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Polymeric Micelles for Targeted Drug Delivery

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Amphiphilic block copolymers self-assemble in aqueous systems in polymeric micelles with a core/shell morphology and a size of 10-50 nm. The hydrophobic core of these nanoparticles can accommodate hydrophobic drugs whereas the hydrophilic shell gives them colloidal stability and allows their intra-venous administration. Due to their small size polymeric micelles can permeate through the vasculature of blood vessel that feed tumors and accumulate there and release their contents, a cytostatic drug. In the presentation strategies how to exploit polymeric micelles as wells how to modulate their properties for tumor therapy will be discussed.

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