Therapeutic promises of cell-derived vesicles (CDVs) as mRNA delivery platform

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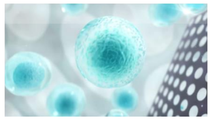
Introduction

Synthetic vehicles such as lipid nanoparticles (LNPs) and polymers commonly used for RNA delivery exhibit considerable safety concerns. Efficient delivery of RNA therapeutics to various non-hepatic tissues also remains the major challenge. Cell-derived vesicles (CDVs) produced by serial extrusion of diverse human cells are emerging as a novel delivery solution for RNA therapeutics due to their superior biocompatibility and capability to cross diverse tissue barriers. The unique scalability of CDVs also distinguishes them from any other existing vesicle technologies.

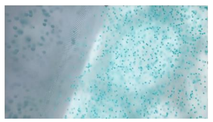
BioDrone™ Technology

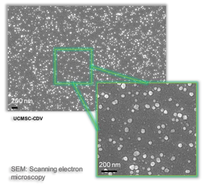
Human cells
- Most biocompatible substance
- Excellent therapeutic potential
- Diverse manipulation available

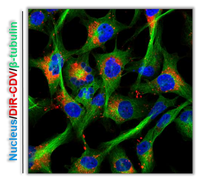


Extrusion

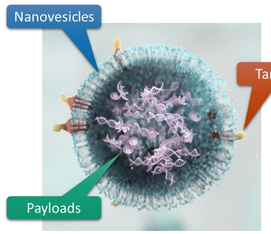
Nanovesicles (CDVs)
- Minimize safety issues
- Inherit cellular components
- Enhanced manufacturability







Non-viral Delivery via Nanovesicles
- Highly biocompatible with low toxicity and immunogenicity
- Nanosized vesicles crossing various cellular and tissue barriers
- Easily scalable fitting cGMP applications

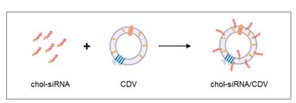


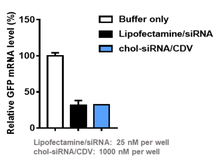
Flexible Payload Design
- Nucleic acids (RNA/DNA), protein cargo
- Therapeutics loaded on or inside the vesicles
- Membrane structure providing protection from rapid degradation

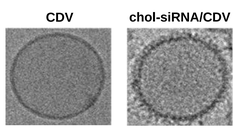
Tissue-specific Targeting
- Precision targeting toward the brain, tumor, and other challenging tissues
- Tissue-specific ligands attached to surface
- Robust engineering enabled via unique anchor proteins

RNA Therapeutics Loading

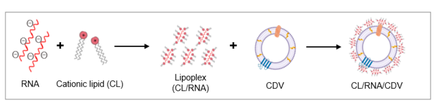
1. Integration of Lipid-conjugated RNAs

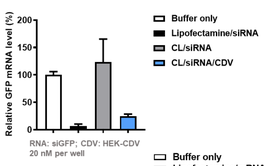


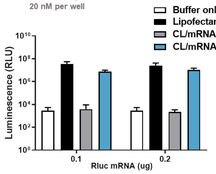


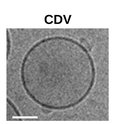


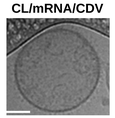
2. Complexation with Cationic Reagents





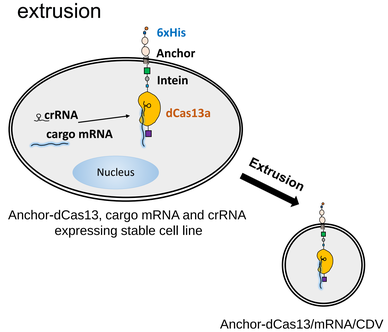






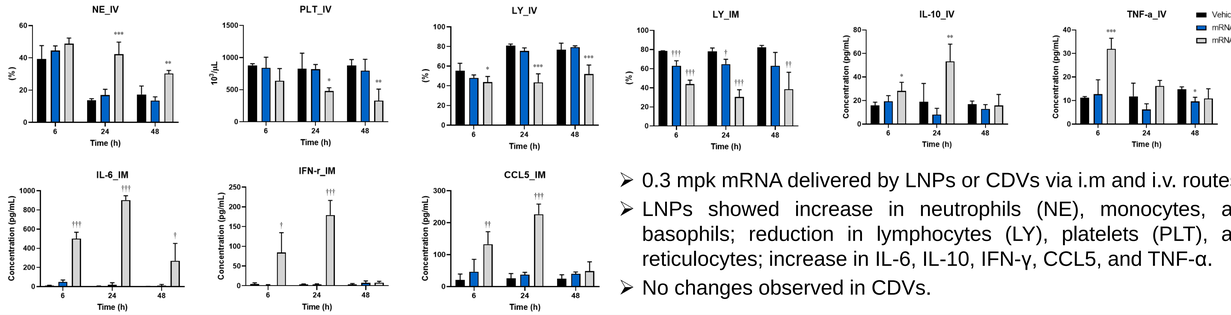
3. Encapsulation by Genetic Engineering

- Engineered cells expressing RNA binding motifs fused to anchor proteins of CDVs
- RNA therapeutics enriched in CDVs upon extrusion



Safety

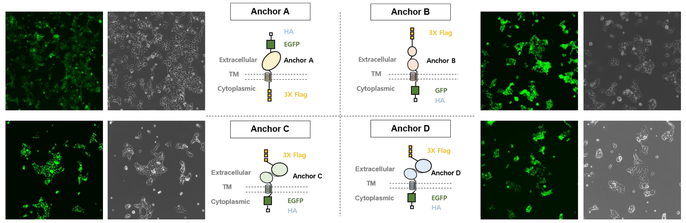
CDVs vs. LNPs (Hematology and Cytokine Analysis)



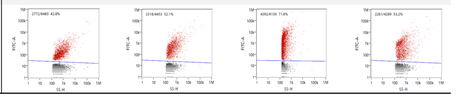
- 0.3 mpk mRNA delivered by LNPs or CDVs via i.m and i.v. routes
- LNPs showed increase in neutrophils (NE), monocytes, and basophils; reduction in lymphocytes (LY), platelets (PLT), and reticulocytes; increase in IL-6, IL-10, IFN-γ, CCL5, and TNF-α.
- No changes observed in CDVs.

Targeted Delivery

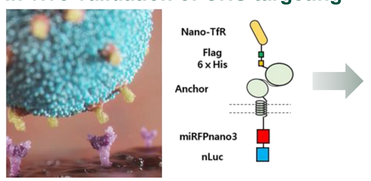
Identification & validation of CDV anchors



Subcellular origin	Plasma membrane		Lysosome	
Gene name	Anchor A	Anchor B	Anchor C	Anchor D
Percentage of GFP (+) particles (corrected ratio)	42	51	66	52
GFP quantification (GFP ng/ µg protein)	0.40	2.13	0.75	0.88
GFP/CDV* *in GFP positive CDVs	31	152	122	51



In vivo validation of CNS targeting



- Ligands with high affinity against target tissues can be decorated on CDV surfaces via robust anchor proteins.
- CNS targeting strategy – peptides, antibodies, or nanobodies against common targets (transferrin receptor, insulin receptor, low-density lipoprotein (LDL) receptor, etc.)
- >10x enhanced penetration across the blood-brain-barrier (BBB) was observed.
- CNS-targeted CDVs can be used to deliver mRNA and siRNA therapeutics for various CNS disorders.

Partnering Opportunities

Local Delivery of RNA Therapeutics
- miRNA
- Dry AMD and other retinal diseases
- In vivo safety, efficacy

Targeted Delivery of RNA Therapeutics
- mRNA
- Genetic disorders, neurodegeneration
- Enhanced CNS targeting

Targeted Gene Delivery in Diverse Applications
- mRNA, DNA, siRNA, miRNA
- CNS, cancer, rare diseases
- BioDrones™ tailored to multiple targets

With proven safety and versatility, the BioDrone™ technology will expedite the development of various RNA-based therapeutics for CNS disorders, rare diseases, and many other debilitating human diseases. We're open for R&D collaboration, co-development, and standard licensing agreement.

For partnering information: bd@mdimune.com; swoh@mdimune.com