

Development of C75-CoA-loaded polymeric nanomedicines to inhibit CPT1 in specific brain cells

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Carnitine palmitoyl transferases are a family of proteins involved in the metabolism of fatty acids. CPT1A in the mitochondria catalyses the conversion of long-chain fatty acids into acylcarnitines. It is expressed in peripheral tissues but also in the hypothalamus, where it is involved in energy homeostasis. Inhibition of hypothalamic CPT1A reduces feeding, whereas overexpression increases food intake and adiposity. Furthermore, CPT1A and CPT1C are overexpressed in glioblastoma, and CPT1C is upregulated in glucose depletion and hypoxia, suggesting a protecting role under these conditions [1,2]. Pharmacological manipulation of CPT1 proteins activity in specific brain cells could therefore be useful in treating diseases such as obesity or glioblastoma.

C75 is a racemic lactone originally described to inhibit FASN. Later it was described that (+)-C75 inhibits CPT1A, while the physiologically formed adduct (-)-C75-CoA inhibits FASN [3,4]. However, peripheral inhibition of CPT1A leads to undesired side effects. To overcome this problem, we have developed a strategy involving polymeric nanoparticles targeted to hypothalamic neurons or glioblastoma cells [5]. We have prepared PEG-PLL nanoparticles which can encapsulate racemic C75 and its enantiopure forms, and can be modified with ligands designed to overcome the blood-brain-barrier and target hypothalamic neurons and glioblastoma cells.

REFERENCES

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FIGURES

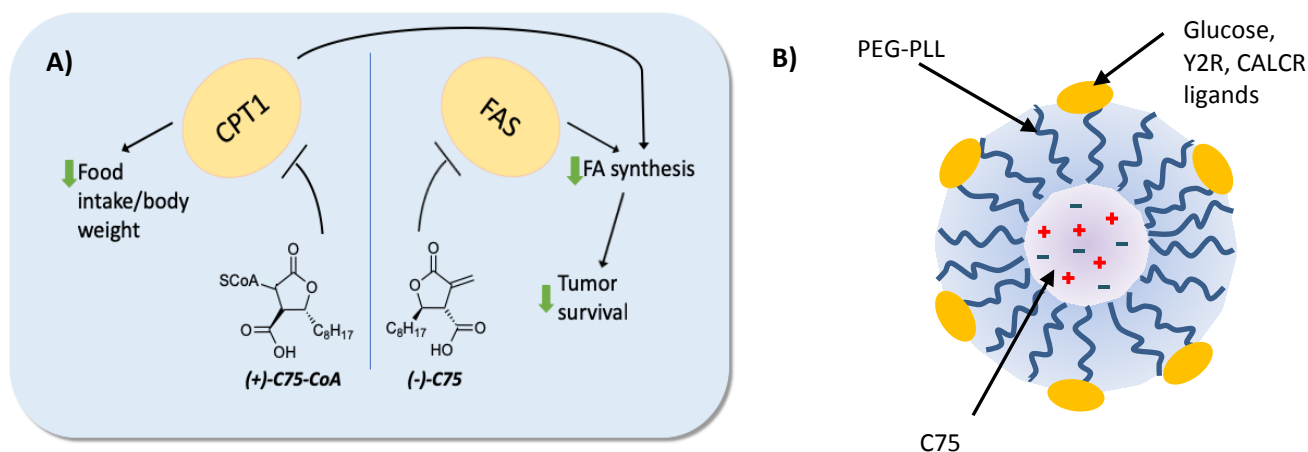


Figure 1: A) C75 action summary. B) Nanoparticle model