

Con A CONJUGATED TO CRIPTATE AS LUMINESCENT HISTOCHEMISTRY MARKER TO HUMAN PROSTATE TUMOUR

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Lanthanides cryptates (Cryp Ln (III)) is largely used as luminescent labels and lectins have been used to investigate and characterize residues of carbohydrates branches in glycoconjugates. In this work Con A was conjugated to criptate of europium (Crip(EU)) to be used in histochemistry to characterize residues of glucose/mannose in human prostate tumours (benign prostatic hyperplasia and prostatic adenocarcinoma). Results indicated that Con A-crip (Eu) presented the same binding pattern of Con A-FITC to stroma and gland cells observed under confocal microscopy. Tissues were previously incubated with Evan's Blue to suppress the intrinsic tissue fluorescence prior to lectin incubation confirming the fluorescence via crip(Eu) or FITC. In summary, the maintenance of the luminescent properties and binding pattern of Con A-Crip (Eu) when compared to Con A-FITC, indicates that Crip (Eu) can be used as an efficient marker for prostatic tissue.

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