# Journal of Chemical Science and Engineering

JCSE, 2(1): 58-60 www.scitcentral.com



**Mini Review: Open Access** 

# New Way to Treat Cancer: Magnetic Nanoparticle based Hyperthermia

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Received December 27, 2018; Accepted January 30, 2019; Published January 31, 2019

#### ABSTRACT

Nanotechnology provides a novel and original solution with magnetic hyperthermia; it is promising approach towards adjuvant cancer therapy. The use of magnetic nanoparticles to remotely induce local heat when alternating magnetic field (AMF) is applied, provoking a temperature increase in those tissues and organs where the tumorous cells are present, appears to be promising since it can lead to increased life expectancy in patients. Magnetic nanoparticle hyperthermia (MNP) is also being studied as a catalyst to conventional chemotherapy and radiation therapy. In this review, we elucidated the Fe3O4/ $\gamma$ -Fe2O3 magnetic nanoparticle coated with different biocompatible material and thermally capable as well as targeting agent has been described in order to reduce the proliferation pace on cancerous tumor.

Keywords: Magnetic nanoparticle, Magnetic nanoparticle hyperthermia (MNP)

#### INTRODUCTION

Cancer has become one of the major public health concerns in our modern society, resulting in the death of more than 8.8 million people every year across the world in 2015 [1]. Magnetic hyperthermia treatment (MHT) is one of the promising non-invasive approaches for thermal activation therapy on cancerous tumors. Upon exposure to external alternating current (AC) magnetic fields, MNPs can generate heat through the oscillation of their magnetic moments. MHT can then kill cancer cells by elevating their temperature to 40°C-45°C with minimal injury to normal cells [2]. Magnetic Hyperthermia based heating systems could be employed either for the controlled release of a drug from caged drug delivery systems or the killing of tumor cells or both. Magnetic Hyperthermia internalized in tumor cells would result in intracellular hyperthermia under an alternating current (AC) magnetic field due to hysteresis loss and consequent enhancement in the efficacy of magnetic hyperthermia based therapy [3,4]. Hence, application of magnetic hyperthermia provides a combinatorial therapeutic approach for cancer therapy, employing the advantages of a nanoparticles-based targeted drug delivery and the hyperthermia modality of cancer therapy [5].

#### VARIOUS BIOCOMPATIBLE MATERIAL COATED MAGNETIC NANOPARTICLES

For hyperthermia, large variety of magnetic nanoparticles, magnetite (Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>) and maghemite ( $\gamma$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) are most widely used magnetic system for hyperthermia applications because of their selective heating capacity without damaging healthy tissues, superior bio-compatibility, ease of synthesis and long term stability [2]. Hergt et al. [6] injected 100 mg dextran coated magnetic nanoparticles into the tail vein of Sprague Dawley rats, treated with AC magnetic field (12 min, 450 kHz, unknown field and SAR). According to authors' considerable the tumor shrinkage and tissue necrosis was observed. Lao et al. [7] reported that the localized heat was achieved by subjecting (PVA+Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>) ferrogel to alternating magnetic field and maximum temperature of 43°C was 2.5 wt% Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> concentrations. The time taken was ~5 min under field amplitude of 1.7 kA/m and frequency of 375 kHz. He also showed maximum temperature can be easily adjusted by changing the Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> magnetic field strength so as to meet different requirement of various cancer or tumor cells. Kim et al. [8] reported the comparison of chitosan-coated magnetic nanoparticle with uncoated and starch-coated magnetic nanoparticles targeting to carcinoma cells in hyperthermia. The chitosan-coated magnetic nanoparticles generated a higher  $\Delta T$  of 23°C under an AC magnetic field than the starch coated magnetic nanoparticles and the capturing rate of the magnetic nanoparticles was also 96% under an external magnetic field

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**Citation:** Moradiya MA, Ladani A, Ladani J, Raiyani C & Markna JH. (2019) New Way to Treat Cancer: Magnetic Nanoparticle based Hyperthermia. J Chem Sci Eng, 2(1): 58-60.

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of 0.4 T. Ghosh et al. [9] showed that the Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> magnetic nanoparticles prepared without capping (Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>) and Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> capped with polyethylene glycol (PEG). The heating ability of Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> capped with PEG up to 42°C was observed at reasonably low concentrations, suggesting their suitability for hyperthermia applications. The efficacy of capped Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> was further validated in human breast cancer cells with their enhanced killing ability under induction heating conditions suggesting the extension of these studies for hyperthermic cancer therapy in suitable in vivo experimental models. Tomitaka et al. [10] reported the temperature rise under AC magnetic field, cytotoxicity and in vitro hyperthermia effect of Pluronic-coated Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> nanoparticles. The author observed the no cytotoxic effect on the HeLa cells. In vitro hyperthermia treatment using Pluronic-coated Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> nanoparticles significantly reduced the viability of HeLa cancer cells. He further observed the collapse of mitochondria membrane potential and caspase activity and the Pluronic-coated Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> nanoparticles induced cell death related to apoptosis through mitochondrial pathway [10]. Lartigue et al. [11] suggested the synthesis of waterdispersible magnetite nanoparticles of different sizes and coated with a crown of sugars. To achieve this goal, he has developed a novel method on the basis of the displacement of oleic acid ligands, used as stabilizers during the synthesis of these magnetite nanoparticles and also proved that the sugar-coating does not significantly increase nonspecific cellular uptake of the particles [11]. Igbal et al. [12] reported that the Spherical, monodisperse silica-coated iron-oxide nanoparticles of average diameter 17 nm were fabricated using the reverse micelle method and the resulting heating effect on the aqueous solution was observed for various nanoparticle concentrations in a field strength of 5.5 kA/m oscillating at 260 kHz. Further the optimum concentration of approximately 2.0 mg/ml, the saturation temperature was 42°C, the target temperature for magnetic hyperthermia [12]. Soleymani et al. [13] showed that the Magnetic La 0.73 Sr 0.27 MnO<sub>3</sub> (LSMO) nanoparticles with average particle size of 26 nm were successfully prepared by well-known sol gel method; the obtained nanoparticles were coated by selforganized bilayer surfactant containing oleic acid and sodium dodecyl as inner and outer layer, respectively. Also he showed the final temperature of magnetic fluid was in the range of 40-60°C which is suitable for hyperthermia applications [13] (Figure 1).

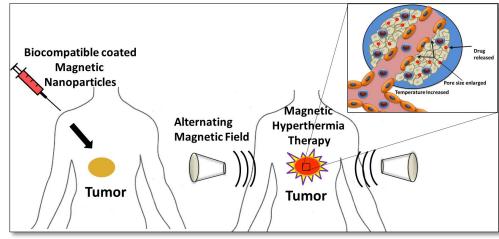


Figure 1. Schematic of magnetic hyperthermia therapy.

## CONCLUSION

Advancement of nanotechnology in the field of cancer treatment has increased tremendously. Various material coated magnetic nanoparticle (Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>/ $\gamma$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) exhibit properties like good biocompatibility, low toxicity, ease of synthesis, surface functionalization and high specific absorption rate value which make them the most promising candidate for magnetic hyperthermia. Optimization in nanoparticle size, particle size distribution and frequency of AC magnetic field can lead to increase in efficacy of magnetic hyperthermia treatment. High cost, complicated process and harmful side effects of at present available cancer treatments can be replaced by Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>/ $\gamma$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> based magnetic hyperthermia.

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