

Stretching the zebrafish epiblast cells generates mesoderm

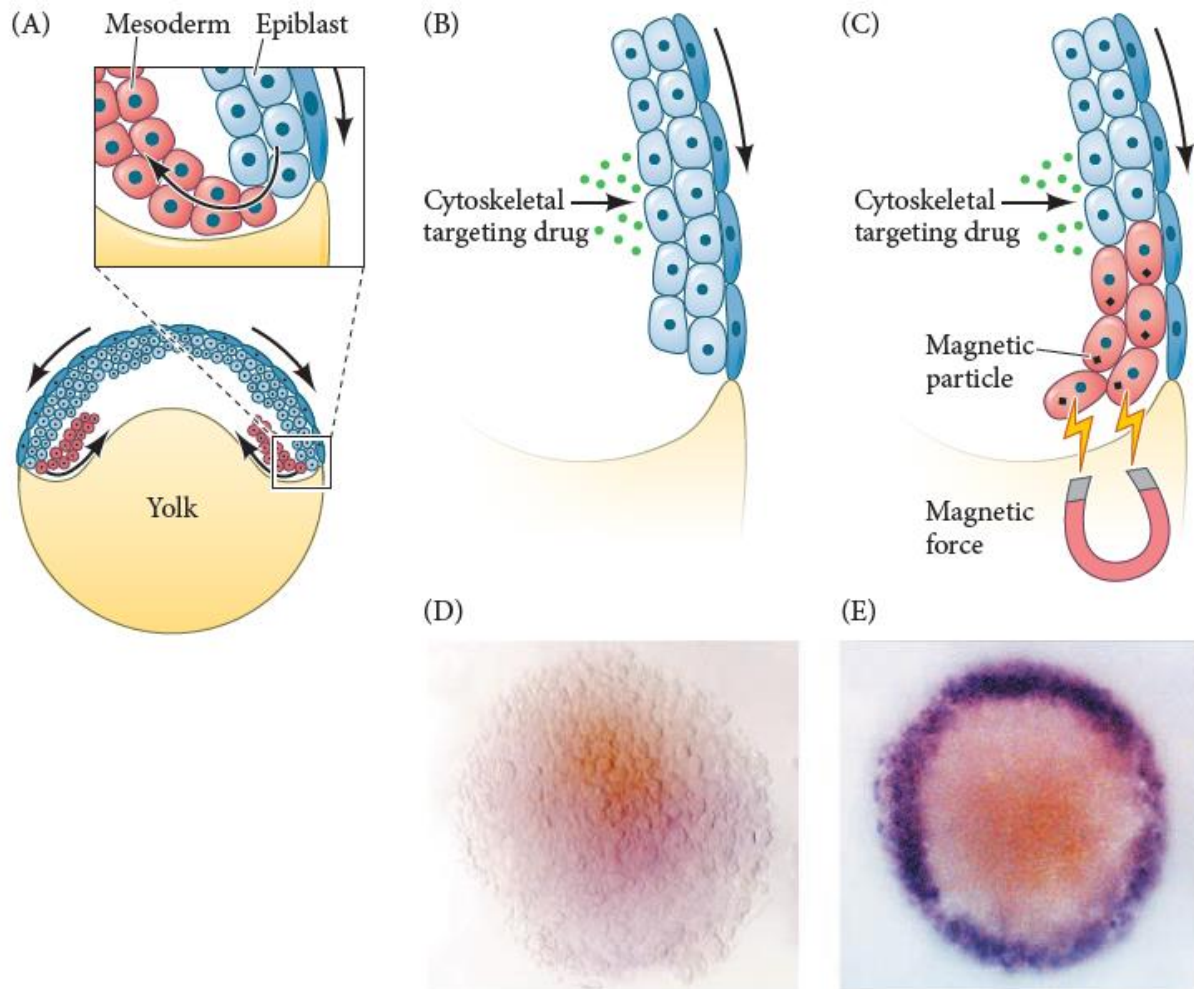


FIGURE Stretching the zebrafish epiblast cells generates mesoderm. (A) During epiboly, cells at the border undergo structural changes and involute. As they do, mesodermal genes (**red, dashed outline**) are activated. (B) When the cortical cytoskeleton is prevented from contracting, the animal cap cells remain ectodermal and do not involute. (C) However, if these cells are pulled by a magnetic field, the mesodermal genes become expressed. (D,E) Circumpolar views of B and C, respectively, visualize expression of the mesodermal gene *no tail* (the zebrafish

homologue of the *brachyury* gene). (D) *no tail* expression is blocked by the lack of involution. (E) *no tail* expression induced by stretching and subsequent involution. (A–C after S. Piccolo. 2013. *Nature* 504: 223–225.)

D and E from T. Brunet. et al. 2013. *Nat Commun* 4: 2821/CC BY 3.0

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