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Review Article

Drug Delivery and Therapeutic Approaches to Prostate Cancer

JAMEEL AHMED S MULLA*

Department of Pharmaceutics, Shree Santkrupa College of Pharmacy, Ghogaon, Tal-Karad, Dist-Satara, Maharashtra, India

ARTICLE DETAILS ABSTRACT

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Keywords: Prostate structure, Prostate cancer, Therapeutic approaches, Drug delivery approaches, Liposomes, Nanoparticles According to the global cancer statistics, prostate cancer is the second most often diagnosed cancer in males worldwide and it ranks in fifth place among cancerrelated deaths. Localized prostate cancer is usually treated by surgical removal of the prostate (radical prostatectomy) or by radiation therapy. Both treatment options are frequently associated with severe side effects. Drug delivery to prostate through conventional route is associated with pharmacokinetics based and side effects related problems. This review briefly highlighted about prostate structure and its cancer. Different therapeutic approaches such as radiotherapy, chemotherapy, immunotherapy, androgen deprivation therapy (ADT), focal therapies and systemic therapies; and drug delivery approaches such as liposomes, polymeric based nanoparticles and micelles, dendrimers, gold nanoparticles, carbon based nanoparticles and magnetic nanoparticles for prostate cancer are also outlined here.

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INTRODUCTION Cancer

Cancer is the second leading cause of death worldwide, and is accountable for a predictable 9.6 million deaths in 2018. Globally, about 1 in 6 deaths is due to cancer. About 70% of deaths from cancer occur in low- and middle-income countries. The most common cancers are; lung (2.09 million cases), breast (2.09 million cases), colorectal (1.80 million cases), prostate (1.28 million cases), skin cancer (non-melanoma) (1.04 million cases) and stomach (1.03 million cases). Cancer arises from the transformation of normal cells into tumour cells in a multistage process that normally progresses from a precancerous lesion to a malignant tumour. These changes are the consequence of the interaction between a person's genetic factors and 3 categories of external agents, including (a) physical carcinogens, such as ultraviolet and ionizing radiation (b) chemical carcinogens, such as asbestos, components of tobacco smoke, aflatoxin (a food contaminant), and arsenic (a drinking water contaminant) (c) biological carcinogens, such as infections from certain viruses, bacteria, or parasites ^[1].

*Author for Correspondence: Email: jameelahmed5@rediffmail.com

Prostate

The prostate is one of the male accessory glands that contribute to the male ejaculate by producing seminal fluid. In mice, elimination of this organ reduces fertility ^[2]. The understanding of development, maturation and anatomy of prostate has progressed gradually throughout the past century, but it has been moderately hindered by reliance on historical anatomical descriptions ^[3-5]. Description of prostatic lobes has been replaced by the now widely accepted concept that the human prostate is better described as consisting of zones found within one discrete organ ^[6].

The prostate is an exquisitely steroid hormone sensitive organ. Considering hormone action throughout the different life stages of prostate organogenesis, puberty, and during adulthood and aging, is critical for understanding prostate anatomy and the different diseases of this organ. Certainly, most of men experience some form of prostate pathology during their lifetime. The focus has been on investigating the long-term impact of disruption of normal prostate development on structural and functional abnormalities related to specific types of prostate disease that often are not recognized until much later in life [7].

Prostate cancer

Prostate cancer is the most common male malignancy and remains the leading cause of death in American men, in spite of extensive efforts and recent advances in early diagnosis and surgical intervention ^[8].

According to the classification by the U.S. National Cancer Institute, prostate cancer can be divided into four different stages after diagnosis. In stage I, the cancer is small and confined to the prostate gland. In stage II, the cancer is larger but still limited to the prostate gland. In stage III, the cancer spreads out of the prostate gland and reaches the tissues near the prostate. The cancer may reach the seminal vesicles. In stage IV, the cancer spreads to distant organs and tissues, such as rectum, lymph nodes, bones, lung, etc. When prostate cancer spreads out of the prostate gland and metastasizes to distant parts of the body, it is called advanced prostate cancer [9]. Patients with high risk of prostate cancer progression and/or death are also considered as advanced prostate cancer^[10].

Prostate cancer is the leading cancer (29% of all cancers) and the third most common cause of cancer-related death in men in the United States. It is estimated 1 in 7 men will develop prostate cancer in their lifetimes and 1 in 38 will die of prostate cancer. Although prostate cancer can be a lethal disease, most men diagnosed with prostate cancer do not die from it. Indeed, the overall 5-, 10-, and 15-year survival rates are 100%, 98%, and 95%, respectively ^[11].

Detection

Most patients with early prostate cancer are asymptomatic. In some cases, however, prostate cancer can cause local symptoms including obstructive and irritative urinary symptoms such as weak stream, increased urinary frequency, and dysuria, as well as hematuria. The presence of symptoms often suggests locally advanced disease as these can be the results of direct local invasion of the cancer into the urethra and/or bladder. Metastatic prostate cancer to the bone can cause pain and predispose patients to cancer fractures. Although early prostate typically has no signs on physical exam, abnormal digital rectal exam (DRE) such as the presence of induration or nodule in the prostate are the most common physical exam findings suggestive of prostate cancer.

Given the lack of reliable symptoms and signs to detect early prostate cancer, most cases are

detected based on abnormal prostate-specific antigen (PSA). PSA is a member of the human kallikrein proteins, primarily secreted in the seminal fluid by the epithelial cells of the prostate acini. It is produced for the ejaculate and is responsible for liquifying the semen and dissolving the cervical mucus potentially allowing the free movement of sperm. PSA is present in small quantities in the serum in both bound and unbound forms that can be measured. Serum PSA levels vary with age, race, and prostate volume. In addition, prostate inflammation, infection, and cancer can cause PSA to rise. On average, 30% of patients with elevated PSA have prostate cancer diagnosed on biopsy [11]. A suspect DRE in patients with a PSA level of upto 2 ng/ml has a positive predictive value of 5–30% ^[12].

Treatment

Treatment decisions for prostate cancer are based on tumor aggressiveness (e.g., grade), stage, patient's life expectancy, and the ability of each therapy to ensure disease-free survival, maximizing quality-of-life while minimizing side effects. Localized prostate cancer is typically active surveillance, treated with radical prostatectomy, radiotherapy, or focal therapies. Metastatic prostate cancer is usually treated with systemic therapies. Given some of these therapies may interfere with fertility by either reducing or abolishing spermatogenesis and/or blocking sperm transport, some patients may be candidates for sperm banking before the initiation of treatment [11].

THERAPEUTIC APPROACHES Radiotherapy

Radiotherapy involves the delivery of highenergy radiation to treat disease. It can be given both externally (external beam radiation) and/or internally (brachytherapy). Prior to treatment, the prostate is mapped using imaging tests (CT or MRI scan) and a treatment plan (simulation) is established. The most commonly used techniques of external beam radiation include three-dimensional conformal radiotherapy (radiation beams are then shaped and aimed at the prostate from several directions), intensitymodulated radiotherapy (the intensity of the beams is adjusted to limit the doses reaching nearby normal tissues), and proton beam radiotherapy. Brachytherapy can be delivered permanently (low-dose) by placing radioactive pellets in the prostate, or temporally (high-dose) by placing where radioactive needles in the

prostate for only a few moments and then removing them.

Androgen deprivation therapy for a few months is typically given along with radiotherapy. The most common side effects of radiotherapy for prostate cancer include radiation proctitis, radiation cystitis, urethral stricture, and erectile dysfunction. The prognosis of patients treated with radiotherapy is comparable to those treated with RP when matched by pathological stage and grade.

Chemotherapy

The use of cytotoxic chemotherapy is usually used in cases of metastatic disease, especially CRPC. The most commonly prescribed drugs are: docetaxel, cabazitaxel, mitoxantrone, and estramustine.

Immunotherapy

Several immunomodulatory agents are being investigated. Currently only Sipuleucel-T is approved for the treatment of metastatic prostate cancer. It works through activating antigen-presenting cells to stimulate T-cell immune response targeted against prostatic acid phosphatase, an antigen that is highly expressed in most prostate cancer cells.

Androgen Deprivation Therapy (ADT)

Androgens are required for normal growth and function of the prostate. They also stimulate prostate cancer cells growth. Lowering androgen levels or stopping them from getting into prostate cancer cells often makes prostate cancer to shrink or grow more slowly for a time. ADT is currently the initial treatment for metastatic prostate cancer. Although most tumors respond to ADT in the beginning, over the course of months to years most tumors become refractory to ADT and are called castration-resistant prostate cancer (CRPC).

Focal Therapies

The rationale for focal therapies of the prostate is to treat the tumor while sparing the normal prostate. Although there are several means of delivering energy to kill the tumor, the most used technique is cryotherapy. Freezing of the prostate is accomplished by using a multiprobe cryosurgical device. Multiple probes are placed percutaneously under transrectal ultrasound guidance, and the temperature is lowered to -25 to -50°C. Potential side effects include recurrence/persistence of the cancer in the untreated prostate, hematuria, urinary incontinence, erectile dysfunction, and injury to surrounding structures. Although short-term studies showed promising results, long-term oncologic results are unknown.

Systemic Therapies

Several systemic agents are available to treat prostate cancer. These treatments are commonly used for locally advanced and metastatic disease [11].

DRUG DELIVERY APPROACHES

Drug delivery system (DDS) is defined as a process of administering a pharmaceutical compound or a formulation or a device which is used to deliver the drug in the humans or animals to achieve a therapeutic effect ^[13].

It mainly involves the site targeting within the body and improves the efficacy of the therapeutic substance and safety by controlling the time, rate and place of release of drugs in the body.60 Targeted drug delivery (TDD) is a process which mainly integrates the dosage form and the route of administration of the drug. It involves the administration of the therapeutic product or the formulation inside the body and the release of the active ingredients by the product, and followed by the subsequent transport of the active ingredients across the biological membranes to the site of action ^[13, 14]. The distribution of drug to organs or tissues other than the site of action can increase the risk of toxicity ^[14-16].

Approaches for targeted delivery of therapeutics typically involves in cancer systemic administration of therapeutics packaged in nanocarriers (NCs) or localized delivery of therapeutics to the diseased tissue. Encapsulation of therapeutic molecules (e.g., small molecule inhibitors, chemotherapy, RNAi, etc.) in NCs can improve their solubility and bioavailability, alter their bio-distribution, and can also facilitate entry into the target cell ^[17].

Problems associated with oral administration may cause various bioavailability problems pertaining to the route of drug administration, poor absorption, including metabolic degradation, sub-threshold value of drug reaching the target tissue and non-specific drug distribution related side effects. In such circumstances, an alternative drug delivery route may offer advantages to circumvent some of the mentioned hurdles of above oral drug

administration. The emerging trends of using vas deferens as a local drug delivery route to prostate in conjunction with a novel concept of *in vivo* self-assembly drug carrier generated by a drug delivery system injected in the lumen of vas deferens, might be the real solution of prostate cancer prevention ^[18].

Nanotechnology is an advanced, emerging and promising therapeutic platform that uses nanoparticles (NPs) for the disease diagnosis to nanoparticles based drug delivery systems (DDS) that finally evade life-threatening diseases such as cancer and their treatments ^[19, 20]. The major advantages of using nanomaterials as a carrier for anticancer agents are the possibility of targeted delivery of the drug to the tumor site, tumor imaging, their ability to hold thousands of molecules of a drug and their ability to overcome solubility, stability and resistance issues ^[21-25].

NPs have the potential to provide solutions to the current difficulties in conventional cancer therapy due to their unique size, which is generally falls into a size range (1-100 nm) which is similar to basic biological materials such as DNA, proteins and other macromolecular structures found inside living cells. Nanomaterials have their unique mechanical, electronic, photonic and magnetic properties, vastly increased surface area (1000 m2/g) are projected to have a wide range of applications from drug delivery to biomedical imaging and more recently to personalized medicine [19, 26-30].

Liposomes

Liposomes are a novel drug delivery system (NDDS), they are vesicular structures consisting of bilalyers which form spontaneously when phospholipids are dispersed in water. They are microscopic vesicles in which an aqueous volume is entirely enclosed by a membrane composed of lipid bilayers ^[31]. These structures can deliver both hydrophilic and hydrophobic drugs for cancer, antibacterial, antifungal, immunomodulation, diagnostics, ophtalmica, vaccines, enzymes and genetic elements ^[32].

Targeted drug delivery, using liposomal drug delivery systems, is an attractive approach to enhance the efficacy of anticancer drugs and prevent side effects, thereby potentially increasing the therapeutic index. In most preclinical prostate cancer studies, passive liposomal targeting of anticancer drugs (caused by enhanced permeability and retention of the therapeutic compound) leads to an increased antitumor efficacy and decreased side effects compared to non-targeted drugs [33].

Delivery of zinc chelator, N,N,N',N'-tetrakis(2pyridylmethyl)- ethylenediamine using aptamertargeted liposomes results in specific delivery to targeted cells. In vivo experiments show that TPEN-loaded, aptamer-targeted liposomes reduce tumor growth in a human prostate cancer xenograft model ^[34].

Polymeric Based Nanoparticles and Micelles

Polymeric nanoparticles (PNPs) have attracted considerable interest over the last few years due to their unique properties and behaviors resulting from their small size [35]. Advantages of PNPs as carriers include controlled release, the ability to combine both, therapy and imaging (theranostics), protection of drug molecules and its specific targeting, facilitating improvements in the therapeutic index [36-38]. The use of biodegradable polymeric nanoparticles (NPs) for controlled drug delivery has shown significant therapeutic potential. Concurrently, targeted delivery technologies are becoming increasingly important as a scientific area of investigation. In cancer, targeted polymeric NPs can be used to deliver chemotherapies to tumor cells with greater efficacy and reduced cytotoxicity on peripheral healthy tissues ^[39]. Nanoparticles involve nanospheres and nanocapsules. Nanospheres are a matrix type of particle in which the drug is uniformly dispersed or dissolved in the polymer matrix, whereas nanocapsules are vesicles in which the drug core is surrounded by a polymeric film ^[40].

Micelles are formed by amphiphilic copolymers which self-assembled to nanosized aggregates above the critical micellar concentration. The hydrophobic moiety forms the core of micelles whereas the hydrophilic moiety forms the corona in the shell of micelles. Micelles possess a dynamic structure where the unimers of the amphiphilic copolymer are interchangeable [40].

Polymeric micelles represent an effective delivery system for poorly water-soluble anticancer drugs. With small size (10–100 nm) and hydrophilic shell of PEG, polymeric micelles exhibit prolonged circulation time in the blood and enhanced tumor accumulation ^[41]. Polymeric micelles are extensively studied carriers for the delivery of poorly water-soluble drugs. By enhancing the aqueous solubility and prolonging the blood half-life of chemotherapeutic agents, the anticancer agents can passively accumulate

in the tumor site through the leaky vasculature via the enhanced permeability and retention (EPR) effect ^[42, 43]. Compared with other drug carriers, micelles have the advantages of very small size (10-100 nm), which is critical for passive targeting to solid tumors, particularly the poorly vascularized tumors [44]. The most commonly used hydrophilic segment of micelles for drug delivery is poly (ethylene glycol) (PEG), with a molecular weight of 2-15 kDa. PEG is highly water-soluble, non-toxic and neutrally charged. PEG forms a hydrophilic corona on the surface of micelles which minimizes the nonspecific interaction with blood components and prolongs the circulation time. Besides PEG, polymers other including poly(N-vinyl pyrrolidone) (PVP) and poly(N-isopropyl acrylamide) (pNIPAM) have also been used as hydrophilic portion of micelles ^[45, 46].

A small molecular ligand of prostate specific membrane antigen (SMLP) conjugated poly (caprolactone) (PCL)-b-poly (ethylene glycol) (PEG) copolymers with different block lengths were synthesized to construct a satisfactory drug delivery system. Four different docetaxel-loaded polymeric micelles (DTX-PMs) were prepared by dialysis with particle sizes less than 60 nm [47]. Gao, Y et al had designed and fabricated PTXloaded pH-sensitive polymeric micelles modified with anti-PSMA (prostate specific membrane antigen) antibody YPSMA-1 to combine active targeting to PSMA-positive prostate cancer cells with fast intracellular release of drugs. It was demonstrated that YPSMA-1-modified micelles had excellent performance featured by nanoscale size to obtain the EPR effect, a favorable pH-sensitivity to promote endo/lysosome escape and rapid drug release to kill tumor cells with effective concentration, and a higher PSMAbinding affinity to enhance the targeting to PSMA-positive tumor cells, leading to enhanced cellular uptake and cytotoxicity and thereby therapeutic efficacy of prostate cancers with negligible systemic toxicity [48].

Delivery of paclitaxel via PEG5K-embelin2 micelles leads to superior antitumor activity compared to Taxol in murine models of breast and prostate cancers ^[49]. Cheng et al reported A10 aptamer-functionalized PLGA–PEG NPs against prostate-specific membrane antigen (PSMA)-overexpressing LNCaP cancer cells ^[50]. In another case, it was used a system formed from bicalutamide loaded PLGA NPs in prostate cancer. The authors have used LNCaP and C4-2 cancer cells and it was observed that the system significantly inhibit colony formation in the two cell lines and the cell apoptosis occurs ^[51]. In a further study, it was investigated the *in vitro* anticancer activity of cisplatin-loaded PLGA-mPEG NPs and control (cisplatin free) on human prostate cancer LNCaP cells. It was reported an anticancer activity against LNCaP human prostate cancer cells when it was used the system formed from cisplatin-loaded PLGAmPEG NPs ^[52].

Dendrimers

Dendrimers (derived from the Greek "dendron," which means tree, and "meros," meaning part) are well- defi ned, multivalent molecules having a branched structure. These molecules were first reported by Vögtle et al. as "cascade molecules," and later Tomalia et al. named these molecules dendrimers ^[53, 54]. Dendrimers are nano-sized, radially symmetric molecules with well-defined, homogeneous, and monodisperse structure consisting of tree-like arms or branches [55]. These hyperbranched molecules were first discovered by Fritz Vogtle in 1978, by Donald Tomalia and co-workers in the early 1980s, and at the same time, but independently by George R. Newkome. The second group called synthesized macromolecules 'arborols' means, in Latin, 'trees'. Dendrimers might also be called 'cascade molecules', but this term is not as much established as 'dendrimers' [56-58].

In 1990, Fre'chet introduced the convergent approach toward dendrimers. In convergent procedures, the synthesis is started at the periphery and elaborated to the core ^[59, 60]. Dendrimers are hyperbranched macromolecules with a carefully tailored architecture, the endgroups (i.e., the groups reaching the outer periphery), which can be functionalized, thus modifying their physicochemical or biological properties ^[61-66].

The emerging role of dendritic macromolecules for anticancer therapies and diagnostic imaging is remarkable. The advantages of these welldefined materials make them the newest class of macromolecular nano-scale delivery devices ^[67]. Many drug-loaded dendrimer systems have been reported with efficient uptake in prostate cancer for therapeutic treatment by taking advantage of this passive targeting mechanism ^[68, 69].

Recently, a G4 PAMAM dendrimer was reported as a carrier of A10 aptamer-DOX complex for prostate cancer treatment ^[70]. Similarly, a G5 PAMAM dendrimer conjugate with A10-3.2, a truncated form of xPSM-A10, was reported with capability of delivering tumor suppressor genes to PSMA expressing target [71].

Curcumin has shown potential to suppress *in vitro* prostate cancer cell proliferation in both androgen-sensitive prostate cancer cell line LNCaP and androgen-independent cell line DU145 and *in vivo* tumor growth in a LNCaP xenograft mouse model ^[72-75]. Similar inhibitive effects have been seen for Genistein to suppress prostate cancer growth ^[76]. Recent evidence indicates that miR-15a and miR-16-1 act as tumor suppressor genes in prostate cancer by down-regulating the expression of survival genes such as bcl2, ccnd1, and wnt3A ^[77].

When functionlized with maleimide groups, a G5 PAMAM dendrimer was reported with capability to deliver thiolated miR-15a and miR-16-1into prostate cancer cells to induce the cell death [71]. Targeting Prostate-Specific Membrane Antigen (PSMA) can also be achieved by using aptamers, a class of nuclease-stabilized oligonucleotides selected by a ligand screening technology, SELEX (systematic evolution of ligands by exponential [78-85] enrichment) Papagiannaros, et al. developed a complex formed from a PAMAM dendrimer (G4) loaded with DOX and incorporated into liposomes and this complex was tested against MCF-7 human breast carcinomas and DU145 human prostate carcinomas [86].

Gold Nanoparticles

In 2004, Paciotti et al. have reported for the first time about the development of colloidal gold nanoparticle vector that targets the delivery of tumor necrosis factor (TNF) to a solid tumor growing in mice ^[87]. Aptamers conjugated to magnetic and gold nanoparticles are used in cancer detection and therapy ^[88-90].

Gold nanoparticles have potential application in various fields like physics, chemistry, material science, biology, and medicine due to their unique physical, chemical, optical, thermal, and biological properties. They remain appealing for biomedical application due to the biocompatibility, optical tunability, and easily functionalizable nature. Gold nanoparticles are generally synthesized by chemical methods which involve simple reduction of metal salts by reducing agents in a controlled fashion producing spherical nanoparticles. The most well-known synthetic procedures of gold nanoparticles include (i) the Turkevich method,

(ii) the related Frens method, (iii) the Brust biphasic method, (iv) the microemulsion method and (v) the seeding method.

nanoparticles are excellent carrier Gold molecules for cancer drug delivery. Targeted drug delivery was also accomplished using gold nanoparticles. Spatially controlled drug delivery systems can be developed by conjugating nanoparticles with targeting ligands which could facilitate the preferential deliverv of nanotherapeutics to the sites of interest while reducing undesired side effects elsewhere [91].

Therapeutic agents can be loaded to gold nanoparticles by covalent or noncovalent interaction. Gibson et al. have covalently conjugated paclitaxel, an anticancer drug, to gold nanoparticles of size 2 nm [92]. Stern, J. M. et al reported that laser-activated gold nanoshells can ablate human prostate cancer cells in vitro. This nanoparticle technology is an attractive therapeutic agent for selective tumor ablation ^[93]. Zhang et al had reported that both neutral gold nanoparticles (TGS-GNPs) and thioglucosecapped gold nanoparticles (Glu-GNPs) demonstrated improved radiosensitivity on DU-145 prostate cancer cells in vitro. Cell uptakes of GluGNPs were significantly increased and the cell-killing effects were enhanced compared to GNPs without glucose binding when 200 kVp Xray was applied. These results suggest the clinical applications promising of the nanoparticles in future cancer treatment, targeting high radiation doses to metabolically active tumour cells, but sparing adjacent normal tissues [94].

Carbon Based Nanoparticles

Functional carbon-based nanomaterials (CBNs) have become important due to their unique physical combinations of chemical and properties (i.e., thermal and electrical conductivity, high mechanical strength, and optical properties), extensive research efforts are being made to utilize these materials for various industrial applications, such as high-strength materials and electronics [95].

Carbon-based nanoparticles such as graphene related materials (GRMs), carbon nanotubes (CNTs) and nanodiamonds (NDs) have outstanding properties making them attractive in an increasing number of applications ^[96-101]. Carbon nanotubes (CNT) as a class of nanomaterials holds great potential for various biomedical applications including extrinsically

activated hyperthermia for prostate cancer therapy ^[102]. Erdmann K et al reports revealed that carbon nanomaterials in combination with docetaxel (DTX) and mitomycin C (MMC) evoked additive to partly synergistic anti-tumor effects. nanofibers (CNFs) and Carbon carbon nanotubes (CNTs) possess the ability to sensitize cancer cells to a wide range of structurally diverse chemotherapeutics and thus represent an interesting option for the development of multimodal cancer therapies. Co-administration of chemotherapeutics with carbon nanomaterials could result in а reduction of the limit chemotherapeutic dosage and thus systemic side effects ^[103]. Fisher et al. demonstrated the capability of multi walled carbon nanotubes (MWNTs) coupled with laser irradiation to enhance treatment of Human prostate cancer [104]. Ghosh et al. reported DNAnanotubes multi walled carbon encases (MWNTs) were used to safely eradicate prostate cancer in vivo following NIR irradiation of MWNTs [105].

Magnetic Nanoparticles

Magnetic nanoparticles belong to the group of nanotechnology-based materials with an impact in fields of analytical chemistry, biosensing, and nanomedicine. It has been nearly fifteen years since Pankhurst and colleagues wrote their famous review on magnetic nanoparticles in biomedicine ^[106]. Applications of magnetic particles ranging from catalysis to drug delivery and remediation are only limited by their biocompatibility and immunogenicity, both of which can be controlled by proper layering and coating of particles ^[107]. Industrial applications of magnetic nanoparticles cover a broad spectrum of magnetic recording media and biomedical applications, for example, magnetic resonance contrast media and therapeutic agents in cancer treatment [108, 109].

For biomedical uses, the application of particles that present superparamagnetic behavior at room temperature is preferred ^[110-112]. Many other magnetic nanoparticle formulations are able to target prostate cancer cells and tumors by targeting folate receptors ^[113], secreted protein, acidic and rich in cysteine (SPARC) ^[114], urokinase plasminogen activator (uPAR) ^[115]; Mucin 1 ^[116, 117]; gastric-releasing peptide receptors (GRPR) ^[118].

CONCLUSION

Management of prostate cancer is now being pursued by systemic delivery of anticancer drugs, but it has limitations like nonspecific distribution, decreased bioavailability and also coupled with some adverse side effects. In addition to some therapeutic approaches, these issues have been resolved by liposome and nanomedicine-based anticancer drug delivery to get better the therapeutic index with higher drug dose and reduced nonspecific distribution. Targeting prostate tumor by delivering nanomedicine through locoregional route is more effective, than the systemic delivery, which can minimize systemic exposure of the therapeutics significantly.

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