

Special Issue

Innovations in Integrin-Targeted Drug Delivery: From Peptide Conjugates to Dual-Action Therapeutics

Message from the Guest Editors

Targeted therapy represents an emerging paradigm in biomedical research today. The selective delivery of drugs to diseased tissues can improve therapeutic efficiency, overcome drug resistance, and minimize off-target effects. Integrin receptors are an ideal option for targeted delivery because they have extracellular binding domains and they can promote drug internalization. Therefore, peptides that recognize integrins are ideal for creating covalent conjugates for use as drug delivery systems. Using peptides instead of other compounds (i.e., antibodies) has several advantages, such as easy accessibility through chemical synthesis, increasing the pharmacokinetic properties of the payload drug and reducing the immunogenicity. The *Pharmaceuticals* journal invites reviews and original articles that shed light on the challenges and opportunities of using integrin-targeted peptide–drug conjugates (PDCs). Topics include the design and chemical synthesis of constructs, new methodologies in conjugation chemistry, and in vivo/in vitro studies of PDCs.

Guest Editors

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Because of your expertise in the field of drug sciences, I kindly invite you to consider publishing your current work, in the form of a research article or a review, in the open access electronic journal *Pharmaceuticals*.

Pharmaceuticals is characterized by an active editorial board and a dynamic editorial staff. Manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a final decision is provided to authors within 4–6 weeks after submission. Papers are published on the web immediately after acceptance. For details on the submission process or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We hope to handle your contribution to *Pharmaceuticals* soon.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Amélia Pilar Rauter

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