Mucoadhesive electrospun patch delivery of lidocaine to the oral mucosa and investigation of spatial distribution in tissue using MALDI mass spectrometry imaging

Katharina H. Clitherow^a, Craig Murdoch^a, Sebastian Guy Spain^b, Anna Mette Handler^c, Helen E. Colley^a, Mai Bay Stie^c, Hanne Mørck Nielsen^c, Christian Janfelt^{c**}, Paul V. Hatton^{a*}, Jette Jacobsen^c

^aSchool of Clinical Dentistry, 19 Claremont Crescent, University of Sheffield, Sheffield S10 2TA, UK

^bDepartment of Chemistry, Brook Hill, University of Sheffield, Sheffield S3 7HF, UK

^cDepartment of Pharmacy, 2 Universitetsparken, University of Copenhagen, DK-2100 Copenhagen, Denmark

*Corresponding author: Prof. Paul Hatton, School of Clinical Dentistry, 19 Claremont Crescent, Sheffield, S10 2TA, UK

Email: paul.hatton@sheffield.ac.uk

**Communicating author for MALDI-MSI: Dr. Christian Janfelt, Department of Pharmacy, 2 Universitetsparken, University of Copenhagen, DK-2100 Copenhagen, Denmark.

Email: christian.janfelt@sund.ku.dk

Supplementary information



Supplementary Figure 1. Accumulative permeation of lidocaine applying 3% (w/v) lidocaine HCl in PBS through *ex vivo* porcine buccal mucosa. Data are mean \pm SD (n=4).



Supplementary Figure 2. Mass spectrum from the image in Figure 6 (t=3h) averaged over 100 pixels in the tissue. As observed, lidocaine (m/z 235.1807) – a major peaks in the mass spectrum – was detected very close to its theoretical mass of 235.1805, corresponding to a mass accuracy of 1.0 ppm. The bottom spectrum is the same data, zoomed to a smaller mass range, showing the width of the

lidocaine peak. The extremely narrow peak width provides a very high selectivity and thus minimizes the risk of interferences with endogenous compounds and signals from the MALDI matrix.



Supplementary Figure 3. Hematoxylin and eosin (H&E) stained tissue sections and corresponding MALDI-MS images of porcine buccal mucosa exposed to dual-layer electrospun patches containing 3% (w/v) lidocaine base (m/z 235.1805 [M+Na]⁺; red) after 15 min, 1 h and 3 h. The epithelium (blue) for each sample is shown using the epithelial marker PG (34:1) (m/z 771.5140 [M+Na]⁺). The arrows in the H&E images show the position of the electrospun patch.