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This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug delivery			
Peptide drug delivery via cleavable albumin-binding peptide conjugates	Cleavable, albumin-binding peptide conjugates could help improve the efficacy of glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1)-targeting therapeutics. In human serum, conjugates consisting of GLP-1 or a GLP-1 analog linked to albumin-binding peptides retained their activity at the GLP-1 receptor (GLP1R; GLP-1R) longer than did unconjugated GLP-1. In a rat model of diabetes, the GLP-1 conjugates had serum half-lives 8–20 times longer than that of the unconjugated analog. Ongoing work includes optimizing the albumin-binding peptide to further increase its half-life and exploring methods of oral delivery for the peptide conjugates. Victoza liraglutide (NN2211), a once-daily GLP-1 analog from Novo Nordisk A/S, is marketed to treat type 2 diabetes. Byetta exenatide, a twice-daily injectable GLP1R agonist from Amylin Pharmaceuticals Inc. and Eli Lilly and Co., is marketed to treat type 2 diabetes.	Patented by Jinan University and Amersino Biodevelop Inc.; available for licensing **Contact**: Zhengding Su, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada e-mail: z2su@uwaterloo.ca	Li, H. *et al. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl.*; published online June 10, 2010; doi:10.1002/anie.201000287 **Contact:** Zhengding Su, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada e-mail: z2su@uwaterloo.ca **Contact:** Hongjian Li, Jinan University, Guangdong, China e-mail: tlihj@jnu.edu.cn

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