オリゴプロリン複合体の自己集積による超分子ケージの構築

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Construction of supramolecular cage formed by self-assembly of oligoproline conjugate (¹Department of Life Science and Applied Chemistry, Nagoya Institute of Technology)

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Cage-like aggregates called "supramolecular cage" has attracted much attention from the viewpoint of its useful functions¹⁾. However, the studies regarding construction of biomolecule-based supramolecular capsule have been rare. This is because that biomolecules generally lack symmetry and rigidity. In this study, we focused on an oligoproline [**OP**] which has rod-like and rigid structure. Here, we report that the synthesis of **OP** conjugate and construction of the novel supramolecular cage.

The conjugation of proline 10-mer and benzenecalbonyl trichoride gave the **OP** conjugate (Fig. 1a). The nanocage was obtained by self-assembly of **OP** conjugates in 10% H₂O–MeCN, and its supramolecular structure was characterized by transmission electron microscopy [TEM] (Fig. 1b). In addition, the nanocage was further investigated by atomic force microscopy [AFM], dynamic light scattering [DLS], and infra-red absorption spectroscopy [IR]. *Keywords: Supramolecule; Peptide; Molecular Capsule; Self-assembly*

「超分子ケージ」と呼ばれる籠状構造の分子集積体は様々な機能を有しており、近年盛んに研究されている 1 。しかし、生体分子から超分子ケージを構築した報告は少ない。その理由として、生体分子は一般に剛直性や対称性が低く、分子ケージの骨格として用いることが難しいためである。そこで本研究では、棒状構造であり剛直性の高いペプチドであるオリゴプロリン $[\mathbf{OP}]$ に注目し 2 、 \mathbf{OP} を骨格とした \mathbf{OP} 複合体を合成し、自己集積させることで新たな超分子ケージを構築した。

OP 複合体は、固相合成で得たプロリン十量体[Pro₁₀]とトリメシン酸クロリドの一段階反応で得た(Fig. 1a)。超分子ケージは **OP** 複合体を 10% H₂O-MeCN 中で自己集積させることで調製し、TEM 測定によって四面体構造の超分子ケージを形成していることを明らかにした(Fig. 1b)。さらに、AFM, DLS, IR 測定を用いることで、**OP** ケージの超分子構造を精査したので、ここに報告する。

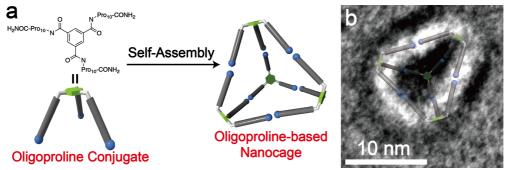


Figure 1. (a) Chemical structure of oligoproline conjugate and schematic model of oligoproline-based nanocage. (b) Negative-stain TEM image of a oligoproline-based nanocage on a carbon-coated cupper grid. Scale bar is 10 nm.

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