

dipping wire or insect pins mechanically in and out of an electrolytic bath, but special equipment is needed and the procedure takes 1–2 h². Such needles can be made quickly and simply by hand. A piece of wire is melted into the end of a glass rod. The wire is sharpened by drawing the rod along fine emery paper away from the wire while rotating the rod between strokes. A good needle can be made in about a minute from 0.2 mm diameter wire using 360 and 600 grit papers (fig., c). Perfectionists may want to obtain a finer finish by further sharpening with 1200 grit paper followed by a few strokes through a little silverware polish spread on a smooth surface.

We have used these microneedles to tear open the gelatinous cocoons of the tiny marine archannelid *Dinophilus* and the micropipettes to transfer the living, ciliated male, which is only 50 µm large, from one microscope slide to another.

- 1 Mollenhauer, H. H., *J. Microsc.* 113 (1978) 215.
- 2 Juurlink, B. H. J., and Dell, R., *Experientia* 36 (1980) 1335.

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Announcements

USA

5th international congress of Laser medicine and surgery

Detroit, MI, October 7–9, 1983

The congress will be held at the Sinai Hospital in Detroit. Information by the Registration Supervisor, c/o Charles B. Slack, Inc., 6900 Grove Road, Thorofare, NJ 08086/USA.

England

1st international conference on Biointeractions 84

London, January 4–6, 1984

The conference 'Biointeractions 84' on materials/interactions will be held at the City University, London. Information may be obtained from Mary Korndorffer, Conference Organizer, Butterworth Scientific Ltd, Journals Division, P.O. Box 63, Westbury House, Bury Street, Guildford, Surrey GU2 5BH, England.

Instructions to Authors

Experientia is a monthly journal of natural sciences devoted to publishing articles which are interdisciplinary in character and which are of general scientific interest. Considered for publication will be hitherto unpublished papers that fall within one of four categories:

Reviews (one-man and multi-author reviews)

Full Papers (in-depth reports not exceeding 4–6 printed pages)

Mini-reviews (1–2 printed pages)

Short Communications (1–2 printed pages)

Papers reporting on work that is preliminary in nature, or wherein animal experiments have been conducted without the appropriate anesthesia, will not be accepted.

Manuscripts (including all tables and figures) must be submitted in triplicate and must be in English. Title pages should bear the author's name and address (placed directly below the title) and a brief abstract (of approximately 50 words for short communications) mentioning new results only. References should be numbered consecutively and presented on a separate page. Footnotes must be avoided. Tables, and then figures, are to follow the body of the text and should be marked with self-explanatory captions and be identified with the author's name. All data should be expressed in units conforming to the Système International (SI). Drawings are to be on heavy bond paper and marked clearly in black. Photographs should be supplied as glossy positive prints.

Authors are requested to specify under which section heading they would wish their communication to appear:

1. Chemistry, Physics, Biomathematics
2. Physiology, Pathophysiology
3. Biochemistry
4. Anatomy, Histology, Histochemistry
5. Pharmacology, Toxicology
6. Molecular Biology
7. Immunology
8. Cellular Biology
9. Genetics, Developmental Biology, Aging
10. Oncology
11. Endocrinology
12. Neurobiology, Behavior
13. Environment, Ecology
14. New methods and apparatus

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