Nanomaterials based In Situ Vaccine against Tumours

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Immunotherapy have revolutionized the landscape of cancer therapy, offering a potent therapeutic paradigm for treating various types of malignant tumours with remarkable success in clinic. However, the response rate and efficacy of immune are largely compromised in immune-suppressive tumours (i.e. cold tumours). Recent progresses in materials science have benefited the immunotherapeutic outcome by taking the advantage of the cargo delivery capability, immune-stimulatory activity and tumour-microenvironment-modulating property of engineered biomaterials. In this talk, I will introduce our recent progress in biomaterials based in situ vaccination for combating cold tumours.¹⁻⁸ We show that by finely engineering the structure and composition of bioactive nanoparticles, it is possible to induce immunogenic cell death while at the same time creating a favourable tumour immune microenvironment, which collectively results in a largely improved immunotherapeutic outcome with minimized adverse effect. We envision that these findings would provide new opportunities for developing novel biotechnologies that can be potentially applied for pre- and post-surgical tumour treatment.



Figure 1: Schematic illustration of in situ vaccine for tumour immunotherapy.9

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