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Dendrimers as carriers of anti-leukemia drugs

Barbara Klajnert-Maculewicz University of Lodz, Poland

A nticancer drugs such as cytarabine (araC) belong to nucleoside analogues (NAs). NAs are commonly used in the treatment of acute myeloid leukemia, acute lymphocytic leukemia, and lymphomas. AraC acts by interfering with newly synthesized nucleic acids or by modifying physiological nucleosides metabolism. Like most nucleoside analogs, araC is administered as an inactive prodrug and requires specialized nucleoside transporters to cross plasma membranes. Inside a cell, araC is activated to cytotoxic 5'-triphosphates form (araCTP) by intracellular kinases. Unfortunately, a therapy based on cytarabine has its limitations due to several primary and acquired resistance mechanisms that arise during prodrug activation steps. It may lead to inefficient concentration of the therapeutics in cancer cells. Carrier systems that would deliver active forms of NAs are currently seeking. It has been demonstrated that polypropylene imine (PPI) dendrimers with a partially modified surface by maltose residues (PPI-m) easily form complexes with negatively charged 5'-triphosphates of nucleoside analogues. It happens due to the presence of protonated primary and tertiary amino groups. PPI-m dendrimers are non-toxic and highly biocompatible. Moreover, PPI-m dendrimers protect bound drug molecules from enzymatic degradation. Complexes of araCTP and PPI-m dendrimers show enhanced cytotoxic activity against an acute myeloid lukemia cell line 1301 in comparison with free cytarabine and 5'-triphosphate of cytarabine. Thus, PPI-m dendrimers improve stability of NAs and efficiently deliver the active drug forms directly to cancer cells. To sum up, maltose-modified polypropylene imine dendrimers are attractive systems as anticancer drug carriers, especially with a vision to apply them when drug-resistance occurs.

aklajn@biol.uni.lodz.pl

Comparing the effect of Ti doped into Fe₂O₃/FTO and Fe₂O₃/Ti doped Fe₂O₃/FTO as a photoanodes for high performance of water splitting

Aryan Azad and Sun-Jae Kim Sejong University, Korea

 H_2^{2} is photocatalytically generated from water utilizing solar radiation as one of the renewable energy sources to compare with the fossil fuels. It has attracted interest as a clean energy carrier environmental friendly and free from carbon dioxide emission. TiO₂ by many advantages such as chemical stability, nontoxicity, biologically inertness, activity, high photocatalytic efficiency, low cost, reactivity, and chemical inertness could be one of the most promising materials for water splitting. On the other hand, hematite (α -Fe₂O₃) due to its favorable optical band gap (2.2 eV) chemical stability, abundance, non-toxicity and low cost has been attracted much attention for application as a photoanode. Doping Ti into Fe₂O₃/Ti-Fe₂O₃/FTO photocatalysts have been compared with Fe-TiO₂/FTO and Fe₂O₃/Fe-TiO2/FTO structures by using layer by layer-self assemble (LBL-SA) method and dipping process on the FTO glass. For synthesizing the water splitting Fe₂O₃/Ti-Fe₂O₃ and Ti-Fe₂O₃ as photoanodes were used on the FTO substrate. Results by SEM microstructure, I-V photo current density, Raman Spectroscopy and UV-Vis light irradiation have been shown that among all samples Fe₂O₃/Ti-Fe₂O₃/FTO has been had best performance because excited electrons and holes could live longer, rather than recombination with each other.

aryanazad24@yahoo.com