

## Special Issue

# Peptide–Drug Conjugates for Targeted Delivery

### Message from the Guest Editors

Tumor targeting is an appealing approach that is often invoked to selectively eliminate malignant tumor cells and spare the surrounding healthy tissues. Peptides represent a dominant aspect of this approach due to their biocompatibility, substantial tumor specificity, impressive ability to penetrate tissue, cell internalization, and relatively low production cost. In addition, peptides can specifically attach to cell surface receptors and proteins. The peptides that enter cells can bind to intracellular proteins and disrupt their interactions. Tethering such tumor-homing peptides with toxic warheads (anticancer drugs) via various linkers results in the formulation of tumor-targeting Peptide–Drug Conjugates (PDCs).

This Special Issue will focus on the extensive application of PDCs, with a scope including, but not limited to, the following topics: 1) The design, synthesis, and evaluation of novel peptide–drug conjugates that may exert therapeutic, diagnostic, or theragnostic effects; 2) Synthetic methodologies that facilitate the construction of PDCs; and 3) The implementation of nano-formulations that ameliorate the therapeutic efficacy of PDCs.

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### Deadline for manuscript submissions

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