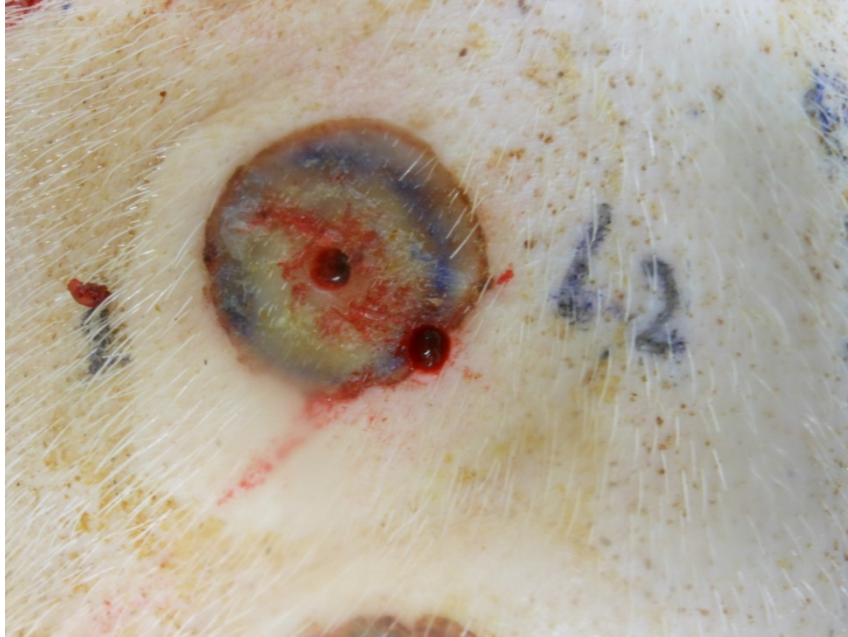


Full thickness burn, 3 days, with complete loss of epithelium. The underlying dermis is exposed with inflammation, edema, hemorrhage and congestion. 40x HE





## Full thickness burns-increased heat and time exposure- Day 3 biopsy with histology



Day 3: Acute thermal damage to the epidermis post surgically. Note hyperemic zone at dermis-burn interface. The center of the burn has been biopsied under brief general anesthesia

Histology Day 3: Full thickness acute thermal damage to the epidermis post -surgically. Note that thermal damage extends through the dermis into the deep adipose tissue. HE 10x



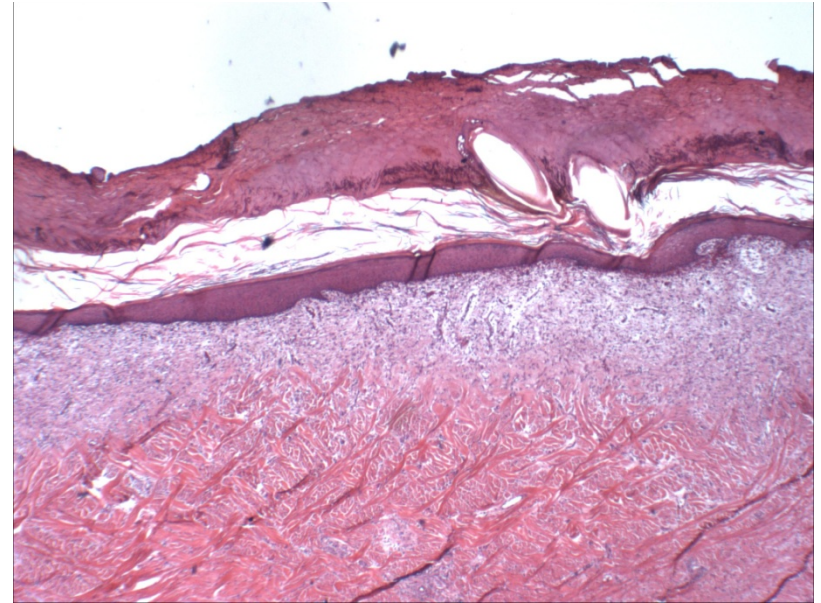
## Lesion development-Full thickness; Day 14

### Day 14

- Epithelium partially complete or nearly complete covering
- Epithelium is thickened in comparison to normal epithelium (2-3x as thick) at edges, but may be very thin in the center
- Epithelial hyperplasia is common at edges
- Underlying collagen is consistent with granulation tissue
- Thick eschar and crust present



## Full thickness Day 14



There is crust formation with a thickened epithelium, There is edema and inflammation primarily of the superficial dermis and formation of more mature granulation tissue filling the wound bed.



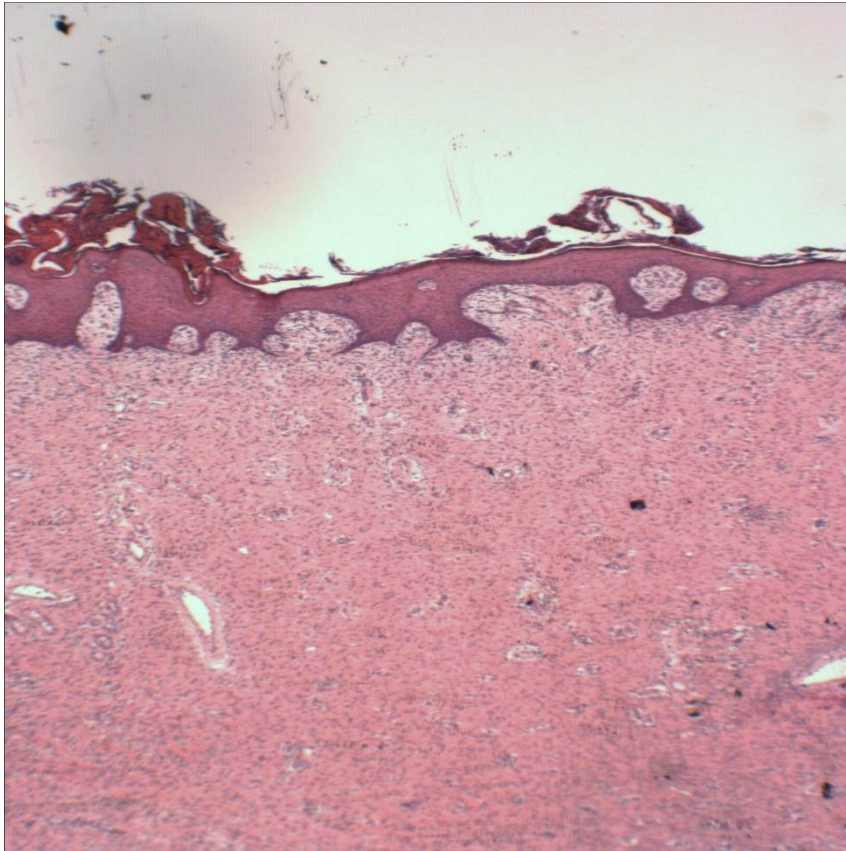
## Lesion development-Full thickness; Day 28

Day 28+

- Epithelium complete or nearly complete covering
- Epithelium is thickened in comparison to normal epithelium (2-3x as thick)
- Epithelial hyperplasia is common
- Underlying collagen is more mature with normal orientation
- Thick eschar and crust present

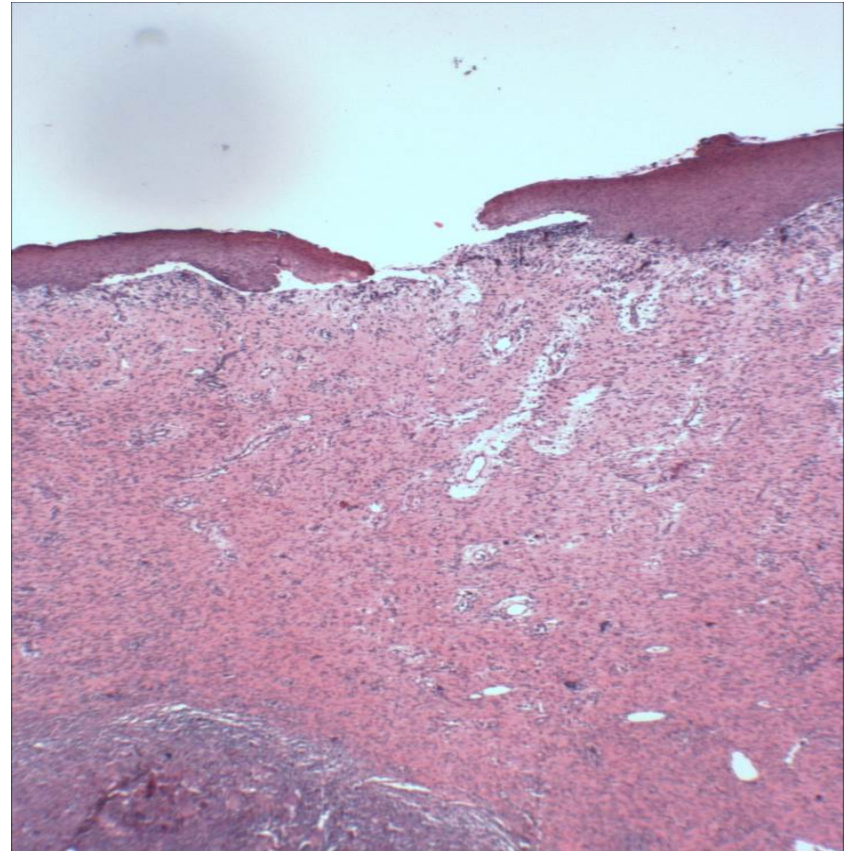


## Full thickness Day 28



Day 28 Histologically, the epithelium is covering all or most of the wound bed and is hyperplastic. There is a dense fibrous wound bed with collagen, neovascularization and mild inflammation.

Macroscopically, there is re-epithelialization and healing of the wound with some small scabbing.



Day 28 The epithelium is covering all or most of the wound bed and is hyperplastic. There is a dense fibrous wound bed with collagen, neovascularization and mild inflammation



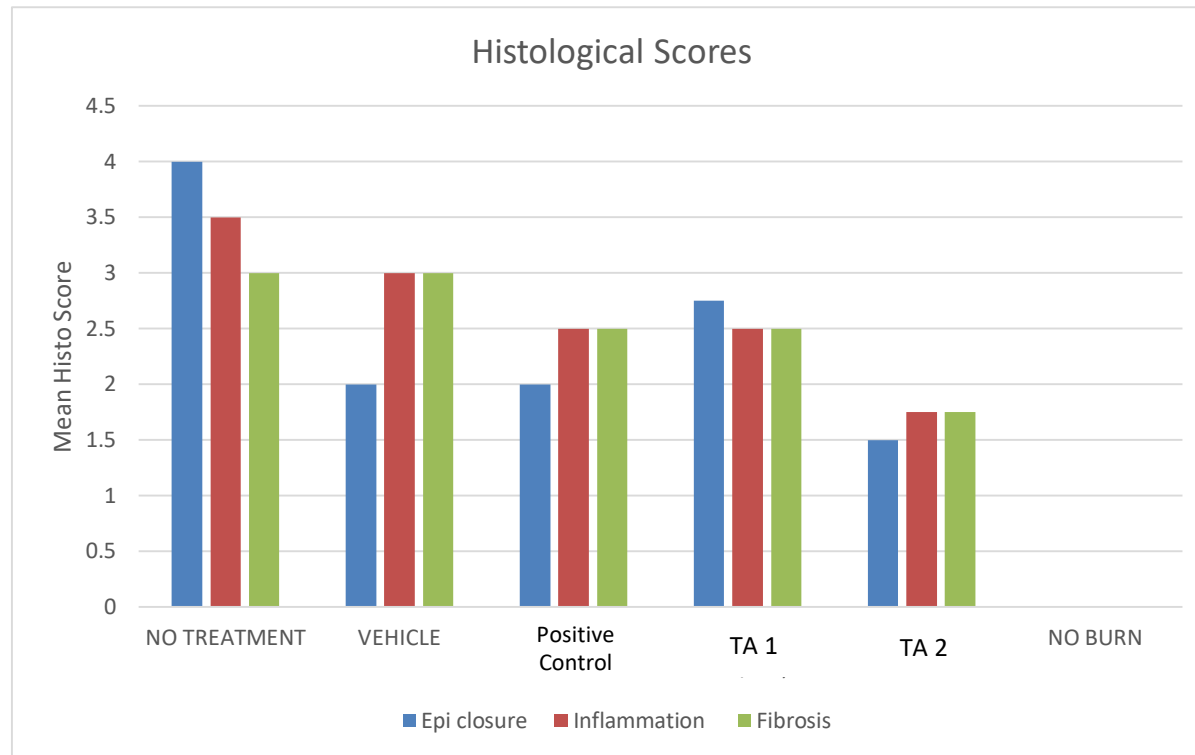
## Histologic scoring

### Semi-quantitative

- Industry standard 0-4 severity for
  - Inflammation
  - Re-epithelialization
  - Collagen formation
  - Epithelial hyperplasia
- Quantitative
  - Measure entire wound length and measure amount of new epithelial covering and determine percentage



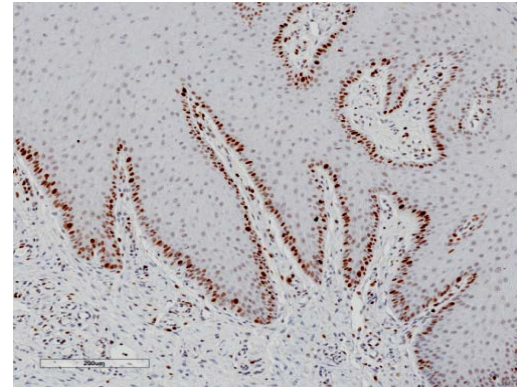
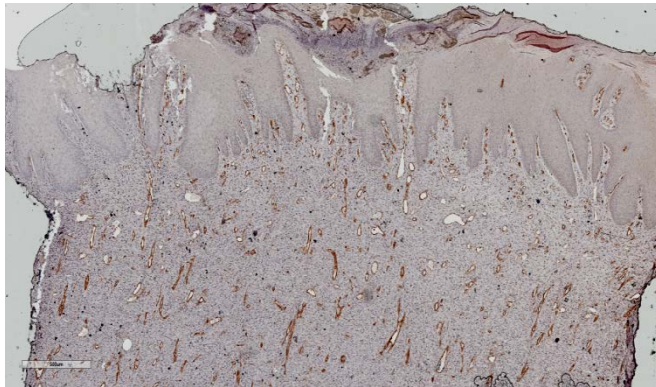
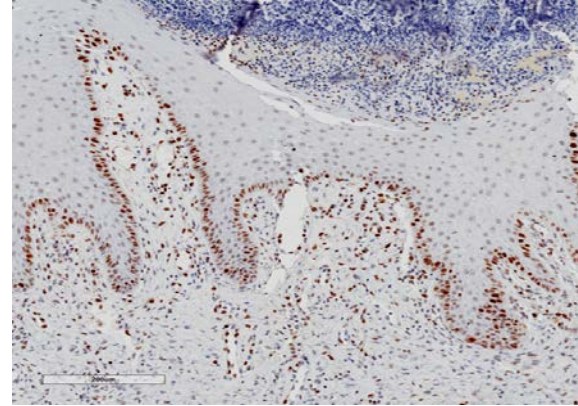
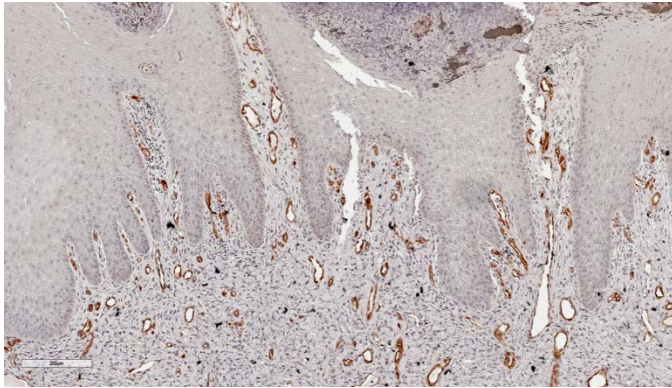
## Histologic scoring



Mean Histological Scores following partial thickness burns in 4 minipigs treated with vehicle, silver sulfadiazine and two test articles. The test articles, vehicle and positive control all positively effected the burn resolution.



## Histologic scoring



CD31 and KI67 IHC demonstrating marked increases in the burn site at 20 days consistent with tissue healing





# Summary

- At CBI, we have developed and validated a consistent and reproducible model of partial and full thickness burns in minipigs
- The lesion is uniform and consistent between sites on the same animal and between animals both macroscopically and microscopically.

