Special Issue

Extracellular Vesicles as Drug Delivery Vehicles for Cancer Therapy

Message from the Guest Editors

Extracellular vesicles (EVs) are lipid bilayer particles that function as carriers of intercellular communication under both physiological and pathological conditions. Not surprisingly, EVs have gained popularity as efficient vehicles, delivering therapeutic cargoes for cancer therapy. Nevertheless, efforts toward the standardization of methods of purification and production, drug loading and encapsulation, and surface functionalization for improved circulation kinetics and enhanced target specificity have yet to achieve the therapeutic potential of EVs for clinical use. Currently, EV microencapsulation with nanoporous biomaterials represents a great challenge in the field of controlled drug delivery. While the overwhelming majority of EV-based therapies in clinical trials consist of naïve EVs, contemporary progress in EV engineering is contributing to the development of more sophisticated drug delivery systems.

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