In vitro efficiency of lipid nanostructures with anti-tumoral compounds

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Lactoferrin (Lf)

-iron-binding glycoprotein of the transferrin family with a potent antitumoral activity *in vivo* and *in vitro*.

Chemotherapeutic agents

-Dacarbazine (D)

Cisplatin (C





Avanti Polar Lipids; www.avantilipids.com

Liposomes:

- -vesicular structures prepared from natural, biodegradable and nontoxic lipids
- -able to entrap hydrophilic drugs in the large aqueous interior and lipophilic drugs inserted in the lipid bilayer
- -good candidates for targeting of therapeutic agents to the site of interest

Advantages:

-good stability during storage -control over drug release rate -high efficient entrapment of hydrophilic molecules -suitable for *in vivo* experiments



Liposome – entrapped Lf /D/C





Aim: To investigate the effect of free and liposome entrapped Lf /D/C on human SK-28 melanoma cells





Cell viability



Lf, C and D affect the SK-28 cell viability. The inhibitory concentration required to kill 50% of cells (IC_{50}) was 350 µg/ml for Lf, 2000 µg/ml for D and 400 µg/ml for C. The effect of the compounds on the cell viability was enhaced by their entrapment into liposomes.



Morphology of SK-mel 28 cells



Lf

Control/Liposomes





Lipo-Lf



Cell cycle analysis





Expression of p-JNK and p-p38 MAPKinases



The liposome-lactoferrin system is more efficient than the free protein in modulating the expression of p-JNK and p-p38 MAPkinases, proteins involved in cell proliferation and apoptosis.



Conclusions

Liposomes containing either natural or synthetic compounds could be considered as a base for a new strategy in cancer prevention and/or treatment.



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