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## Development of Nanoplatform in Prevention of the occurrence of Parkinson's Disease of Old age

**Nitin Rodhia**

M.Tech Scholar

Mewar University

Chittorgarh-Rajasthan

E-Mail- [nrodhia@gmail.com](mailto:nrodhia@gmail.com)

**Mr.Gaurav Sharma**

Assistant Professor

Mewar University

Chittorgarh-Rajasthan

**Dr.Barkha Khurana**

Associate Professor

Chandigarh University, Mohali

Mail Id- [barkhaakhurana@gmail.com](mailto:barkhaakhurana@gmail.com)

### Abstract

The neurodegenerative illness of the brain known as Parkinson's disease (PD) affects those with Parkinson's. The brain has a number of structures known as lewy bodies. This project's objective was to investigate the feasibility of a novel protein nanocage system for the targeted capture of aberrant alpha-synuclein, with the goals of halting that protein's transmission between neurons and reducing the course of Parkinson's disease. Encapsulin protein nanocages will self-assemble in a selective manner around proteins that have been tagged with a specific encapsulation signal peptide (ESig), therefore encapsulating those proteins. Spectroscopic methods were used in order to explore the biophysical processes and physicochemical components that underlie encapsulin disintegration and reassembly. This was done in order to get a better understanding of the process. It was discovered that encapsulin undergoes a reversible disassembly under severe guanidine hydrochloride (4-7 M) and alkaline circumstances, and that it may then reassemble itself within 6-8 hours once the conditions return to normal. In order to properly collect untagged super folder green fluorescent protein, the conditions for encapsulin

disintegration and reassembly were tuned and applied. These discoveries will assist advance towards capturing of the untagged pathogenic alpha-synuclein, as well as the possible future creation of a capture system that inhibits the evolution of Parkinson's disease in in vitro models.

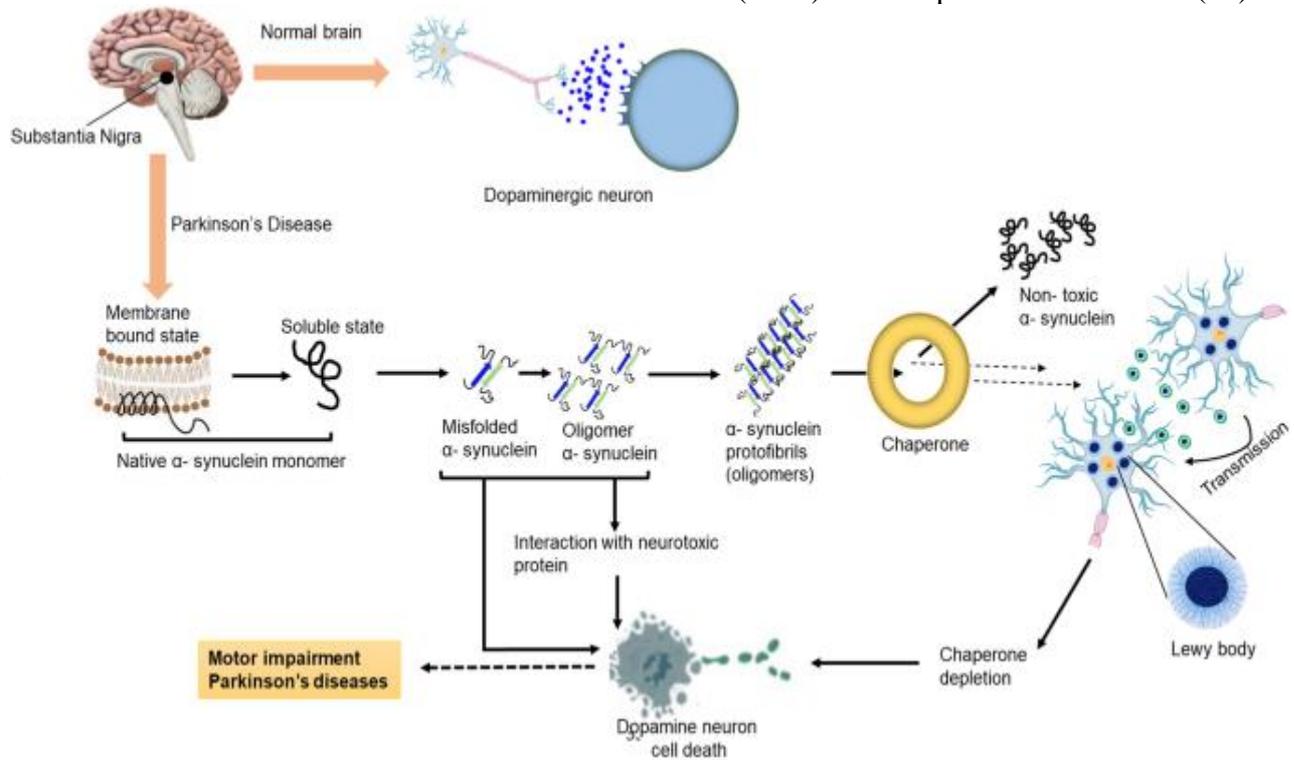
## **Chapter1: Nanoparticles in the Treatment of Parkinson's Disease**

### **1.1 Parkinson's Disease (PD)**

Parkinson's disease (PD) is a neurodegenerative disorder that may manifest in both motor and non-motor ways. Tremors, slowness of movement, and a general lack of muscle strength are all examples of motor symptoms. Cognitive impairment and psychosis are two examples of non-motor symptoms ( 3). It is well established that dopaminergic neurons in the pars compacta of the substantia nigra are destroyed in Parkinson's disease, which is an important contributor to the pathophysiology of the condition. Dopamine levels in the striatum gradually decline during the course of the disease, which is another distinguishing characteristic of the condition (4). Dopamine is a neurotransmitter that helps govern processes throughout the brain, including thinking and movement in response to orders. Dopamine also plays a part in the reward system of the brain (5). Based on the presence of Lewy bodies, which are intracellular aggregations of misfolded fibrillary protein-synuclein, the Braak staging model is used to pathologically diagnose Parkinson's disease. This is done using the presence of the Lewy bodies. The reduction in the number of dopaminergic neurons is another factor that is considered when classifying diseases ( 6). A increasing amount of data implies that sick neurons may exocytose misfolded synuclein into the extracellular space, where it may be absorbed by adjacent healthy neurons through the process of endocytosis. This hypothesis is supported by the fact that this phenomenon is seen. The fact that sick neurons have been proven to exocytose misfolded synuclein lends credence to this concept. [Citation needed] ( 7). Philanthropic neurons are the cells that take in extracellular synuclein, which then causes the misfolding and aggregation of endogenous intracellular synuclein that is already present in these cells. Extracellular synuclein is taken in by philanthropic neurons. This results in synuclein disease being more widespread throughout the brain ( 7). The progression of neurodegeneration and the worsening of symptoms in Parkinson's disease (PD) are known to be associated with the staging of Lewy body pathology. This is an essential fact to keep in mind since it is recognized that this connection exists. This is something that has to be thought about and taken into account ( 6). A metabolic precursor of dopamine that is transformed into dopamine by an enzymatic mechanism, levodopa (L-DOPA) is a medication that is frequently prescribed by medical professionals for the treatment of Parkinson's disease. Levodopa (L-DOPA) is a metabolic precursor of dopamine that is transformed into dopamine by an enzymatic mechanism (PD). This oral drug has been around for a considerable amount of time, and it is considered the gold standard for treating this condition ( 8). However, it is possible that L-DOPA and other therapies for Parkinson's disease that have been approved by the Food and Drug Administration would just reduce the symptoms of the disorder without altering the underlying mechanisms that are responsible for its development.

There are many approved rectifiers that are now being utilized for the treatment of PD; however, these rectifiers have minimal clinical effectiveness, considerable adverse effects, and often simply provide symptomatic reprieve rather than a cure. This is because these rectifiers have only been on the market for a very short amount of time (9). Discovery, the first step of the drug development process, is now in progress for possible curative treatments for Parkinson's disease (PD). These treatments are geared on reducing or eliminating amounts of synuclein and other proteins that have been linked to Parkinson's disease (PD), neuroinflammation, and mitochondrial dysfunction, all of which contribute to the progression of the illness (10). On the other hand, studies conducted

in clinical settings have shown that none of the complaint-modifying drugs that have been developed up to this point are successful (10). It is typical for drugs that are used in both characteristic and complaint-modifying therapies to have issues such as poor solubility and bioavailability, short blood-rotation durations, underwhelming targeting specificity, and insufficient blood-brain barrier (BBB) penetration (11).



## 1.2 Designing Nanoparticle-based Drug Delivery Systems for the Treatment of PD

The parenchyma of the brain and the lumen of the blood vessels that are contained inside the central nervous system are separated by a physiological barrier that is referred to as the blood-brain barrier (BBB) (CNS). Both physically, by means of tight junctions, and enzymatically, by use of cytosolic and membrane-associated enzymes, are employed in the process of regulating the entry of pathogens (17). Because more than 95% of drugs that have been authorized by the FDA are unable to cross the BBB at a concentration that is considered to be pharmacologically suitable, the BBB presents a significant challenge in the treatment of brain illnesses (12). As a result of this, it is of the utmost importance to develop efficient strategies to enable the movement of restorative substances over the BBB in order to broaden the therapy choices available for neurodegenerative illnesses.

Forming anti-PD rectifiers into nanoparticles may be an efficient technique to carry them to their destination (NPs). Certain nanoparticles (NPs) have been shown to have the capacity to cross the blood-brain barrier (BBB) through receptor-mediated transport, despite the fact that the BBB serves as a protective barrier between the blood and the brain (13). During the course of this study, ligands were affixed to NPs so that they could form connections with face receptors present on the endothelial cells that make up the BBB (12). I NPs have the potential to undergo endocytosis within endothelial cells, at which point they would discharge their mass into the cell cytoplasm prior to exocytosis into the CNS landscape. Alternatively, drugs could be distributed through these transport channels by directly entering the CNS cells themselves (ii)

(ii) The NP system, as a whole, is able to break through the BBB thanks to a process known as

transcytosis, which enables it to direct the distribution of mass precisely where it is needed ( 12). The effectiveness of this method was shown by the coating of poly(lactide) NPs with the hydrophilic surfactant polysorbate 80 (PS80) ( 14). PS80 acts as a mediator in the process of apolipoproteins in the blood being absorbed onto the surface of NPs. This adsorption may take place. To reach the brain, NPs must first connect to low-viscosity lipoprotein receptors, which may be located on the surface of the endothelial cells that line the blood-brain barrier. This allows the NPs to pass through the BBB and enter the brain ( 14). A mouse model of Parkinson's disease was effectively treated with neuroprotective resveratrol by the administration of NPs that were coated with PS80. Both olfactory discrimination and identification recognition got significant boosts as a result of this ( 14).

Because of the one-of-a-kind packets that go into making certain NPs, it is possible for these NPs to not only cross the BBB but also other hurdles that traditional rectifiers that are built for PD have to overcome. Encapsulating a therapeutic material in NPs may protect it from the negative physicochemical features of the therapeutic substance, while at the same time allowing the therapeutic substance's beneficial qualities to be released via the functionalization of the NP face. For instance, altering NPs may increase a drug's therapeutic efficacy by improving its biocompatibility, solubility, blood-rotation time, greaseco-treatment, and the capacity to undergo targeted and controlled release. This can be accomplished by increasing the drug's blood-rotation time ( 15). The capability to generate pharmaceuticals inside of an NP may also protect and stabilize a medication while simultaneously restricting any direct contact with the body, hence lowering the effects of any toxicity or negative side-products when they do occur ( 15). The advantages of NP face functionalization are shown by NPs that have a polyethylene glycol (cut) coating ( 16). PEGylation has the effect of inhibiting the conformation of a protein nimbus that is around the NP, which results in "covert" parcels. Because the susceptible system is unable to perceive the NP, the rotation durations become much longer, and the concurrence drops significantly. During the process of PEGylation, a protein nimbus is prevented from reforming into its natural form around the NP ( 16). NPs can be made from a wide range of different materials, including lipids (liposomes), surfactants (micelles), essence and essence oxides (gold, tableware, and iron oxide), polymers (poly(lactic- co- glycolic acid) NPs)(PLGA), carbon (carbon nanotubes), semiconductors (amount blotches), and proteins (contagion-suchlike patches) ( 17). NP types may be distinguished from one another by a broad range of physicochemical characteristics, including but not limited to size, shape, composition, charge, and face chemistry.

Characteristics (such as bioavailability, cytotoxicity, and biodegradability) that contribute to the product's overall utility and help to maximize its potential.

#### The Present State of Research Concerning Parkinson's Disease Treatments Based on Nanoparticles

In the last ten years, researchers have focused an increasing amount of their attention on the possibility of repurposing or otherwise changing existing medications in order to better treat the symptoms of Parkinson's disease (PD). Between the years 2009 and 2015, Hawthorne and his colleagues (18) conducted an analysis of all of the trials that employed NPs as medicine delivery vehicles for PD rectifiers. The most recent findings from studies on the role that NPs play in the distribution of PD medications are outlined in the following paragraphs, and may also be found in Table 1.

#### L- DOPA

As was discussed before, the loss of dopaminergic neurons and the consequent decline in dopamine attention in the brain are what produce the movement symptoms of Parkinson's disease ( 4). L-

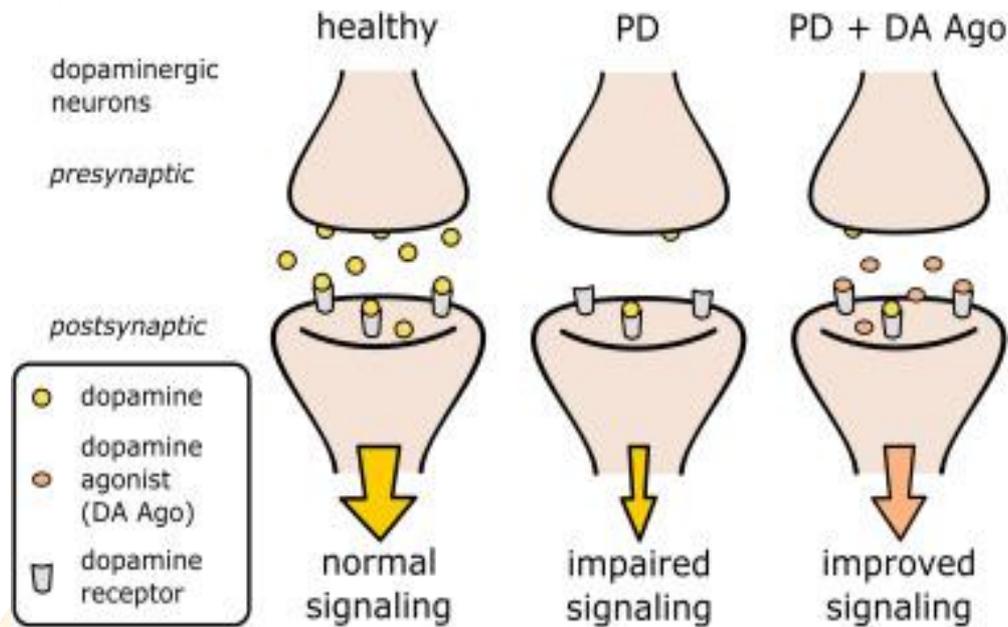
DOPA, which is the metabolic precursor of dopamine, is widely used as a treatment for Parkinson's disease. This is due to the fact that dopamine is mostly hydrophobic and cannot cross the blood-brain barrier (BBB). DOPA decarboxylase is able to ameliorate the motor symptoms that are induced by a shortage of L-DOPA. It does this by enhancing the activity of dopamine in the brain. DOPA decarboxylase is transported over the blood-brain barrier through the major amino acid transporter, which is known as LAT-1 (8). Despite the fact that L-DOPA is the medicine that is most often used to treat Parkinson's disease, it has been linked to a number of serious adverse effects, including a syndrome known as L-DOPA-induced dyskinesia. This condition is characterized by abnormal involuntary movements (8). Ingestion of medicine orally may result in varied degrees of absorption in the gastrointestinal tract, which may in turn lead to varying degrees of L-DOPA concentration in the blood, which may in turn result in L-DOPA-induced dyskinesia (8). As a result, strategies that enable the distribution of L-DOPA in a manner that is both regulated and ongoing may be able to reduce these side effects.

For the purpose of investigating the controlled dispersion of L-DOPA, carboxylated single-walled carbon nanotube (SWCNT) carpeting with biopolymers was used. This was done in order to render the NP insoluble in water and biocompatible with living organisms (19). Coatings of Tween 20, Tween 80, chitosan, and polyethylene glycol were applied to SWCNTs, and it was discovered that these coatings released L-DOPA more consistently than untreated SWCNTs did (19). Additional research conducted with the mouse embryonic fibroblast 3T3 cell line revealed that the coatings boosted the biocompatibility of L-DOPA loaded SWCNTs by a factor of 34-41 when compared to uncoated SWCNTs (19). In addition, McDonagh et al. (20) investigated whether or whether L-DOPA bound to manganese oxide nanoparticles may be used as an MRI contrast agent for diagnostic and therapeutic reasons in people who have a binary sensitivity to MRI contrast. Because manganese ions and calcium ions are chemically identical at the molecular level, manganese oxide nanoparticles have the potential to enter neurons via activating voltage-gated calcium channels (20). In *in vivo* and *ex vivo* gormandizer eye models, respectively, the research confirmed the declination-dependent release of manganese ions and L-DOPA from NPs. This was shown by the investigation (20). However, research based on neuronal cells are still required in order to determine whether or not the NP is beneficial in PD. In a different study, rats were given Tween-80 and zinc-aluminum layered double hydroxides (LDHs) containing L-dopa (DOPA). Both of these substances were used in an experiment. This research was carried out in order to have a better understanding of the toxicity and bioavailability of L-DOPA (21). In order to evaluate the zinc content of the towel samples, infinitesimal immersion spectroscopy was used. The results demonstrated that the L-DOPA-loaded LDHs were of a size that allowed them to be absorbed by the brain. In addition, there was no detectable difference in body weight, biochemical, or histological alterations between rats that were treated with LDH-L-DOPA and rats that were not treated, which suggests that a dose of 2000 mg/kg of LDHs was not dangerous (21). Despite this, there was not any investigation into the potential therapeutic benefits of L-DOPA loaded LDHs in this research. Gonzales-Carter et al. (22) functionalized multi-branched nanoflowers like gold nanoparticles such that L-DOPA could connect to its transporter LAT-1. This allowed L-DOPA to attach to its transporter (AuNFs). In a rat brain endothelial monolayer *in vitro* model of a defective BBB, it was discovered that L-DOPA was able to pass across the BBB. This observation was validated by high-resolution transmission electron microscopy, and the lack of microglial activation provided conclusive evidence for the existence of the anti-seditious chemicals produced by AuNF (22). This research provided more evidence for the significance of NP shape by demonstrating that the multi-branched form provided a bigger face area than its globular counterparts, which resulted in a higher overall volume of drug loading (22). Before the drug reaches the brain, where it can have an impact, it is first transformed into dopamine in the circulation by an enzyme called DOPA decarboxylase. This process takes a significant amount of time. One of the potential drawbacks of administering L-DOPA for therapeutic reasons is the

occurrence of this side effect ( 23). Patients thus get substantial amounts of L-DOPA in the form of boluses in order to guarantee the medication's effectiveness. However, this technique often results in uncomfortable side effects such as dizziness and orthostatic hypotension ( 23). Co-administration of L-DOPA with a DOPA decarboxylase asset, such as carbidopa or benserazide, may enhance the pharmacokinetics of L-DOPA, hence minimizing the need for L-DOPA lozenges and the dangers that are connected with it. Because of this, the consumption of L-DOPA lozenges may be limited, which will result in a reduction in the advantages that big dosages provide ( 23). Sintovetal.(24) created a tone-assembling nanomicellar device in order to facilitate the transdermal administration of L-DOPA and carbidopa. L-DOPA has a low solubility in water, which hinders its ability to penetrate the lipid membrane that makes up the skin. Because of this, micelles were used both for the disintegration and transportation of L-DOPA. In vivo tests were performed on rabbits that had been injected with patches containing L-DOPA and carbidopa loaded micelles. After that, these patches were stitched onto the animals using the needle and thread. Liquid

In the chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry examination of the blood tube, the levels of L-DOPA and carbidopa that were found to be present were between 0.2 and 0.4 g/mL. If this is the case, then it may be concluded that skin saturation was achieved ( 24). On the other hand, neither the efficacy of the medications nor the successful treatment of any illnesses were investigated in this research. By delivering NPs loaded with only L- DOPA directly to the brain intranasally and bypassing the BBB, Sharma et al.(25) developed a strategy that eliminated the requirement for an asset and reduced the amount of extra L- DOPA conversion. This was accomplished by delivering the NPs directly to the brain. Without this strategy, it would be impossible to proceed. Chitosan is mucoadhesive, which is useful for nasal administration; it also promotes the permeability of epithelial layers by opening tight junctions; both of these qualities are desired in an NP. Chitosan may be administered by the nose because of its mucoadhesive nature. These two qualities are important assets when it comes to the management of NPs, since the administration of NPs requires them ( 25). Enclosing L-DOPA-loaded chitosan nanoparticles in thermo-reversible gel (Pluronic PF127) (CNLP) had the dual purposes of simplifying the administration of the therapy and extending the amount of time it takes for the medication to reach the nasal mucosa. CNLs induced a longer release of L-DOPA and medicine recovery in the brain, with a value of 74.72.27, while CNLPs caused a value of 25.992.21 according to a spectroscopic study of brain tube tissue taken from rats. (25). The following are a few examples of situations in which functionalized nanoparticles (NPs) might be utilized to assist in the removal of barriers to the usage of L-DOPA. By permitting the continuous and regulated delivery of L-DOPA, NPs may make it easier to prevent L-DOPA-induced dyskinesia, which is related to the process of changing L-DOPA attention in the body. This condition is associated with the process of changing L-DOPA attention in the body. In addition, NPs might be employed to make it possible to co-administer DOPA decarboxylase barriers. This would result in a slower breakdown of L-DOPA and an increase in its bioavailability. Because of this, there would be a reduction in the consumption of high tablets, which is connected with unwanted side effects.

Dopamine agonists are a class of medications that are used to treat the symptoms of Parkinson's disease (PD). These drugs work by imitating the functions that dopamine has on its receptors and by assisting in the restoration of dopaminergic transmission in people who have PD ( 26).



DAs, despite the fact that they are not as effective as L-DOPA, are sometimes used as an early therapy for PD in order to delay L-DOPA treatment or in combination with lower dosages of L-DOPA in order to lessen the negative side effects of the latter. This is done in an effort to lessen the severity of the condition (26). The antidepressant ropinirole is most often used in tablet form when it is to be taken orally. Ropinirole, on the other hand, is prone to first-pass metabolism in the liver due to the manner in which it is administered; as a result, the active form of the medication is unable to traverse the blood-brain barrier (27). As a result of this, research into nanoparticles, also known as NPs, has been carried out as a prospective medium to give important administration routes. The objective of this study is to transport ropinirole to the brain and, as a result, increase its bioavailability.

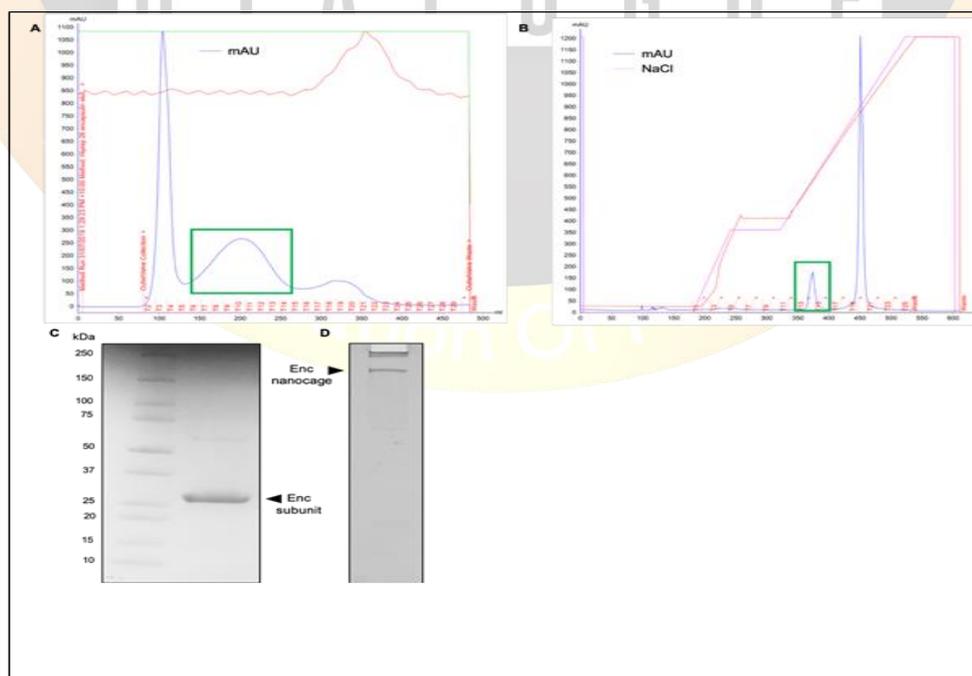
The biodegradable poly(- lactide-co-glycolide) (PLGA NP) was developed by Barcia et al. (28), with the intention of aiding the transport of ropinirole to certain areas of the brain and allowing for the drug's prolonged release there. PLGA NPs loaded with ropinirole were implanted into the peritoneum of the rat models of Parkinson's disease that had been generated by rotenone. When compared to the untreated animals, the rats that were given the treatment exhibited significantly improved cognitive and motor coordination. Ropinirole-PLGA NPs, as shown by the findings of brain histology and immunochemistry tests, were able to ameliorate PD-like symptoms in rats that had been administered the substance. This outcome was brought about as a consequence of decreased cell death in the substantia nigra as well as astrogliosis (28). The effectiveness of polysorbate 80 carpeted chitosan NPs, which are meant to improve brain absorption of the medication, was also investigated as part of the study on brain-specific ropinirole delivery. This was done as part of the research on brain-specific ropinirole delivery (27). Blood apolipoproteins have the potential to be absorbed onto the surface of NPs thanks to the polysorbate 80 coating they have. This makes it simpler for the NPs to bind to lipoprotein receptors on the outer surface of the BBB, which in turn makes it easier for the NPs to enter and cross the barrier via receptor-mediated endocytosis (27). In rats administered polysorbate 80 carpeted NPs, the rate at which ropinirole was transferred from the brain to the blood was found to be much higher than in animals given uncoated NPs or free ropinirole. A comparison was made between these findings and those obtained with rats who were given both medications. According to these findings, the carpeting

nanoparticles were able to effectively penetrate the blood-brain barrier, making it easier to deliver ropinirole to the brain ( 27).

Rotigotine is another kind of dopamine agonist, however due to its short half-life and poor absorption, it has a restricted use in clinical practice ( 29). Although it is feasible to employ a transdermal patch to boost the bioavailability of rotigotine by controlled-release distribution, it is also likely that some patients may have skin reactions at the incision site ( 26). In the PEGylated PLGA nanoparticles that Bi et al. created, there was a significant increase in both the biocompatibility and the circulation times (30). Intranasal administration of rotigotine-loaded nanoparticles (NPs) that had been functionalized with face lactoferrin ligands was performed on mice ( 30). Previous research had demonstrated that rotigotine, by itself, was hazardous to cells; however, encapsulation into a nanoparticle (NP) disguised its physicochemical components, which resulted in a reduction in its cytotoxicity. In trials with mice, functionalization with lactoferrin increased cellular absorption and accumulation in the region of the brain that was under investigation ( 30). Additionally, the same group of researchers investigated the diffusion of the Lf- R- NPs as well as their impact on the neuroprotection. They also examined the particles in rats with Parkinson's disease that had been produced by 6-hydroxydopamine to determine whether lactoferrin functionalization improved delivery (31). Researchers detected a rise in the amounts of rotigotine in the brains of rats that had been treated with Lf by using liquid birth faces tandem mass spectrometry.

R- NPs, in comparison to PLGA NPs that did not include lactoferrin, suggesting that the enhanced expression of lactoferrin receptors on the surface of neurons and brain endothelial cells allowed for more targeted transit over the BBB. In addition to this, rats who were treated with Lf- R- NP had fewer contralateral reels than rats that had not been treated, and immunohistochemistry indicated that there was a decrease in the number of dopaminergic neurons that died ( 31). According to the findings of these research, NPs have the capacity to protect DA medications from the first-pass metabolism and to boost targeted transport of the drug to the brain, which ultimately results in an increase in the efficacy of the therapy.

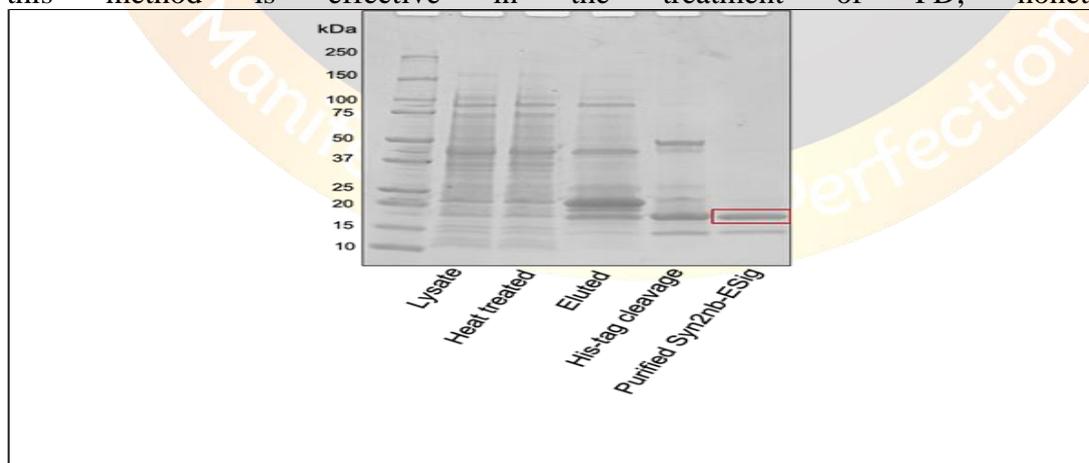
Both bioavailability and efficacy.



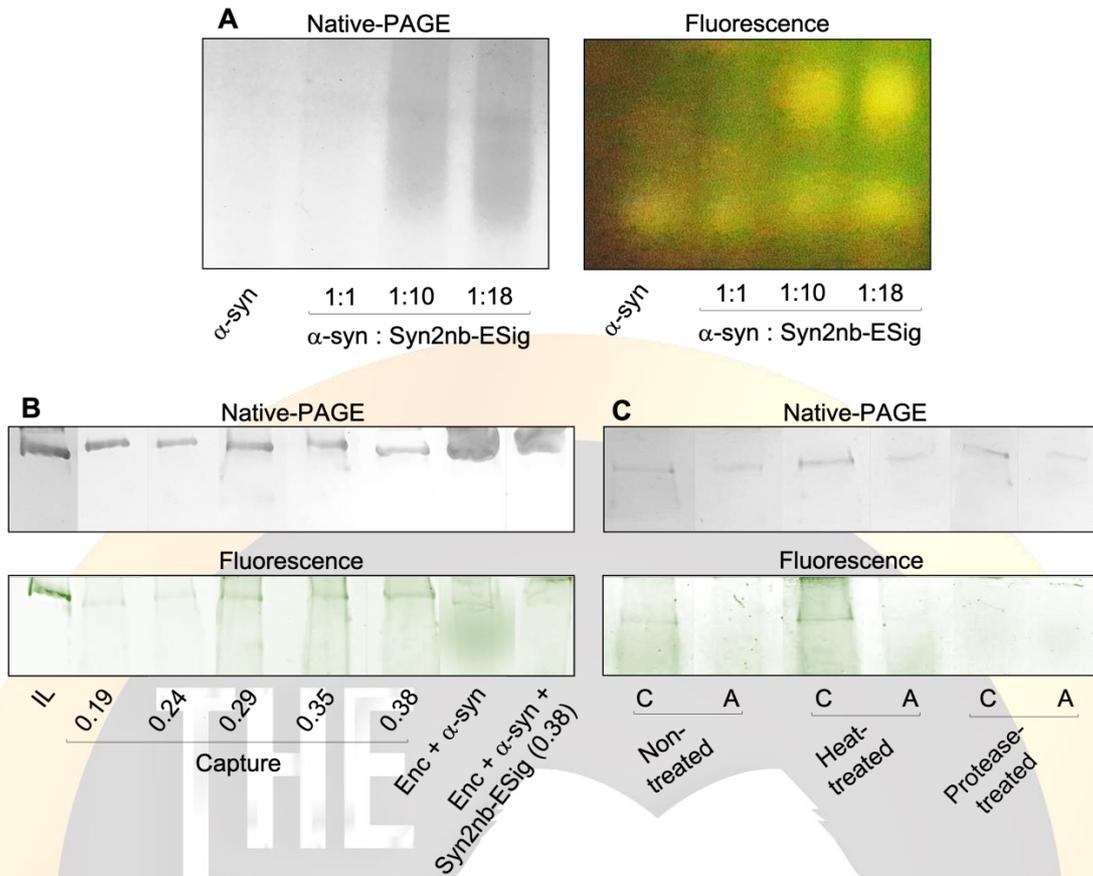
## Monoamine Oxidase Type B Impediments

Inhibitors of monoamine oxidase B (also known as MAO-B inhibitors) are another category of medications that are used in the treatment of Parkinson's disease. They are often used in the same manner as DAs, despite the fact that they are not as successful as L-DOPA; either as the primary therapy or as an addition to L-DOPA treatment ( 32). MAO-B inhibitors are excellent therapy for Parkinson's disease because they prevent the enzyme MAO-B, which is responsible for the irreversible metabolism of dopamine, from doing its job. Dopaminergic brain activity is kept at a constant level as a result of this, which is a factor that contributes to the battle against Parkinson's disease ( 32). Oral administration of the MAO-B inhibitor rasagiline is possible, although it has been associated with gastrointestinal (GI) side effects, a shorter half-life, and a bioavailability of only 36%. This is because the liver performs a significant amount of first-pass metabolism on the drug ( 32).

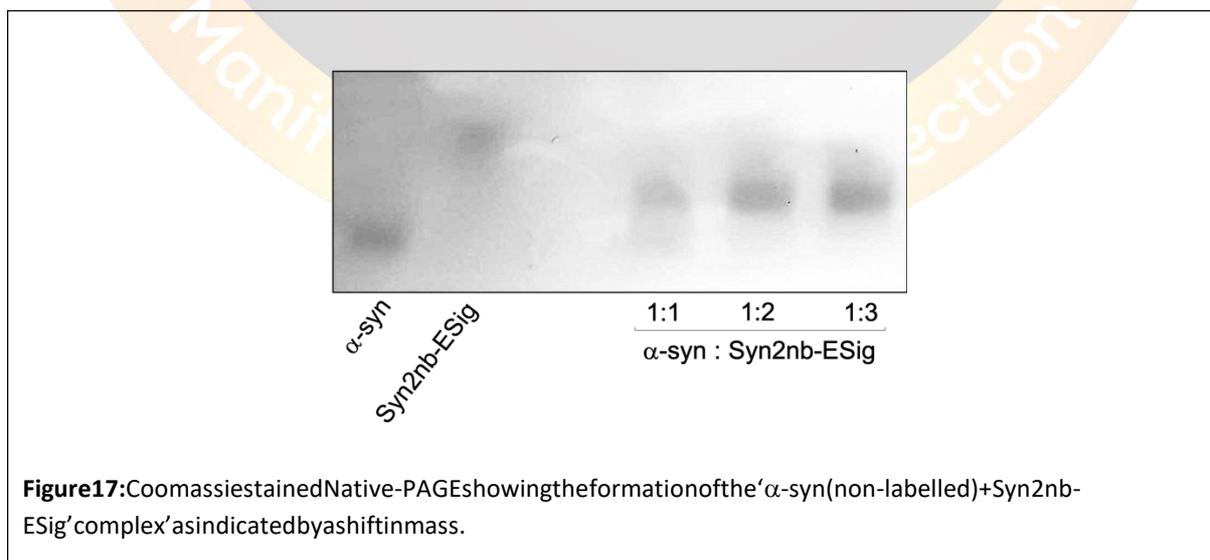
Ahmad (33), who worked on the project, produced PLGA nanoparticles with a reconstituted chitosan shell and a repeating Rasagiline core for use in intranasal distribution. This moniker was given to chitosan because of its great mucoadhesive capabilities as well as its ability to maintain medication release. The high-performance liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS) technique demonstrated that the chitosan-coated PLGA NP were successfully transported to the brain after being administered to rats via the nasal route. This enhanced Rasagiline accumulation in the rat brains was observed following nasal administration ( 33). The reversible and selective MAO-B inhibitor coumarin C75 may be able to be saturated across the BBB rather than by-passing it intranasally if it is encapsulated inside of a PLGA NP, which may be a key approach for MAO-B inhibition. This may be accomplished by encapsulation inside a PLGA NP. Because the BBB may be sidestepped, this is a more appealing delivery method than intranasal administration ( 34). The blood-brain barrier efflux transporter P- glycoprotein, also known as P-gp, was developed in order to facilitate the movement of the lone coumarin C75 via the BBB. The researchers thought that by adding PEGylated surfactant P188 to the surface of the PLGA NP, they would be able to prevent P-gb-mediated efflux. In addition to this, they hypothesized that the coumarin C75 loaded NPs would diffuse through a cellular in vitro BBB model. For the purpose of testing this hypothesis, high-performance liquid chromatography was used ( 34). Also, coumarin C75 was supposed to be cytotoxic to cell lines, but when it was put into PLGA NPs, it lost all of its cytotoxicity ( 34). It will be necessary to do more research in order to determine whether or not this method is effective in the treatment of PD; nonetheless, the



findings of this work show that NP may facilitate the transport of an MAO-B asset into the brain.



Syn2nb-ESig was carefully combined with unlabeled recombinant- $\alpha$ -synuclein(ab51189, Abcam). Successful conformation of the ' $\alpha$ -synuclein Syn2nb-ESig' complex was evidenced by a shift in molecular weight relative to that of  $\alpha$ -synuclein and Syn2nb-ESig alone (Fig. 17). Syn2nb-ESig's high mass is likely attributable to its structure, which modifies itself upon binding to  $\alpha$ -synuclein. Inadequate amounts of Syn2nb-ESig were also detected as shown by a trace excess of footloose- $\alpha$ -synuclein in the native gel. In subsequent experiments, we used a 12( $\alpha$ -synuclein:Syn2nb-ESig) rate.



**Figure 17:** Coomassie-stained Native-PAGE showing the formation of the ' $\alpha$ -syn (non-labelled) + Syn2nb-ESig' complex as indicated by a shift in mass.

Because to the utilization of synuclein that was not tagged, the location of the protein could not be found using luminescence (as tried over). Therefore, in order to validate the presence of  $\alpha$ -synuclein in the fluid and to estimate its quantity, we carried out an enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) that was specific for  $\alpha$ -synuclein (ELISA). Here, we were able to capture a complex that consisted of ' $\alpha$ -synuclein Syn2nb-ESig' and a significant quantity of  $\alpha$ -synuclein by paying varying degrees of attention to encapsulin. This was achieved by using a variety of different quantities of attention. The synuclein standard curves demonstrated that the ELISA was operating as expected; nevertheless, the experimental samples were contaminated below the detection limit of the test and were thus not detectable (data not shown). Experiments using ELISA will be carried out with a close attention paid to the synuclein Syn2nb-ESig complex in order to confirm and quantitatively evaluate the fact that synuclein is held captive by the encapsulin system.

The findings presented in this chapter demonstrate that an ESig-tagged nanobody with wide to-synuclein binding specificity may be effectively designed and manufactured. Although it is possible that the in vitro prisoner of synuclein in encapsulin has been detected, the data are currently rather equivocal because of the potential of non-specific list of the synuclein Syn2nb-ESig to the surface of encapsulin. This is the reason why it is possible that the in vitro prisoner of synuclein in encapsulin has been detected. In order to validate and improve the encapsulin-synuclein prisoner of war model, research on fetuses using techniques such as ELISA analysis will be carried out. Experiments to determine if synuclein that is bound externally, as opposed to synuclein that is captured within, affects the charge of encapsulin might potentially give support for the prisoner of synuclein concept. To differentiate between inmate synuclein and non-specific synuclein, however, we can utilize anion exchange chromatography if that turns out to be the case. There is also the possibility of genetically coupling  $\alpha$ -synuclein with sfGFP, which would make it possible for its presence to be observed by luminescence detection techniques similar to those discussed in Chapter 4.

#### Concluding Remarks and Plans for the Future

In this study, we investigated the self-assembling modules of encapsulin protein nanocages using a wide range of spectroscopic and microscopic methods. It has been shown that indolyl-tryptophan (ITF) spectroscopy is an innovative and reliable tool for examining the disassembly and reassembly of encapsulin under diverse conditions. These conditions include high pH, high temperature, and denaturant treatment. We were able to re-program the weight-lading mechanisms of the encapsulin from *T. maritima* in order to gather unmodified versions of the foreign proteins because of our existing understanding of how encapsulin tones are assembled. As a result, an

innovative "capture system" was developed by the successful capture of the natural sfGFP protein. This is the first time that we are aware of a protein-based nanoparticle effectively entrapping an unmodified protein, and we believe it to be a world first. In the end, our method was altered to capture- synuclein in order to investigate the possibility that it may one day be used as a treatment for PD. In spite of the fact that our first results indicated that - synuclein could have been captured by the approach, these findings turned out to be inconclusive. Trials will be designed and carried out in order to validate and further refine the method for the treatment of prisoners with synuclein. ELISAs, also known as enzyme-linked immunosorbent assays, anion-exchange chromatography, and a fluorescent-based detection approach that involves conjugating sfGFP to synuclein are some of the methods that fall under this category.

This innovative technology, the first of its type, paves the way for a vast array of options for future improvement. Despite the fact that we first used nanobodies that were tagged with a full-length ESig, early results demonstrated that an anti-GFP nanobody with a truncated ESigT(15 aa) was equally capable of binding sfGFP (30 aa). As a result, we will conduct research to determine the extent to which shorter ESigs have an effect on convicts. This is because shorter ESigs may enable higher weight gain since they reduce the amount of steric hindrance. Our primary characterization of the two larger encapsulin systems from MX and QT offers an opportunity to collect synuclein more efficiently, which makes it conceivable to modify these systems for confinement. This discovery comes as an extra benefit to our research. In addition to that, the monomeric form of synuclein was the one that was used. Since the oligomeric form of synuclein is related to the pathogenicity of synuclein in Parkinson's disease, future study will examine the list and prisoner of oligomeric-synuclein with the purpose of developing a more realistic in vitro model.

In order to anticipate the prison system's potential as a treatment option for PD, it is necessary to do an analysis of the system's effectiveness and safety in a natural environment. Because of this, we will conduct research on the impact that encapsulins have, in vitro, on the survival of neuronal cells, as well as cytotoxicity and oxidative stress.

Due to the fact that encapsulins were recombinantly produced in *E. coli*, they are susceptible to endotoxin contamination, which has the potential to result in undesirable pro-seditional products. For this reason, encapsulins may be produced in a variety of hosts, including mammalian cells (for example, HEK293T cells) or inducible hosts (for example, *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*), in order to prevent the unwanted impurity of endotoxin ( 45, 67). We will use an aco-culture model, which consists of two cell lines: one line overexpresses synuclein, while the other line serves as a control. Our goal is to evaluate if the prisoner system can improve extracellular synuclein conditions and facilitate transmission in vitro ( 68, 69). When an in vitro synuclein prisoner model has been created, the next step for the researchers will be to determine whether or not the prisoner system

may ameliorate the complaint phenotype in a pre-clinical in vivo model of Parkinson's disease (70).

It is possible that the effectiveness of the encapsulin prisoner system might be improved via inheritable engineering to make helpful changes to the system's factors. To provide just one example, there are brand novel ESig-tagged nanobodies that attach themselves to essential oligomeric forms of

To a lesser degree, synuclein may be employed to enhance synuclein levels in a population that is housed in a prison. Altering the interfaces between subunits in order to delay reassembly rates and lengthen the body rotation duration of disintegrating subunits may be one way to increase the bioavailability of encapsulins as a therapy for capture- synuclein. Additionally, the surface of encapsulin is possible to be modified, and it might be designed to display microglia-attracting parts in order to enable phagocytosis and selective decrease of encapsulin and synuclein upon its prisoner, so eliminating the latter from the extracellular space. These parameters are also able to be interchanged with one another and are modular, which broadens the applicability of the prisoner system to include other neurodegenerative diseases that also include the extracellular transfer of pathogenic proteins, such as hyperphosphorylated tau in Alzheimer's disease.

The current therapies for Parkinson's disease (PD) only relieve symptoms; they do not address the underlying mechanisms that stimulate the growth of the illness throughout the brain. There is still a significant desire for a complaint-modifying drug to treat PD, and currently there is none on the market. If research is redirected toward rectifiers that target synuclein, it may be possible to stop the damaging course of Parkinson's disease throughout the brain.

## **Chapter6:ConclusionsandFutureDirections**

The luminescence could not be exploited to track out the captor since unlabeled synuclein was used (as tried over). The presence of - synuclein in the fluid was confirmed and its concentration was calculated using an enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay specific for - synuclein ( ELISA). Here, we were able to capture a complex consisting of '- synuclein Syn2nb- ESig' and a considerable quantity of - synuclein by paying varying degrees of attention to encapsulin. Standard curve analysis confirmed that the ELISA was working correctly for measuring synuclein; nevertheless, the contamination levels in the experimental samples were below the detection limit of the test and were thus undetectable ( data not shown). We will undertake ELISA assays with a keen eye on the synuclein Syn2nb- ESig complex to confirm and quantitatively quantify the capture of synuclein by the encapsulin system.

In this chapter, we show data proving the successful design and manufacturing of an ESig-tagged

nanobody with wide to- synuclein binding selectivity. Due to the possibility of non-specific list of the synuclein Syn2nb- ESig to the surface of encapsulin, the results is now relatively inconclusive, but it is probable that the in vitro prisoner of synuclein in encapsulin has been discovered. The encapsulin-synuclein prisoner of war model will be confirmed and improved by fetal studies, such as ELISA analysis. Evidence for the prisoner of synuclein theory might also be gleaned from tests investigating whether synuclein bound externally, as opposed to synuclein trapped within, affects the charge of encapsulin. If this is the true, we may employ anion exchange chromatography to separate prisoner synuclein from background synuclein. Alternately, -synuclein might be genetically fused to sfGFP, allowing its prisoner to be detected using the luminescent techniques outlined in Chapter 4.

### **Synopsis, Results, and Next Steps**

In this study, we employed many different microscopic and spectroscopic methods to learn more about the building blocks of encapsulin protein nanocages and how they self-assemble. To investigate encapsulin disassembly/reassembly under different conditions, such as high pH, high temperature, and denaturant treatment, natural tryptophan luminescence(ITF) spectroscopy has developed as a novel and precise approach. As a result of our present understanding of encapsulin tone-assembly, we were able to reprogram the weight-lading mechanisms of the encapsulinfromT. maritima to gather native foreign proteins. By using a unique "prisoner system," we were able to successfully capture the natural sfGFP protein in this investigation. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first report of a protein-based nanoparticle effectively entrapping an unmodified protein. Finally, we adapted our method to capture- synuclein in order to investigate its therapeutic potential in Parkinson's disease. Initially, it seemed like our approach had captured - synuclein, but further analysis showed that these results were unconvincing. Trials will be developed and carried out to validate and further refine the method for - synuclein prisoners. Some of the techniques used to investigate this evasive inmate include enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) analysis, anion exchange chromatography, and the fluorescent conjugation of sfGFP to synuclein.

Potential for further enhancement is vastly expanded by this groundbreaking technology. Although we started with nanobodies tagged with a full-length ESig, a truncated ESigT(15 aa) anti-GFP nanobody was also demonstrated to bind sfGFP in early investigations (30 aa). Since shorter ESigs may facilitate higher weight gain by reducing steric hindrance, we will test their efficacy in incarcerated populations. Our primary analysis of the two larger MX and QT encapsulin systems provides a window of opportunity to enhance capture- synuclein, allowing for the adaptation of these systems for confinement. Furthermore, monomeric - synuclein was used in this study. Since the pathogenicity of- synuclein in PD is linked to the oligomeric form, next study will examine the list and prisoner of oligomeric-synuclein for a more realistic in vitro model.

Consider the system's viability as a therapy for PD by gauging its effectiveness and safety in a real-world situation, such as a prison. Therefore, we will test the effects of encapsulins on neuronal cell survival, cytotoxicity, and oxidative stress in vitro.

Because encapsulins were artificially created in *E. coli*, they are susceptible to endotoxin contamination, which might lead to undesirable pro- seditious products. Therefore, encapsulins may be made in a variety of hosts, including mammalian cells (e.g. HEK293T cells) and inducible hosts (e.g. *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*), to circumvent the presence of endotoxin impurities ( 45, 67). We will use an aco-culture paradigm using an overexpressing synuclein cell line and a control cell line to see whether the prisoner system may alleviate extracellular synuclein conditions and facilitate transmission in vitro ( 68, 69). Upon the establishment of an in vitro synuclein prisoner model, researchers may test whether or whether the prisoner system ameliorates the complaint phenotype in a pre-clinical in vivo model of PD ( 70).

Enhancing the effectiveness of the encapsulin prisoner system may be possible via inheritable engineering of the system's elements. For instance, recently developed ESig-tagged nanobodies that target essential oligomeric forms of

- synuclein might be utilized to increase - synuclein in a prison population, but to a lower level. Modifying the subunit interfaces to reduce reassembly rates and increase the body rotation length of disintegrating subunits may increase the bioavailability of encapsulins as a therapy for capture-synuclein. The surface of encapsulin is also malleable, and it might be altered to display microglia-attracting portions that would aid in the phagocytosis and selective decline of encapsulinand-synuclein upon its prisoner, therefore eliminating synuclein from the extracellular environment. These settings are also flexible and modular, allowing the prisoner system to be used to other neurodegenerative illnesses in which harmful proteins are transferred extracellularly, such as hyperphosphorylated tau in Alzheimer's disease.

However, current therapies for PD only focus on symptom relief, rather than addressing the underlying mechanisms that promote PD's spread across the brain. Significant unmet need exists for a therapeutic that may alleviate PD patients' complaints. Rectifiers that target synuclein may be the key to slowing PD's pathogenic development throughout the brain.

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