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博 士 学 位 论 文

**N-硬脂酸-O-羧甲基壳聚糖衍生物自组装
纳米载药系统的研究**

**Study of self-aggregated nanoparticles of N-stearic acid
-O-carboxylmethyl chitosan derivatives and the primary
application as the novel carriers of drugs**

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中文摘要

两亲性聚合物在水性介质中能通过自组装方式形成纳米胶束, 该类胶束具有独特的核-壳结构及体内长循环和主体稳定等特点; 且由于具有增强渗透滞留效应 (Enhanced Permeability and Retention Effect, EPR), 该类聚合物胶束能在肿瘤病变部位富集, 实现对肿瘤组织的“被动靶向”作用, 将其作为抗肿瘤药物载体, 是提高药物疗效, 降低药物毒副作用的有效策略之一。O-羧甲基壳聚糖 (O-carboxyl methyl chitosan, CMC) 是一种水溶性壳聚糖衍生物, 保留了壳聚糖生物相容性好、可生物降解、无免疫原性、无毒性等独特优点, 将其疏水改性后形成两亲性壳聚糖, 具有两亲性质, 在一定条件下能自组装形成纳米胶束, 可作为包载疏水性药物的理想纳米药物载体。

本文从O-CMC氨基端引入硬脂酸 (stearic acid, SA) 合成SA-CMC聚合物, 考察其在水性介质中的两亲性及临界聚集浓度 (critical aggregation concentration, CAC), 以紫杉醇 (paclitaxel, PTX) 为模型药物考察其对疏水药物的包载和释放行为; 观察PTX载药纳米粒 (PTX-SA-CMC NPs) 对肿瘤的靶向性及体内外抗肿瘤效应, 初步观察其毒性, 综合评价其作为抗肿瘤靶向药物载体的可行性。主要研究成果如下:

1. 以 EDC 为偶联剂, 将 SA 接枝到 O-CMC 的氨基上, 一步法合成了 SA-CMC 的共聚物; 采用红外光谱 (FTIR)、氢核磁共振 ($^1\text{H NMR}$) 等手段对产物的结构进行表征。通过控制 SA 和 CMC 的投料比, 合成三种不同取代度 (degree of substitution, DS) 的聚合物。三硝基苯磺酸 (2,4,6-trinitrobenzenesulfonic acid, TNBS) 法检测结果: 三种聚合物的 SA 取代度分别为 7.3%、13.8% 和 19.5%。
2. 荧光探针法检测结果表明, SA-CMC 衍生物具有两亲性, 在水介质中能自组装形成纳米胶束, 三种聚合物的 CAC 分别为 0.0212、0.0117 和 0.0098 mg/mL。探头超声法制备了 SA-CMC 自聚集纳米胶束 (SA-CMC NPs)。透射电镜 (TEM) 观察结果表明, SA-CMC NPs 呈球状, 形态规则, 平均粒径和 CAC 均随着 DS 的增加而降低; SA-CMC NPs 的 Zeta-电位为负值, 表明带负电荷的羧甲基位于纳米胶束表面, Zeta-电位的绝对值随着 SA 的 DS

增加而降低。自聚集的 SA-CMC NPs 为“多核模型”结构。

3. 超声透析法制备了载 PTX 的自聚集纳米胶束 (PTX-SA-CMC NPs), 用 HPLC 法检测其载药量 (loading content, LC) 和包封率 (encapsulation efficiency, EE) 分别可达 18.6% 和 86.2%; 随着药物配比的增加, PTX-SA-CMC NPs 的 LC 增加, EE 降低, 粒径变大。TEM 下 PTX-SA-CMC NPs 呈规则球形, 平均粒径在 106 到 123 nm 之间; PTX 从 PTX-SA-CMC NPs 的释放呈两相模式, 且随着 LC 的增加, PTX 的释放速度减慢, 随着释放介质 pH 值的降低, PTX 释放的速度增快, 72h 的累计释放量在 73%-90% 之间。
4. 制备 Cy5.5 标记的载药纳米胶束 (Cy5.5-PTX-SA-CMC NPs), 尾静脉注射到荷瘤裸鼠体内后, 采用活体荧光成像技术追踪其在体内的组织分布。结果表明, Cy5.5-PTX-SA-CMC NPs 在荷瘤裸鼠体内具有明显的肿瘤靶向性, 给药后 8h 肿瘤部位浓度最高; 72h 时肿瘤部位的荧光强度为肾脏、肝脏和肺脏的 5 倍, 脾脏的 8.5 倍, 心脏的 34.2 倍。激光共聚焦显微镜观察显示, BEL-7402 细胞以内吞的方式实现对 Cy5.5-PTX-SA-CMC NPs 的摄取。
5. 四甲基氮唑蓝比色 (MTT) 法研究显示, PTX-SA-CMC NPs、Cremopher EL-PTX 和 Cremopher EL 均对细胞生长有显著的抑制作用, 抑制效应为 Cremopher EL-PTX > PTX-SA-CMC NPs > Cremopher EL, 而 SA-CMC NPs 对 BEL-7402 无明显的细胞毒性。而体内抑瘤实验结果显示, PTX-SA-CMC NPs 组的抑瘤率较 Cremopher EL-PTX 组明显提高, 荷瘤鼠的生存期也明显延长。安全评价实验结果表明, PTX-SA-CMC NPs 的血液相容性好, 对小鼠无明显的毒副作用, 安全有效。因此, SA-CMC NPs 是一种理想的肿瘤靶向药物载体。

关键词: 硬脂酸-羧甲基壳聚糖; 自聚集纳米粒; 紫杉醇; 肿瘤靶向; 药物载体。

Abstract

Amphiphilic conjugate have received increasing attention because they can form self-aggregated nanoparticles. In the aqueous phase, the hydrophobic cores of polymeric nanoparticles are surrounded by hydrophilic outer shells. Thus, the inner core can serve as a nano-container for hydrophobic drugs. The nanoparticles can accumulate and extravasate within tumor tissue due to the prolonged circulation and enhanced permeation and retention (EPR) effect. Therefore, drug delivery using polymeric nanoparticles is an effective strategy for passive tumor targeting. The O-carboxymethyl chitosan (O-CMC) has many good properties, such as biocompatibility, biodegradability, non-toxicity and bioadhesivity that make it suitable for use as a hydrophobic anticancer drug carrier.

This dissertation designed a series of stearic acid-modified O-carboxymethyl chitosan (SA-CMC) conjugates and assess their potentials as drug delivery systems. The main investigations of this dissertation are shown as follows.

1) A series of SA-CMC conjugates with different degrees of substitution(DS) of the SA were synthesized by the amide linkages in the presence of EDC. The chemical structure of SA-CMC conjugates was characterized by fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FTIR) and nuclear magnetic resonance (^1H NMR). The DS of SA-CMCs detected by 2,4,6-trinitrobenzenesulfonic acid (TNBS) method were 7.3,13.8 and 19.5%, respectively.

2) The SA-CMCs were amphiphilic in nature and their self-aggregation behavior in aqueous media was evaluated by the fluorescence probe technique. The SA-CMC conjugates could form self-aggregate nanoparticles by probe sonication with the CAC of 0.0212、0.0117 and 0.0098mg/mL respectively. The mean diameters decreased as the DS of SA-CMC conjugates increased. The SA-CMC NPs were analyzed by dynamic laser light-scattering (DLS) and transmission electron microscopy (TEM) technologies. These SA-CMC NPs were almost spherical in shape and showed

multi-core characteristic. The zeta potentials of SA-CMC NPs were negative, and the absolute values slightly decreased with DS of the SA-CMC increasing.

3) Paclitaxel (PTX), as a model anticancer drug, was physically entrapped inside the SA-CMC NPs. PTX-loaded SA-CMC-2 NPs were almost spherical in shape and their size increased from 106 to 123 nm with the PTX-loading content(LC) increasing from 8.6% to 18.8%. The release behavior of PTX from SA-CMC NPs was studied *in vitro* by a dialysis method and the results showed that PTX was released from nanoparticles in a biphasic way. The release rate was in range of 73%-90% within 72h, which decreased with the pH of the release media increasing. This release property is advantageous to controlled and sustained drug release.

4) Cy5.5-labeled PTX-SA-CMC NPs were intravenously injected via the tail vein into BEL-7402 tumor-bearing nude mice. After injection, the time-dependant *in vivo* biodistribution and tumor targetability of Cy5.5-SA-CMC-PTX NPs were non-invasively imaged using the Explore Optix System. The results showed that Cy5.5-SA-CMC-PTX NPs present an excellent tumor targeting ability in tumor-bearing mice. The total photon counts of Cy5.5-SA-CMC-PTX NPs in tumor tissue are 34.2-fold higher than that in heart at 72h. Confocal laser scanning microscopy (CLSM) demonstrated that cellular uptake of PTX-SA-CMC NPs was in an endocytosis manner.

5) Cytotoxicity of blank SA-CMC NPs and PTX-SA-CMC NPs against BEL-7402 cells was evaluated by MTT assay. These results indicated that SA-CMC nanoparticles have no cytotoxicity against BEL-7402 cells. PTX-SA-CMC NPs showed a lower cytotoxicity against BEL-7402 cells than Cremophor EL-PTX. However, compared with Cremophor EL-PTX, PTX-SA-CMC NPs exhibited enhanced antitumor effect and less side-effect in H22-bearing mice. Therefore, these results indicated that SA-CMC NPs could be a potential carrier for the drug delivery.

Key words: Stearic acid-O-carboxymethyl chitosan derivative; Self-aggregated nanoparticle; Paclitaxel; Tumor targeting; Drug carrier.

中文摘要	I
Abstract	III
第一章 绪 论	1
1.1 聚合物纳米载药胶束用于肿瘤靶向药物传递.....	1
1.2 两亲性壳聚糖衍生物作为药物传递载体研究进展.....	3
1.2.1 疏水改性壳聚糖衍生物.....	6
1.2.2 两亲性壳聚糖衍生物.....	10
1.3 紫杉醇制剂现状及新型制剂研究进展.....	14
1.3.1 紫杉醇的作用机制.....	15
1.3.2 紫杉醇传统制剂及不良反应.....	16
1.3.3 紫杉醇新型制剂研究进展.....	17
1.4 本课题研究内容和意义.....	19
参考文献.....	22
第二章 SA-CMC 衍生物的合成及表征	37
2.1 前言.....	37
2.2 试剂与仪器.....	38
2.2.1 材料与试剂.....	38
2.2.2 仪器.....	38
2.3 实验方法.....	39
2.3.1 SA-CMC 衍生物的合成.....	39
2.3.2 合成产物的 FTIR、 ¹ H NMR 表征.....	39
2.3.3 合成产物的 SA 取代度测定.....	39
2.4 实验结果与讨论.....	40
2.4.1 SA-CMC 的合成.....	40
2.4.2 FTIR 表征.....	41
2.4.3 ¹ H NMR 表征	42
2.4.4 SA 取代度	43

2.4.5 SA-CMC 衍生物合成方法探讨.....	43
2.5 本章小结.....	44
参考文献.....	45
第三章 SA-CMC 衍生物两亲性考察及其自聚集纳米粒的制备	47
.....	47
3.1 前言.....	47
3.2 试剂与仪器.....	47
3.3 实验方法.....	49
3.3.1 SA-CMC 两亲性考察及 CAC 的测定.....	49
3.3.2 SA-CMC NPs 制备及其表征.....	49
3.3.3 统计学分析.....	50
3.4 结果与讨论.....	50
3.4.1 两亲性考察及 CAC 测定方法.....	50
3.4.2 SA-CMC 两亲性以及 CAC.....	51
3.4.3 SA-CMC NPs 的制备与表征.....	53
3.4.4 SA-CMC NPs 形成机制的探讨.....	58
3.5 本章小结.....	60
参考文献.....	61
第四章 SA-CMC NPs 作为疏水药物载体的研究.....	63
4.1 前言.....	63
4.2 试剂与仪器.....	64
4.2.1 材料与试剂.....	64
4.2.2 仪器.....	64
4.3 实验方法.....	65
4.3.1 PTX-SA-CMC-2 NPs 的制备.....	65
4.3.2 PTX-SA-CMC NPs 的表征.....	66
4.3.2.1 TEM 观察 PTX-SA-CMC NPs 形貌.....	66
4.3.3 SA-CMC NPs 作为 PTX 药物载体的体外评价.....	66

4.3.4 统计学分析.....	68
4.4 结果与讨论.....	68
4.4.1 PTX HPLC 测定方法的建立.....	68
4.4.2 PTX-SA-CMC NPs 的性能表征.....	70
4.5 本章小结.....	79
参考文献.....	80
第五章 PTX-SA-CMC NPs 在体内的组织分布和肿瘤靶向研究	82
.....	82
5.1 前言.....	82
5.2 仪器与试剂.....	82
5.3 实验方法.....	84
5.3.1 细胞培养.....	84
5.3.2 荷瘤小鼠模型的建立.....	84
5.3.3 荧光活体成像实验.....	85
5.3.4 Cy5.5-PTX-SA-CMC NPs 细胞摄取实验.....	86
5.3.5 统计学分析.....	86
5.4 实验结果与讨论.....	86
5.4.1 Cy5.5-PTX-SA-CMC NPs 在荷瘤裸鼠体内的肿瘤靶向和组织分布	86
5.4.2 激光共聚焦显微镜观察 PTX-SA-CMC NPs 的细胞摄取.....	90
5.5 本章小结.....	91
参考文献.....	92
第六章 PTX-SA-CMC NPs 的抗肿瘤药效学和毒性研究 ...	94
6.1 前言.....	94
6.2 实验部分.....	94
6.2.1 试剂与仪器.....	94
6.2.2 试剂配制.....	96
6.2.3 PTX-SA-CMC NPs 对肿瘤细胞生长的抑制.....	97

6.2.4	PTX-SA-CMC NPs 对小鼠 H22 肝癌的抑制作用.....	98
6.2.5	PTX-SA-CMC NPs 的安全性评价.....	99
6.2.6	统计学分析.....	99
6.3	实验结果和讨论.....	100
6.3.1	PTX-SA-CMC NPs 对肿瘤细胞生长的抑制.....	100
6.3.2	PTX-SA-CMC NPs 对 H22 肝癌小鼠的抗肿瘤作用.....	101
6.3.4	PTX-SA-CMC NPs 的安全性评价.....	104
6.4	本章小结.....	105
	参考文献.....	107
第七章	结论与展望	109
7.1	全文总结.....	109
7.2	展望.....	110
致 谢	111

Contents

Abstract in Chinese	I
Abstract in English	III
Chapter 1 Introduction	1
1.1 Polymer micelle using as tumor targeting drug delivery carrier.....	1
1.2 Development of amphiphilic chitosan derivatives using as drug carriers	3
1.2.1 Hydrophobically modified chitosan derivatives	6
1.2.2 Amphiphilic chitosan derivatives.....	10
1.3 Traditional and novel preparation of paxtical.....	14
1.3.1 Antitumor mechanism of paxtical.....	15
1.3.2 Paxtical traditional preparation and its side effect	16
1.3.3 Development of paxtical novel preparation.....	17
1.4 Objective and content of this dissertation	19
References	22
Chapter 2 Synthesis and characteristics of the SA-CMC conjugate	37
2.1 Introduction.....	37
2.2 Reagents and instruments	38
2.2.1 Reagents	38
2.2.2 Instruments.....	38
2.3 Methods.....	39
2.3.1 Synthesis of the SA-CMC conjugate	39
2.3.2 FTIR and ¹ H NMR characteristics of the SA-CMC conjugate.....	39
2.3.3 DS of SA-CMC conjugates.....	39
2.4 Results and discussion	39
2.4.1 Synthesis of SA-CMC conjugates	40
2.4.2 FTIR characteristics of the SA-CMC conjugate.....	41

2.4.3 ^1H NMR characteristics of the SA-CMC conjugate	42
2.4.4 DS of SA-CMC conjugates.....	43
2.4.5 Synthesis method of the SA-CMC conjugate	44
2.5 Summary.....	44
References.....	45
Chapter 3 Amphiphilicity detection and Preparation of SA-CMC NPs	47
3.1 Introduction.....	47
3.2 Reagents and instruments	47
3.3 Methods.....	49
3.3.1 Amphiphilic detection and CAC determination of SA-CMC.....	49
3.3.2 Preparation and Characterizations of SA-CMC NPs	49
3.4 Results and discussion	50
3.4.1 Method of amphiphilic detection and CAC determination	50
3.4.2 Amphiphilic detection and CAC determination	51
3.4.3 Preparation and Characterizations of SA-CMC NPs	53
3.4.4 Mechanism of SA-CMC NPs.....	58
3.5 Summary.....	60
References.....	61
Chapter 4 Preparation and Characterization of PTX-loaded SA-CMC NPs.....	63
4.1 Introduction.....	63
4.2 Reagents and instruments	64
4.2.1 Reagents.....	64
4.2.2 Instruments.....	64
4.3 Methods.....	65
4.3.1 Preparation of PTX- SA-CMC NPs	65
4.3.2 Characterization of PTX-SA-CMC NPs.....	66

4.3.3 Determination of loading content ,entrapment efficiency and drug reslease.....	66
4.3.4 Data Processing.....	68
4.4 Results and discusstion	68
4.4.1 Detemination of paxtical with HPLC	68
4.4.2 Loading content ,entrapment efficiency and drug reslease behavior..	70
4.5 Summary.....	79
References.....	80
 Chapter 5 <i>In vivo</i> biodistribution and tumor targetability of PTX-SA-CMC NPs	 82
5.1 Introduction.....	82
5.2 Reagents and instruments.....	82
5.3 Methods.....	84
5.3.1 Cell culture.....	84
5.3.2 Liver cancer nude mice model.....	84
5.3.3 Fluorescent image experiments in nude mice.....	85
5.3.4 Cellular uptake experiments	86
5.3.5 Data Processing.....	86
5.4 Results and discusstion	86
5.4.1 <i>In vivo</i> biodistribution and tumor targetability of Cy5.5 -PTX-SA-CMC NPs	86
5.4.2 Cellular uptake of Cy5.5-PTX-SA-CMC NPs.....	90
5.5 Summary.....	91
References.....	92
 Chapter 6 Pharmacodynamics and toxicology of PTX-SA-CMC NPs.....	 94
6.1 Introduction.....	94
6.2 Methods.....	94

6.2.1 Reagents and instruments	94
6.2.2 Reagents preparation.....	96
6.2.3 Cell growth inhibition experiments	97
6.2.4 <i>In vivo</i> antitumor experiments	98
6.2.5 Hemolysis experiment and acute toxic experiment	99
6.2.6 Data Processing.....	99
6.3 Results and discussion	100
6.3.1 Cell growth inhibition of PTX-SA-CMC NPs.....	100
6.3.2 Antitumor effect of PTX-SA-CMC NPs in mice.....	101
6.3.4 Security evaluation of PTX-SA-CMC NPs <i>in vivo</i>	104
6.4 Summary.....	105
References.....	107
Chapter 7 Conclusions and Future Work	109
7.1 Conclusions.....	109
7.2 Future Work	110
Acknowledgements	111

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