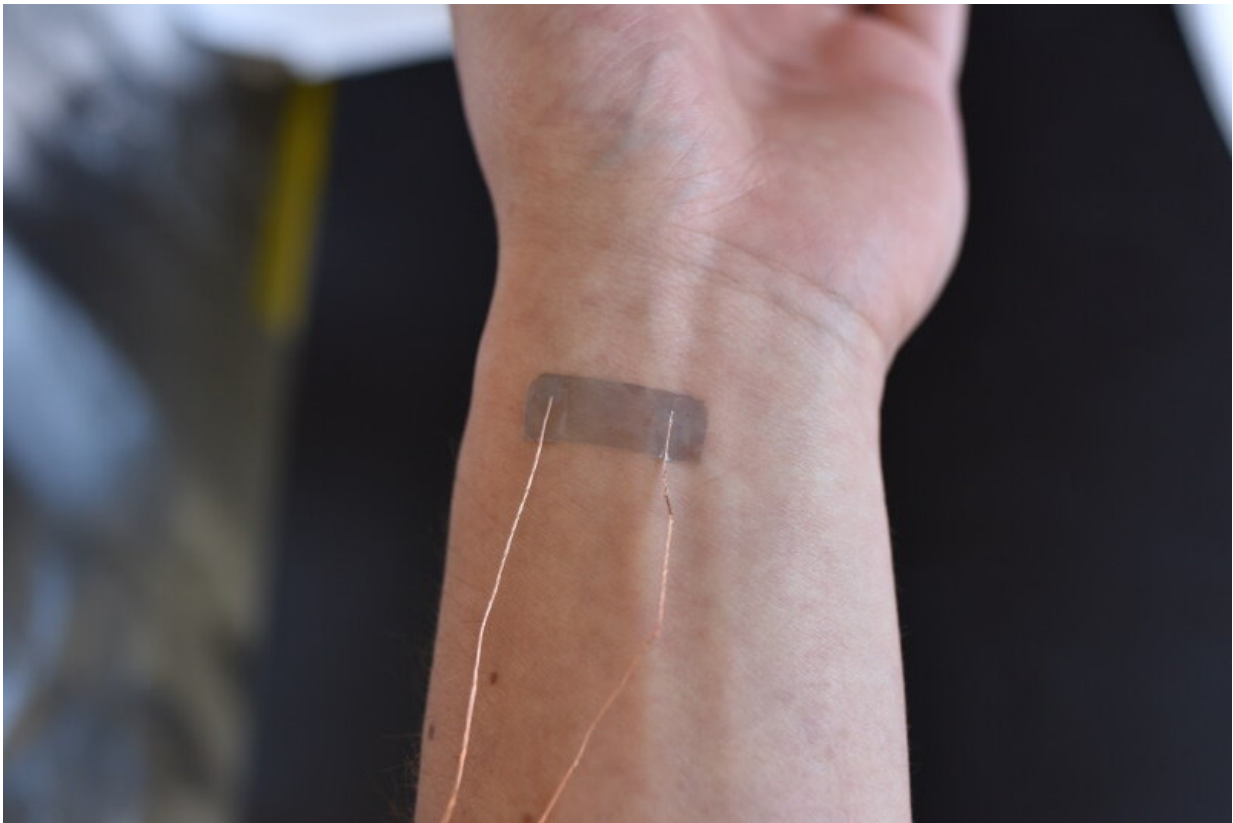


Snake skin inspires development of wearable sensors with wide-ranging strain sensitivity

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Credit: Terasaki Institute for Biomedical Innovation

Many bodily functions in humans are manifested by mechanical deformations to the skin—from the stretching, bending and movement of muscles and joints to the flutter of a pulse at the wrist. These

mechanical changes can be detected and monitored by measuring different levels of strain at various points throughout the body.

In recent years, much attention has been focused on [wearable sensors](#) to measure these strains for use in personal health monitoring. Some of these sensors can detect high-level (40-100%) strains, such as those associated with the movements of fingers and limb joints, others detect mid-level (10-40%) strains, as found in swallowing and facial movements and still others are sensitive to low-level (

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