

## Therapeutic Nanoconjugates

**Fernando Albericio, Miriam Royo**

CIBER-BBN, Networking Centre on Bioengineering, Biomaterials and Nanomedicine Barcelona  
Science Park, 08028-Barcelona, Spain

Therapeutic Nanoconjugates and Drug Delivery Systems are one of the key strategic lines of the CIBER-BBN.

As it is well known, the number of new chemical and biological entities being accepted by the Food and Drug Administration is stabilized around 20-30 every year. This relatively low number is due to several factors, but one of the main reasons in the poor ADME properties showed by compounds that previously had been good *in vitro* activity

To improve this situation, several approaches have been used: (i) preparation of therapeutic conjugates that are able to protect the drug until it reaches the target; (ii) preparation of conjugates bearing nanovectors with the objective of reaching more efficiently the target.

Our laboratories have developed a robust synthetic platform mainly based in peptides able to address the problem mentioned above. Herein, multifunctional polyethylenglycol-based dendrimers for drug delivery;  $\alpha$ -proline based foldamers as cell penetrating peptides; and gold nanoparticles; and multifunctionalized gold nanoparticles with peptides targeted to peptide receptor of a tumour cell line will be discussed.

- Marcelo J Kogan, Ivonne Olmedo, Leticia Hosta, Ariel R. Guerrero, Luis J. Cruz, Fernando Albericio Peptides And Metallic Nanoparticles For Biomedical Applications. *Nanomedicine*, **2**, 287-306 (2007).
- Leticia Hosta, Mateu Pla-Roca, Jordi Arbiol, Carmen López-Iglesias, Josep Samitier, Luis J. Cruz, Marcelo Kogan, Fernando Albericio. Conjugation of Kahalalide F with gold nanoparticles to enhance *in vitro* antitumoral activity. *Bioconjugate Chem.*, **20**, 138-146 (2009).
- Leticia Hosta-Rigau, Ivonne Olmedo, Jordi Arbiol, Luis J. Cruz, Marcelo J. Kogan, and Fernando Albericio Multifunctionalized Gold Nanoparticles with Peptides Targeted to Gastrin-releasing Peptide Receptor of a Tumour Cell Line. *Bioconjugate Chem*, **21**, 1070-1078 (2010).
- Simon Guerrero, Eyleen Araya, Jenny Fiedler, J. Ignacio Arias, Carolina Adura, Fernando Albericio, Ernest Giralt, Jose Luis Arias, M. Soledad Fernández, and Marcelo J. Kogan. Improving the Brain Delivery of Gold Nanoparticles by Conjugation with an Amphipathic Peptide. *Nanomedicine*, **5**, 897-913 (2010).