

# Engineered Peptides Enable Biomimetic Route for Collagen Intrafibrillar Mineralization

Aya Cloyd <sup>1,2</sup>, Kyle Boone <sup>2,3</sup>, Qiang Ye <sup>2</sup>, Malcolm L. Snead <sup>4</sup>, Paulette Spencer <sup>1,2,3</sup> and Candan Tamerler <sup>1,2,3,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Bioengineering Program, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66045, USA  
<sup>2</sup> Institute for Bioengineering Research, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66045, USA  
<sup>3</sup> Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66045, USA  
<sup>4</sup> Center for Craniofacial Molecular Biology, Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA 90007, USA

\* Correspondence: ctamerler@ku.edu

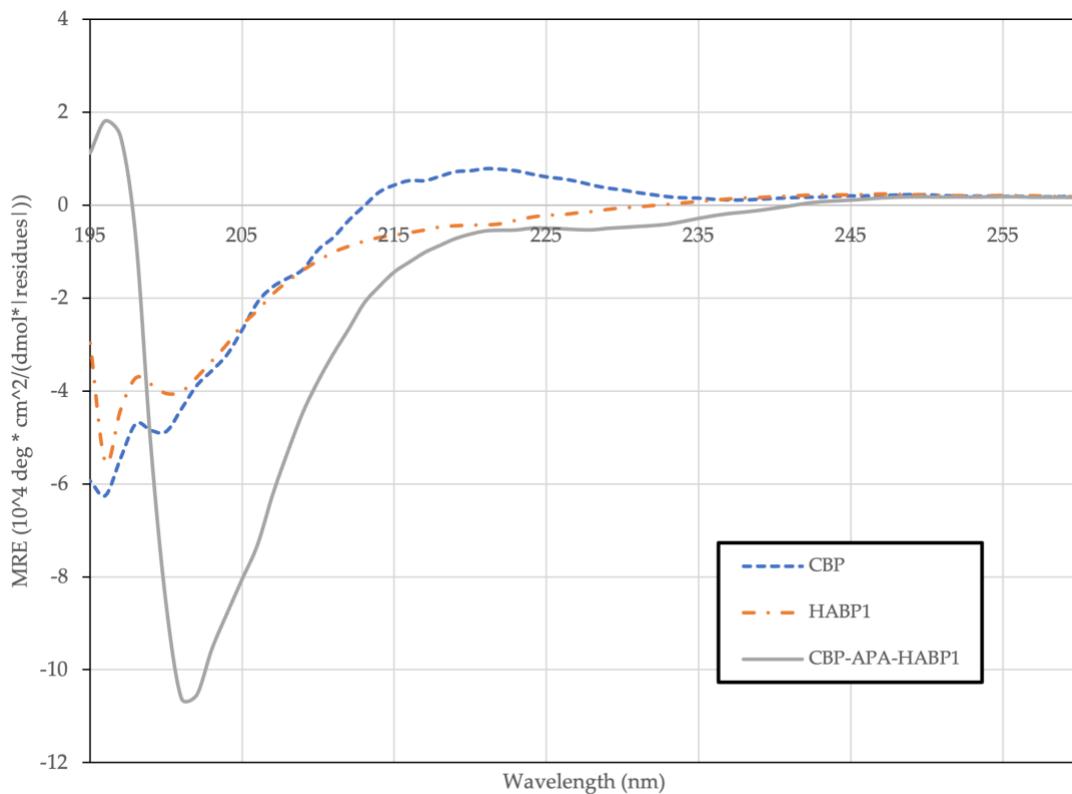
**Supplemental Table S1.** Biochemical properties of peptides

Calculated using ExPasy ProtParam tool [47]

| Peptide name & chemical properties  | Peptide Sequence       |
|---|------------------------|
| <b>CBP</b><br>MW: 960.19 g/mol<br>Theoretical pI: 11.17<br>Gravy Index: -0.850                      | TKKLTLRT               |
| <b>HABP1</b><br>MW: 761.90 g/mol<br>Theoretical pI: 6.69<br>Gravy Index: -0.129                     | MLPHHGA                |
| <b>CBP-(linker)-HABP1 (CBP-HABP1)</b><br>MW: 1943.34<br>Theoretical pI: 11.17<br>Gravy Index: -0.32 | TKKLTLRT-(APA)-MLPHHGA |

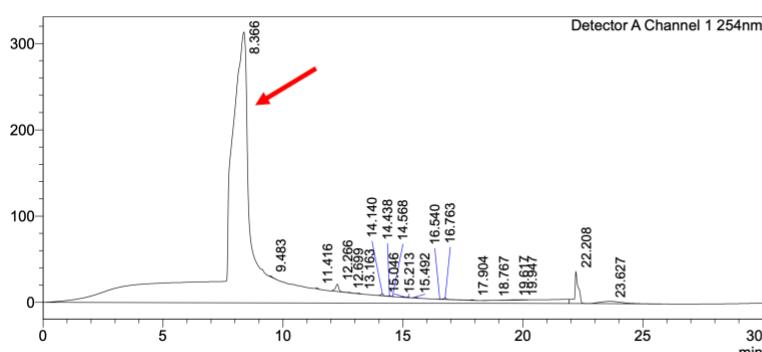
**Supplemental Table S2.** Statistics on PeakForce-QNM DMT Modulus pre/post mineralization

| Pre-mineralization           |          |                |                        |                      |
|------------------------------|----------|----------------|------------------------|----------------------|
|                              | Collagen | Collagen-(CBP) | Collagen-(HABP1)       | Collagen-(CBP-HABP1) |
| Mean (GPa)                   | 4.08     | 5.16           | 4.62                   | 5.25                 |
| Standard Deviation (GPa)     | 0.010    | 0.018          | 0.057                  | 0.039                |
| Variance (GPa <sup>2</sup> ) | 0.065    | 0.215          | 2.16                   | 1.01                 |
| Post-mineralization          |          |                |                        |                      |
|                              | Collagen | Collagen-(CBP) | Collagen-(HABP1)       | Collagen-(CBP-HABP1) |
| Mean (GPa)                   | 6.96     | 6.52           | 6.73                   | 5.89                 |
| Standard Deviation (GPa)     | 0.483    | 0.107          | 1.708                  | 0.140                |
| Variance (GPa <sup>2</sup> ) | 2.34     | 11.4           | 2.92 × 10 <sup>3</sup> | 19.6                 |



**Supplemental Figure S1.** Mean residue ellipticity (MRE) by circular dichroism of collagen binding peptide (CBP), hydroxyapatite peptide (HABP1) and bifunctional peptide (CBP--APA-HABP1), computed using CD Pro [52].

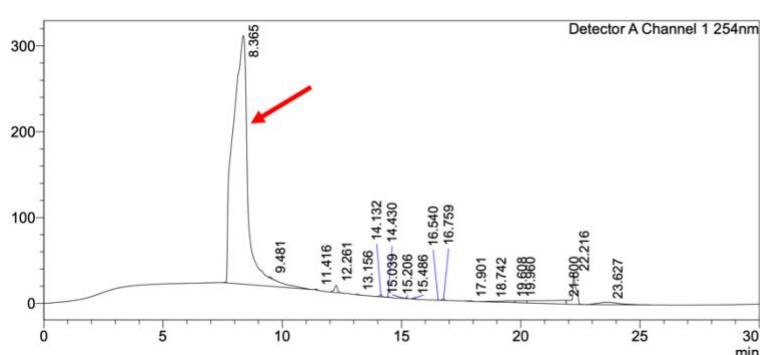
mV



| Detector A Channel 1 254nm |           |          |         |
|----------------------------|-----------|----------|---------|
| Peak#                      | Ret. Time | Area     | Height  |
| 1                          | 8.366     | 28688449 | 313746  |
| 2                          | 9.483     | 6459     | 1163    |
| 3                          | 11.416    | 5953     | 1157    |
| 4                          | 12.266    | 76256    | 8430    |
| 5                          | 12.699    | 2018     | 301     |
| 6                          | 13.163    | 5126     | 663     |
| 7                          | 14.140    | 16273    | 2596    |
| 8                          | 14.438    | 4835     | 721     |
| 9                          | 14.568    | 1907     | 399     |
| 10                         | 15.046    | 4704     | 698     |
| 11                         | 15.213    | 4987     | 827     |
| 12                         | 15.492    | 10072    | 998     |
| 13                         | 16.540    | 1490     | 221     |
| 14                         | 16.763    | 12733    | 1998    |
| 15                         | 17.904    | 11223    | 709     |
| 16                         | 18.767    | 2219     | 104     |
| 17                         | 19.617    | 11966    | 390     |
| 18                         | 19.947    | 8693     | 420     |
| 19                         | 22.208    | 392014   | 37134   |
| 20                         | 23.627    | 178050   | 2676    |
| Total                      |           | 29445327 | 375350  |
|                            |           |          | 100.000 |

**Supplemental Figure S2.** Collagen binding peptide (CBP) analytical Shimadzu HPLC spectral report, red arrow signifying CBP spectral feature.

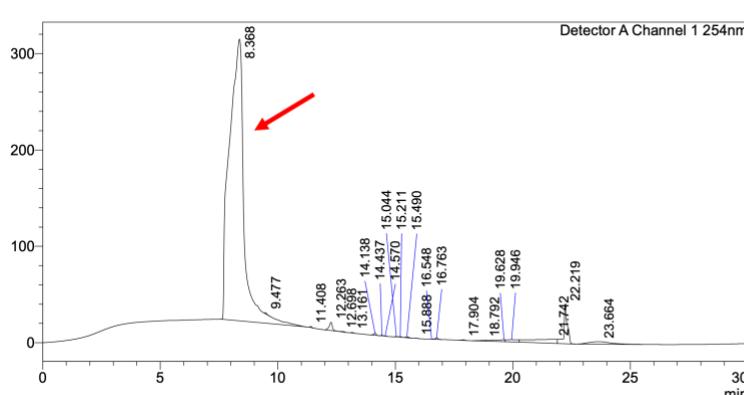
mV



| Detector A Channel 1 254nm |           |          |         |
|----------------------------|-----------|----------|---------|
| Peak#                      | Ret. Time | Area     | Height  |
| 1                          | 8.365     | 12515209 | 289474  |
| 2                          | 9.481     | 7493     | 1410    |
| 3                          | 11.416    | 5815     | 1146    |
| 4                          | 12.261    | 74582    | 8327    |
| 5                          | 13.156    | 3367     | 620     |
| 6                          | 14.132    | 14721    | 2557    |
| 7                          | 14.430    | 2943     | 566     |
| 8                          | 15.039    | 2816     | 539     |
| 9                          | 15.206    | 2864     | 629     |
| 10                         | 15.486    | 8300     | 909     |
| 11                         | 16.540    | 1104     | 178     |
| 12                         | 16.759    | 11785    | 1961    |
| 13                         | 17.901    | 4707     | 674     |
| 14                         | 18.742    | 12545    | 668     |
| 15                         | 19.608    | 79143    | 1965    |
| 16                         | 19.960    | 71676    | 2409    |
| 17                         | 21.800    | 328776   | 4232    |
| 18                         | 22.216    | 375565   | 34413   |
| 19                         | 23.627    | 175361   | 2678    |
| Total                      |           | 13698776 | 355356  |
|                            |           |          | 100.000 |

**Supplemental Figure S3.** Hydroxyapatite binding peptide (HABP1) analytical Shimadzu HPLC spectral report, red arrow signifying HABP1 spectral feature.

mV



| Detector A Channel 1 254nm |           |          |         |
|----------------------------|-----------|----------|---------|
| Peak#                      | Ret. Time | Area     | Height  |
| 1                          | 8.368     | 12624281 | 292235  |
| 2                          | 9.477     | 6024     | 1261    |
| 3                          | 11.408    | 5467     | 1091    |
| 4                          | 12.263    | 77440    | 8536    |
| 5                          | 12.699    | 3537     | 229     |
| 6                          | 13.161    | 3131     | 602     |
| 7                          | 14.138    | 14991    | 2548    |
| 8                          | 14.437    | 2624     | 525     |
| 9                          | 14.570    | 1160     | 296     |
| 10                         | 15.044    | 2843     | 548     |
| 11                         | 15.211    | 2963     | 636     |
| 12                         | 15.490    | 8286     | 917     |
| 13                         | 15.888    | 1032     | 192     |
| 14                         | 16.548    | 1395     | 211     |
| 15                         | 16.763    | 12233    | 1963    |
| 16                         | 17.904    | 4459     | 645     |
| 17                         | 18.792    | 13848    | 707     |
| 18                         | 19.628    | 67905    | 1985    |
| 19                         | 19.946    | 82721    | 2385    |
| 20                         | 21.742    | 322265   | 4146    |
| 21                         | 22.219    | 416607   | 40621   |
| 22                         | 23.684    | 169928   | 2603    |
| Total                      |           | 13845142 | 364879  |
|                            |           |          | 100.000 |

**Supplemental Figure S4.** Chimeric peptide (CBP-HABP1) analytical Shimadzu HPLC spectral report, red arrow signifying CBP-HABP1 spectral feature.

```

1 import numpy as np
2 from glob import glob
3 from pathlib import Path
4 from PIL import Image
5 import os
6 import cv2
7 from tqdm import tqdm
8 from matplotlib import pyplot as plt
9 from skimage.filters import threshold_multiotsu
10
11
12
13 # Path to the data directory
14 main_dir = Path("/INSERT PATH HERE")
15
16 # Set all tif files in within the data dir..
17 tifs = []
18 for child in os.listdir(main_dir):
19     print(child)
20     tifs.append(list((main_dir / child).glob("*.tif")))
21
22
23 def area_percentage(image):
24     '''Calculate the area of the pixels above a certain threshold is fixed to zero'''
25     pixels = len(np.column_stack(np.where(image > 0)))
26     image_area = image.shape[0] * image.shape[1]
27     area_ratio = round((pixels / image_area) * 100,2)
28     return area_ratio
29
30 def findArea (image, name):
31     #apply blur to remove the small bright spots
32     image = cv2.medianBlur(image, 7)
33
34     #equalize histogram
35     eq_image = cv2.equalizeHist(image.ravel()).reshape((image.shape[0],image.shape[1]))
36
37     # Find the thresholds in the histogram
38     # Set any value less than the smallest threshold to zero results in a binary image
39     (threshold, regions) = cv2.threshold(image, 0, 1, cv2.THRESH_BINARY | cv2.THRESH_OTSU)[1].astype(np.bool)
40
41     #calculate the area of the binary image
42     area = area_percentage(regions)
43
44     # Visualize results
45     fig, ax = plt.subplots(nrows=1, ncols=3, figsize=(15, 3))
46     im_ratio = regions.shape[0]/regions.shape[1]
47
48     # Plotting the original image
49     im1 = ax[0].imshow(image, cmap='gray')
50     ax[0].set_title('Original')
51     ax[0].axis('off')
52
53     # Plotting the histogram and the corresponding thresholds
54     im2 = ax[1].hist(eq_image.ravel(), bins=255)
55     ax[1].set_title('Histogram')
56     ax[1].axvline(threshold, color='r')
57
58     # Plotting the binary image
59     im3 = ax[2].imshow(regions, cmap='gray')
60     ax[2].set_title('Binary image area {:.3f}'.format(area))
61     ax[2].axis('off')
62
63     fig.colorbar(im3, ax=ax[2], orientation="vertical", fraction=0.047*im_ratio)
64
65     plt.tight_layout()
66     plt.show()
67     fig.savefig('INSERT PATH HERE' + name + '_{}.png'.format(area))
68     return np.uint8(regions)
69
70 # Iterate through loaded images
71 for i in tqdm(tifs):
72     for file in i:
73         name = str(file).split('\\')[-1].split('.')[0]
74         image = np.array(Image.open(file))[:1790,:]
75         regions = findArea(image, name)
76

```

**Supplemental Figure S5.** SEM image processing source code (Python 3.9.13)