

Extending the choice of ULA plates for primary 3D human liver spheroid formation and experimentation with the Akura™ Spheroid Microplates



Frauke Greve, Donna Busler, Bärbel Ulmer, Anna Borgström, Bruno Filippi, Olivier Frey
InSphero AG, Schlieren, Switzerland

Introduction

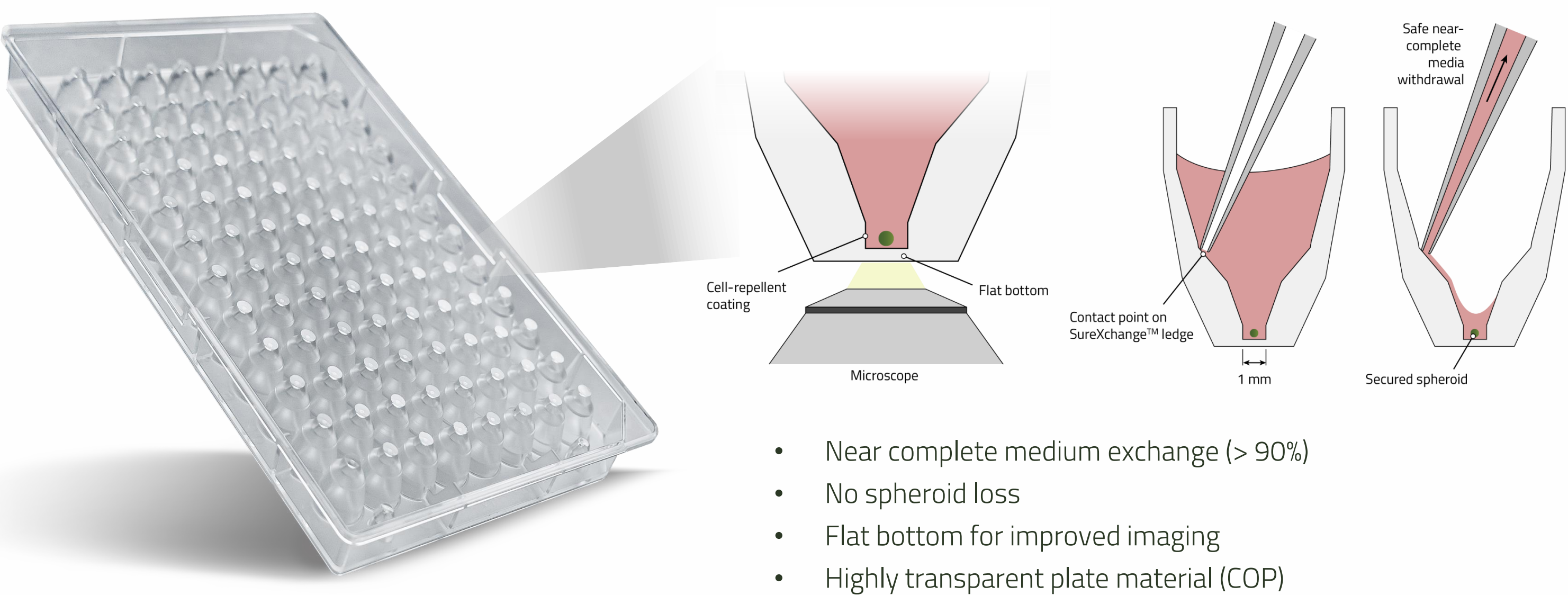
The plate matters - Scale up and routine application of 3D cell cultures, such as spheroids, require selecting the right and matching hardware. Plate design, features, surface property and production quality largely determine the tissue quality, reproducibility and organ-specific function of the spheroid. Further, the plates can provide different readout accessibility for spheroid analysis. In a comprehensive study entitled "The choice of ultra-low attachment plates impacts primary human and primary canine hepatocyte spheroid formation, phenotypes, and function" [1] Xing *et al.* compared several commercially available 96- and 384-well plates for primary liver spheroid aggregation, culturing and analysis. The study addresses aggregation efficiency and quality, their compatibility for imaging, spheroid viability and robustness over time as well as the preservation of liver-specific function and response to known toxic compounds.

Here, we provide comparative data obtained from liver spheroid production runs and their characterization in InSphero's Akura™ 96 and 384 Spheroid Microplates. The aim is to further expand this study and broadening the choice for spheroid users to select the right plate for their application.

[1] Xing, C., Kemas, A., Mickols, E., Klein, K., Artursson, P. , & Lauschke, V.M. (2024). The choice of ultra-low attachment plates impacts primary human and primary canine hepatocyte spheroid formation, phenotypes, and function. Biotechnology Journal, 19, e2300587. <https://doi.org/10.1002/biot.202300587>

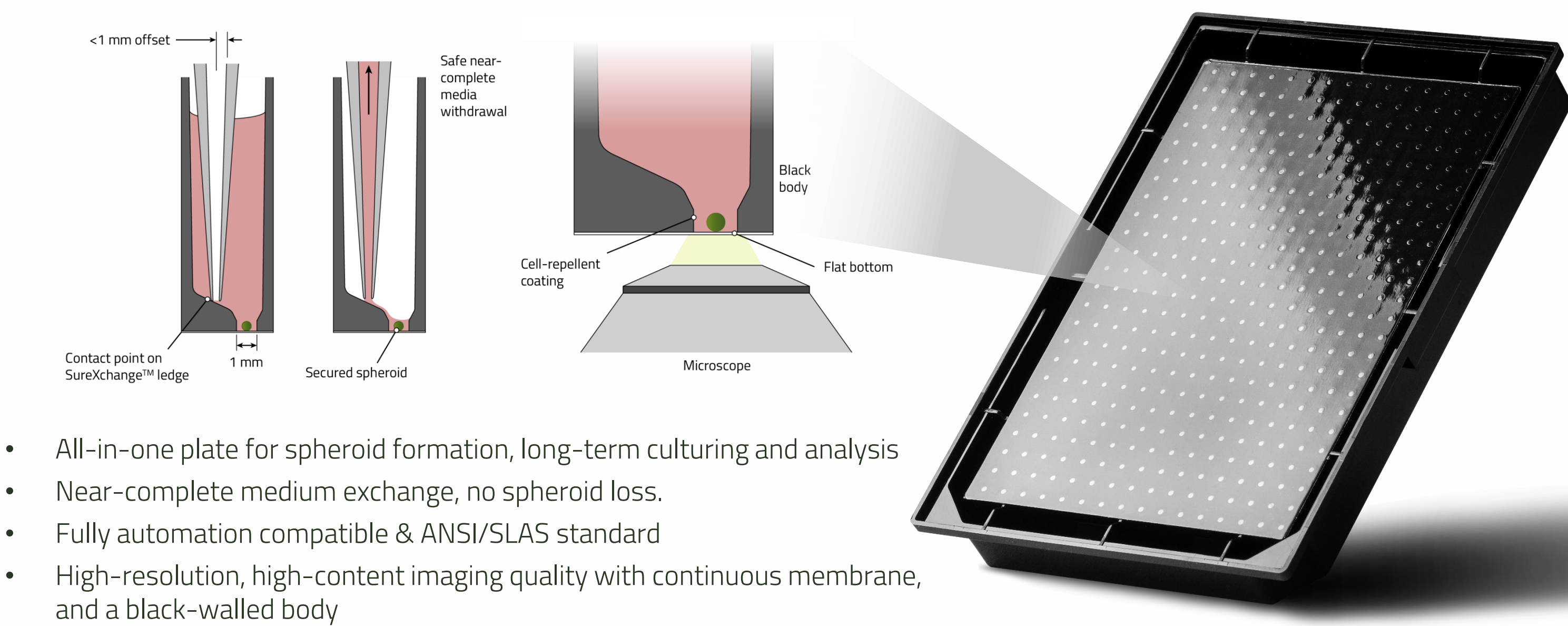
Akura™ 96 Microplate

Unique well design – Secure handling – Automation compatible.



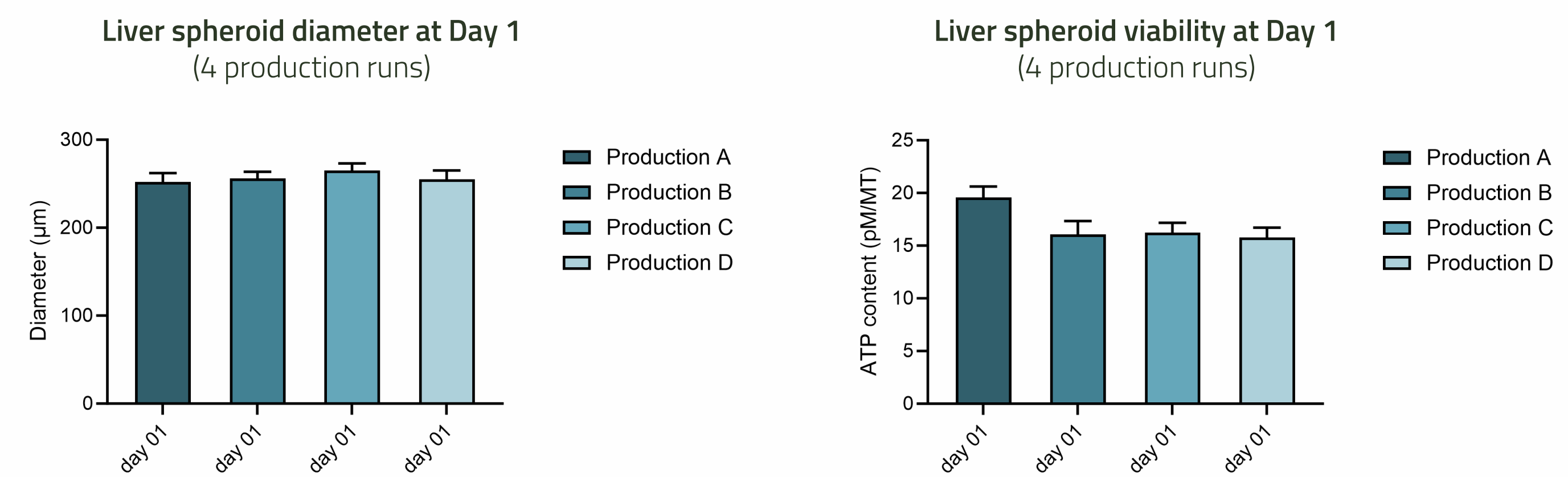
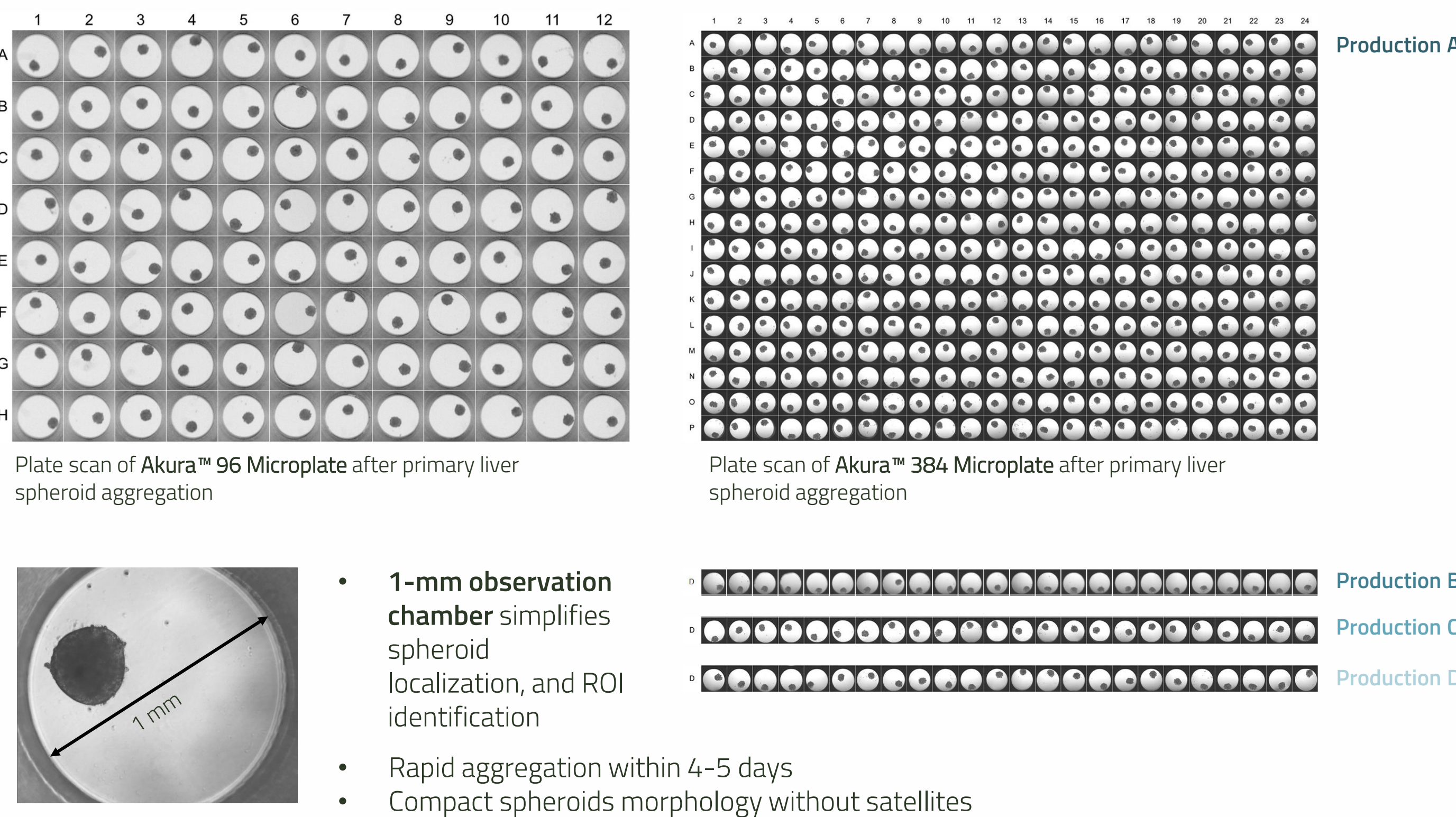
Akura™ 384 Microplate

High throughput screening with robust automation.



Liver Spheroid Aggregation

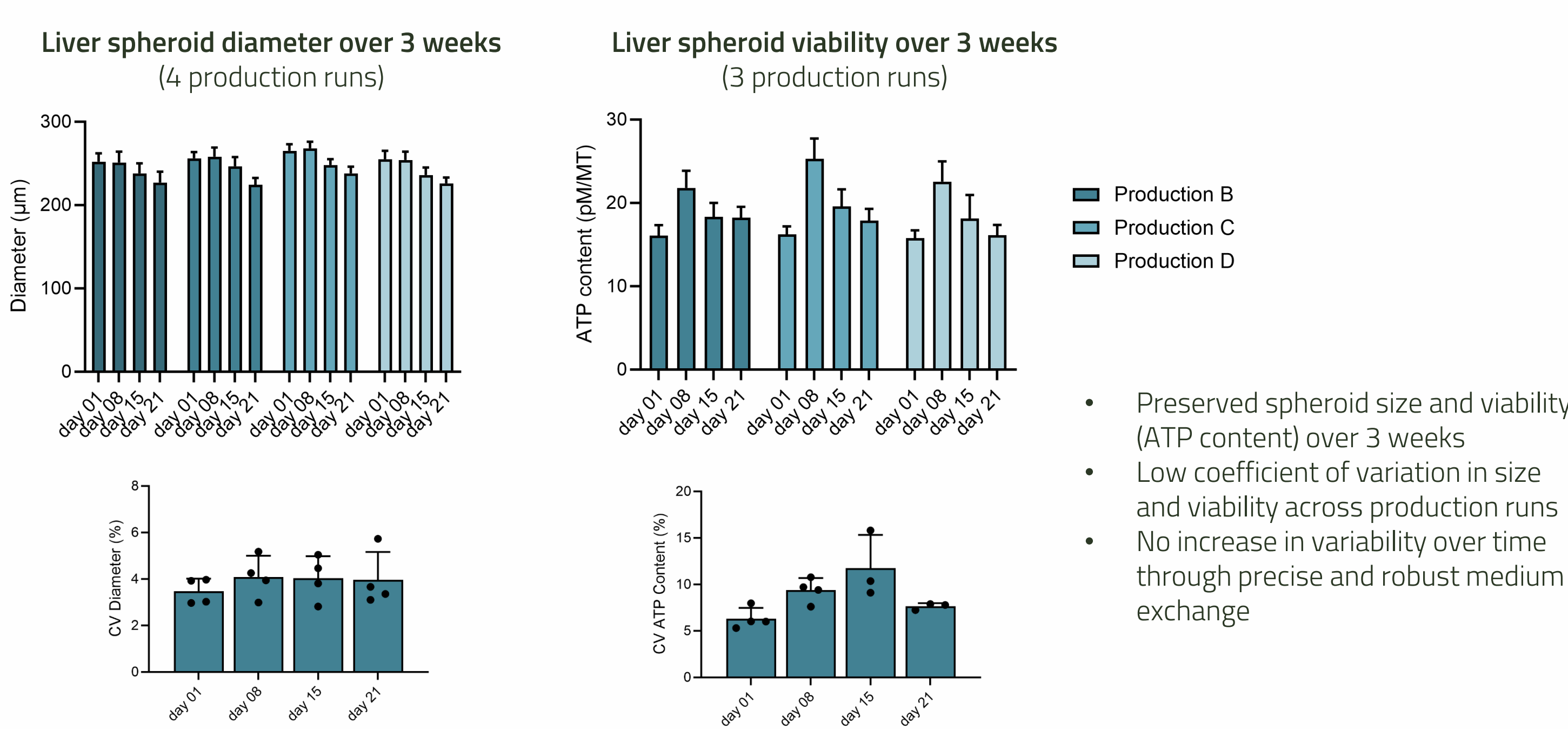
High uniformity and reproducibility across plates and production lots.



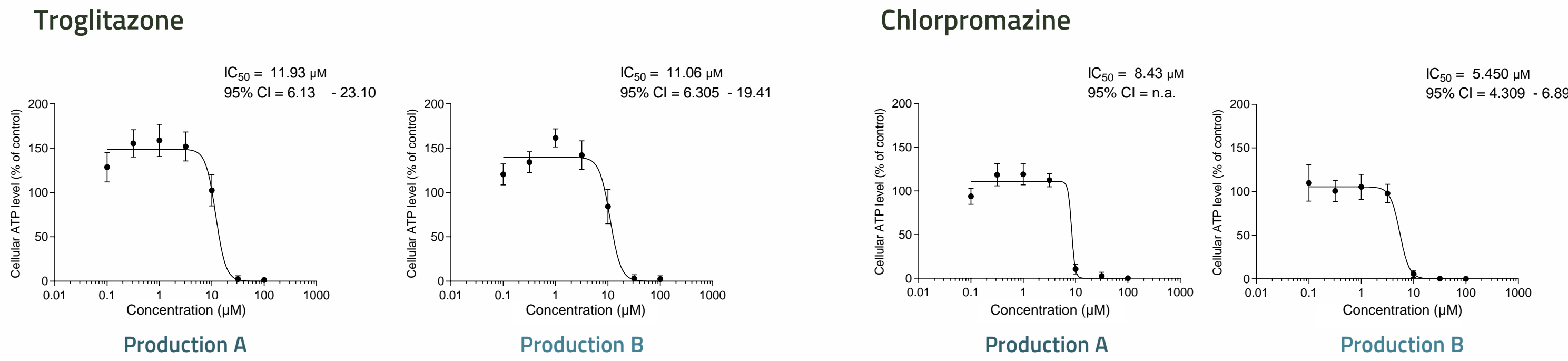
- Low well-to-well variability of spheroid sizes
- Consistent size of spheroids across production runs
- Low well-to-well variability of spheroid viability
- Consistent ATP content of spheroids across production runs

Liver Spheroid Stability

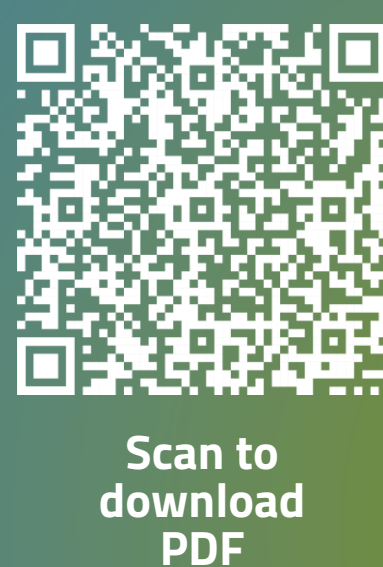
Stable spheroid size and viability over time with low variation.



Dose Response to Reference Compounds



- Consistent IC₅₀ values of reference compounds for drug-induced liver injury across production runs



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Dr. Bärbel Ulmer
BD Manager