IC-Tagging Platform: Biotechnological Applications (1/2)



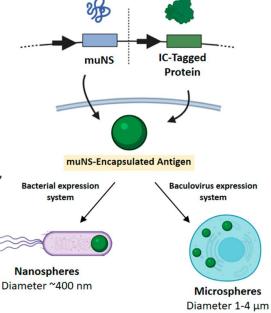


Intra-Cellular micro/nanospheres (MS/NS), loaded with your proteins, or glycoproteins, made in any expression system (baculovirus / insect cell expression system and/or bacteria)

- ✓ Proteins are properly folded inside the MS/NS (0,4 4 μ m) and completely functional, admit quaternary interactions and complex enzymatic reactions.
 - → Can also work inside ER: glycoproteins.
- ✓ **Simplicity cost effective & easy production**: big amounts of MS/NS are easily purified by simple mechanical methods, due to their size and stability.
 - → Cells do the work: express & encapsulate.
- ✓ Allows highly specific covalent particle surface modification with any desired molecule, unaffecting the activity and structure of the encapsulated protein.
 - → Couple adjuvants, targeting, protect from degradation, etc.
- ✓ The MS/NS could be relocated to nucleus or cytoplasm.

Current areas of work:

- **Vaccines**. Already tested in animal models: AHSV, BTV. Ongoing: PRSV, CCHFV, RVFV, and one aquaculture-relevant virus.
- > Treatment of metabolic diseases. Enzyme replacement therapy based on a stabilized version.
- **Cancer immunotherapy**. Melanoma mouse model.
- > Stabilization of industrial enzymes. Laccase, Peroxygenase, MHTase, Cutinase...



Licensing / Technology Offer

IC-Tagging Platform: Biotechnological Applications (2/2)





1. New vaccine platform

Vaccines **2022**, 10(7), 1124 Vaccine, **2020**, 38, 882-889

Antiviral Research, 2017, 142, 55

- ✓ **Subunit vaccines with intrinsic adjuvancy**, overcoming drawbacks of inactivated or attenuated vaccines.
 - Animal healthcare. Concept demonstrated in recombinant vaccine incorporating Bluetongue (BTV) or African Horse Sickness viruses' epitopes has generated significant levels of neutralizing antibodies, protecting mice towards a lethal challenge.
 - SARS-COV-2 vaccine project funded by European Vaccine Initiative (EVI), ISCIII Health Research Institute (Spain), Banco Santander.
- ✓ **Cancer Immunotherapy**. New vaccine approach based on protein microspheres
 - Proof of concept in collaboration with the UK National Institute for Biological Standards and Control (NIBSC)

2. Enzyme immobilization & stabilization Scientific Reports, 2021, 11, 2802

- ✓ It works at wider pH ranges than the free enzyme.
- ✓ Covalent surface modification, with any desired molecule, without affecting the activity of the proteins.
- ✓ **Cascade reactions**, e.g., production of nanoparticles with unspecific peroxygenases & formate oxidase.
- ✓ Proof of concept: **CotA laccase**. Chemical & thermal stabilization, one-step expression and immobilization.
 - Activity almost unaffected after 30 min incubation at 90 °C, and 15 min at 95 °C.
 - The encapsulated laccase decolorates the recalcitrant dye RB19 at room temperature.

3. Toxic or difficult-to-express antigens/antibodies/proteins Scientific Reports, 2018, 16286

- ✓ Completely functional, proteins are properly folded inside the MS.
- ✓ Lyophilizable and easily purified by simple mechanical methods due to their size and stability.
- ✓ Working inside the endoplasmic reticulum: properly modified viral glycoproteins.
 - Case 1: Membrane-bound IGRP, which expression remained elusive to date, it is an antigen of enormous interest for type 1 diabetes.
 - Case 2: Viral glycoprotein from Rift Valley Fever Virus. An unique case of expression of a Type II fusion protein on a prokaryotic system.