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Creation of TNF receptor I-specific antagonist, and its therapeutic efficacy for autoimmune

Medical Engineering and Informatics

In the onset and exacerbation of disease, hundreds of proteins change in quality and quantity and identification of

drug target proteins has been attracted a great deal of attention by exploring these disease-related proteins.

Because the functions of protein are regulated with the manner binding to several receptors, unexpected side-effects would happen with complete inhibition or activation of the receptor signaling such as cytokines. Thus, it is essential to develop a novel drug developing technology, which regulates the functions of bio-molecule definitely for therapeutic purposes. In this regard, we have aimed to create the protein drugs focusing on the tumor

necrosis factor (TNF), which binds two kinds of TNF super-family receptors (TNFR1 and TNFR2) and regulates the onset and exacerbation of autoimmune diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis and multiple sclerosis. Recently, we have succeeded to create several TNF receptor-selective agonists and antagonists by phage display techniques which can substitute aimed amino acids to the other, randomly. In this study, we introduce about the unique

which can substitute aimed amino acids to the other, randomly. In this study, we introduce about the unique TNFR1-selective antagonist, which can only inhibit the function via TNFR1 correlating with the onset and exacerbation of autoimmune disease. This TNFR1-selective antagonist doesn't inhibit the host defense function via TNFR2, therefore, it can overcome the risk of infectious disease, which is a major side-effect of anti-TNF therapy. These results suggest that the approach of regulating protein function in molecular level is attractive to create safe and effective medical drug reducing side-effects.