

## High Throughput Evolution of Near-Infrared Neurochemical Nanosensors

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Release and reuptake of neuromodulator serotonin is central to mood regulation and neuropsychiatric disorders, whereby imaging serotonin is of fundamental importance to study the serotonin signaling system. Recently, I present a reversible near-infrared optical probe for serotonin that reports physiologically-relevant serotonin concentrations on relevant spatiotemporal scales, and is compatible with pharmacological tests. Synthetic molecular recognition for serotonin was conferred by evolving molecular recognition between single stranded DNA (ssDNA) and single-walled carbon nanotube (SWNT). To do so, we developed a high-throughput screening platform for evolution of serotonin molecular selectivity, in which systematic evolution of ligands by exponential enrichment is implemented on carbon nanotube surfaces, a process we've termed SELEC. Our results suggest evolution of nanosensors could be generically implemented to rapidly develop other neuromodulator probes, and that these probes can image neuromodulator dynamics at spatiotemporal scales compatible with endogenous neuromodulation.