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## REVIEW ARTICLE

### Review of Type of Nanoparticles, Characterization and Drug Delivery Application

R. Ajitha\*, S. Gobinath, R. Ramprasad, Nilsha Anil, N. Venkateshan, J. Amutha Iswarya Devi

Department of Pharmacy, Arulmigu Kalasalingam College of Pharmacy, Anand Nager, Krishnankoil-626126.

#### ABSTRACT

The most emerging branch in pharmaceutical is “Pharmaceutical nanotechnology” which are expected to have significant applications in disease diagnostics and therapeutics. Pharmaceutical nanotechnology comprised of Nano- sized products which can be transformed in numerous ways to improve their characteristics various pharmaceutical nanotechnology based systems which can be termed as Nano pharmaceuticals like 1. Polymeric Nanoparticle biodegradable-excellent carrier for sustained delivery of drug 2. Carbon Nanotubes-unique electric properties-enhance solubility 3. Polymeric Micelles-high drug entrapment-long circulatory. liposome-versatile-active delivery of gene. 5. Quantum Dots-narrow emission-receptor mediated endocytosis. 6. Metallic Nanoparticle-gold and silver colloids-highly sensitive diagnostic assays, 7. Nano bubbles (NBs) are Nano scaled bubble like structures that are generated in the interface of hydrophobic surfaces in liquids etc. Application like diagnostics, drug transport, free radical scavengers, photosensitizers, cell specificity, internalization, vaccine delivery, gene delivery, gene silencing, reduce toxicity and increase the efficacy etc. Nanoparticle small in size of particles so easily penetration in skin, blood and cardiovascular system and brain etc. These are most important applications and nanoparticles associated health risk related information available till present.

**Keywords:** Nanotechnology, Nanoparticle, types and application.

#### ARTICLE INFO

##### \*Corresponding Author

R. Ajitha  
Department of Pharmacy, Arulmigu  
Kalasalingam College of Pharmacy,  
Anand Nager, Krishnankoil-626126.  
MS-ID: IJPNM3642



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#### 1. Introduction

Nanotechnology is the science of material featuring between  $10^{-9}$  and  $10^{-7}$  of a meter or in another words it's International Journal of Pharmacy and Natural Medicines

the science of materials and devices whose structures and constituents demonstrate novel and considerably altered

physical, chemical and biological phenomenon due to their nanoscale size [1,2,3]. Thus nanotechnology is defined as the manipulation of matter on an atomic, molecular, and supramolecular scale involving the design, production, characterization and application of different nanoscale materials in different potential areas providing novel technological advances mainly in the field of medicine [4,5,6]. This forms an independent branch of nanostructures, referred as nanomedicine which is specifically utilized for medicines. Nanomedicine involves utilization of nanotechnology for the benefit of human health and well being. Nanomedicine was defined by European Science Foundation as ‘the science and technology of diagnosing, treating and preventing disease and traumatic injury, of relieving pain, and of preserving and improving human health, using molecular tools and molecular knowledge of the human body This definition was revised by the US NIH as: ‘Nanomedicine refers to highly specific medical intervention at the molecular scale for curing diseases or repairing damaged tissues, such as bone, muscle, or nerve’ [7,8,9,10].

#### Specified five sub-disciplines of nanomedicines

- Analytical tools
- Nanoimaging tools
- Nanomaterials and nanodevices
- Clinical and toxicological issues
- Novel therapeutics and drug delivery systems

Potential of nanomedicines in cancer is dependent on passive targeting (due to the enhance of the permeability and retention effect promoted by angiogenic vessels) which can be reinforced by specific targeting (based on multifunctional nanomaterials that bypass the biological barriers and reach cancer cells). Nanoparticles based specific drug targeting and delivery platforms reduce toxicity and other side effects and also improve the therapeutic index of the targeted drug [11,12,13,14]. In the primary objective of nanotechnology especially in cancer therapy is the development of suitable targeting delivery systems which has been taking the lead in what concerns overcoming the MDR problem. Such targeted delivery systems that are based ‘Nanosizing’ of drugs [15,16,17]:

- Decrease drug resistance
- Decrease toxicity
- Enhance oral bioavailability
- Enhance rate of dissolution
- Enhance solubility
- Increase the stability of drug and formulation
- Increase drug targeting ability
- Increase patient compliance
- Increase surface area
- Reduce the dose

#### Polymeric Nanoparticle:

The main objective of our book is to explore the recent nano application of wide array of natural polymers obtained from different sources. Natural polymers based nano-conjugates and their advance applications are discussed in this chapter [19,20,21]. In addition various drug delivery and targeting based considerations are also discussed. Natural polymer based nanoparticles are usually

biocompatible and non toxic, although often suffer from stability problems when delivered across the various biological membranes. Such delivery exposed nanoparticles against various pH. This variation in pH and certain other problems limit their use sometime. Polymeric nanoparticles consist of a biodegradable polymer which is biocompatible and non toxic. Feature such as biocompatibility is required for potential application in tissue engineering, drug and gene delivery and new vaccination strategies [22,23,24].

Recently research explore some advance modification of natural polymers which consists of synthetic polyesters like polycyanoacrylate and related polymers like poly(lactide-co-glycolide) poly(lactid acid). Among natural polymers the most widely used polymer which is used now days is chitosan. In addition to chitosan many other such as gelatin, and sodium alginate overcome some toxicological problems with the synthetic polymers [25,26,27,28]. Natural polymer based nanoparticles offers a significant improvement over traditional oral and intravenous methods of drug delivery system in terms of efficiency and effectiveness. The various natural polymers like gelatin, albumin and alginate are used to prepare the nanoparticles. Synthetic polymers used for nanoparticles preparation may be in the form of preformed polymer e.g. polyesters like polycaprolactone (PCL), poly lactic acid (PLA) or monomers that can be polymerized in situ e.g. polyalkyl cyanoacrylate. There are many advantages of using polymeric nanoparticles in drug delivery [29,30,31]:

- Biocompatible and biodegradable
- Increase the stability of any volatile pharmaceutical agents
- Less toxic
- They are easily cheaply fabricated in large quantities by a multitude of methods
- Have engineered specificity, allowing them to deliver a higher concentration of pharmaceutical agent to a desired location
- Nonimmunogenicity and nontoxicity

## 2. Application

### Long-Circulating and Target-Specific Nanoparticles:

Nanoparticles are known to be the most successful way of delivering drug at desirable site. They can be used to target tumors which are localized outside mononuclear phagocytic system rich organs. Instantaneous identification of colloidal carriers (liposomes and polymeric nanospheres) from the blood by Kupffer cells, has begun a surge of development for “Kupffer cell-evading” or long-circulating particles. These carriers have major applications in vascular drug delivery and release, site-specific targeting (passive as well as active targeting), as well as transfusion medicine [32,33,34,35]. So much effort has been done to develop so-called “stealth” particles (PEGylated nanoparticles), which are invisible to macrophages or phagocytes [37,38]

**Nanoparticles for Oral Delivery of Peptides and Proteins:** Exploration of more antigenic substances in biotechnology and biochemistry field persist the production of vaccines. Owing to the recent advancement

biotechnology various bio macromolecules and vaccines are explored [39,40]. Thus there is an urgent requirement of their suitable carriers system which still remains a challenge due to the fact that bioavailability of these molecules is limited by the epithelial barriers of the gastrointestinal tract and their susceptibility to gastrointestinal degradation by digestive enzymes. Polymer based nanoparticles facilitates the encapsulation of bioactive molecules and protect them against enzymatic and hydrolytic degradation. e.g. insulin-loaded polymeric nanoparticles have preserved insulin activity and produced blood glucose reduction in diabetic rats for up to 14 days following the oral administration. It's universally known that the surface area of human mucosa extends to 200 times that of skin [41,42]. Protein or peptide based drug delivery encountered a variety of physiological and morphological barriers:

- Bacterial gut flora
- Mucus layer and epithelial cell lining itself
- Proteolytic enzymes at the brush border membrane (endopeptidases)
- Proteolytic enzymes in the gut lumen like pepsin, trypsin and chymotrypsin

#### **Carbon Nanotubes:**

Carbon nano tubes are carbon based tubular structures that are discovered in 1991. These structures are arranged in fashion like a graphite sheet rolled up into a cylinder and capped at one or both ends by a buckyball. These are hexagonal networks of carbon atoms having diameter of one nanometer and length from 1 to 100 nm. These carbon networks are arranged layer of graphite rolled up into a cylinder [43,44]. There are two carbon based configuration that have received much attention recently .single-walled nanotubes (SWNTs) and multiwalled nanotubes (MWNTs). In addition to these types C 60 fullerenes is also a part of common configurations. These are hollow, carbon-based, cage-like architectures (nanotubes and fullerenes), also known as bucky balls, which are differ in the arrangement of their graphite cylinders. The size, geometry, and surface characteristics of these macromolecules make them appealing for drug carrier usage and have remarkable physical proper [44,45].

SWNTs and C60 fullerenes have internal diameters range of 1–2 nm. This dimension is equivalent to about half the diameter of the average DNA helix, whereas MWNTs have diameters ranging from several nanometers to tens of nanometers with 0.36 nm distance between layers of MWCNT, depending on the number of walls in the structure. Size may vary in their length ranging from 1  $\mu$ m to a few micrometers [46]. As far as their architecture is concerned fullerenes and carbon nanotubes are typically fabricated using laser ablation, chemical vapor deposition, electric arc discharge, or combustion processes. Characterization of these concentric forms is based on their strength and stability so that they can be used as stable drug carriers. Cellular entry of nanotubes may be mediated by endocytosis or by insertion through the cell membrane. Fullerenes have also shown drug targeting capability. Tissue-selective targeting and intracellular targeting of mitochondria have been shown with use of fullerene

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structures. Furthermore, experiments with fullerenes have also shown that they exhibit antioxidant and antimicrobial behavior [47].

#### **Application:**

##### **Cell specificity**

Enhancement of cell specificity by conjugating antibodies to carbon nano tubes with fluorescent or radiolabelling

##### **Internalization**

Internalization within mammalian cells can be achieved by surface- functionalized carbon nanotubes

##### **Vaccine delivery**

Conjugation with peptides may be used as vaccine delivery structures

##### **Gene delivery**

With the advancement in molecular dynamics simulations, the flow of water molecules through surface-functionalized carbon nanotubes has been modeled in such a way so that they can be conveniently utilized as small molecule transporters in transporting DNA, indicating potential use as a gene delivery tool [48,49]. The ability of nanotubes to transport DNA across cell membrane is used in studies involving gene therapy. During this therapy DNA can be attached to the tips of nanotubes or can be incorporated within the tubes. It has been found that gene therapy with galactosidase marker gene nanotubes showed greater expression compared to transfer of naked DNA. This assures the advantage of non immunogenicity in contrast to viral vectors used for gene transfer [50,51].

##### **Reduced toxicity and increases the efficacy**

Carbon nanotubes enhance drug delivery, efficacy and reduces the toxicity as found in the case of Amphotericin B nanotubes. It has been found that Amphotericin B nanotubes has shown enhanced drug delivery to the interior of cells, increased antifungal efficacy and reduced toxicity to mammalian cells when compared to amphotericin B administration without nanotubes. The efficacy of amphotericin B nanotubes was also effective on strains of fungi which are usually resistant to amphotericin B alone [52,53,54]

##### **Gene silencing**

Highly selective therapy is required for cancer therapy where tumor cells will be selectively modulated. In this case gene silencing has been done with small interfering RNA. This can be achieved by targeting functionalized single walled carbon nanotubes with sRNA to silence targeted gene expression in the targeted cell[55].

##### **In diagnostics**

It was reported that compounds that are bound to nanotubes enhance the efficiency of diagnostic methods. This property of functionalization and high length to diameter aspect ratio [56,57].

##### **Toxicity**

On a dose per mass basis carbon nanotubes are more toxic than quartz particles which are well known for their lung toxicity [58,59]

##### **Swent:**

*In-vitro* incubation of high dose of SWCNT with keratinocytes and bronchial epithelial cells results in ROS generation, oxidative stress, lipid peroxidation, mitochondrial dysfunction and changes in cell morphology;

Platelet aggregation; Intratracheal instillation of high doses of nanotubes causes chronic lung inflammation, foreign body granuloma formation, interstitial fibrosis; *in vivo* studies SWCNT induce lung granuloma [60].

#### **Polymeric Micelles:**

Polymeric micelles contain amphiphilic block copolymers assemble to form nanoscopic supramolecular core-shell structures called as 'polymeric micelles'. These micelles are formed in solution as aggregates in which the component molecules are generally arranged in a spheroidal structure with hydrophobic cores shielded from water by a mantle of hydrophilic groups. There are several examples of component molecule such as Amphiphilic AB-type or ABA-type block copolymers, where A and B are hydrophobic and Hydrophilic components, respectively. These polymeric micelles are usually <100 nm and are used for the systemic delivery of water-insoluble drugs. Their hydrophilic surface of these dynamic systems protects their nonspecific uptake by reticuloendothelial system. Polymeric micelle carries advantage in trapping drugs or contrast agents physically within the hydrophobic cores or can be linked covalently to component molecules of the micelle. Additionally they are proved as an excellent novel drug delivery system due to their high stability in physiological conditions, high and versatile loading capacity, high accumulation of drug at target site, possibility of functionalization of end group for conjugation of targeting ligands and slower rate of dissolution [61,62].

#### **Application:**

##### **Polymer Drug Conjugate:**

Polymer drug conjugate formed by the conjugation of low molecular weight drugs with polymer. This interaction/conjugation causes drastic change in pharmacokinetic disposition of drug in whole body and at cellular level. They are designed to increase the overall molecular weight, which facilitates their retention in cancer cells through enhanced permeation and retention effect using passive delivery approach [63,64].

##### **Liposome:**

Polyplexes/ Lipopolyplexes are the assemblies which are used in transfection protocols. These assemblies are formed by spontaneous interaction between nucleic acids and polycations or cationic liposomes (or polycations conjugated to targeting ligands or hydrophilic polymers). Usually composition and charge ratio of nucleic acid to that of cationic lipid/polymer determines the shape, size distribution, and transfection potential of these complexes [65]. Current research offers various types of polycations that have been used in gene transfer/therapy protocols:

- Cationic cyclodextrin
- Linear- and branched-poly (ethyleneimine)
- Poly (amidoamine)
- Poly-amino esters
- Poly- L -lysine

##### **Quantum Dots:**

Quantum dots (QDs) are nanocrystals of semiconducting materials measuring around 2–10 nm, consisting of a semiconductor inorganic core (CdSe), an aqueous organic coated shell (e.g., ZnS) to improve optical properties, and

can be made to fluoresce when stimulated by light. Quantum dots bear a cap which enables them in improving their solubility in aqueous buffers. They are neither atomic nor bulk semiconductors [66,67]. Core of the quantum dots determines the color emitted and outer aqueous shell is available for conjugation with biomolecules.

Biomolecular conjugation of the quantum dots can be modified according to target various biomarkers. Their properties originate from their physical size, which ranges from 2 to 10 nm in radius. Owing to their narrow emission, bright fluorescence, high photostability and broad UV excitation QDs have been adopted for tracking of intracellular process for longer time, for *in vitro* bioimaging and for real time monitoring. As far as its applications are concerned QDs covers medical areas as a diagnostic as well as therapeutic tool for *in vitro* and *in vivo* detection and analysis of biomolecules, immunoassays, DNA hybridization, diagnostic tools (magnetic resonance imaging, MRI), time graded fluorescence imaging of tissue, development of non-viral vectors for gene therapy, labeling of cells, as therapeutic tools for cancer treatment and transport vehicles for DNA, protein, drugs or cells [68].

#### **Application:**

##### **Cancer therapy**

In one report it was proven that quantum dots are accumulated in prostate cancer developed in nude mice by enhanced permeability and retention [69].

##### **Bioconjugation with polymer**

It was reported that its conjugation with polyethylene glycol (PEG) and antibody and targeting to prostate specific membrane antigen enhances its accumulation and retention in the tumor tissue [70]

##### **Imaging**

They can also be utilized for imaging of sentinel node in cancer patients for tumor staging and planning of therapy [71]. This application assists in detecting suitable therapy and stage for various malignancies like melanoma, breast, lung and gastrointestinal tumors. In addition quantum dot probes provide real time imaging of the sentinel node with Near Infra Red (NIR) fluorescence system which is having the potential to produce reduced background noise and deeper penetration of rays into the biological sample [72].

##### **Toxicity**

QDs utilization in clinical practice is limited since it has serious elimination problems which cause extreme toxicity. After functionalization of the QDs size increases. This size range is greater than the pore size of endothelium and renal capillaries, thus reducing its elimination and resulting in toxicity. Additionally there are very less reports available on the metabolism and excretion of quantum dots making their utilization more difficult clinically [73].

### **3. Metallic Nanoparticles**

Currently these nanoparticles are emerging as good delivery carrier for drug and biosensor. For the synthesis of metallic nanoparticles diverse metals have been explored though silver and gold nanoparticles are of prime importance for biomedical use. Surface functionalization on these nanoparticles can easily be done and various ligands have

been decorated onto the surface. Variety of ligands such as sugars, peptide, protein and DNA has been linked to nanoparticles [74,75].

#### **Application**

Metallic nanoparticles have been used for active delivery of bioactive, drug discovery, bioassays, detection, imaging and many other applications due to surface functionalization ability, as an alternative to quantum dots.

#### **Nanobubbles:**

Nanobubbles (NBs) are nanoscaled bubble like structures that are generated in the interface of hydrophobic surfaces in liquids. These nanobubbles remain stable at room temperature and when heated to physiological temperature within the body coalesce to form microbubbles. The mechanism of NB formation is based on the nucleation of gas at the hydrophobic surface from a supersaturated solution, leading to trap atmospheric gases. However the formation of NBs is thermodynamically forbidden, but the life time of NBs is reached event to the orders of hours. There are four types of nanobubbles: Bulk, interfacial, plasmonic and oscillating nanobubbles. Cancer therapeutic drugs can be incorporated into these nanoscaled bubbles like structures. Nanobubbles potentially exhibit advantages in targeting the tumor tissue and delivering the drug selectively under the influence of ultrasound exposure. This may enhance the intracellular uptake of the drug by the tumor cells. Additionally these nanobubbles can be easily visualized in tumor by means of various ultrasound methods [76,77,78].

#### **Application:**

##### **Delivery of drugs**

NBs can be potentially utilized in delivery of drugs like doxorubicin *in vitro* and *in vivo*. These NBs reach the tumor and get accumulated which is followed by formation of microbubbles by coalescing of nanobubbles. Disruption of the microbubbles occurs when the site is focused with high intensity focused ultrasound, which ultimately causes release of the drug. This may results in accumulation of higher levels of drug in the target cells and reduced toxicity and increased efficacy. This method needs further exploration for its utility in treatment of various malignancies [79,80].

##### **Gene therapy**

Liposomal nanobubbles and microbubbles are also being studied for effective non viral vectors for gene therapy. Nanobubbles combined with ultrasound exposure have shown improved transfer of gene in both *in vitro* and *in vivo* studies [81,82].

##### **Thrombolysis**

Nanobubbles are also being investigated for removal of clot in vascular system in combination with ultrasound. This process is called as sonothrombolysis. This method is non invasive and causing less damage to endothelium [83,84].

##### **Toxicity**

NBs are not that much toxic since the disruption of the microbubbles occurs only at the targeted site when it's being exposed to ultrasound waves. Therefore drug is released at a particular site [85,86].

##### **Health Implication of Nanoparticles:**

It's very essential to recognize and differentiate 'free' and

'fixed' nano particles [87]. Free nanoparticles exhibit serious health threat since they are more difficult to contain due to airborne and can be inhaled. Nanoparticles can be entered in human body via

- Absorptions by the intestinal tract
- Absorptions by the skin
- Lungs where a rapid translocation through the blood stream to vital organ is possible, including Crossing The BBB and nanoparticles Affect The Following Organs In Several Ways

#### **Lungs:**

It has been already observed that titanium dioxide (TiO<sub>2</sub>) carbon black and the diesel particles exhibit various adverse effects. Based on previous findings it has been observed that the administration of ultrafine nanoparticles to the lung produce more potent adverse effect in the form of inflammation and subsequent tumors compared with larger sized particles, of identical chemical composition at equivalent mass concentration. Toxicity of these particles is dependent on their surface characteristics such as surface chemistry [88].

#### **Intestinal Tract:**

To facilitate the absorption of the food particles, the epithelium of the small and large intestine is in close contact with ingested material. These food particles are converted into a mixture of disaccharides, peptides, fatty acids and monoglycerides generated however digestion in small intestine are further transformed and taken in the villi. Particles having charge (e.g. like carboxylated polystyrene nano particles or those composed of positively charged polymer) exhibit poor oral bioavailability through electrostatic repulsions and means entrapment. Smaller the size of particles facilitate the faster penetration (within 2 mins.); 415 nm particles took 30 mins whereas 1000 nm particles were not capable to translocate through this barrier [89].

#### **Skin:**

Particles having size range 500–1000 nm, theoretically afar from the area of nanotechnology can infiltrate and reach the lower level of human skin. Size range smaller than 128 are more likely penetrate deeper into the skin [90].

#### **Blood and Cardiovascular System:**

Cationic nanoparticles including gold and polystyrene have been shown to cause hemolysis and blood clotting while anionic nanoparticle are non toxic. Combustion and model nanoparticles can gain access to blood following inhalation and can enhance the experimental thrombosis. High exposure to DEP by inhalation cause altered heart rate in hypertensive rats. Inhalation of PM causes atheromatous plaque and destabilization in rabbits. Recent data showed that Carbon derived nanomaterials induce platelet aggregation [91].

#### **Brain:**

High concentrations of anionic and cationic nanoparticles are toxic to brain. Nanoparticles have been shown to produce reactive oxygen species and oxidative stress. This has been confirmed in the brain after inhalation of MnO<sub>2</sub> nanoparticles [92,93]. Oxidative stress induced by nanoparticles causes various neurodegenerative disease such as Parkinson and Alzheimer. In addition inhalation of

nanoparticles in balb/c mice to particulate matter showed the activation of proinflammatory cytokines in the brain [94,95].

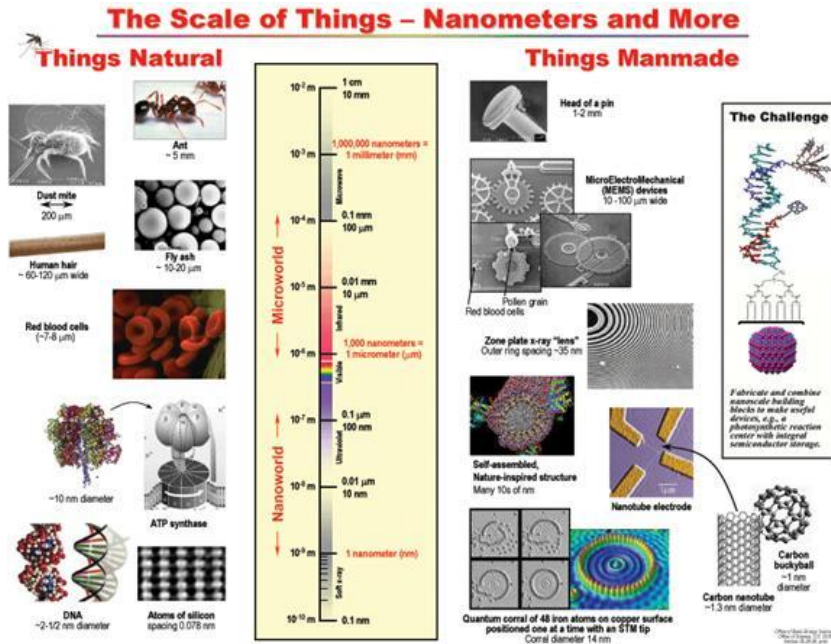


Figure 1: Nano particle scale

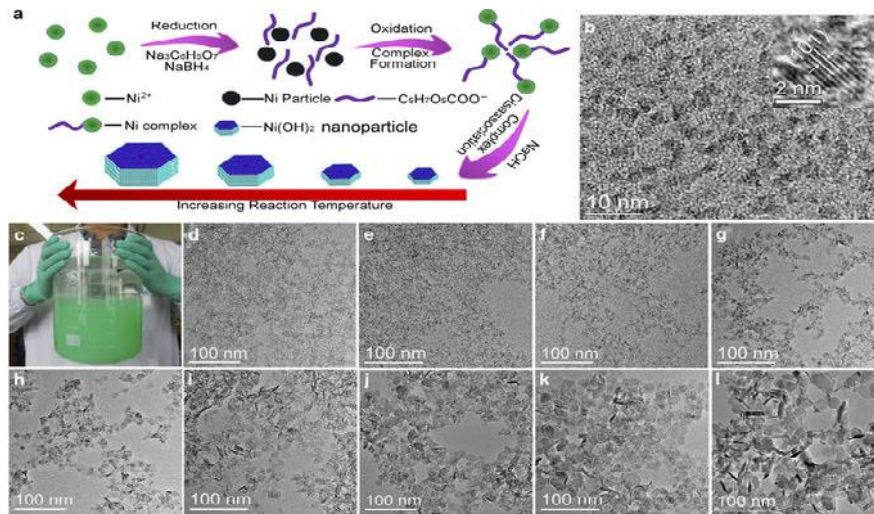


Figure 2: Nanosizing of drugs

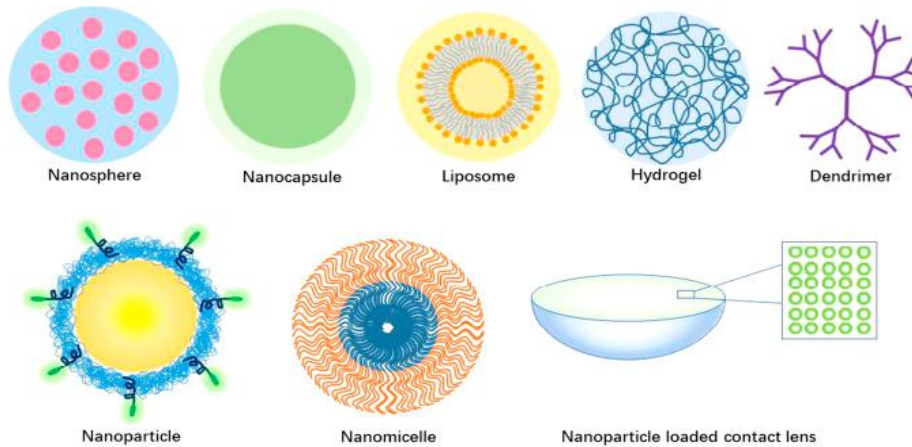
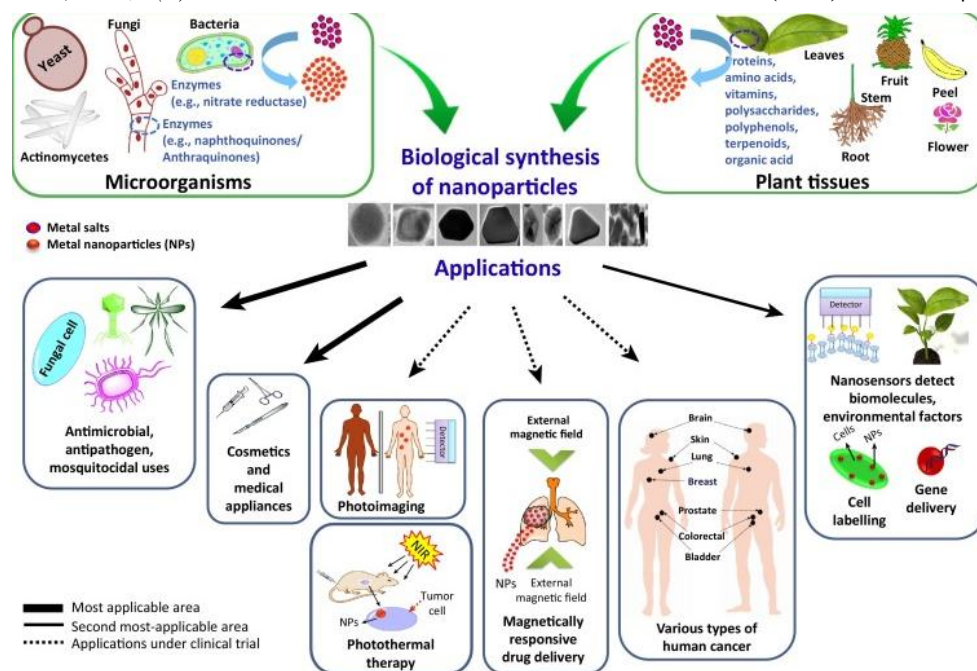


Figure 3: Type of Nano Particle



**Figure 4:** Biological synthesis and application

#### 4. Conclusion

As a result of my study, it is clear that the cancer is trending a new disease and the mortality due to cancer has increased and hence the treatment to cure them also stands first. Hence, my study about cancer stimulates us to conduct programs involving awareness raising component to educate patients, family and community members about the cancer risk factors and the need for taking preventive measure to avoid developing cancer. The treatment for cancer costs high and some people doesn't know about its serious effects. So we should take a oath to provide diagnose and treatment services to all patients presenting with curable cancers such as breast, cervical and oral cancers that can be detected early. This module on diagnosis and treatment is intended to evolve in response to national need and experience. Though there are many treatments to cure cancer, there are also some side effects along with them. Although the scientists have made great strides in understanding the causes of cancer and the developing treatments, there will always be a risk for developing cancer. Finally, my study concludes by saying, as a individual, we should try to aware of the risks of exposure to suspected carcinogens and take appropriate actions to reduce our exposure.

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