Summary of changes to the manuscript:

Section I

- 2nd Sentence: changed to address reviewer's concern about needles providing only axial trapping
- 3rd Sentence: emphasized surface quality of both rods and needles

Section III A

• Changed units to from inch to mm

Figure 2

Changed font style for better readability
 Explanation: The reviewer's comments were the following: "In Figure 2 c) and d), the
 red labels are hard to read. Also, calling those dimensions "length" is odd, it took me a
 few second to figure out what was going on there. "Diameter" would be better, I think."

We have addressed the concern of some of the labels not being readable by adding labels with background on top of the existing labels. Now the labels are much easier to read. However, changing "length" to "Diameter" was not possible since the labels were created in the imaging software and the label is a part of the image.