

# Design of Enhanced Endosomal Escape Domains for Delivery of Macromolecules into Cells

Tech ID: 24545 / UC Case 2015-010-0

## BACKGROUND

Macromolecular peptide, protein and oligonucleotide therapeutics have great potential to treat human disease; however, due to their size, they have no ability to enter cells. Peptide/Protein transduction domains (PTDs), also called cell-penetrating peptides (CPPs), promote uptake of macromolecules via endosomal macropinocytosis. However, overcoming the rate-limiting step of endosomal escape remains the major challenge.

## TECHNOLOGY DESCRIPTION

UC San Diego researchers have designed an Endosomal Escape Domain (EED) that resulted in a significant enhancement of cytoplasmic delivery in the absence of cytotoxicity. In addition they developed an assay to measure transduction into the cytoplasm to compare and contrast PTDs/CPPs.

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## OTHER INFORMATION

### KEYWORDS

drug delivery, macromolecule,  
endosomal escape, membrane  
transduction

### CATEGORIZED AS

- ▶ **Medical**
- ▶ Delivery Systems
- ▶ Research Tools

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