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## Carbon nanotubes pass safety test for use in medical therapies

Julkaistu: 15.2.2006

### Small objects with big objectives

**The study indicates the safety of modified carbon nanotubes provide great promise for their further development as medical tools. Dr Kostas Kostarelos hopes that the results will provide hope in the search for a new generation of safe and effective medical therapies.**

Some concerns over the safety of nanotechnology-enabled medical therapies have been alleviated after a study has revealed an absence of toxic side effects during their use. Researchers at The School of Pharmacy, University of London modified the surfaces of carbon nanotubes to make them more compatible with the human body and biological tissues. After intravenous administration, the modified carbon nanotubes were quickly excreted intact in urine, with no retention in any organs.

Carbon nanotubes have been studied widely in recent years as potential tools of medicine. These nanoscale (one millionth of a hairs width) tubes made of carbon could be swallowed, inhaled or injected, as with many other medicines. Their novelty lies in the ability, once administered, to act like minuscule needles that can carry drugs or therapeutic genes directly into specific cells.

The study, published in this week's *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, was undertaken between multidisciplinary research groups from The School of Pharmacy, University of London, the CNRS in Strasbourg, France and the University of Trieste in Italy and was sponsored primarily by The School of Pharmacy.

More informatin:

<http://www.pharmacy.ac.uk/cms/874.html>

[Takaisin uutisarkistoon](#)



Nyt useita hakuja avoinna