Formation of a connective tissue “whorl” with needle rotation in rat subcutaneous connective tissue. Numbers 0 through 7 indicate numbers of needle revolutions. A visible whorl of connective tissue can be seen with as little as one revolution of the needle. B: Scanning electron microscopy imaging of reusable gold (left) and disposable stainless steel (right) acupuncture needles. Original magnification, 350×. C,D: Scanning electron microscopy of gold (C) and stainless steel (D) needles. Original magnification, 3,500×. Surface of the gold needle is visibly rougher than that made of stainless steel. Scale bars = 2.5 mm in A, 100 μm in B, 10 μm in C,D. Langevin & Landow: The Anatomical Record, 2002.