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Scriptwriter Name: Pallavi Sharma

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## **Title: Multilevel Microdissection and Functional-Structural Profiling of Human Renal Arterial Branches**

### **Authors and Affiliations:**

Xuya Kang<sup>1,2,\*</sup>, Yingjia Li<sup>1,2,\*</sup>, Junxia Zhang<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Xinying Wang<sup>1,2</sup>, Lin Yao<sup>4</sup>, Yan Zhang<sup>1,2,5</sup>, Yahan Liu<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>School of Basic Medical Sciences, Peking University Health Science Center, State Key Laboratory of Vascular Homeostasis and Remodeling

<sup>2</sup>Beijing Key Laboratory of Cardiovascular Receptors Research, Research Unit of Medical Science Research Management/Basic and Clinical Research of Metabolic Cardiovascular Diseases, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences, Haihe Laboratory of Cell Ecosystem

<sup>3</sup>Department of Cardiology and Institute of Vascular Medicine, Peking University Third Hospital, State Key Laboratory of Vascular Homeostasis and Remodeling, Peking University

<sup>4</sup>Department of Urology, Peking University First Hospital, Peking University

<sup>5</sup>Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases, First Affiliated Hospital of Dalian Medical University

\*These authors contributed equally

### **Corresponding Authors:**

Yahan Liu

Yan Zhang

Lin Yao

[lyhcnc@bjmu.edu.cn](mailto:lyhcnc@bjmu.edu.cn)

[zhangyan9876@pku.edu.cn](mailto:zhangyan9876@pku.edu.cn)

[poparies@163.com](mailto:poparies@163.com)

### **Email Addresses for All Authors:**

Yingjia Li

Junxia Zhang

Xinying Wang

[liyingjia@bjmu.edu.cn](mailto:liyingjia@bjmu.edu.cn)

[zhangjunxia@pku.edu.cn](mailto:zhangjunxia@pku.edu.cn)

[2411110076@stu.pku.edu.cn](mailto:2411110076@stu.pku.edu.cn)

**FINAL SCRIPT: APPROVED FOR FILMING**



Lin Yao  
Yan Zhang  
Yahan Liu

[poparies@163.com](mailto:poparies@163.com)  
[zhangyan9876@pku.edu.cn](mailto:zhangyan9876@pku.edu.cn)  
[lyhcnc@bjmu.edu.cn](mailto:lyhcnc@bjmu.edu.cn)

## **Author Questionnaire**

- 1. Microscopy:** Does your protocol require the use of a dissecting or stereomicroscope for performing a complex dissection, microinjection technique, or something similar? **Yes.**

If **Yes**, can you record movies/images using your own microscope camera?

**Yes.**

**LEICA S9D**

**2.3.1, 2.4.1, 3.1.1, 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.3.1, 3.3.2, 3.3.4, 3.4.1, 3.4.2.**

- 2. Software:** Does the part of your protocol being filmed include step-by-step descriptions of software usage? **Yes.**

- 3. Filming location:** Will the filming need to take place in multiple locations? **No.**

### **Current Protocol Length**

Number of Steps: 11

Number of Shots: 26

# Introduction

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*Videographer: Obtain headshots for all authors available at the filming location.*

- 1.1. **Xuya Kang:** Our research aims to establish standardized methods to isolate and functionally assess human renal arterial branches, uncovering mechanisms of vascular dysfunction and guiding targeted therapies.
  - 1.1.1. INTERVIEW: Named talent says the statement above in an interview-style shot, looking slightly off-camera. *Suggested B roll: Figure 1*

What technologies are currently used to advance research in your field?

- 1.2. **Yahan Liu:** Previous research relied on animal models or indirect imaging, while our wire myography directly measures human renal artery function in vitro.
  - 1.2.1. INTERVIEW: Named talent says the statement above in an interview-style shot, looking slightly off-camera.

How will your findings advance research in your field?

- 1.3. **Xuya Kang:** Our method enables precise, human-specific vascular analysis, overcoming species limitations and improving translational drug development.
  - 1.3.1. INTERVIEW: Named talent says the statement above in an interview-style shot, looking slightly off-camera.

*Videographer: Obtain headshots for all authors available at the filming location.*

**Ethics Title Card**

This research has been approved by the Urology Department of Peking University First Hospital and conducted following the Helsinki Declaration

# Protocol

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## 2. Renal Artery Isolation for Functional Assessment

**Demonstrator:** Xuya Kang

2.1. To begin, ensure the kidney tissue remains fully submerged in liquid during transport to maintain tissue viability and structural integrity [1-TXT].

2.1.1. Establishing shot of the talent with kidney placed in a transport container filled with liquid. **TXT: Kidney tissue was obtained from renal carcinoma patients**

2.2. Visually identify the coronal plane by locating the renal hilum and aligning the cut to pass through both the renal pelvis and the lateral convex border [1]. Using a sterile scalpel, bisect the kidney along this coronal plane to create two symmetrical halves [2] and expose internal structures such as the renal pyramids and columns [3].

2.2.1. Talent pointing to the renal hilum and aligning the coronal plane.

2.2.2. Talent using a sterile scalpel to cut the kidney along the identified coronal plane.

2.2.3. Talent exposes the internal structures such as the renal pyramids and columns.

2.3. Under a stereomicroscope, use micro-dissection scissors and forceps to meticulously separate the interlobar, arcuate, and interlobular arteries in a 10-centimeter black-bottomed culture dish [1].

2.3.1. SCOPE: SCOPE2-3-1.mp4: 00:13-00:16, 01:53-01:57, 02:40-02:52, 03:17-03:19

2.4. Then, gently remove any surrounding tissue and fat from the dissected arteries in the same 10-centimeter black-bottomed culture dish to clean them thoroughly [1].

2.4.1. SCOPE: SCOPE2-4-1.mp4: 00:29-00:42

## 3. Arterial Ring Mounting

3.1. Using micro-dissection scissors, section the cleaned arteries into rings approximately 2 millimeters in length for vascular function studies [1].

3.1.1. SCOPE: SCOPE3-1-1 00:12-00:26

3.2. Carefully insert the first guide wire into an arterial ring in the dish [1]. Bend one side of the guide wire at a 90-degree angle [2] and transfer the arterial ring with the wire into

the chamber [3].

3.2.1. SCOPE: SCOPE3-2-1.mp4: 00:13-00:20

3.2.2. SCOPE: SCOPE3-2-2.mp4: 00:03-00:06.

3.2.3. SCOPE: SCOPE3-2-3.mp4: 00:39-00:4, 00:56-01:01

3.3. Before fixing the arterial ring on the sample holder, record the vessel length. Place the ring between the two holders and read the micrometer scale, where 1 scale division equals 10 micrometers [1]. Subtract the initial scale value measured when the holders just touch each other to calculate the arterial ring's length and width [2]. Then, fix the arterial ring onto the clamp-type sample holder using the instrument-provided screws, tightening them in a clockwise direction [3]. NOTE: The VO adjusted for the deleted shot

~~3.3.1. SCOPE: Talent noting the arterial ring's initial placement and preparing to measure. NOTE: Not filmed~~

3.3.2. SCOPE: SCOPE3-3-1.mp4: 00:11-00:40

3.3.3. Talent subtracting the initial value to determine vessel dimensions.

3.3.4. SCOPE: SCOPE3-3-4.mp4: 00:10-00:15, 00:20-00:24, 00:39-00:43, 01:02-01:04

3.4. Then, thread a second guide wire through the arterial ring [1]. Wind the wire clockwise around the fixing screws on both ends, securing it tightly to the surface of the sample holder [2].

3.4.1. SCOPE: SCOPE3-4-1.mp4: 00:11-00:25

3.4.2. SCOPE: SCOPE3-4-2.mp4: 00:20-00:23, 00:53-00:56, 01:10-01:16

#### **4. Vessel-Specific Normalization for Optimal Initial Tension Determination**

4.1. Select Normalization Settings from the **DMT (D-M-T)** menu and set the Eyepiece calibration as 1 millimeter per division, target pressure as 13.3 kilopascal, IC1/IC100 (*I-C-One-By-I-C-Hundred*) as 0.9, online averaging time as 3 seconds, and delay time as 60 seconds [1].

4.1.1. SCREEN: SCREEN4.1.1.mp4

4.2. Select the channel corresponding to the target artery and open the Normalization screen from the **DMT** menu [1]. In the appropriate fields, enter the tissue endpoints as **a1** equals 0 and **a2** equals the measured vessel length in millimeters [2]. Input the wire diameter as 40 micrometers and enter the micrometer reading from the scale [3]. Click **Add point** to save the data [4].

- 4.2.1. SCREEN: SCREEN4.2.1&4.2.2.mp4: 00:00-00:05
- 4.2.2. SCREEN: SCREEN4.2.1&4.2.2.mp4: 00:07-00:17
- 4.2.3. SCREEN: SCREEN4.2.3-2&4.2.4.mp4: 00:01-00:06,
- 4.2.4. SCREEN: SCREEN4.2.3-2&4.2.4.mp4: 00:09-00:11, 01:10-01:13

4.3. Now apply passive stretch and wait for 3 minutes [1]. Enter the new micrometer reading as the next point and click **Add point [2]**. Add 5 milliliters of 60 potassium ion solution to the chamber to induce a potassium-mediated contraction of the vessel [3]. To wash out the 60-potassium ion solution, add 5 milliliters of Krebs solution three times [4]. Finally, add 5 microliters of phenylephrine stock solution to the chamber containing 5 milliliters of Krebs buffer [5].

- 4.3.1. Talent initiating passive stretch and setting a timer for 3 minutes.
- 4.3.2. SCREEN: SCREEN4.3.2.mkv
- 4.3.3. Talent pipetting 5 milliliters of 60K+ solution into the chamber.
- 4.3.4. Talent washing out the chamber by pipetting and discarding 5 milliliters of Krebs solution three times.
- 4.3.5. Talent adding 5 microliters of phenylephrine stock into the Krebs buffer-filled chamber.



## Results

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### 5. Results

5.1. The interlobar artery was successfully dissected from the renal medulla, showing a thick vascular wall and surrounding adipose tissue that required careful removal to preserve structural integrity [1]. The arcuate artery was isolated at the corticomedullary junction, displaying a thinner vascular wall and an arched trajectory [2].

5.1.1. LAB MEDIA: Figure 1C. *Video editor: Highlight the thick white artery running vertically, labelled as the interlobar artery*

5.1.2. LAB MEDIA: Figure 1C. *Video editor: Highlight the arch-shaped vessel branching horizontally, labelled as the arcuate artery*

5.2. The interlobular artery was identified running linearly through the renal cortex with a very thin wall and tightly integrated with cortical tissue [1].

5.2.1. LAB MEDIA: Figure 1C. *Video editor: Highlight the thin vertical artery labelled as the interlobular artery*

5.3. Histological analysis revealed that the interlobar artery had the thickest vascular wall with a distinct adventitia [1], while arcuate and interlobular arteries exhibited progressively thinner walls and fewer smooth muscle layers [2].

5.3.1. LAB MEDIA: Figure 2. *Video editor: Highlight the largest pink-stained circular structure labeled "Interlobar artery" at the left.*

5.3.2. LAB MEDIA: Figure 2. *Video editor: Highlight the images labelled as "Arcuate artery" and "Interlobular artery".*

5.4. Arterial normalization involved repeated mechanical stretching and potassium-induced stimulation, establishing stable baseline tension conditions across samples [1].

5.4.1. LAB MEDIA: Figure 5.

5.5. Cumulative addition of phenylephrine from  $10^{-9}$  to  $10^{-4}$  molar concentrations induced progressively stronger contractions in arterial rings in a dose-dependent manner [1]. In phenylephrine-precontracted arteries, increasing concentrations of acetylcholine from  $10^{-8}$  to  $3 \times 10^{-5}$  molar produced concentration-dependent vasodilation [2].

5.5.1. LAB MEDIA: Figure 6. *Video editor: Trace the rising trend of the line graph as each concentration (from left to right) is added.*

5.5.2. LAB MEDIA: Figure 7. *Video editor: Highlight the declining slope of the graph as concentration of acetylcholine increases, beginning at the leftmost arrow.*

## 1. Identified Terms & Pronunciation Links

### Hilum

- **Pronunciation link:**  
<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/hilum>
  - **IPA (American):** /'hɪləm/
  - **Phonetic Spelling:** HIL-əm
- 

### Coronal

- **Pronunciation link:**  
<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/coronal>
  - **IPA (American):** /kə'roʊnəl/
  - **Phonetic Spelling:** kuh-ROH-nəl
- 

### Renal

- **Pronunciation link:**  
<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/renal>
  - **IPA (American):** /'ri:nəl/
  - **Phonetic Spelling:** REE-nəl
- 

### Pyramids (in the context of "renal pyramids")

- **Pronunciation link:**  
<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/pyramid>
  - **IPA (American):** /'pɪrəˌmɪd/
  - **Phonetic Spelling:** PEER-ə-mid
- 

### Interlobar

- **Pronunciation link:**  
No confirmed link found
  - **IPA (American):** /ˌɪntər'loʊbɑːr/
  - **Phonetic Spelling:** in-tuhr-LOH-bar
- 

### Arcuate (arteries)

- **Pronunciation link:**  
<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/arcuate>
- **IPA (American):** /'ɑːrkjuˌeɪt/

- **Phonetic Spelling:** AR-kyoo-ayt
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#### **Interlobular**

- **Pronunciation link:**  
No confirmed link found
  - **IPA (American):** /,ɪntərloʊˈbjʊ:lər/
  - **Phonetic Spelling:** in-tur-loh-BYOO-lər
- 

#### **Stereomicroscope**

- **Pronunciation link:**  
<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/stereomicroscope>
  - **IPA (American):** /,stɛri.oʊˈmaɪkrəˌskoʊp/
  - **Phonetic Spelling:** STEER-ee-oh-MY-kruh-skohp
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#### **Phenylephrine**

- **Pronunciation link:**  
<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/phenylephrine>
- **IPA (American):** /ˌfiːniˈlɛfrɪn/
- **Phonetic Spelling:** fee-nee-LEF-rin