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Materials Today: Proceedings

Volume 19, 2019, Pages 1572-1581

2018 International Conference on Chemical Sciences and Engineering: Advance and New Materials, ICCSE 2018; Bayview Hotel MelakaMelaka; Malaysia; 7 November 2018 through 8 November 2018; Code 157391

In-Silico Selection of Aptamer : A Review on the Revolutionary Approach to Understand the Aptamer Design and Interaction Through Computational Chemistry (Conference Paper)

Zulkeflee Sabri, M.^a, Azzar Abdul Hamid, A.^b, Mariam Sayed Hitam, S.^a, Zulkhairi Abdul Rahim, M.^c

^aBioengineering Section, Universiti Kuala Lumpur Malaysian Institute of Chemical and Bioengineering Technology (UniKL MICET), Lot 1988, Bandar Vendor Taboh Naning, Alor Gajah, Melaka, 78000, Malaysia

^bDepartment of Biotechnology, Kulliyah of Science, International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM), Malaysia Jalan Sultan Ahmad Shah, Bandar Indera Mahkota Kuantan, Pahang, 25200, Malaysia

^cTechnical Foundation Section, Universiti Kuala Lumpur Malaysian Institute of Chemical and Bioengineering Technology (UniKL MICET), Malaysia

Abstract

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Aptamers are oligonucleotides and peptides with short and medium length around 15-100 nucleotides or amino acids and a molecule of interests due to its specific binding affinities to the vast array of target molecules such as ions, complex proteins and antigens up to cellular surface and cell organelles. Aptamers shows high potential of application in therapeutics and diagnostics. Aptamers are usually obtained through rigorous in-vitro screening procedures known as Systematic Evolution of Ligands by EXponential enrichment (SELEX). There are growing interests in the aptamer screening approach through computational methods such as using molecular docking and molecular modelling (MD) simulations. The approach had been increasingly popular due to minimal use of chemical and reagents, balanced with the reasonable computational costs. In-silico approaches were able to poke the details of aptamer-ligand interactions which is hard to elucidate experimentally. The authors review the successful works in screening and analysing aptamer-target complexes interactions and the effort to design the aptamers through computational simulations. The own personal experience of authors in designing a specific aptamer for Hepatitis B surface antigen through computational screening method was also discussed. In conclusion, the advancement of computational chemistry provides a promising future for the aptamers research. © 2019 Elsevier Ltd.

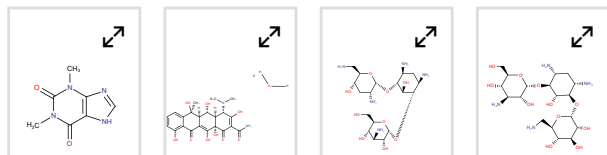
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The authors would like to thank UniKL Malaysian Institute of Chemical and Bioengineering Technology, Malaysia for providing the financial support during the preparations of the manuscript. The authors would also like to express gratitude to Mr. Hassanuddin and Mr. Ariff of Kuliyah of Science, International Islamic University Malaysia for the technical assistance and fruitful discussions during the whole computational docking and simulation process and analysis.

ISSN: 22147853

Source Type: Conference Proceeding

Original language: English

DOI: 10.1016/j.matpr.2019.11.185

Document Type: Conference Paper

Volume Editors: Sapawe N.

Publisher: Elsevier Ltd

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