

## Fetuin-a-based theranostics in ectopic calcification

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# Propositions belonging to the thesis: Fetuin-A-Based Theranostics in Ectopic Calcification

## by Robert Dzhanaev

- 1. Soft-tissue calcification is a significant clinical challenge that lacks effective therapeutic options. (this thesis)
- 2. Early stages of ectopic calcification cannot be detected using conventional techniques. (this thesis)
- 3. Calcification probes generated by fusing plasma glycoprotein fetuin-A with fluorescent proteins represent non-toxic and sensitive tools enabling the precise detection of microcalcified lesions in cell cultures and tissue samples. (this thesis)
- Fetuin-A-based fusion proteins bearing RANKL provide a promising tool for targeted osteoclast differentiation at the sites of ectopic calcification. (this thesis)
- The estimation of the daily calcium requirement should take into account not only the amount of calcium consumed, but also its bioavailability. (Guéguen L and Pointillart A. *J Am Coll Nutr.* 2000)
- 6. Ectopic calcification evolved as a defensive mechanism against invading pathogens that turned pathologic due to modern lifestyle. (Frink in *Inflammatory Atherosclerosis: Characteristics of the Injurious Agent.* 2002)
- The presence of giant multinucleated TRAP-positive cells in advanced atherosclerotic plaques suggests a possible cell therapy of calcified lesions. (Jeziorska et al. *Virchows Arch.* 1998)
- 8. Early detection of small pathologic calcifications using fetuin-A-based probes may improve the prospect of calcification-associated disease. (societal impact)