Special Issue

Advances in Delivering Protein and Peptide Therapeutics, 2nd Edition

Message from the Guest Editors

Recent achievements in peptide and protein synthesis and large-scale production have revealed the high potential of these compounds as selective and efficient drugs for the treatment of a number of diseases. Currently, proteins and peptides are widely considered as prospective biopharmaceutics or vaccines and many of them are already available in clinics as oral, intravenous, subcutaneous, transdermal, and intranasal formulations. In spite of the many advantages of peptides and proteins as drugs, their wide application is limited because of some crucial obstacles. Among these, opsonization and proteolytic degradation severely affect their therapeutic efficiency. In turn, more frequent administration may cause many complications and undesirable side-effects. Moreover, the intracellular action of some peptide and protein drugs can be limited because of their poor penetration into the cell. The abovementioned problems can be overcome by different approaches, such as conjugation of peptides/proteins with polymers, encapsulation/entrapment of biopharmaceutics into polymer particles, as well as application of special systems or/and vectors for intracellular delivery.

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