

Core cross-linked polymeric micelles based on polypept(o)ides: from secondary structure formation of polypeptides to functional cross-linking strategies for polymeric micelles

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Citation

Bauer, T. A. (2022, June 9). Core cross-linked polymeric micelles based on polypept(o)ides: from secondary structure formation of polypeptides to functional cross-linking strategies for polymeric micelles. Retrieved from https://hdl.handle.net/1887/3307845

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- 1. Secondary structure formation affects the ring-opening polymerization of *N*-carboxyanhydrides and governs the self-assembly of thiol-reactive amphiphilic block copolypept(o)ides. (This thesis)
- Controlled self-assembly and purification remain the bottlenecks for the larger-scale production of core cross-linked polymeric micelles and can be addressed by micromixers and cross flow filtration techniques. (This thesis)
- 3. Functional core architectures allow for the conjugation of pro-drugs referring to redox-potential, pH value or irradiation as stimuli for drug release from polymeric micelles. (This thesis)
- 4. Release of the co-factor iron from stimuli-responsive core cross-linked polymeric micelles can induce activation of macrophages that directs for a novel class of therapeutics to resolve pathologic immune tolerance mechanisms. (This thesis)
- 5. Polypept(o)ides are a novel class of polymers with functional side- or endgroups based on endogenous amino acids providing a platform technology for technical and biomedical applications. (adapted from Klinker and Barz *Macromol. Rapid Commun.* 2015)
- 6. Nanomedicine can improve the pharmacokinetic profile of active pharmaceutical ingredients and enable the use of degradation-sensitive drugs and drug combinations. (adapted from Anselmo and Ferrari *Bioeng. Transl. Med.* 2019)
- 7. Therapeutic cargo and drug delivery technology dynamically influence each other and need to be adjusted to ensure effective delivery and release of the active pharmaceutical ingredient. (adapted from Owen *et al. Nano Today* 2012)
- 8. The investigation of drug delivery systems requires a diverse subset of analytic techniques as well as clinically relevant *in vitro* and *in vivo* models for proof-of-concept testing. (adapted from de Lázaro *et al. Nat. Mater.* 2021 and Barenholz *J. Control. Release* 2012)
- 9. Interdisciplinary research relies on communication and finding a common language of understanding.
- 10. Learning the local language provides the basis for integration into society.
- 11. Music, sports, family, and friendship together have the power to inspire innovative research and guide to success on long-term aims.