Medicilon Nucleic Acid Drugs R&D Service Platform

Medicilon nucleic acid drug R&D platform provides an integrated and comprehensive solution that covers drug discovery, CMC and preclinical research services. Oriented with a rigorous scientific approach, an open-minded teamwork spirit and state-of-the-art equipment, our integrated solution will help clients and partners to fulfil their research and development mission for cutting-edge and innovative nucleic acid drugs. Our service platforms include nucleic acid drug discovery, screening and preclinical research services of pharmacology, DMPK and toxicity study for both pharmaceutical companies and academic research institutions.

Popular Types of Nucleic Acid Drugs

| ASO | siRNA | mRNA | Aptamer |

Advantages of Nucleic Acid Drugs

Attributed by its fast and intuitive design of base sequences, the development of nucleic acid drugs is featured with simple materials, convenient preparation processes and affordable production costs, which will greatly shorten the drug development cycle, making it possible to customize individual treatment plans. Hence, it offers a feasible solution for rare diseases and other problems currently plagued.

Synthesis & Chemical Modifications of Nucleic Acid Drugs

Monomer synthesis
Oligonucleotide synthesis
Delivery system synthesis
Oligo conjugate synthesis

**Synthesis** | **Modification**

Sugar modification
Nucleobase modification
Backbone modification
Delivery system modification

Bioactivity Screening of Nucleic Acid Drugs

- Evaluation of binding between siRNA-GALNAc and targeted liver cells (ELISA, SPR, FP, FACS, MSD, Confocal microscope)
- Evaluation of decrease in target mRNA/protein level (RT-PCR, WB)
- Evaluation of cell phenotypes and functional regulation (Cell proliferation, Migration, Proteomics, and Transcriptome analysis).

| Q-PCR | Cell proliferation | Western Blot | Cell migration |
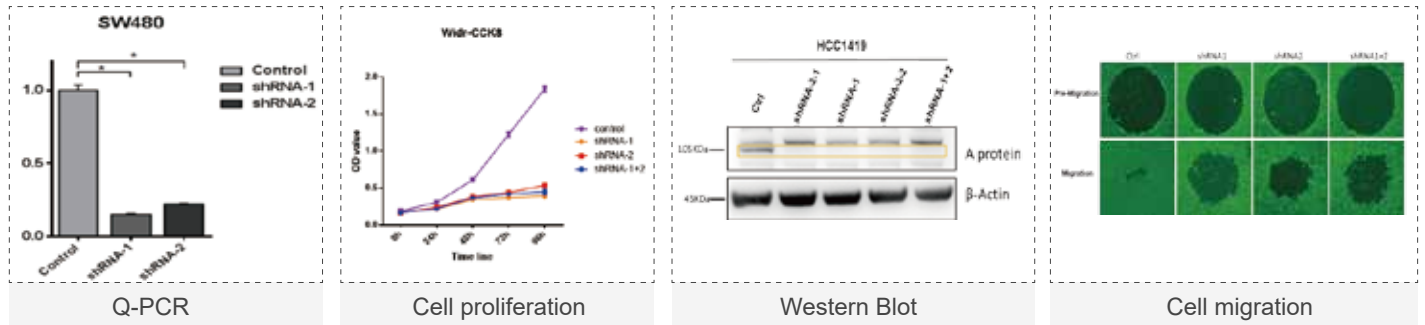
- Evaluation of off-target effect

  - Searching for potential off-target mRNA/protein in the database, such as NCBI, nucleotide BLAST.
  - Unbiased analysis applying RNAseq, RNA Microarray, or targeted panel analysis using Nanostring.
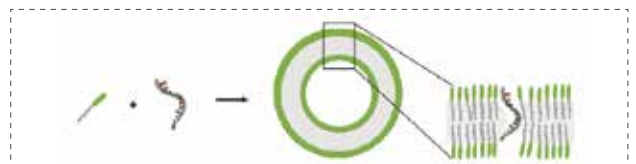

| RNA Seq | RNA Microarray |
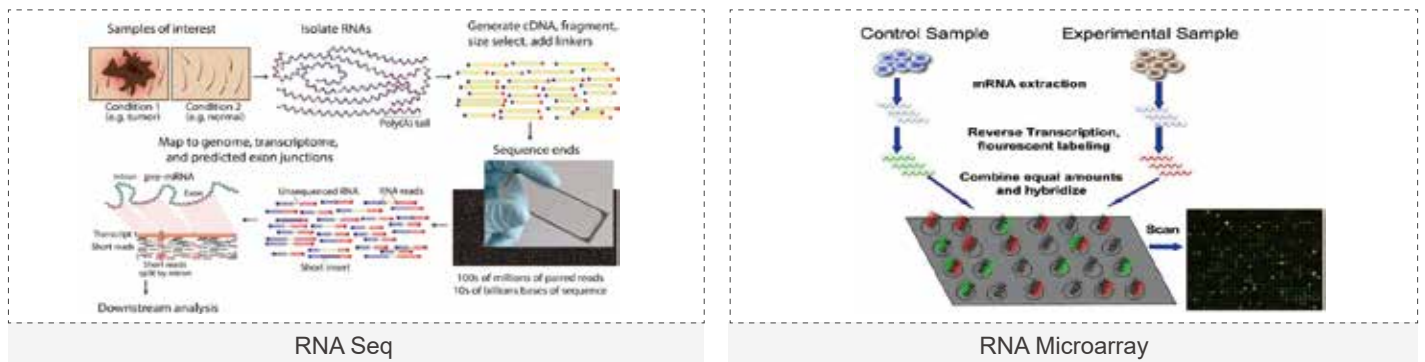
Process R&D of Nucleic Acid Drugs

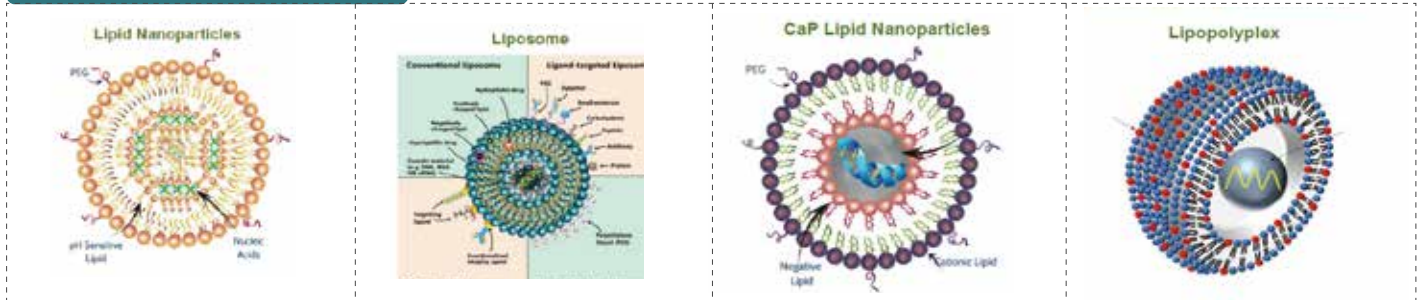| Select starting materials | Choose starting materials with traits like easy to purchase, mild toxicity, good quality stability. |
Process R&D of nucleic acid	Develop stable and green synthesis routes with low cost and high security.
Quality Control	Up-to-date quality control system with complete technical standard.
Select starting materials	End to end service ensuring smooth transfer.

Nucleic Acid Drugs Preparation Study

Due to their low immunogenicity, biocompatibility, and high encapsulation efficiency for oligonucleotide molecules, lipids and their derivatives have become the go-to delivery systems for nucleic acid drugs that have attracted much attention in recent years. The system is positively charged in the physiological environment.

Picture Source：Science China Life Sciences volume 62,pages333-348(2019)

The negatively charged nucleic acid molecules are encapsulated by electrostatic action, and the positively charged surface can also help the entire carrier system to combine with the cell membrane of the target cell, thereby playing a delivery role.
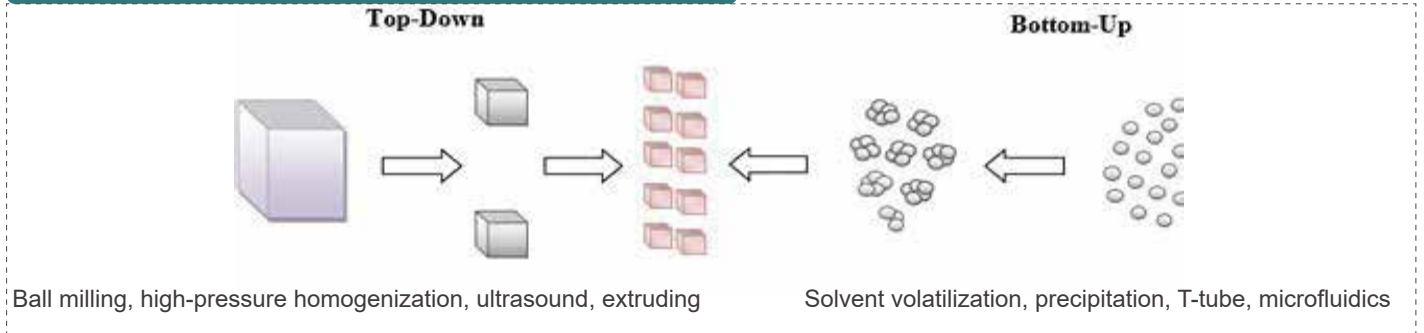
Common delivery systems

Lipid Nanoparticles

Liposome

CaP Lipid Nanoparticles

Lipopolyplex

Medicilon's preparation methods of nanoparticles

Top-Down

Bottom-Up

Ball milling, high-pressure homogenization, ultrasound, extruding

Solvent volatilization, precipitation, T-tube, microfluidics

Traits of successful delivery systems

Easily modified, easily synthesized, easily produced. The on-target and off-target ratio of delivery should be within an acceptable range. The effective dose must be significantly lower than the toxic dose. The bioactivity of the nucleic acid should be consistent from batch to batch. In most clinical cases, repeated administration does not result in loss of efficacy or safety.
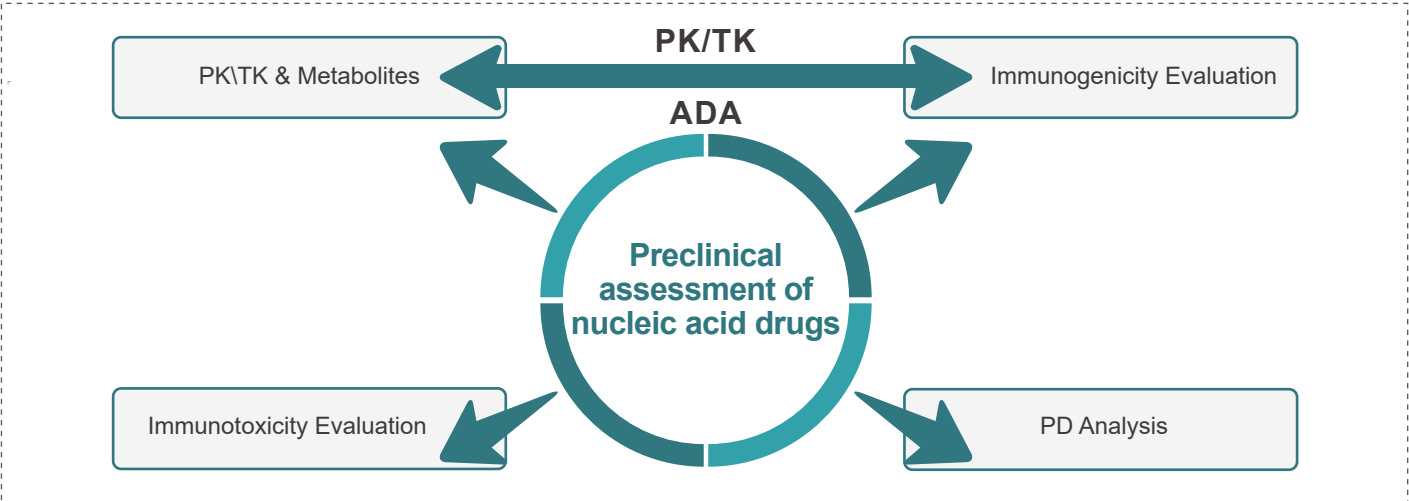
Medicilon's nanoparticle R&D lab

Spray dryer

Agilent InfinityLab Bio LC

Thermo U3000+CAD detector Thermo

Agilent biological analyze

ZETA nanoparticle Potentiostat

Nucleic acid lipid system R&D	• Formulation: drug to lipid ratio, solvent screening, aqueous to organic solvent ratio
	• Process: Preparation methods
	• Stability
	• Dosage form screening

Bioanalysis of Nucleic Acid Drugs

|	
PK/TK Analysis	• Molecular hybridization-enzyme assay (H-ELISA) • Molecular hybridization-electrochemiluminescence analysis (H-ECL) • Reverse transcription fluorescence quantitative PCR (RT-qPCR) • Quantitative PCR (qPCR) • Digital Microdrop (ddPCR) • LC-MS/MS Platform
Immunogenicity Analysis	• Total Anti-Drug Antibody (ADA) Assay: MSD • Neutralizing antibody (Nab) analysis: CLBA or Cell-based Assay
PD or TOX-related Cytokine & Biomarker	• Singleplex (based on various LBA technologies) • Multiplex (Luminex, MSD, FACS CBA technologies) • FACS

❖ Solutions for Nucleic Acid Drugs Bioanalysis

| LC-MS/MS/HRMS Platform	qPCR/ddPCR Platform	Hybridization-EIA/ECL Platform
• High specificity • High sensitivity: ng level • Advantages: end product detectable	• High specificity • Sensitivity: Detectable within 1 log copy • Advantage: More Sensitive	• Sensitivity: pM level • Advantages: variable marking strategy; personalized reaction strategy.

Medicilon case: siRNA plasma quantification (LC-MS/MS)

Compound A siRNA-AS linearity

Compound name: AS-(1)
Correlation coefficient: r = 0.996518, r^2 = 0.993049
Calibration curve: 148.221 * x + -47.6015
Response type: External Std, Area
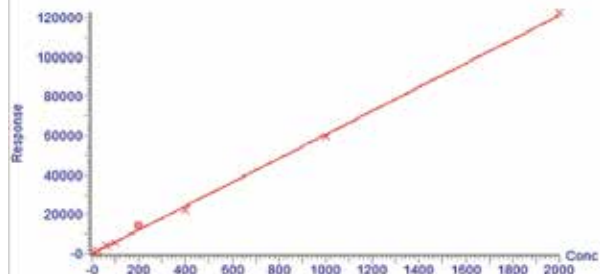Curve type: Linear, Origin: Exclude, Weighting: 1/x^2, Axis trans: None
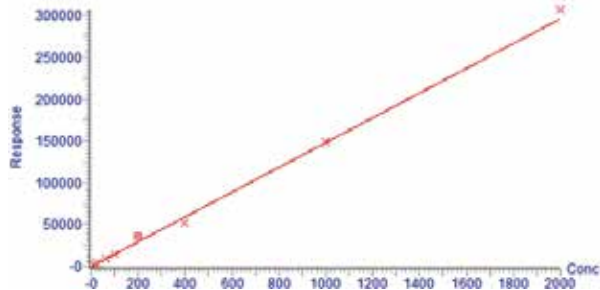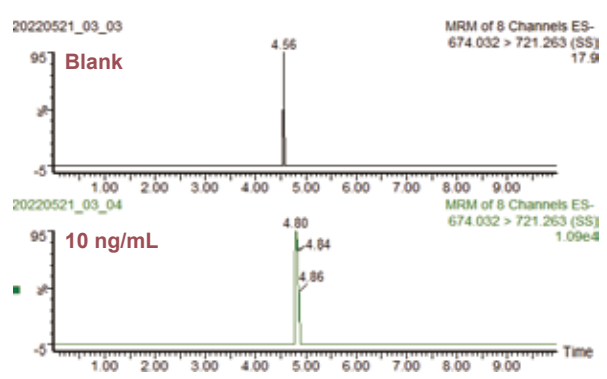
Compound A siRNA-AS
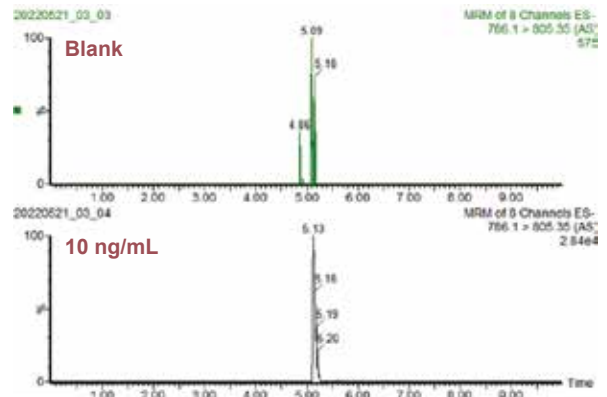
Compound A siRNA-SS linearity

Compound name: SS
Correlation coefficient: r = 0.996830, r^2 = 0.993670
Calibration curve: 60.5152 * x + 42.2946
Response type: External Std, Area
Curve type: Linear, Origin: Exclude, Weighting: 1/x^2, Axis trans: None

Compound A siRNA-SS

- Sensitivity: 1-10 ng/mL
- 20 µL plasma
- 1344 injections (runs)
- Good reproducibility
- CV< 10%
- LC-MS/MS
- 1 ng/mL feasible by MS

Medicilon case: siRNA and metabolite in rodent plasma and liver

Plasma-30 mg/kg
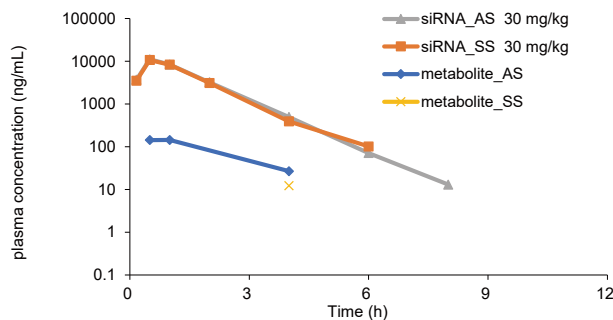
Liver-30 mg/kg
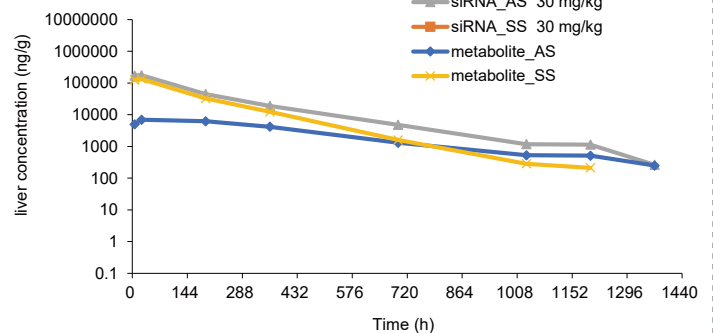
Administration Route	Dose Level mg/kg	Analyte	AUC$_{last\_liver}$ hr*ng/g	AUC$_{last\_Plasma}$ hr*ng/g	AUC$_{last\_liver}$/AUC$_{last\_Plasma}$
SC	30	siRNA_AS	32976645	17893	1843
SC	300	siRNA_AS	94450628	219970	429

Pharmacokinetics Research of Nucleic Acid Drugs

⌄ Medicilon Liver Biopsy Guided By B-ultrasound In Cynomolgus Monkeys Platform

The development of gene therapy and nucleic acid drugs has made the establishment of monkey models and related research a hot topic. Due to the high similarity of genetic, morphological, physiological and biochemical characteristics with humans, non-human primates, especially cynomolgus monkeys, are closest to humans in terms of evolution, and have outstanding advantages in model construction, disease mechanism research, and drug development. Many disease models have been established so far.
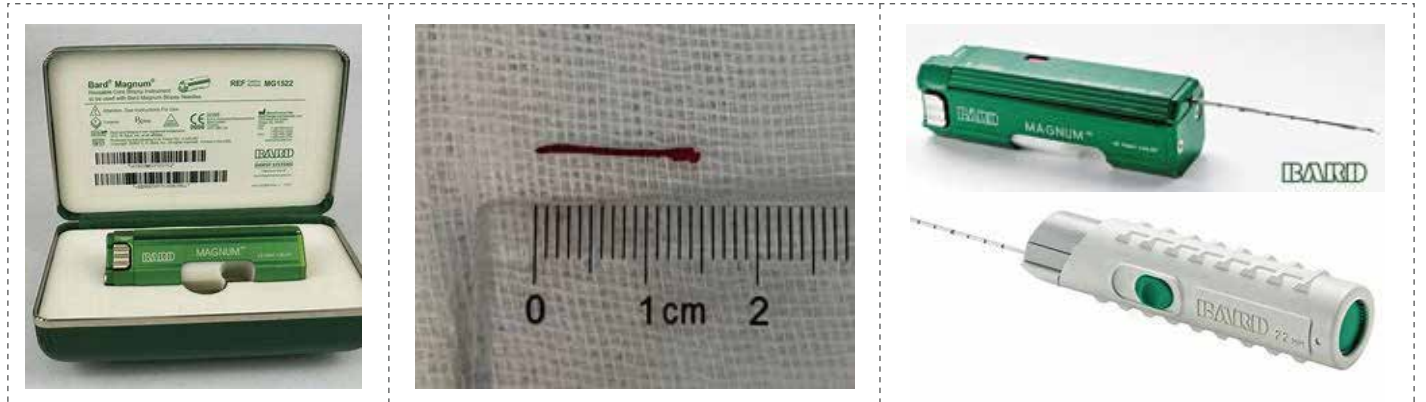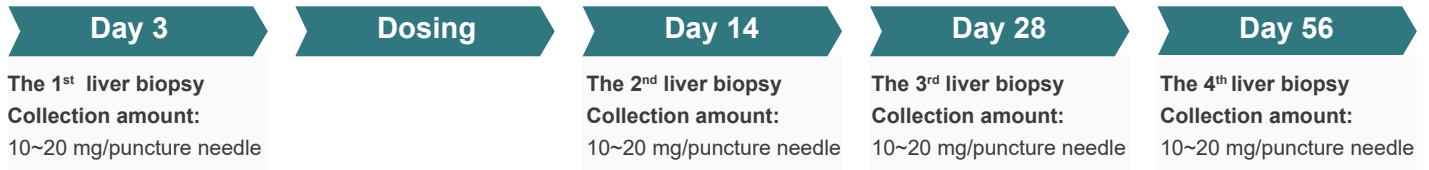
In the long-term dynamic experimental observation of the changes in the liver disease model of cynomolgus monkeys, due to the limitations of animal disease models and experimental objective conditions, researchers mostly obtain liver tissue pathological analysis and diagnosis of these disease models through blind puncture or surgical sampling, which not only causes great trauma to animals, complicated postoperative care, but also easily leads to various complications, which is not conducive to long-term observation of disease models.

The Medicilon Liver Biopsy Guided By B-ultrasound In Cynomolgus Monkeys Platform can avoid the large blood vessels and gallbladder to the greatest extent, and has the advantages of less trauma, safe and simple puncture operation, accurate positioning, and better postoperative recovery. Medicilon Liver Biopsy Guided By B-ultrasound In Cynomolgus Monkeys Platform can dynamically display the whole process of biopsy needle insertion and material collection in real time, which greatly improves the success rate of puncture and the accuracy of experimental results. At the same time, it can be used for the preclinical PK evaluation of gene therapy drugs, which also promotes the improvement of experimental animal welfare, and provides accurate pathological basis for the dynamic monitoring and modeling progress of various liver disease models.
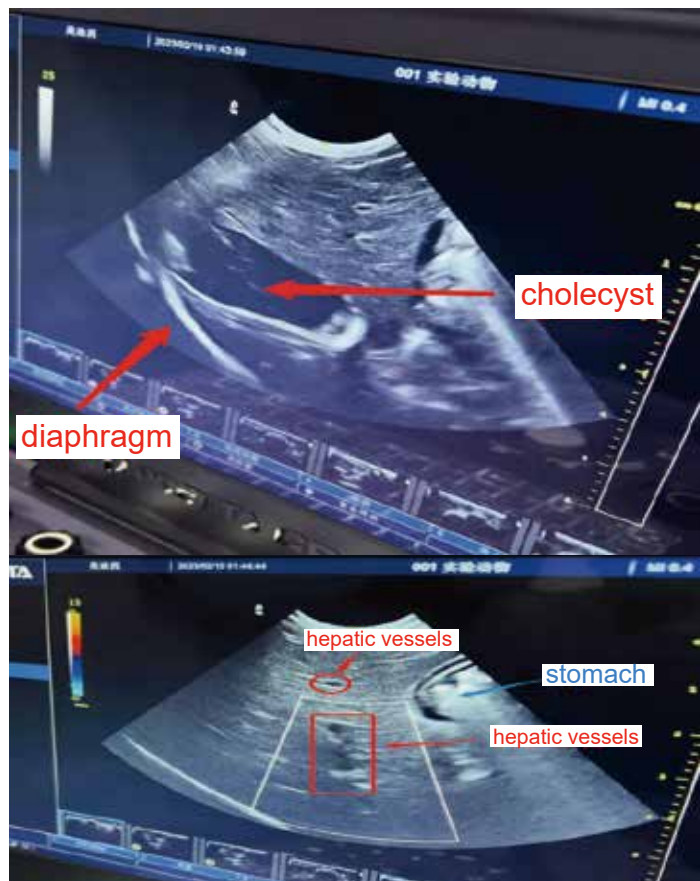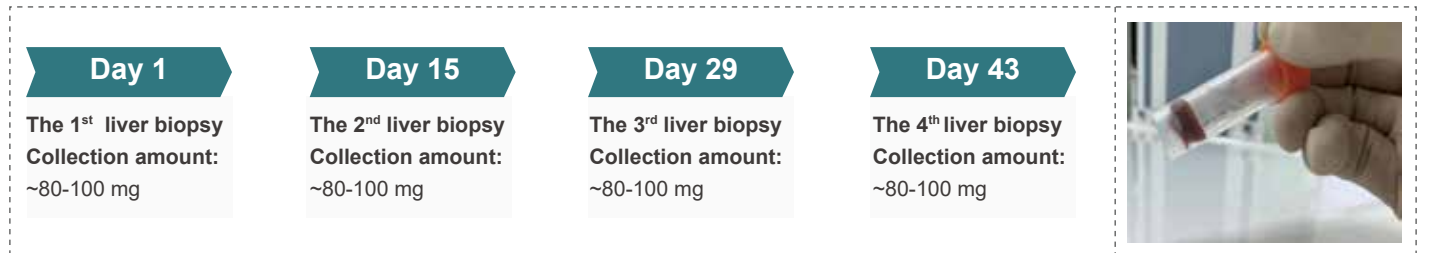

Liver biopsy guided by B-ultrasound in monkeys

❧ Oligonucleotide: Monkey liver biopsy validation

Day 3	Dosing	Day 14	Day 28	Day 56
The 1st liver biopsy Collection amount: 10~20 mg/puncture needle		The 2nd liver biopsy Collection amount: 10~20 mg/puncture needle	The 3rd liver biopsy Collection amount: 10~20 mg/puncture needle	The 4th liver biopsy Collection amount: 10~20 mg/puncture needle

Biopsy gun & needle

❧ Oligonucleotide: Monkey liver biopsy validation (surgery)

Day 1	Day 15	Day 29	Day 43
The 1st liver biopsy Collection amount: ~80-100 mg	The 2nd liver biopsy Collection amount: ~80-100 mg	The 3rd liver biopsy Collection amount: ~80-100 mg	The 4th liver biopsy Collection amount: ~80-100 mg

Surgery liver collection strategies :
recovery time between samples: 2-3 weeks (according to collection times)
monkey body weight: 3-6 kg

❧ Oligonucleotide: Monkey muscle biopsy validation

Day 1	Day 3	Day 5	Day 7	Day 9	Day 11	Day 14

The 1st biopsy
Collection site: Right quadriceps
surgical instruments: surgical scissors

The 2nd biopsy
Collection site: Right quadriceps
surgical instruments: scalpel

The 3rd biopsy
Collection site: Right quadriceps
surgical instruments: biopsy punch
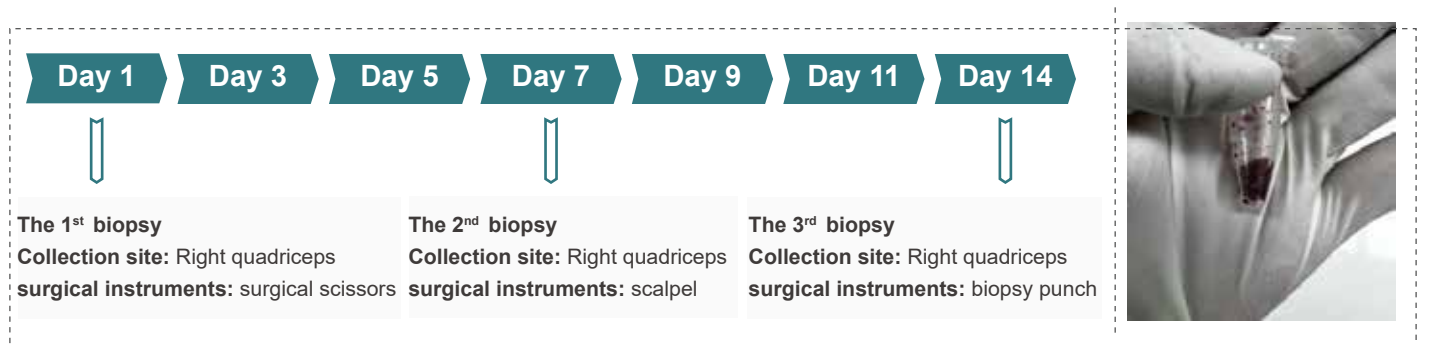
Animals:
select suitable animals,
body weight (monkey 3-6 kg; Dogs 8-12 kg)

Medicilon Case: siRNA monkey PK/PD study

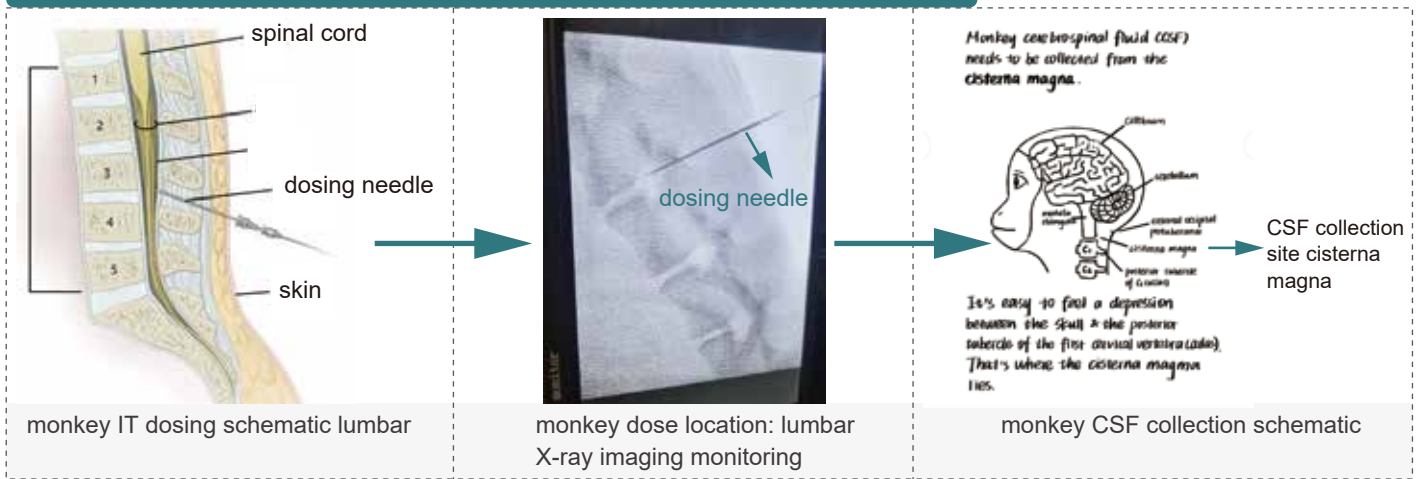| Compound	Monkey Matrix	Animal Number	BA Assay	
siRNA IV infusion	Plasma Muscle biopsy Liver biopsy	N=2	• Cytokine study • Complement study • Lipid study • Cir-luc mRNA	• IHC slide • hELISA study • MSTN Protein
	Plasma Muscle biopsy	N=2	• hELISA study • NHP mRNA • NHP MSTN Protein	• IHC slide • Cytokine study • Complement study

Medicilon Case: Monkey IT validation work flow by concentration

spinal cord
dosing needle
skin

monkey IT dosing schematic lumbar

dosing needle

monkey dose location: lumbar
X-ray imaging monitoring

Monkey cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) needs to be collected from the cisterna magna.

It's easy to feel a depression between the skull & the posterior tubercle of the first cervical vertebra (atlas). That's where the cisterna magna lies.

CSF collection site cisterna magna

monkey CSF collection schematic

Group No.	Test Material	Dose Level	Route & Regimen	Dose Rate	Plasma & CSF Collection
1	MED-002	6 mg/Monkey	IT on Day 1 6 monkeys	2 mL (Infusion, 3 min) Location: Lumbar	Post-dose at 4 h and 8 h

Medicilon Case: Monkey IT validation results by concentration

Plasma and CSF Drug Levels (4 h)

Plasma and CSF Drug Levels (8 h)
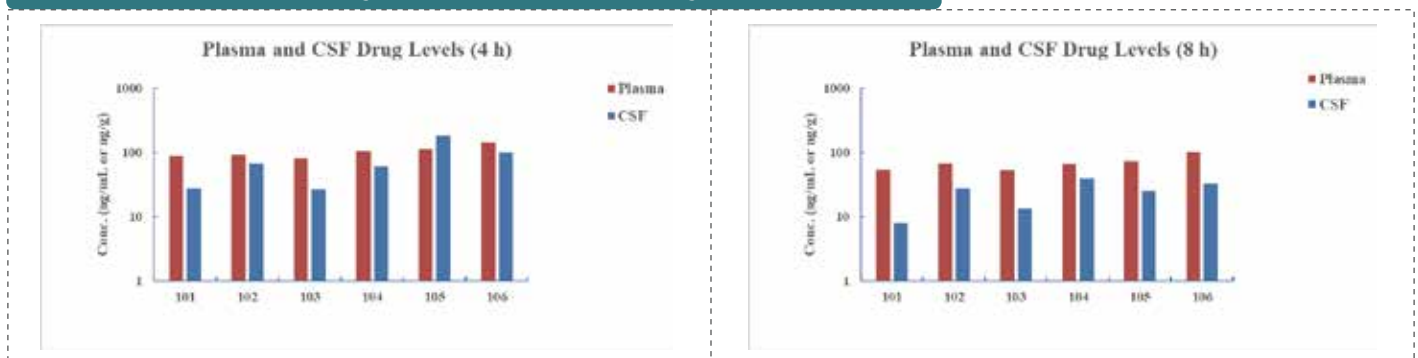
The coefficient of variation (CV%)

Plasma: 21.1%~26.4%   **CSF: 48.2%~74.3%**   **Success rate: 6/6, 100%**

| Group No.	Test Material	Dose Level	Route & Regimen	Dose Rate	Plasma & CSF Collection
1	MED-002	6 mg/Monkey	IT on Day 1 6 monkeys	2 mL (Infusion, 3 min) Location: Lumbar	Post-dose at 4 h and 8 h

Pharmacology Evaluation of Nucleic Acid Drugs

Medcilon provides mature models for evaluating the efficacy of antibodies *in vivo*. Our animal models are all established and maintained under the regulation of AAALAC. Pharmacology studies are conducted according to GLP-like standards. At present, more than 300 tumor evaluation models in six categories have been established by **Medicilon**.

Various laboratory animal

- Rodents: Mouse/Rat, Rabbit

- Non-Rodents: Beagle Dog, Mini Pig, Non-human Primate

Medicilon Case: mRNA in PBMC humanized mice

HCT-15 Xenograft Model in PBMC Humanized Mice
Relative Tumor Volume (Mean±SEM)
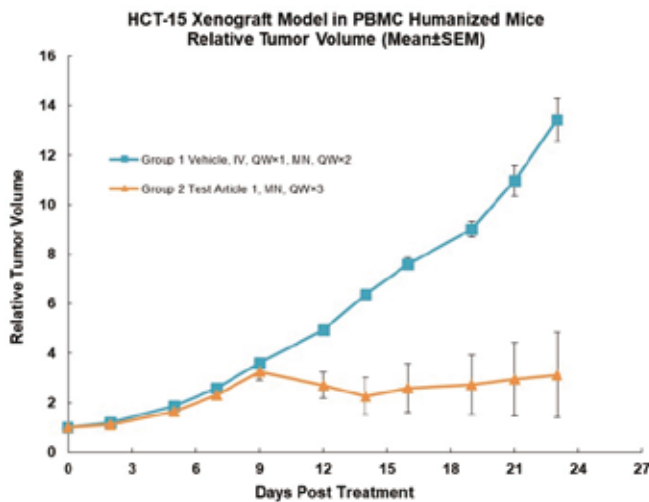
- **Animals:**
  Female NOG mice

- **Tumor Cells:**
  HCT15, 2×10^6/mouse

- **PBMC:**
  5×10^6/mouse

- **Treatment:**
  Intracutaneous injection

Medicilon Case: Comparing different drug delivery methods of mRNA
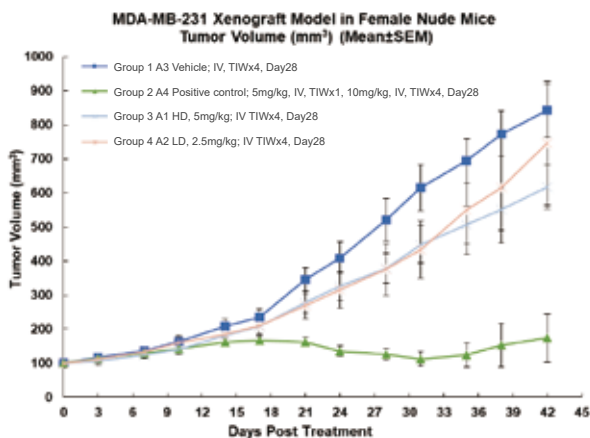
MDA-MB-231 Xenograft Model in Female Nude Mice
Tumor Volume (mm³) (Mean±SEM)

Animals: Female BALB/c Nude mice

Cells: MDA-MB-231, 5×10^6/mouse

Model Establishment: Right flank SC injection

Treatment: **IV** injection; TIW (three times a week);
Group3, 4: mRNA (LNP) group.
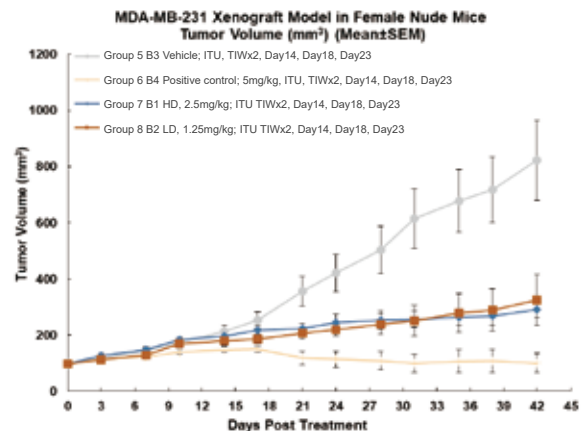
MDA-MB-231 Xenograft Model in Female Nude Mice
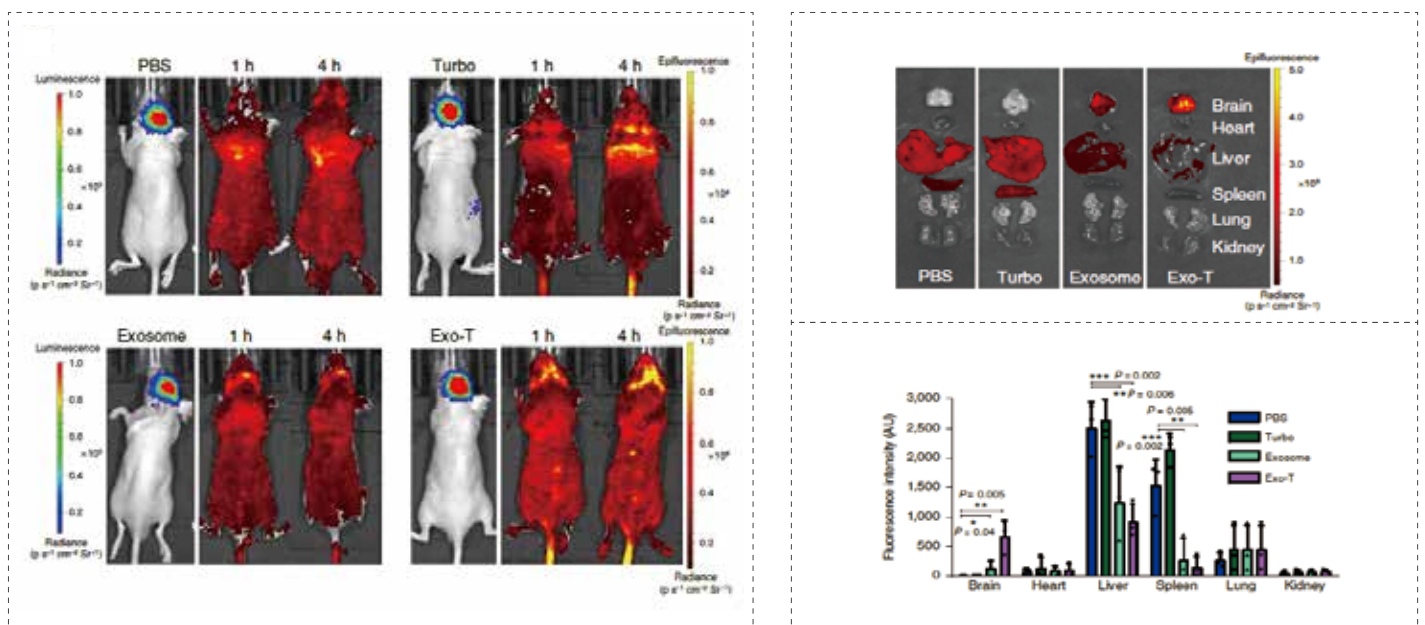Tumor Volume (mm³) (Mean±SEM)

Animals: Female BALB/c Nude mice

Cells: MDA-MB-231, 5×10^6/mouse

Model Establishment: Right flank SC injection

Treatment: **Intratumor** injection; TIW (three times a week); Group 7, 8: mRNA (LNP) group.

- Dendrimer LNP
- Luc mRNA; IV and intra-tumoral
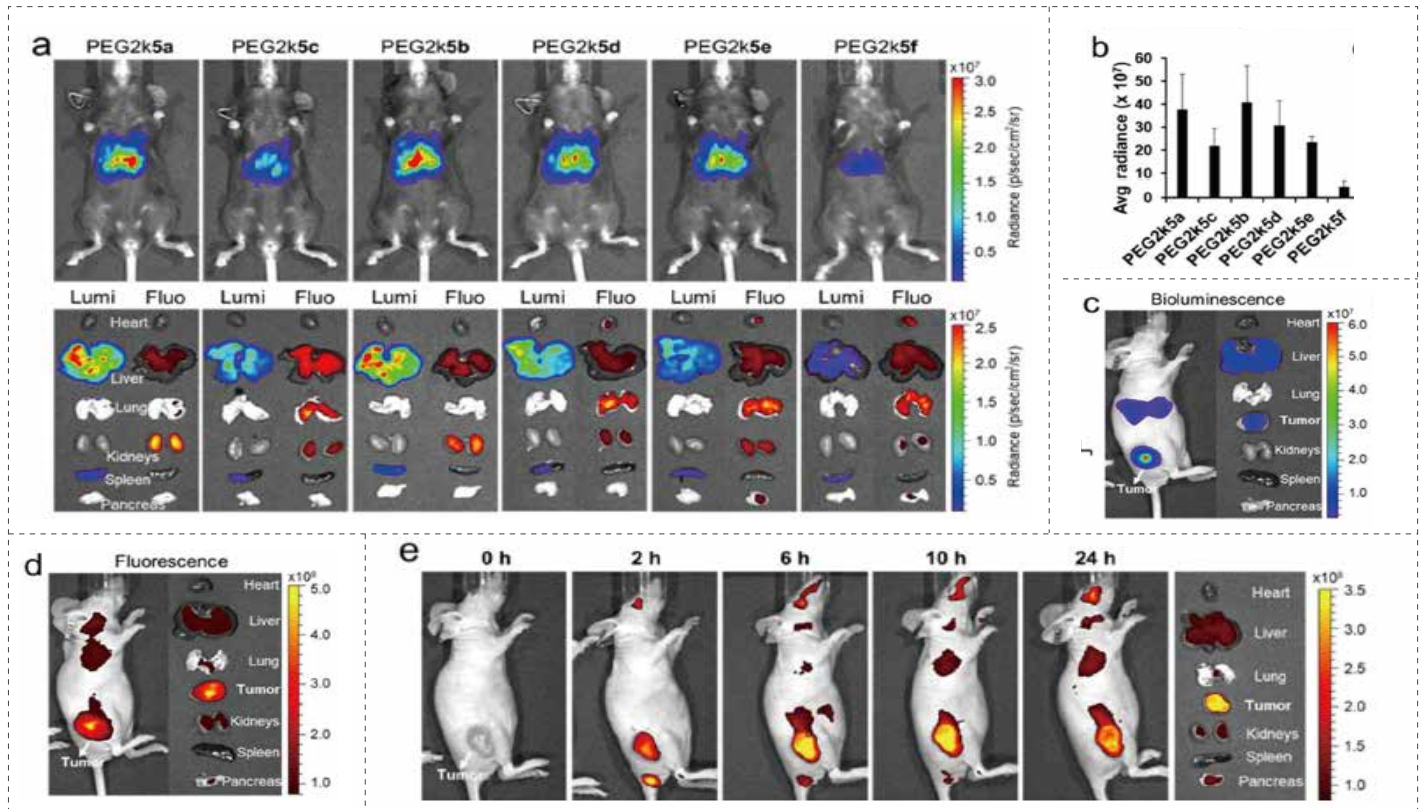
- CNP-generated exosome
- Delivery of PTEN mRNA by Glioma-directed Exosome EXO-T,IV

CDX Models

Cancer Type	Cell Line
Brain cancer	CHP-212, LN-229, U-87 MG, U-251 MG
Breast cancer	BT474, HCC70, HCC1569, HCC1806, HCC1954, JIMT-1, MCF7, MDA-MB-231, MDA-MB-436, MDA-MB-468, MX-1, SUM 149PT, ZR-75-1
Cervix	Hela, SiHa
Colon cancer	COLO 205, DLD-1, HCT-8, HCT-15, HCT-116, HT-29, LIM-1215, LoVo, Ls174T, NCI-H508, RKO, SW48, SW480, SW620, SW837
Endometrium	AN3 CA, HEC-1-A, HEC-1-B, RL95-2
Esophageal	KYSE-520
Fibrosarcoma/Soft tissue	HT-1080
Gastric cancer	Hs 746T, MKN-45, NCI-N87, NUGC-4, SNU-16
Head and neck cancer	CAL-27, Detroit562, FaDu, TT
Leukemia	CCRF-CEM, HEL, HL-60, Jurkat E6.1, JVM-3,K-562, MOLM-13, MOLM-16, MOLT-3, MOLT-4, MV-4-11, OCI-AML-3, TF-1a, THP-1, U-937
Liver cancer	HCCLM3, Hep G2, HuH-7
Lung cancer	A427, A549, Calu-1, Calu-3, Calu-6, DMS114, EBC-1, HCC827, MOTO-211H, NCI-H69, NCI-H292, NCI-H358, NCI-H460, NCI-H520, NCI-H522, NCI-H526, NCI-H727, NCI-H820, NCI-H1299, NCI-H1373, NCI-H1568, NCI-H1581, NCI-H1650, NCI-H1703,NCI-H1975, NCI-H2122, NCI-H2228, NCI-H3122, NCI-H3255, PC9
Lymphoma	Daudi, DB, DOHH2, HH, JeKo-1, Karpas299, MAVER-1, Mino, OCI-LY10, OCI-LY19, Raji, RL, SR, SU-DHL-1, SU-DHL-2, SU-DHL-4, SU-DHL-6, TMD-8, WSU DLCL2
Melanoma	A375, C32
Myeloma	MM.1R, MM.1S, NCI-H929, OPM-2, RPMI-8226
Osteosarcoma	SJSA-1
Ovary	A2780, OVCAR-3, OVCAR-8, PA-1, SK-OV-3
Pancreatic cancer	AsPC-1, Bx PC-3, Capan-1, Capan-2, CFPAC-1, HPAF-II, Mia PaCa-2, PANC-1, SU.86.86, SW1990
Prostate	22RV1, DU145, LnCap, LNCaP-F877L mut, PC-3, Vcap
Renal cancer	786-O, A498, ACHN, OS-RC-2
Skin cancer	A-431
Urinary bladder cancer	5637, HT1376, RT4, UM-UC-3

PDX Models

Cancer Type	Cell Line
Breast cancer	201B, 203B
Cervix	371Ce
Colon cancer	002C, 008C, 011C, 013C, 015C, 016C, 020C, 021C, 057C, 058C, 059C, 060C, 061C, 062C, 064C, 065C, 069C, 070C, 072C, 075C, 076C, 084C, 087C, 088C, 095C, 102C, 104C, 110C, 116cC, 117C, 128C, 143C
Endometrium	361En
Esophagus cancer	341Es
Gastric cancer	091Ga, 092Ga, 122Ga, 126Ga, 142Ga, 145Ga, 254Ga, 256Ga, 258Ga, 259Ga, 381Ga
Head and neck cancer	281T, 285HN, 284HN, 286HN
Leukemia	291Le, 292Le, 293Le, 294Le, 295Le
Liver cancer	212Li, 213Li, 214Li, 216Li
Lung cancer	028Lu, 047Lu, 050Lu, 053Lu, 054Lu, 263Lu, 264Lu, 265Lu, 267Lu
Lymphoma	244Ly, 245Ly
Myeloma	321Bm
Ovary	271O, 272O, 273O, 274O
Pancreatic cancer	221Pa, 222Pa, 223Pa, 224Pa, 225Pa, 226Pa, 228Pa
Prostate	351Pr, 353Pr, 354Pr, 355Pr
Renal cancer	301R, 303R, 304R
Sarcoma	332Sa, 333Sa, 334Sa
Urinary bladder cancer	232U, 234U, 235U, 236U

❦ Syngeneic Models

Cancer Type	Cell Line
Brain cancer	Neuro-2a
Breast cancer	4T1, EMT6, EO771, JC
Colon cancer	Colon26, CT26.WT, MC-38
Leukemia	C1498, L1210, WEHI-3
Liver cancer	H22
Lung cancer	KLN205, LLC1, M109
Lymphoma	A20, E.G7-OVA, EL4, L5178-R
Mastocytoma	P815
Melanoma	B16, B16-F0, B16-F10, Clone-M3, YUMM1.7
Myeloma	J558
Pancreas cancer	KPC, Panc 02
Prostate	RM-1
Renal cancer	RENCA
Sarcoma	S180, WEHI-164
Urinary bladder cancer	MB49

❦ Humanized Models (PBMC, HSC CD34⁺)

Cancer Type	Cell Lines
Brain cancer	U-87 MG
Breast cancer	HCC70, HCC1954, JIMT-1, MDA-MB-231, MDA-MB-468
Colon cancer	HT-15, HT29, LoVo, Ls174T
Gastric cancer	NCI-N87, NUGC-4
Leukemia	MOLM-13, THP-1
Liver cancer	Hep G2, HuH-7
Lung cancer	A549, HCC827, NCI-H292, NCI-H838, NCI-H1975
Lymphoma	Raji, TMD8
Melanoma	A375
Myeloma	MM.1S, NCI-H929, RPMI-8226
Ovarian cancer	OVCAR-3
Pancreatic cancer	Capan-2
Renal cancer	786-O, A498
Skin cancer	A431
Urinary bladder cancer	UM-UC-3

❦ Orthotopic Models

Cancer Type	Orthotopic Model (Human)	Orthotopic Model (Mouse)
Brain cancer	LN299-luc, U87-MG-luc, U251-luc	G261-luc
Breast cancer	BT-474-luc, MCF-7-luc,MDA-MB-231-luc	4T1-luc
Colon cancer	HCT-116-luc, HT29-luc	MC38-luc
Gastric cancer	NCI-N87-luc	/
Leukemia	K562-luc, MOLM-13-luc, MV-4-11-luc, Nalm-6-luc, THP-1-luc	/
Liver cancer	HuH-7-luc, Hep G2-luc	H22-luc
Lung cancer	A549-luc, NCI-H460, NCI-H1650-luc, NCI-H1975-luc	LLC1-luc
Lymphoma	Raji-luc, JeKo-1-luc	/
Melanoma	A375-luc	B16-F10-luc
Myeloma	NCI-H929-luc, MM.1S-luc, OPM-2-luc	/
Ovary	OVCAR-3-luc, SK-OV-3-luc	/
Pancreatic cancer	Mia-Paca 2-luc, PANC-1-luc	Panc 02-luc
Prostate	PC-3-luc	/
Renal cancer	A498-luc	/
Sarcoma	HT1080-luc, SJSA-1-luc	/
Urinary bladder cancer	UM-UC-3-luc	MB49-luc

Luciferase Cell Line	G261-luc, 4T1-luc, MC38-luc, H22-luc, B16-F10-luc, LLC1-luc

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