



Polymeric Nanocarriers Autonomously Cross the Plant Cell Wall and Enable Protein Delivery for Stress Sensing

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DESCRIPTION

Nanotechnology has revolutionized the fields of biomedicine, particularly in the development of nanocarriers for theranostics and tissue engineering applications. Nanocarriers are small-scale structures that can deliver drugs, imaging agents, or genes to targeted sites within the body with high precision. Their multi-functionality makes them promising tools for enhancing therapeutic efficacy while minimizing side effects. This article delves into the design principles of nanocarriers, their application in theranostics, and their potential in tissue engineering. Nanocarriers size typically ranges between 1 nm and 1000 nm. Smaller particles offer enhanced tissue penetration, while larger particles may provide prolonged circulation. The shape of nanocarriers (e.g., spherical, rod-shaped, or disc-shaped) can influence how they interact with cells, travel through the bloodstream, and accumulate in target tissues. Spherical nanocarriers often exhibit better circulation profiles, whereas rod-shaped carriers show enhanced tissue penetration. The surface chemistry of nanocarriers determines their interaction with biological environments. For safety and regulatory reasons, nanocarriers must be made of biocompatible materials that are non-toxic and non-immunogenic. Biodegradable polymers such as poly lactic-co-glycolic acid are commonly used because they degrade into non-toxic by-products and ensure controlled drug release. The ability to release therapeutic agents in a controlled manner is crucial for minimizing toxicity and maximizing therapeutic outcomes. Nanocarriers can be engineered to release their cargo in response to specific stimuli, such as pH, temperature, or enzyme activity, enabling site-specific treatment. Theranostic nanocarriers combine diagnostic and therapeutic functions into a single platform. These multifunctional systems are designed to deliver imaging agents for real-time monitoring while simultaneously delivering therapeutic molecules. The key benefit is the ability to visualize and track drug delivery and

therapeutic response, enabling personalized treatment plans. For instance, gold nanoparticles have been used in cancer theranostics due to their photothermal properties, allowing them to act as both imaging agents and therapeutic platforms. Tissue engineering involves the design of scaffold materials to regenerate or repair damaged tissues. Nanocarriers are increasingly integrated into scaffolds to deliver growth factors, stem cells, or genes that promote tissue regeneration. The nano-scale size of these carriers allows them to mimic the extracellular matrix the natural scaffold that supports cellular growth. One promising approach is the use of nanoparticle-loaded hydrogels, which can be injected directly into the damaged tissue. These hydrogels create a supportive environment that promotes cell growth and differentiation, while the embedded nanocarriers deliver bioactive molecules in a controlled manner. Such systems are being explored for regenerating tissues such as bone, cartilage, and skin.

CONCLUSION

Nanocarriers represent a versatile and powerful tool in both theranostics and tissue engineering. By optimizing their size, surface properties, and biodegradability, scientists can design nanocarriers that offer precision in drug delivery, real-time imaging, and enhanced tissue regeneration. As research progresses, nanocarrier-based therapies hold the promise of transforming personalized medicine and tissue repair strategies. Their adaptability to various biomedical applications makes them key players in the future of healthcare.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The author's declared that they have no conflict of interest.

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