

# MIPs for imaging and therapeutic applications

#### **Sergey Piletsky**

Department of Chemistry College of Science and Engineering University of Leicester LE1 7RH E: sp523@le.ac.uk





### **Molecular imprinting**









#### Solid-phase synthesis of nano-MIPs





#### **Synthesiser for MIP nanoparticles**

# Automatic reactor for MIP nanoparticles





- Manufacturing cycle 3.5 hours
- Yield 50 mg (can be scaled up)

(Piletsky S. A., Guerreiro A., Whitcombe M. J. Preparation of molecularly imprinted polymers. **UK 0921025.3, EP 2507278 A1**)



### Western blots: Ab versus MIPs



Samples were labelled with DyLight 800



### **MIPs for viruses and bacteria**



**CureCN** 

TEM images of MIP-nanoparticles (a), bacteriophage MS2 (b), and C difficile with MIP nanoparticles (c).







(Anal. Chem., 87, 6801-6807, 2015; Nature Protocols, 11, 443-455, 2016)



### **MIPs in assays**





#### Comparison with antibodies

Template	MIP size, nm	Detecion limit for assay with MIP, nM	Detection limit in assay with antibodies, nM
Biotin	104±6	1,20x10 <sup>-3</sup>	2,54x10 <sup>-3</sup>
L-Thyroxine	164±11	8,07x10 <sup>-3</sup>	17,5
Glucosamine	138±16	4,01x10 <sup>-4</sup>	3,38x10 <sup>-4</sup>
Fumonisin B2	94±4	6,12x10 <sup>-3</sup>	2,5x10 <sup>-2</sup>
Hemoglobin	149±15	8,7x10 <sup>-2</sup>	1,54x10 <sup>-4</sup>
Glycated hemoglobin ("polyclonal")	103±14	2,46x10 <sup>-3</sup>	-
Glycated hemoglobin ("monoclonal")*	103±14	9,49x10 <sup>-3</sup>	2,38x10 <sup>-4</sup>

(Sci. Reports, **6**, 37638, 2016).



### **Theranostics and imaging**





LDH assay (macrophages NR8383)

Nano Research, 9, 3463-3477, 2016.



#### ATP assay



#### MTT test



#### **Cell membrane permeation**



(Nano Research, 9, 3463–3477, 2016).



V30620N.118.tif EM 42364 NR8383 cells MIP nanoparticles, ID no. 4 Print Mag: 77300x @ 7.0 in 11:50 07/01/13 Microscopist: pjm41508 Lower concentration

500 nm HV=80.0kV Direct Mag: 60000x GSK UK



### Imaging - targeting of cancer cells







#### MIP nanoparticles binding to EGFR

(NanoLetters, 17, 2307-2312, 2017; NanoLetters, in press, 2018)



### **Oral delivery of nanoMIPs**

a)



a) Intestines Spleen b) Brain C) d) Liver 72 hours after consumption







Clearance of nanoMIPs with faeces delivered intravenously (blue) and orally (green) (no particles were detected after 1 week time)



#### **Targeting senescent cells**

MIP nanoparticles synthesised for epitope of protein biomarker of cellular senescence. Nanoparticles were able to bind selectively to membrane receptor.











### **Therapeutic effect**





#### **Therapeutic effect (anticancer)**





### Fluorescent beacons for chemotherapy

- Treatment of cancer involves exposure of a tumour to high doses of radiation (radiotherapy) or chemicals (chemotherapy) that destroys cancerous cells.
- The results of this treatment usually become apparent weeks/ months after the treatment and are monitored via reduction of a tumour.
- At present, there is no reliable and fast approach to monitor the efficacy of radiotherapy and chemotherapy within the short term of exposure.



### **Fluorescent beacons**



- The method proposed here involves development and application of specific "beacons" - fluorescent nanoMIPs that are attached to the cancerous cells and removed at the exposure to treatment dose.
- The concentration of nanoMIPs in urine and blood can be measured using optical fibre sensors to estimate the efficacy of treatment and enabling clinicians to optimise the treatment.



### **Proposed work**

The main objectives of the proposed work are:

- To develop fluorescent selective fluorescent beacons using MIPs technology that will bind to the cancerous cells and removed during the chemotherapy in the case of efficient reduction of the cancerous tissue;
- To develop a method of detection of the fluorescent beacons extracted from the body in the case of efficient reduction of the cancerous tissue using optical fibres;
- To validate developed method of monitoring efficiency of the cancer treatment using appropriate cancer model.



## Partners

Prof. S. Piletsky – MIP synthesis and characterisation

Prof. Steve Morgan's Dr Sergiy Korposh - Optical sensors

- ? Cell culture
- ? Animal models



### **Other projects**

- Drug delivery
- Imaging
- Cell proteomics



Team

