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Introduction

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Cell-penetrating peptides (CPPs) are short peptides (in general composed of 5–30 amino acids) that can be efficiently internalized into cells and have great potential for the delivery of membrane-impermeable bioactive molecules into cells. The CPP is sometimes called a protein transduction domain (PTD) or Trojan peptide. In 1988, such a peptide was first discovered in human immunodeficiency virus type 1 (HIV-1) protein transactivator of transcription (Tat). Since then, numerous sequences of CPPs have been discovered in natural peptides/proteins such as Tat peptide and CPPs have also been artificially designed. Furthermore, the cell-penetrating mechanisms of CPPs in vitro and in vivo have been investigated, and CPPs have been used as delivery tools for drugs, peptides, proteins, nucleic acids, and nanoparticles. Several CPPs are currently under investigation in clinical trials. More than 500 research papers per year have been published since 2012 with a keyword of “CPP” or “PTD,” and numbers have reached slightly less than 1000 for the last few years. From these numbers, we can understand the usefulness and significance of CPPs.

This book describes the design, mechanism, delivery tools, and applications of CPPs. There are several books and journals’ special issues on CPPs. However, none has previously categorized such topics. On the topic of design, the classification of CPPs is first described based on their characteristics, and then, typical types of CPPs (cationic, amphipathic, and hydrophobic peptides) and Arg-rich peptides and foldamers are introduced. The topic of mechanism deals with important factors of CPPs, such as peptide secondary structure, cellular uptake, endosomal escape, and pharmacokinetics in vivo. The topic of delivery tools is categorized based on cargos, drugs, peptides and proteins, nucleic acids, and morpholino oligomers. Furthermore, CPPs assisting in the efficient delivery of nano-sized drug delivery systems, polymeric micelles, and lipid-based nanoparticles are introduced as delivery tools. The final topic of applications covers oral delivery and intranasal delivery using CPPs, CPPs in clinical trials, and applications in plants. Table 1.1 lists the representative

CPPs introduced in this book. We hope that this book will be useful for readers studying and treating CPPs now and in the future.

Table 1.1 Lists of CPPs introduced in this book.

CPP	Sequence	Ref.
[C12-R4]	Cyclic(CXRRRR) X: (R,S)-2-amino tetradecanoic acid	[1]
[R6W3]	Cyclic(CRRWRRWRR)	[1]
A2-17	LRKLRRKLLRLWKLRKR	[2]
A2-17KR	LRRLRRRLRLWRLRRR	[2]
AA3H	MASIWVGHRG	[3]
Ac ₅ c ^{NH₂} peptide	(RRX) ₃ X: Ac ₅ c ^{NH₂} , 1,3-diaminocyclopentanecarboxylic acid	[4]
Ac ₅ c ^{Gu} peptide	(RRX) ₃ X: Ac ₅ c ^{Gu} , 1-amino-3-guanidinocyclopentanecarboxylic acid	[4]
Ac ₆ c ^{NH₂} peptide	(RRX) ₃ X: Ac ₆ c ^{NH₂} , 1,4-diaminocyclohexanecarboxylic acid	[5]
Amphipathic β-peptide	[(S,S)-ACHC-β ³ hArg-β ³ hArg] ₃ ACHC: <i>trans</i> -2-aminocyclohexanecarboxylic acid β ³ hArg: β ³ -homoarginine	[6]
Api ^{C₂Gu} peptide	(RRX) ₃ X: Api ^{C₂Gu} , 4-aminopiperidine-4-carboxylic acid derivative	[7]
αR7W2	RRRWRRWRR	[8]
ARF (1-22)	MVRRFLVTLRIRACGPPRVRV	[9]
ARF (19-31)	RVRVFVWHIPRLT	[9]
β-Heptaarginine	(β ³ hArg) ₇ β ³ hArg: β ³ -homoarginine	[10]
β-Heptalysine	(β ³ hLys) ₇ β ³ hLys: β ³ -homolysine	[10]
β-Tat	β ³ hArg-(β ³ hLys) ₂ -(β ³ hArg) ₂ -β ³ hGln-(β ³ hArg) ₃	[11]
Bac ₁₅₋₂₄	RRIRPRPPRLPRPRPRPLPFPRPG	[12]
Bip2	VPTLK	[13]
Block3	LLULLULLUGGRRRRRRRRR U: Aib, 2-aminoisobutyric acid	[14]
BP100	KKLFK KKKILKYL	[15]
bPrPp (1-30)	MVSKSIGSWILVLFVAMWSDVGLCKKRPKP	[16]
Butyl-TH	AGYLLGH _B INLH _B H _B LAH _B LUH _B H _B IL U: Aib, 2-aminoisobutyric acid; H _B : 3-butylhistidine	[17]
C105Y	CSIPPEVKFNKPFVYLI	[18]
CADY	GLWRALWRLLRSLWRLLWRA-cysteamide	[19]
CH2R4H2C	CHHRRRRRHHHC	[20]

(Continued)

Table 1.1 (Continued)

CPP	Sequence	Ref.
cLK	Cyclic Ac- <u>C</u> KKLLKLLKKLLKLGLKKLLKLLKKLLK <u>L</u> Crosslink between the side chains of <u>C</u> and <u>K</u>	[21]
CPP12	Cyclic(FXR ₄) X: L-2-naphthylalanine	[22]
CPP2	DSLKSYWYLQKFSWR	[23]
CPP44	KRPTMRFRYTWNPMK	[23]
CPP9	Cyclic(fXRrRrQ) X: L-2-naphthylalanine	[24]
Cyclic [W(RW) ₄]	Cyclic[W(RW) ₄]	[25]
Cyclic R ₉	Cyclic(CRRRRRRRRR)	[26]
Cyt c ⁷⁷⁻¹⁰¹	GTKMIFVGIKKKEERADLIAYLKKA	[27]
D-Oligoarginine	r _n	[28]
D-Tat ⁴⁹⁻⁵⁷	Rkkrqrqr	[28]
DPV1047	VKRGLKLRHVRPRVTRMDV	[29]
DPV3	RKKRRRESRKKRRRES	[29]
dTat-Sar-EED4	rrrqrkrXXXXXGWWG X: Sar, sarcosine	[30]
FHV coat ³⁵⁻⁴⁹	RRRRNRTRNRRRVR	[31]
GALA	WEAALAEALAEALAEHLAEALAEALEALAA	[32]
H5WYG	GLFHAIAHFIHGGWHGLIHGWYG	[33]
HA2	GDIMGEWGNEIFGAAGFLG	[34]
HAad	IWLTALKFLGKAAAKAXAKQXLSKL X: L-2-aminoadipic acid	[35]
hCT ⁹⁻³² -br	LGTYTQDFNK(X)FHTFPQTAIGVGAP X: PKKKRKVEDPGVGFA	[36]
HIV-1 Rev ³⁴⁻⁵⁰	TRQARRNRRRRWRERQR	[31]
HL	CHHHHHRRWQWRHHHHHC	[37]
HR9	CHHHHHRRRRRRRRHHHHHC	[38]
HTLV-II Rex ⁴⁻¹⁶	TRRQRTRRARNR	[31]
Hydrophobic MPS	VTVLGALAGVGVG	[39]
K10H16	KKKKKKKKGHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH	[40]
KAibA	poly(KUA) U: Aib, 2-aminoisobutyric acid	[41]
KALA	WEAKLAKALAKALAKHLAKALAKALKACEA	[42]
KLA	(KLAKLAK) ₂	[43]
KLA10	KALKKLLAKWLAAKALL	[44]

(Continued)

Table 1.1 (Continued)

CPP	Sequence	Ref.
L-Pro ^{Gu} peptide	(RRX) ₃ X: L-Pro ^{Gu} , 4-guanidinoproline	[45]
L1-7	Cyclic FIDIIKILLI Crosslink between the side chains of <u>D</u> and <u>K</u>	[46]
L17E	IWLTALKFLGKHAAKHEAKQQLSKL	[47]
L6	RRWQWR	[48]
LAH4	KKALLALALHHLAHLALHLALALKKA	[49]
LAH4-L1	KKALLAHALHLLALLALHLAHALKKA	[50]
LH	LHHLLHHLHLLHH	[51]
LK	LKKLLKLLKLLKL	[52]
LTP	RRKRRKRRKRRKKKAC	[53]
M1	TFYGGRPKRNNFLRGIR	[54]
M918	MVTVLFRRLRIRRACGPPRVRV	[55]
MAP	KLALKLALKALKALKLA	[56]
MAP(Aib)	KLULKULKULKAULKLU U: Aib, 2-aminoisobutyric acid	[57]
Melittin	GIGAVLKVLTTGLPALISWIKRKRQQ	[58]
Mitoparan	INLKKLAKLUKKIL U: Aib, 2-aminoisobutyric acid	[59]
MPG	GALFLGFLGAAGSTMGAWSQPKKKRKV	[60]
MTS	AAVALLPAVLLALLAP	[61]
MTS1	AAVLLPVLLAAP	[62]
N-hxg9	(N-hxg) ₉ N-hxg: N-guanidinoethylglycine	[28]
NF51	δ-(Stearyl-AGYLLG)OINLKALAALAKKIL O: Orn, L-ornithine	[63]
NF55	δ-(Stearyl-AGYLLG)OINLKALAALAKAIL O: Orn, L-ornithine	[64]
NF70	δ-(Arachidyl-HHHHYHHG)OILLKALKALAKAIL O: Orn, L-ornithine	[65]
Oligoarginine	R _n	[28, 31]
Oligohistidine	H _n	[66]
Oligolysine	K _n	[67]
Oligourea3	iPrNHCO-VUHUWUVUHUWURUγV γV: γ-valine	[68]
p18	LSTAADMQGVVTDGMASG	[69]

(Continued)

Table 1.1 (Continued)

CPP	Sequence	Ref.
P4	LGAQSNF	[70]
PenetraMax	KWFKIQMQIRRWKNKR	[71]
Penetratin	RQIKIWFQNRRMKWKK	[72]
Pep-1	KETWWETWWTEWSQPKKKRKV	[73]
Pep-7	SDLWEMMMVSLACQY	[74]
Pept1	PLILLRLLRGQF	[75]
PF14	Stearyl-AGYLLGKLLLOOLAAAALOOLL O: Orn, L-ornithine	[76]
PF3	Stearyl-AGYLLGKINLKALAALAKKIL	[77]
PF6	Stearyl-AGYLLGK(X)INLKALAALAKKIL X: 4-trifluoromethylquinoline-based derivative	[78]
PFV	PFVYLI	[79]
PG-1	RGGRLCYCRRRFCVCVGR	[80]
pHLIC	Cyclic(EEEEWWWWWC)	[81]
pHLIP	AAEQNPYWWARYADWLFTTPLLLDLALLVDADEGTCG	[82]
Pip6a	RXRRBRXRXYQFLIRXRBRXRB X: aminohexanoyl; B: β -alanine	[83]
ppTG1	GLFKALLKLLKSLWKLLKA	[84]
ppTG20	GLFRALLRLLRSLWRLLRA	[84]
PR20	PRPRPRPRPRPRPRPRPRPRPRPRPRPRPRPRPRPR	[85]
PreS2-TLM	PLSSIFSRIQDP	[86]
PTD4	YARAAARQARA	[87]
pVEC	LLIILRRRIRKQAHASK	[88]
R ₆ /W ₃	RRWRRRWRR	[89]
R ₉ F ₂ C	RRRRRRRRRFFC	[90]
RGE	RGERPPR	[91]
RICK	Kwllrwlsrllrwlrlwlg	[92]
RLA	Rlarlarlarlar	[93]
RRU peptide	(RRU) _n (n = 1–6) U: Aib, 2-aminoisobutyric acid	[94]
RRX peptide	(RRX) ₃ X: (S)- α -methylleucine, 1-aminocyclopentanecarboxylic acid, or (3S,4S)-1-amino-3,4-dimethoxycyclopentanecarboxylic acid	[95]
RW16	RRWRRWRRWRRWRR	[96]
RWRWR	RWVRVpGOWIRQ O: Orn, L-ornithine	[97]

(Continued)

Table 1.1 (Continued)

CPP	Sequence	Ref.
RXR	(R-Ahx-R) ₄ -Ahx-(β-Ala) Ahx: 6-aminohexanoic acid; β-Ala: β-alanine	[98]
SAP	VRLPPPVRLLPPPVRLLPPP	[99]
SAP(E)	VELPPPVELPPPVELPPP	[100]
sC18	GLRKRLRKFRNKIKEK	[101]
SLP F ₄ R ₄	FFFFRRRR	[102]
SLP R ₂ F ₄ R ₂	RRFFFFRR	[102]
SP	RPKPQQFGLM	[103]
Stearyl-oligoarginine	Stearyl-R _n	[104, 105]
Stitched peptide	<u>X</u> ₁ RRR <u>X</u> ₂ RRRRRR <u>X</u> ₃ <u>X</u> ₁ : (S)-2-(4-pentenyl)alanine; <u>X</u> ₂ : 2,2-bis-(4-pentenyl)glycine; <u>X</u> ₃ : (S)-2-(7-octenyl)alanine Crosslinks between the side chains of <u>X</u> ₁ and <u>X</u> ₂ and <u>X</u> ₂ and <u>X</u> ₃	[106]
SVS-1	KVKVKVKVpPTKVVKVKVK	[107]
SynB1	RGGRLSYRRRFSTSTGR	[108]
Tachyplesin	KWCFRVCYRGICYRRCR	[109]
Tat ⁴⁸⁻⁶⁰	GRKKRRQRRRPPQ	[110]
Tat ⁴⁹⁻⁵⁷	RKKRRQRRR	[110]
TH	AGYLLGHINLHHLAHLUHHIL U: Aib, 2-aminoisobutyric acid	[111]
TK	AGYLLGKINLKKLAKLUKKIL U: Aib, 2-aminoisobutyric acid	[112]
TLM	PLSSIFSRIGDP	[113]
TP10	AGYLLGKINLKALAALAKKIL	[114]
Transportan	GWTLNSAGYLLGKINLKALAALAKKIL	[115]
VP22	DAATATRGRSAASRPTQRPRAPARSASRRPVE	[116]
Vpr ⁵⁵⁻⁸²	TGVEALIRILQQLLFHFHFRIGCRHSRIG	[117]
VT5	DPKGDPKGVTVTVTVTVTGKDPKPD	[118]
WRAP1	LLWRLWRLWRLWRL	[119]
WRAP5	LLRLLRWWRLRL	[119]

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