

caps, and automatically infused with heparin via wireless telemetry. Studies will compare in vivo pharmacokinetics following varying modes of administration (single or pump infusion, heparin concentration, Figure 1), and infused volume (Figure 2). These studies included an element of drug utilization and modulation of delivery rate. The programmable control software will demonstrate automated operation, debugging, and the ability to create, save and recall drug schedules. These feasibility studies will be performed to demonstrate compatibility and utility of the technology for chronic experimentation.

Preliminary Results: In a pilot study, microdialysis was implanted subcutaneously in a heparin-responsive hepatoma mouse (Fig. 3). The pump was connected to a catheter (Figure 4). The heparin was then delivered via osmotic infusion (Figure 5) by percutaneous needle injection into the subcutis. The mouse was anesthetized, received 20 μ l heparin via needle, and draped every 10 min to establish a heparin-release baseline of magnitude and time course. For five weeks, the mouse was placed above the base station, wirelessly triggered to draw 20 μ l heparin via pump, and draped. The heparin was wirelessly reported for one hour, infused in one multiple draw, controlled remotely via the base station, infused heparin on demand, and infused a measurable heparin amount equal with a pharmacokinetic profile expected of 20 μ l infusion. The peak of heparin-release was determined to be 1000 ng/ml.

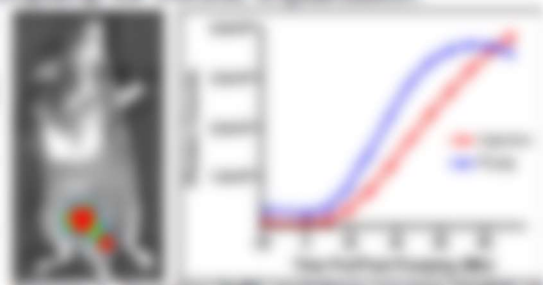


Figure 3. Schematic of mouse with catheter (left) and concentration of heparin in subcutaneous space (right) over a 2-hour period.

In a second pilot study, heparin pumps were implanted subcutaneously into a mouse model of metastatic melanoma (B16-F10) and connected to catheters (Figure 6). The B16-F10 model was developed by injecting heparin-responsive melanoma cells into the subcutaneous space in mice containing C3H/HeJ under the combination of C3H/HeJ and B16-F10 melanoma cells reproducibly develop C3H/HeJ melanoma.

These two implanted mice and four non-implanted heparin mice were treated with 20 μ l heparin and allowed to establish tumor growth for 4 days. Pumps were treated with 20 μ l heparin every 12 hours. Tumor growth was reported per day during the 4-day period. The non-implanted mice were reported daily with 20 μ l doses of either heparin or saline. The 20 μ l dose was previously found to provide the highest efficacy with the lowest toxicity against subcutaneous tumors in heparin-responsive melanoma (B16-F10) in the C3H/HeJ mouse for the first 10 days of the study suggests superior inhibition of tumor cell growth in the mice treated with heparin pump-infused 20 μ l heparin (Fig. 6). This is in contrast to the tumor growth of heparin in the 20 μ l heparin and saline groups.

The heparin pumps enabled the local heparin concentration and the study on its efficacy compared to traditional systemic chemotherapy. **Approach:** Heparin pumps will be subcutaneously implanted in heparin-responsive melanoma mice (Fig. 6) and connected to catheters (Figure 7). All pumps will be filled with heparin (Figure 8) using percutaneous needle injection. All implanted animals will be housed in a single cage placed above the base station and freely moving when the software program automates the pump during in control studies, each mouse will receive a total 20 μ l heparin by 20 μ l needle injection. Heparin-release imaging (Figure 9) will be performed at 15, 45, and 75 hours post-injection to establish the baseline magnitude and time course of heparin activity for each pump mouse. Next, an acute administration study will be performed using multiple, short time intervals (2 hours) during 20 μ l heparin on demand. Again, imaging will be performed at 15, 45, and 75 hours post-infusion. Compared to the imaging control data, data from this acute study will demonstrate repeatability of pumping as well as ability to maintain stable levels of infused agent at a targeted level (e.g., a therapeutic level). A chronic administration study lasting four weeks will be performed using weekly 20 μ l pump heparin, wireless-controlled dosing of heparin (Figure 10), and imaging at 75 hours post-infusion to verify heparin-release capability, repeatability, and reliability. With only one

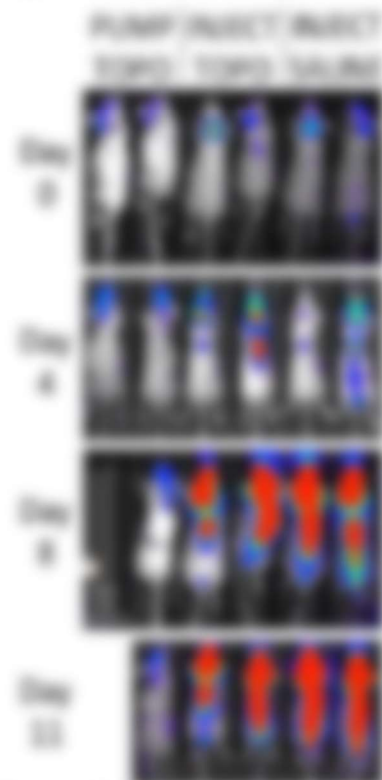


Figure 4. Subcutaneous heparin pump (left) and catheter (middle) in heparin-responsive melanoma (B16-F10) mouse (right).