molecular pharmaceutics

editorial

Polymers for Biomedical Applications

A growing number of papers in this journal are a testament to the marriage between contemporary analytical and synthetic chemists and translational specialists. Indeed, "molecular" pharmaceutics oftentimes encompasses polymers and other macromolecular constructs of proteinaceous or unnatural origin. These targets test chemistry and its practitioners, offering significant challenges in preparation and characterization. These efforts are rewarded when the construct, if not the practitioner too, crosses the boundary of chemistry into application. This special issue broadly addresses biomedical applications with most of the examples derived from the area polymer therapeutics and/or diagnostics.

Polymer therapeutics, or polymer pharmaceutics, or any of the other names applied, benefits from the contributions of many. The issue coincides with the celebration of the 70th birthday of Professor Jindřich Kopeček. Indeed, many of the contributors gathered at the University of Utah to celebrate this event in May of this year. Dr. Kopeček has graciously agreed to trace his own journey through the field in a special preface. This article captures his insights and assessments of the field over his own personal 50 year journey. The original research papers that follow build off the foundations set by Dr. Kopeček and others. The benefits of these pioneering insights are clearly reflected in the themes and topics elaborated.

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