

NCI Alliance for  
**Nanotechnology**  
in Cancer

# NCI Alliance for Nanotechnology in Cancer: Research Advances and Development of Clinical Applications

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Program Director, NCI Nanotechnology Alliance

National Cancer Advisory Board Meeting

**June 14, 2006**

# NCI Nanotech Alliance: Building Interdisciplinary Community

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- Form academic and commercial partnerships
- Establish training programs
- Promote interactions among the centers and platform projects
- Leverage existing infrastructure
- Coordinate with other Federal agencies to leverage NCI funds and creates synergies
- Pre-qualify new materials and informs standards through the Nanotechnology Characterization Laboratory
- Reduce the risk of investment in new products

# Governance of CCNEs

- Coordinating and Governance Committee (CGC) is the operational governing board responsible for overall coordination of the CCNE program.
- CGC meets twice a year to assess scientific progress, identify new research opportunities, establish priorities, consider policy recommendations, and discuss strategy.
- CGC membership includes at least one member from each CCNE, NCI Program Director (Piotr Grodzinski), and representative from public advocacy group (Wayland Eppard).
- CGC co-chairs: Chad Mirkin (Northwestern), Jonathan Simons (Emory), Piotr Grodzinski (NCI). Chair positions will be rotated every 18 months.

# Centers of Cancer Nanotechnology Excellence Programmatic Areas

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		Programmatic Areas					
PI	Institutions	Molecular Imaging & Early Detection	<i>In vivo</i> Imaging	Reporters of Efficacy	Multifunctional Therapeutics	Prevention & Control	Research Enablers
Langer	MIT/Harvard/MGH	X		X	X		X
Nie	Georgia Tech/Emory		X	X	X		X
Esener	UCSD/Burnham	X			X	X	X
Heath	CalTech/UCLA	X				X	X
Juliano	UNC/Duke	X	X		X		X
Wickline	WUSTL/Illinois		X		X		X
Mirkin	Northwestern/UIUC	X		X		X	X
Gambhir	Stanford	X	X			X	X



# Centers of Cancer Nanotechnology Excellence Characteristics



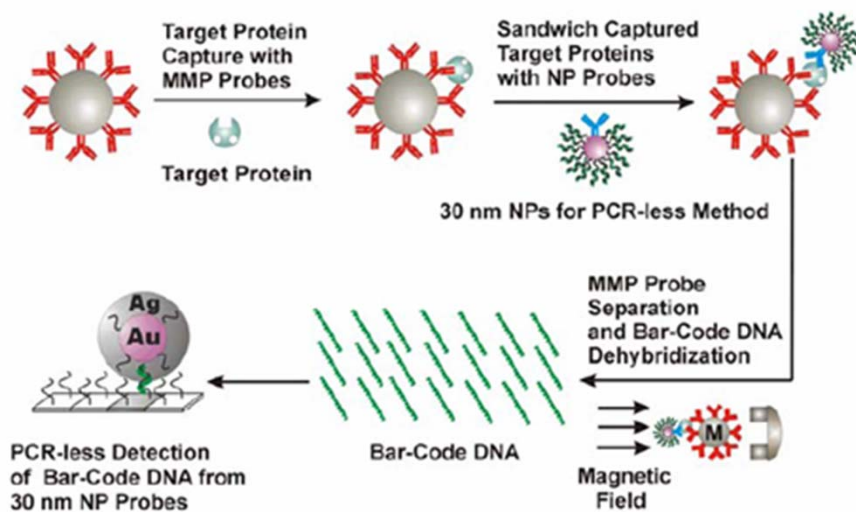
- Technologies represented **thoroughly address the six programmatic areas** of the Alliance for Nanotechnology in Cancer
- Projects supported comprise a **balanced mix of high risk/innovative and lower risk/evolutionary** approaches
- **Multidisciplinary teams** of technologists and biologists
- Centers are **geographically distributed** across the country
- Centers effectively **leverage** existing infrastructure
- Centers cover a **broad range of cancer and organ-specific** techniques

## Recent Technology Developments and Their Clinical Significance

- High sensitivity, multiplex detection for diagnosis and recurrence monitoring
- New contrast agents for in vivo imaging
- Targeted, nanoparticle-based delivery of docetaxel

# CCNE: Northwestern Program Area: Early Detection Bio-barcode Detection of PSA

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- High sensitivity (two orders of magnitude improvement) assay for recognition and recurrence monitoring of prostate cancer
- Clinically accepted conventional assays for detecting PSA have sensitivity limits of ~ 3 pM

Stoeva, Thaxton, Mirkin, Multiplexed DNA Detection with Biobarcode Nanoparticle Probes, *Angew Chem Int* 45, 3303 (2006)

Cheng, Cuda, Bunimovich, Gaspari, Heath, Mirkin, Ferrari et al., Nanotechnologies for biomolecular detection and medical diagnostics, *Curr Opin Chem Biol.* 10, 11 (2006)

CCNE: Northwestern  
 Program Area: Early Detection  
 Biomolecule Detection Technologies

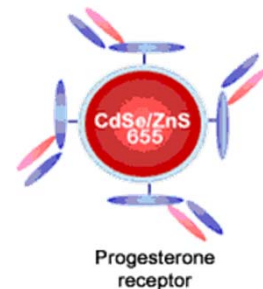
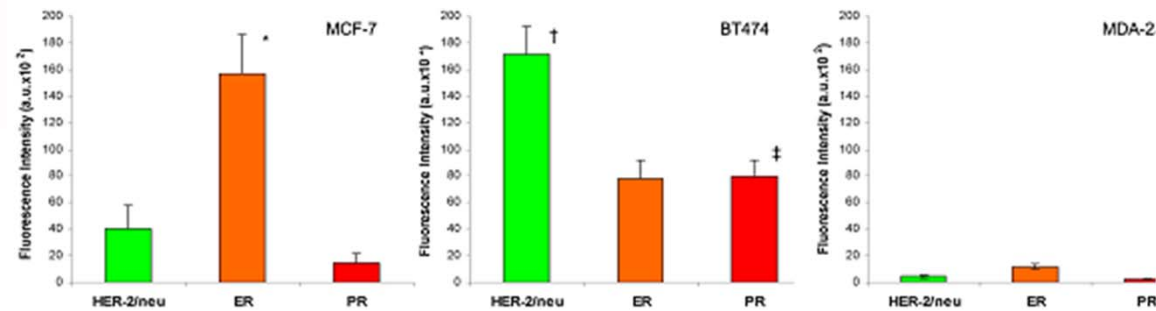
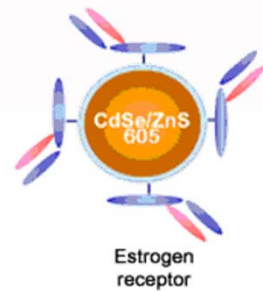
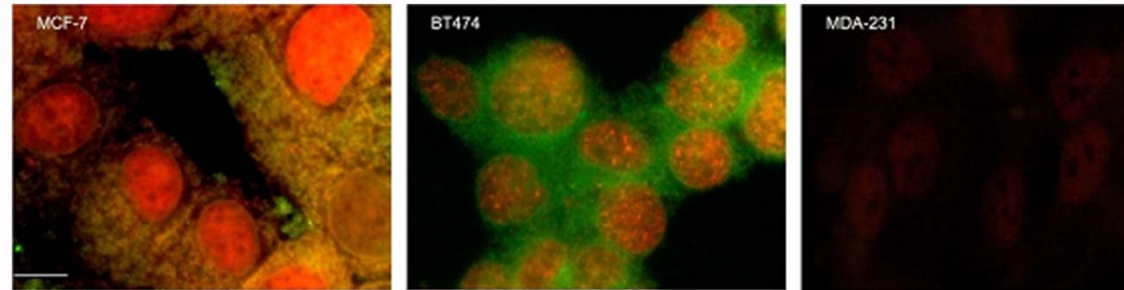
### Biomolecule Detection Technology

	Concentration	Molecule/Drop	Detection/ Targets/Disease
	$10^{-3}$ - Millimolar	Quadrillions	Colorimetric/Enzymatic Chemistry Blood Sugar (Diabetes)
	$10^{-6}$ - Micromolar	Trillions	
	$10^{-9}$ - Nanomolar	Billions	ELISA & Chemiluminescence Troponin, CK-MB, BNP, $\beta$ HCG
	$10^{-12}$ - Picomolar	Millions	
	$10^{-15}$ - Femtomolar	Thousands	Bio-barcode Technology Cancer: Prostate, Ovarian, Breast Alzheimer's Disease, Mad Cow Pulmonary Disease, Cardiovascular Disease
	$10^{-18}$ - Attomolar	Tens	
	$10^{-21}$ - Zeptomolar	<1	



# CCNE: Emory-Georgia Tech Program Area: Molecular Imaging and Early Detection Quantification and Comparison of Breast Cancer Biomarkers Using Ab-Conjugated QDs

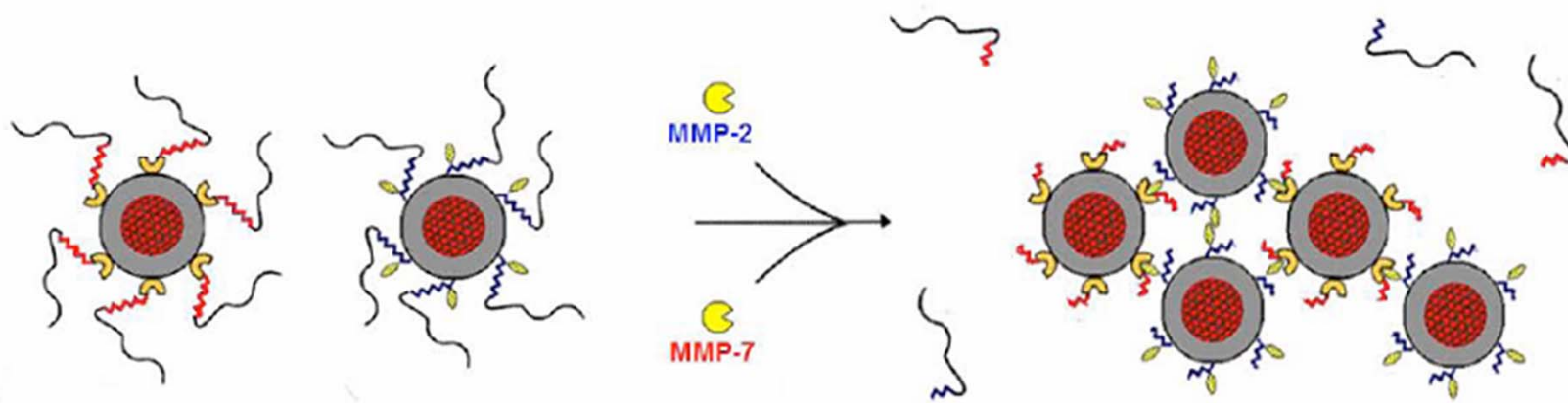
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- ER, PR, and HER2 can be detected using multiplex QDs simultaneously on specimens of breast cancer cell lines
- ER, PR and HER2 detected using QD-Abs can be quantified using spectrometry
- Detection/quantification of ER, PR and HER2 using QD-Abs correlated well with standard methods (IHC and Western Blotting)

CCNE: UCSD  
Program Area: Early Diagnostics/*In Vivo* Imaging  
MRI Detection of Tumor Derived Cells via Proteolytic  
Actuation of Nanoparticle Assembly

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Pegylated particles  
do not assemble

After MMP cleavage  
assembly occurs

- Nanoparticles assemble only in the presence of two enzymes associated with tumorigenesis: 1) MMP2 – associated with tumor metastasis, invasion, and angiogenesis; 2) MMP7 - promotes an anti-apoptotic phenotype in the tumor milieu
- Initial restriction of assembly is achieved through attachment of MMP2 peptide-PEG or the MMP7 peptide-PEG polymers to biotin and neutravidin particles, respectively

**Nanoassemblies provide for:**

↑  
**Magnetic susceptibility**

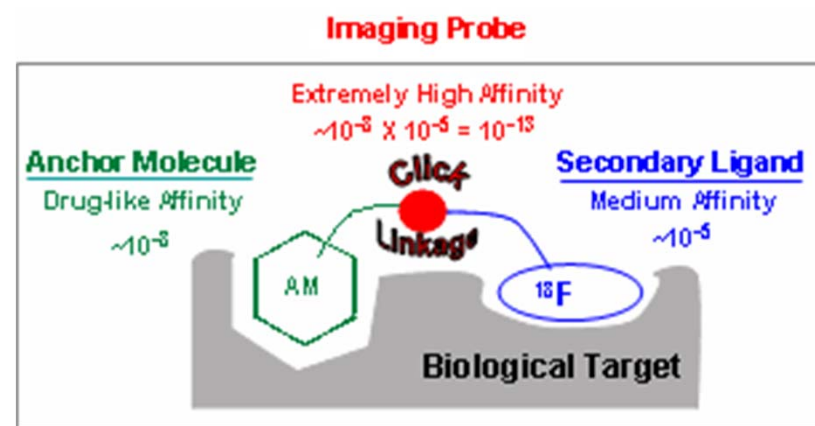
↓  
**T2 relaxivity**

↓  
**Diffusivity**

Harris, Ruoslahti, Bhatia et al., Proteolytic Actuation of Nanoparticle Self-Assembly *Angew. Chem. Int.* 45, 3161 (2006)

E. Ruoslahti, S. Bhatia

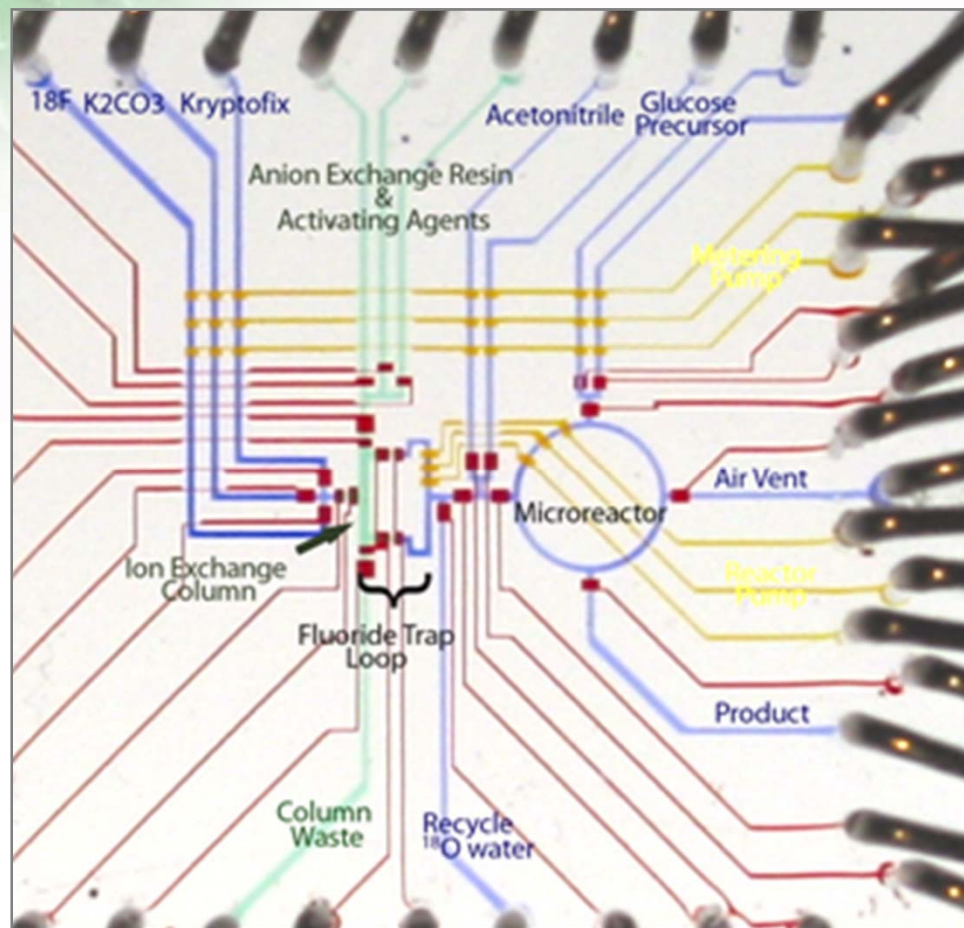
- **Extremely high affinity for disease-related biological targets:**
  - Affinities in the range of  $10^{-9}$  to  $10^{-14}$
- **High specificity for disease targets:**
  - Imaging probes designed by the target for the target (>99% yield)
- **Small molecules:**
  - Imaging probes with access to surface receptors, cells and nucleus
- **Reliable synthesis:**
  - Systematic, scalable and rapid attachment of radiolabel probes on integrated microfluidic chips





# CCNE: Caltech Program Area: Research Enabler/*In Vivo* Imaging Chemical Reaction Circuit for Preparing Radiolabeled Molecular Imaging Probes

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## Chemical Synthesis Steps Executed on Chip

- Ion exchange
- Anhydrous reactions
- Chemistry at elevated temperature and pressure
- Solvent exchange
- Product elution

## Generates [<sup>18</sup>F]FDG

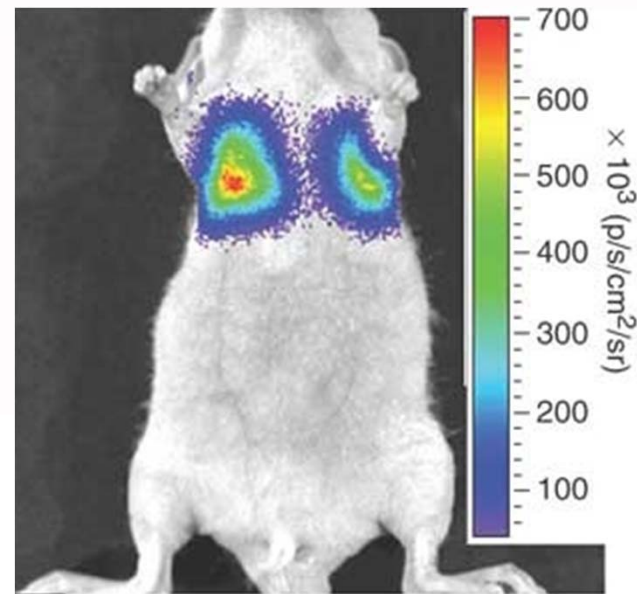
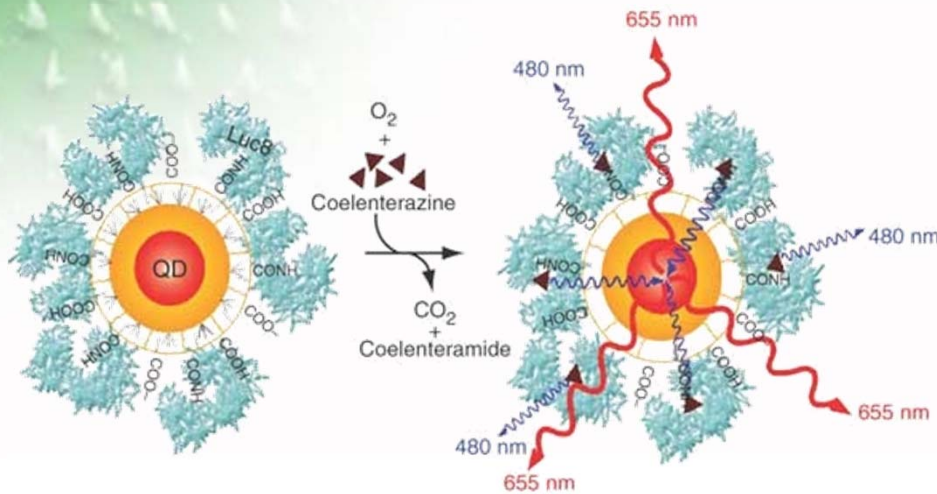
- With improved radio-chemical yield
- In 1/3 the time compared to traditional synthesis box

Lee, Elizarov, Heath, Phelps, Quake, Tseng et al, Multistep synthesis of a radiolabeled imaging probe using integrated microfluidics, Science 310, 1793 (2005)



# CCNE: Stanford Program Area: *In Vivo* Imaging Novel Quantum Dots That Do Not Require External Illumination

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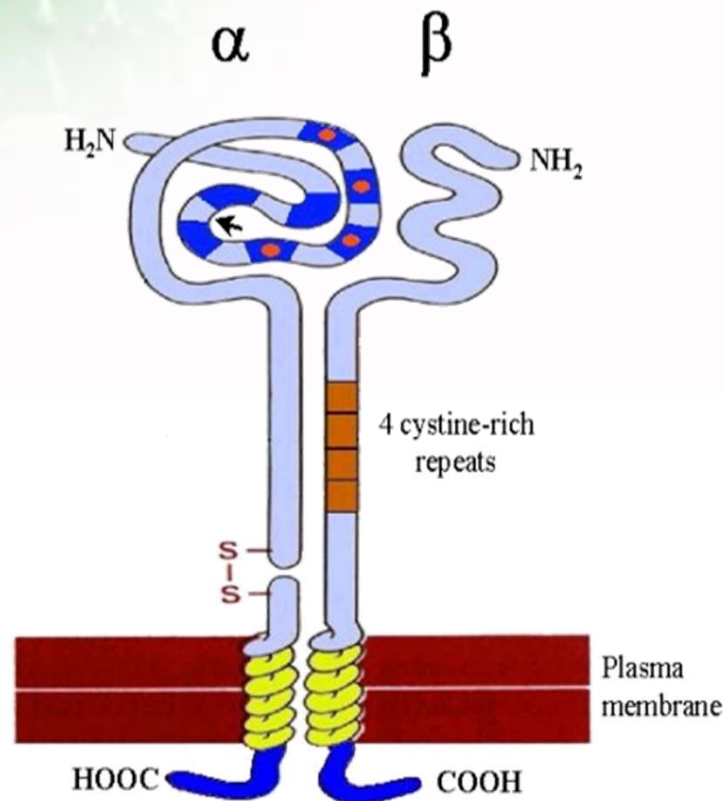


- Quantum dots conjugated with fluorescent proteins bioluminesce in response to an enzyme-catalyzed reaction
- Bioluminescence resonance energy transfer (BRET) is shown for the first time with quantum dots
- Blood does not interfere with quantum dot signal
- Imaging of C6 glioma cells labeled with a quantum dot conjugate show signal in deep tissue, improved sensitivity, and potential for multiplexing without the need for external illumination

So, Gambhir, Rao et al., Self-illuminating quantum dot conjugates for in vivo imaging, Nat. Biotechnol. 24, 339 (2006)

# CCNE: Siteman Program Area: Multifunctional Therapeutics Integrin vasculature targeting

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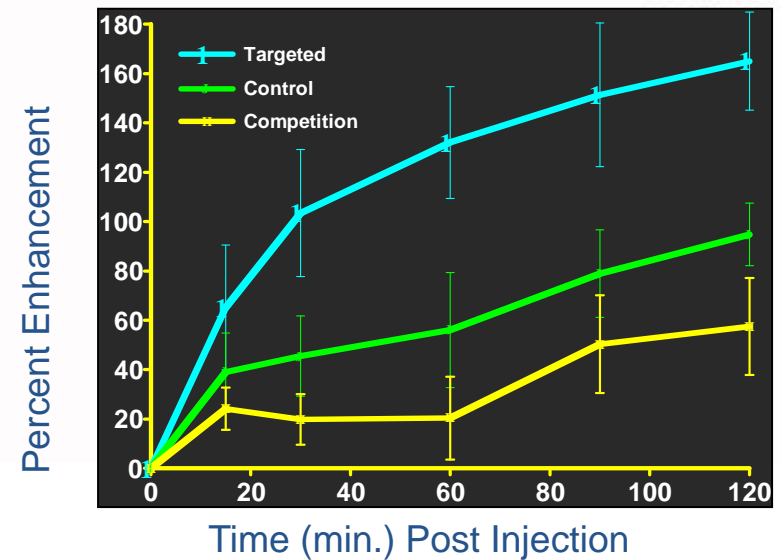
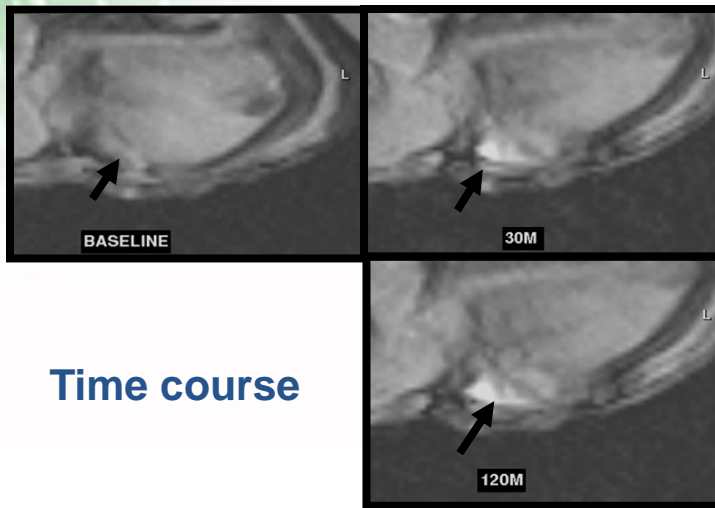
- $\alpha_v\beta_3$  targeted paramagnetic nanoparticle agent for diagnostic imaging and therapy is moving to clinical trial
- Integrin  $\alpha_5\beta_1$  is an important adhesion molecule which regulates endothelial cell migration and survival
- Evaluate synergy of  $\alpha_v\beta_3$  and  $\alpha_5\beta_1$  targeted nanoparticles

Schmieder, Winter, Wickline, Lanza et al., MR molecular imaging of melanoma angiogenesis with  $\alpha_v\beta_3$ -Targeted paramagnetic nanoparticles. Magn. Reson. Med. 53, 621 (2005) →

# CCNE: Siteman Program Area: Multifunctional Therapeutics Targeted Imaging and Therapeutic Impact

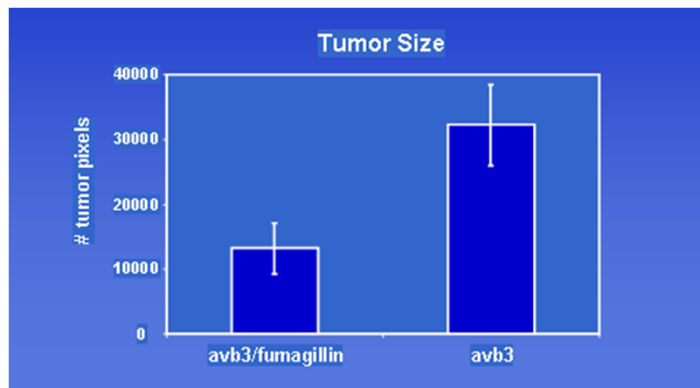
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Imaging

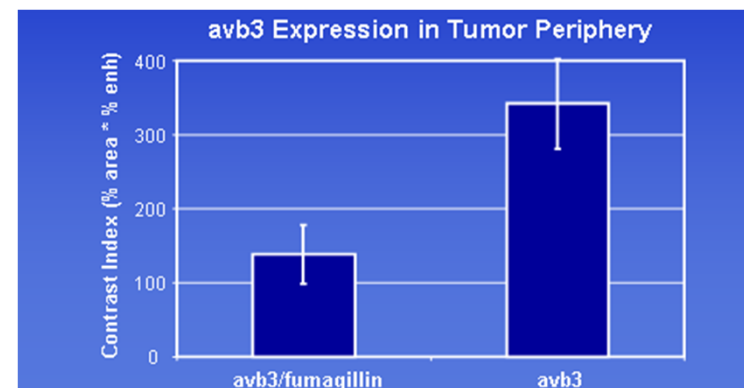


Treatment

Serial (3) Treatments of  $\alpha_v\beta_3$ -fumagillin nanoparticle decreases tumor size  
60% smaller in Fumagillin group ( $p = 0.026$ )



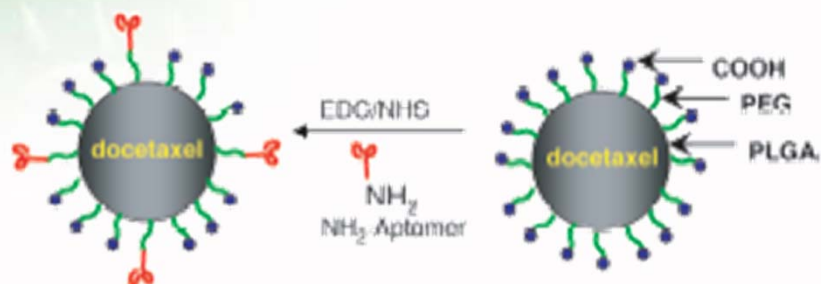
Serial (3) Treatments of  $\alpha_v\beta_3$ -fumagillin nanoparticle decreases peripheral tumor neovascularity  
60% lower in Fumagillin group ( $p = 0.018$ )



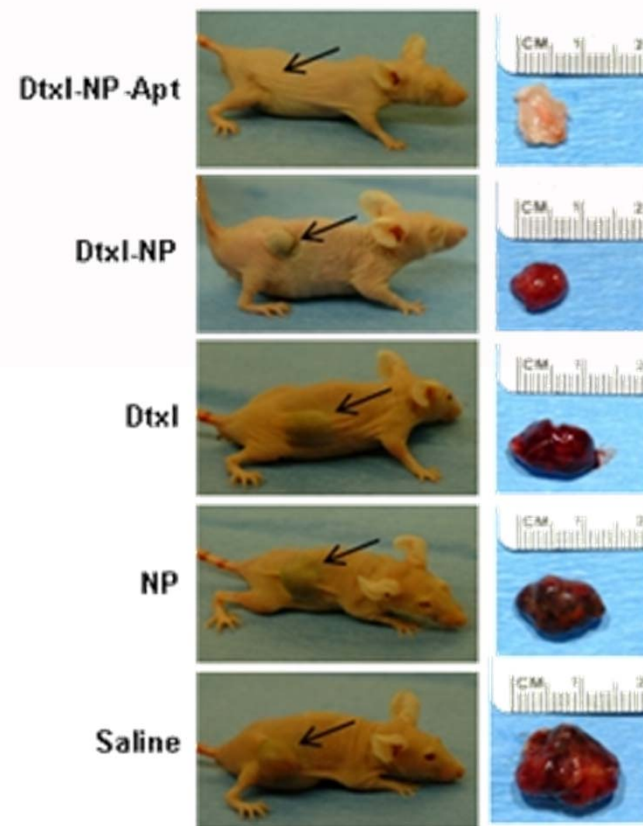


CCNE: MIT-Harvard  
Program Area: Multifunctional Therapeutics  
Docetaxel-Encapsulated Pegylated PLGA  
Nanoparticle-Aptamer Conjugates

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Nanoparticle-Aptamers conjugates have been developed for Prostate Specific Membrane Antigen (PSMA) and show greater efficacy in a xenograft mouse model than non-targeted nanoparticles



Farokhzad, Cheng, Langer et al., Targeted nanoparticle-aptamer bioconjugates for cancer chemotherapy in vivo, Proc Natl Acad Sci 103, 6315 (2006)



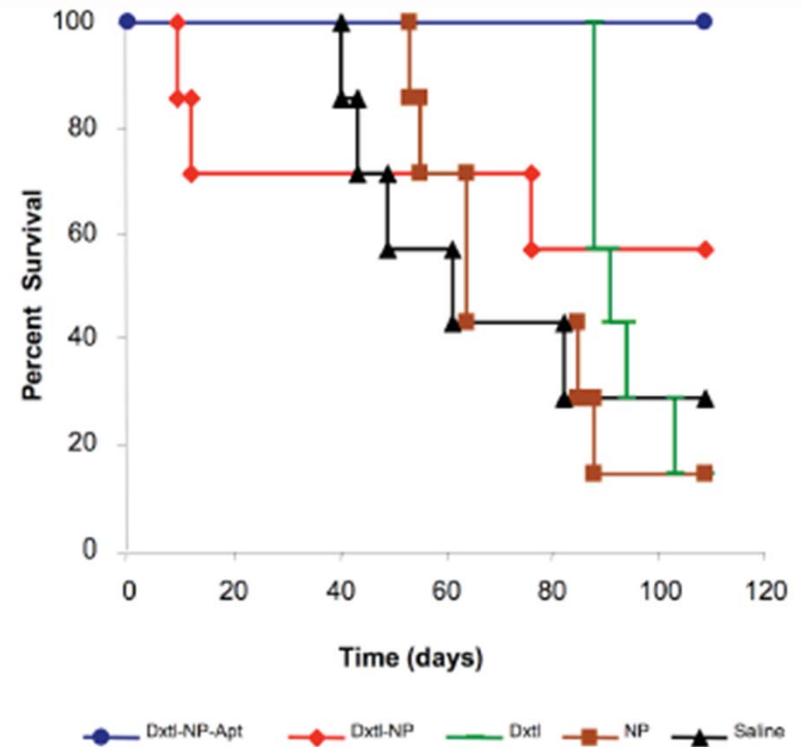
# CCNE: MIT-Harvard

## Program Area: Multifunctional Therapeutics

### Clinical Impact

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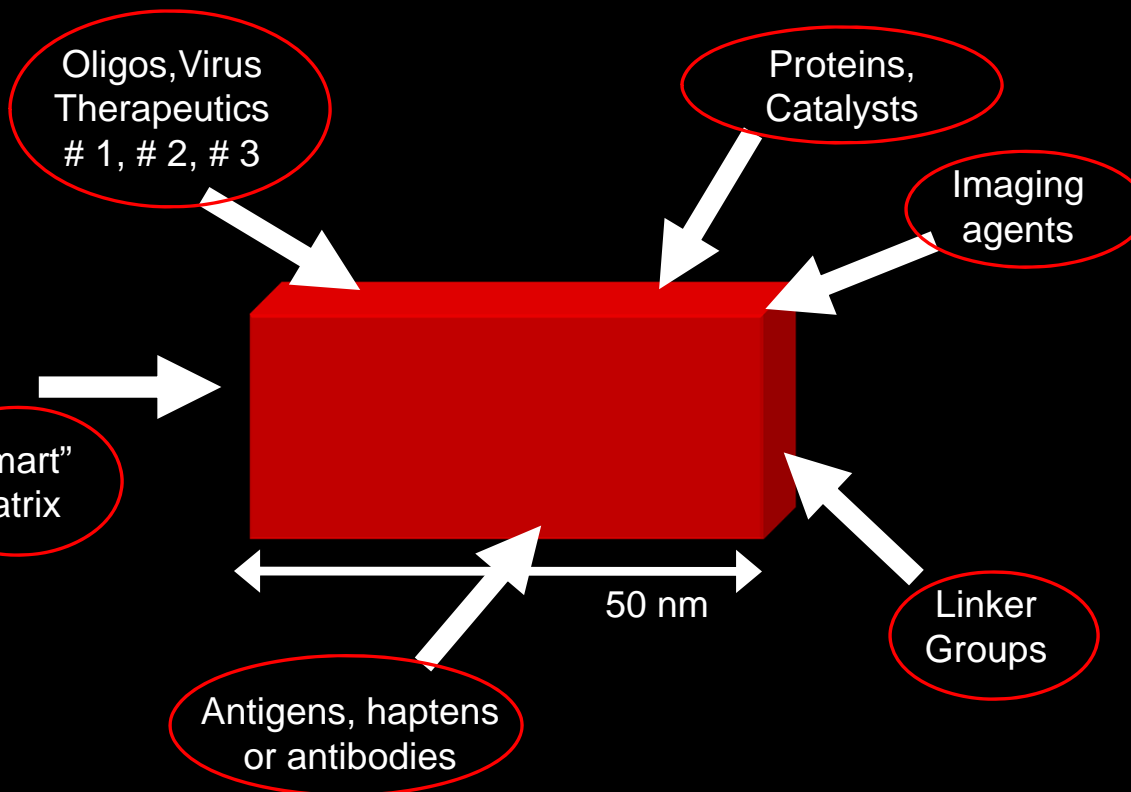
- Demonstrates the ability to target prostate cancer cells and deliver a therapeutic payload over an extended period of time
- Approach has shown increased therapeutic index relative to the non-targeted therapy and strategically utilizes components (polymer, drug, targeting agent) that will facilitate FDA approval
- Localized cancer therapy with reduced toxicity
- Next steps: large animal studies



CCNE: Carolina  
Program Area: Multifunctional Therapeutics and *In Vivo* Imaging  
Flexible PRINT Method for Particle Synthesis

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- Biocompatible and biodegradable polymers are amenable to the processing technique
- A wide variety of targeting agents can be conjugated to the surface of the particles
- Drugs with poor solubility can be incorporated



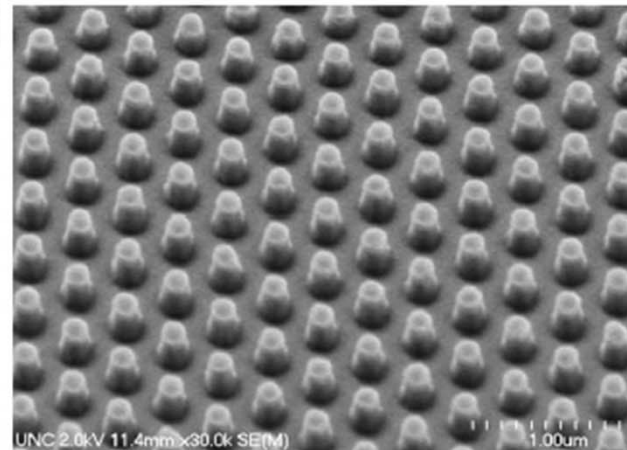
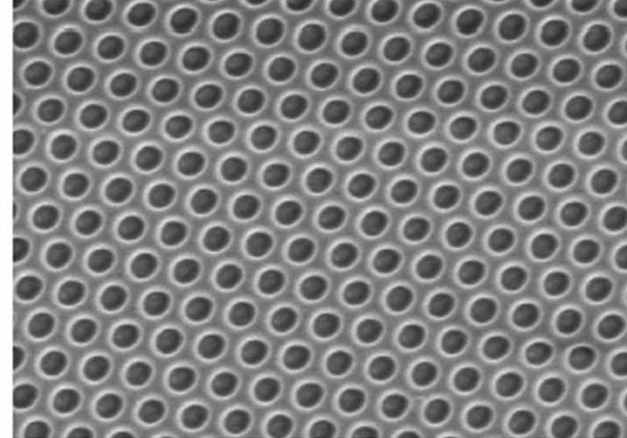
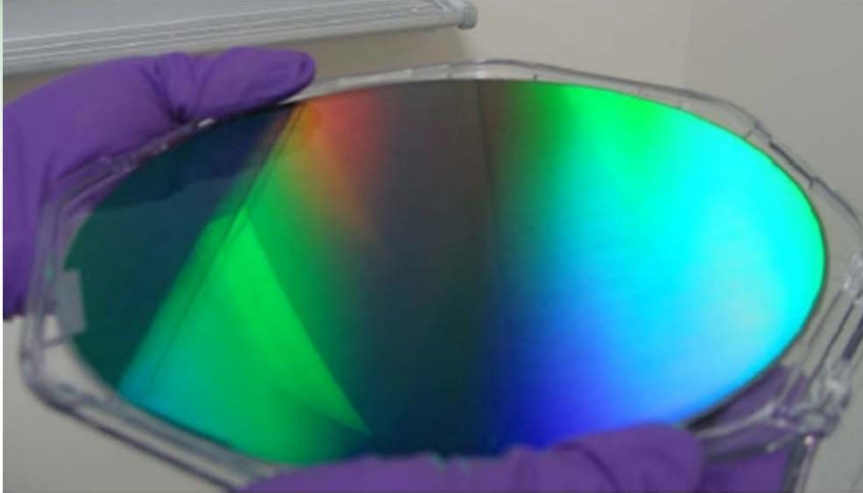
Rolland, DeSimone et al., Direct fabrication and harvesting of monodisperse, shape-specific nanobiomaterials, *J Am Chem Soc.* 127 10096 (2005)

CCNE: Carolina

Program Area: Multifunctional Therapeutics and *In Vivo* Imaging

# Organic Nanoparticles via PRINT (Particle Replication in Non-wetting Templates)

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- 8 inch wafer, canonical posts, each post is 160 nm at top tapered to 200 nm at bottom to facilitate harvesting;
- Generates 8 mgs / wafer
- Micrographs show nanoparticles on medical adhesive harvesting layer at 45° angle.

Non-wetting substrate and PFPE mold enable gentle fabrication of organic materials; rigorous control of shape, size, and chemical structure

# Progress in 2007

- Develop uniform strategies towards technology transfer and data sharing among the centers
- Propagate caLAB software model for data management
- Anticipated path towards product and clinical use:
  - Clinical trials of bio-barcode assay for prostate cancer detection
  - Human clinical trials of integrin-targeted nanoparticles loaded with gadolinium
  - Human clinical trials of integrin-targeted nanoparticles loaded with fumagilin for blocking of tumor induced angiogenesis
  - Large animal studies of aptamer-targeted nanoparticles for the treatment of prostate cancer
  - Commercialization of “smart” nanoparticle platform technology and selection of pharmaceutical company partner for further development



# The Alliance Website: <http://nano.cancer.gov>

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**Nanotech Highlights**

[Request for Applications RFA-CA-06-010](#)  
Fellowships in Cancer Nanotechnology Research  
Receipt Date: November 16, 2005

[Nanotechnology in Cancer Spotlighted at NSTI Nanotech 2005](#)  
Speaker: Gregory Downing, D.O., Ph.D., National Cancer Institute

[NCI NCI Solicitation NOT-CA-05-011](#)  
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[DNA Nanoparticles Deliver Genes Intravenously](#) Aug 1

[Nanostructured Scaffold Growing New Bladder Tissue](#) Aug 1

[Nanofluidics Produces Million-Fold Concentration of Proteins](#) Aug 1

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