



## Nanotechnology: A Scientific Revolution in Improving the Efficiency and Sustainability of Health Facilities

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### ABSTRACT:

In recent years, nanotechnology has become a disruptive force in the healthcare industry, providing unparalleled opportunities to improve the functionality and uses of medical equipment as well as ongoing innovation in medication creation. Nanoscale manipulation of matter has opened the door to ground-breaking discoveries that could lead to significant improvements in patient care, treatment approaches, and diagnostics. Particular fields showcasing the promise of nanotechnology in healthcare include medical diagnostics, where nanomaterials are employed to enhance the precision and sensitivity of biosensing and imaging methods, allowing for the earlier and more accurate identification of illnesses. In the present times the medical innovation are based generally on the nano-technology and even for the



further development in the area. This present study will try evaluate the scenario on the basis of some of the previous studies in the areas. The duration of the study was 2010 to 2024.

**Keywords:** Nano-technology, health care services, sustainability of health facilities.

## Introduction:

One or more peripheral nanoscale dimensions (between 1 and 100 nm) are characteristics of nanomaterials. The study and use of these nanoparticles is known as nanotechnology, and it is expanding quickly and steadily. At this size, materials' characteristics change significantly. The same materials usually exhibit different properties at greater scales, including solubility, reactivity, spectroscopy, electrical and magnetic properties, and membrane transport. Because of their special qualities, nanomaterials have a wide range of potential uses and could revolutionize a number of scientific and technological fields. **Wang et al (2021)**

In recent years, nanotechnology has become a disruptive force in the healthcare industry, providing unparalleled opportunities to improve the functionality and uses of medical equipment as well as ongoing innovation in medication creation. Nanoscale manipulation of matter has opened the door to ground-breaking discoveries that could lead to significant improvements in patient care, treatment approaches, and diagnostics. Particular fields showcasing the promise of nanotechnology in healthcare include medical diagnostics, where nanomaterials are employed to enhance the precision and sensitivity of biosensing and imaging methods, allowing for the earlier and more accurate identification of illnesses. **Zarschler et al (2016)** Nanomaterials improve cell interactions and tissue regeneration in tissue engineering, providing promise breakthroughs in fields such as skin, bone, dental, and neurological repair.

Additionally, nanomaterials are being developed for drug and gene delivery systems, where their capacity to target certain cells or tissues can minimize side effects and greatly increase treatment efficacy. In cancer treatments, nanomaterials can improve the effectiveness of conventional procedures like radiotherapy, chemotherapy, and surgery while also opening the door for the creation of innovative therapeutic modalities like photodynamic therapy, biotherapy, and photothermal therapy. The development of coatings and materials that can fend off illnesses and fight resistant microorganisms is another use for nanoparticles in antimicrobial and antiviral applications. **Lenders et al (2020)**

The present use of nanotechnology in medications and medical devices, however, confronts significant obstacles, both technical and related to the intricate world of regulatory regulations, despite the enormous potential. This review attempts to give a thorough summary of the current state of nanotechnology in the medical field, emphasizing three important areas: worldwide regulatory framework, safety and environmental concerns, and clinical applications. **Bayda et**



**al (2020)** Through an exploration of these crucial elements, we aim to clarify the present successes, shortcomings, and challenges in the Graphical abstract incorporation of nanotechnology into pharmaceuticals and medical equipment.

Our investigation will clarify the various aspects of this ever-changing sector, covering the encouraging clinical developments, possible safety issues, and changing legal frameworks that influence the application of nanotechnology in healthcare. **Knezevic (2017)**

### **Advanced nanotechnology in healthcare**

The degree of spatial confinement distinguishes four main types of nanomaterials. The following are examples of nanomaterials:

- (i) zero-dimensional materials, in which all dimensions are on the nanoscale scale (such as nanoparticles);
- (ii) one-dimensional materials, in which any one of the three dimensions is within the nanometer range (such as nanorods, nanowires, etc.);
- (iii) two-dimensional nanomaterials, meaning that any two of the three dimensions are nanometer-sized (such as nanosheets, nanoplates, and nanocoating); and
- (iv) three-dimensional nanomaterials, where all three dimensions are nanometer-scale, allowing electrons to travel freely without being constrained in any direction. Examples include different self-assemblies of lower-dimensional nanomaterials, nanowire bundles, nano cubes, nanocages, and nanoflowers.

Apart from spatial confinement, nanomaterials can also be categorized according to their origin, dispersion, phase, and porosity. The wide range of categories is a reflection of the wealth of materials utilizing nanotechnology, which are becoming more and more significant in medical applications. But a more popular way to group nanomaterials is according to their chemical makeup. They can therefore be divided into four material-based categories: nanomaterials that are based on organic materials, inorganic materials, carbon materials, and composite materials. **Murali et al (2021)**

### **Organic-based nanomaterials**

Many different types of organic-based nanomaterials are used in healthcare applications; these include micelles, dendrimers, liposomes, nanogels, polymeric nanoparticles (NPs), extracellular vesicles, and nanoscale covalent-organic frameworks (COFs). These materials are created by covalent or non-covalent assemblies of organic molecules. For the most part, they are polymeric, except for a few modernist molecular machines. The biocompatibility of these materials is highly valued, which makes them perfect for in vivo applications. Some types, such as aliphatic polyesters, are especially well-known for their remarkable biodegradability.



**Jakubczak et al (2021)** The easy functionalization of organic-based nanomaterials also makes it possible to precisely control their chemical compositions, size, shape, and surface characteristics. This makes them extremely versatile for a range of biomedical applications, including drug administration, treatment, and bioimaging.

Semiconducting polymeric nanoparticles (NPs) are highly valued for their tunable emission profiles in the near-infrared (NIR) spectrum, high extinction coefficients, and photostability. These attributes make them perfect for deep-tissue imaging, including photoacoustic and NIR-II fluorescence imaging. Furthermore, because of their high photoelectric qualities and huge porosity, COFs have become attractive options for drug administration and phototherapeutics. Often utilized for drug encapsulation, liposomes, vesicles, and micelles are essential for reducing the off-target toxicity of powerful medicinal substances. **Riley et al (2021)** Important elements that affect these organic NPs' biocompatibility and in vivo functional efficiency are their surface properties, core composition, and size.

Notwithstanding their benefits, organic-based nanomaterials have several drawbacks, such as reduced mechanical strength and stability in comparison to their inorganic counterparts. These drawbacks may limit their applicability in applications that demand high thermal stability and structural integrity. Furthermore, repeatability and scalability may be impacted by batch-to-batch variability in synthesis. To overcome these obstacles and increase the potential of organic nanomaterials in medicine, research is still being conducted. **Huang et al (2024)**

### **Inorganic-based nanomaterials**

Compared to their organic counterparts, inorganic-based nanomaterials have distinct physicochemical benefits, including optical, electrical, magnetic, ultrasonic, and catalytic qualities, in addition to superior chemical and mechanical durability. Because of these benefits, they hold great promise for biomedical applications, especially in the imaging and treatment of cancer. But their low biocompatibility and possible toxicity can complicate their clinical translation by causing immunogenicity, inflammation, and long-term toxicity, as well as negative immunological responses. Furthermore, many inorganic-based nanomaterials have poor biodegradability, which causes them to accumulate in tissues and organs and present serious hazards over time. Nevertheless, advancements in surface modification and design are gradually improving the inorganic-based nanomaterials' safety and therapeutic potential. **Zhao et al (2019)**

### **Carbon-based nanomaterials**

Nanomaterials based on carbon are regarded as a distinct class of nanomaterials because of their easy functionalization and variety of forms [36]. Carbon's special characteristics allow it



to form covalent bonds with other carbons in a number of hybridization states, including  $sp$ ,  $sp^2$ , and  $sp^3$ , to create a wide range of small molecule and longer chain structures. Graphene (Gr), graphene oxide (GO), carbon nanotubes (CNTs), fullerenes (C 60), carbon dots (CDs), graphene quantum dots (GQDs), carbon nanofibers (CFs), carbon onions, and carbon black are several types of carbon-based nanomaterials. **Poma et al (2014)**

### Composite-based nanomaterials

Hybrid nanomaterials, sometimes referred to as composite-based nanomaterials, are any combination of metal-, metal oxide-, carbon-, and/or organic-based nanoparticles, and they frequently have intricate structures. While a lot of biomaterials use both organic and inorganic materials separately, the growing need for highly functionalized biomaterials has made it necessary to create organic/inorganic composite materials that combine the benefits of both components while also offering synergistic qualities to satisfy new needs. Gold nanoparticles (Au NPs), Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> NPs, semiconductor QDs, CDs, and other inorganic NPs that are not water soluble can be made water soluble by surface modification using organic polymers like polyethylene glycol (PEG) or polydopamine (PDA). **Poma et al (2015)**

### Healthcare applications of nanotechnology:

Emerging as a promising discipline, nanotechnology holds great promise for breakthroughs in a range of biological and health-care applications. In light of the large body of research in this area and the many thorough evaluations that are now accessible, we will mainly concentrate on giving succinct explanations of a few popular uses of nanotechnology in recent years. **Brahmbhatt et al (2016)**

#### a. Nanotechnology in Pharmaceutical

By facilitating the development of better therapeutic medications with increased efficacy and decreased toxicity, nanoscience has completely transformed the pharmaceutical sector. By making medications more soluble, stable, and bioavailable, nanoparticles can enhance their pharmacokinetics. Additionally, they can target particular tissues and cells, which lessens adverse effects and increases their effectiveness. Due to their nanoscale size and distinct physicochemical characteristics, nanoparticles require exacting guidelines for drug dosage and delivery. Numerous parameters, including the nanoparticles' size, shape, surface characteristics, and mode of administration, affect their dosage. For example, because of the variations in absorption and biodistribution, oral treatment might need a larger dose to produce the same effect as intravenous administration.

The dosing regimen for nanoparticles must also be carefully considered due to their dynamic nature in vivo and complex pharmacokinetics. The ideal range of doses, frequency, and



duration of nanoparticles must be established by researchers in order to maximize therapeutic benefits and minimize side effects. Medical research has previously produced very sophisticated treatment choices, but there is still a need to properly prevent drug overdoses. To sum up, the dosage and mode of administration of nanoparticles must be carefully considered throughout the development of nanomedical products in order to guarantee their safety and effectiveness. To guarantee their safety and effectiveness, the nanoscience community and regulatory organizations must work together to create standards for evaluating nanomedicines.

## **b. Nanotechnology Applications in Antibacterial Agents**

Since the agents responsible for bacterial, viral, and other microscopic illnesses operate at the microscopic level, the greatest approach to combating them is at the nanoscale. Thus, a variety of bacterial, fungal, and viral infections can be diagnosed and cured thanks to nanotechnology. Even while metals like silver have long been used in traditional Greek medicine to treat illnesses, a more recent form of nanoscale-based material conversion has been demonstrated to increase the effectiveness of both conventional and contemporary drug alternatives. One such study, conducted by Nycryst Pharmaceuticals (Canada), demonstrated that because nanosized silver particles can easily penetrate the skin on a microscopic scale, they are more reactive to healing burns or wounds.

The fields of genomics and proteomics are already making significant contributions to the understanding of molecular insights into disease, and with the aid of nanotechnology, researchers are being given new opportunities to develop potent diagnostic tools that exploit the genetic elucidation of abnormalities at the gene level. According to research, preventative and regenerative medicine will soon have access to nanotechnology-based diagnostic and therapeutic options, with the potential for targeted and customized therapy against pathogenic and pathophysiological disorders. Together with all of these advantages, this new technology is also time and money efficient.

## **c. Medical diagnostics**

Nanotechnology has the potential to revolutionize health care diagnostics by improving the accuracy, sensitivity, and speed of medical tests. Diagnostic imaging based on nanoparticles is one of the significant uses. Because of their distinct biophysical characteristics, NPs can adhere to particular biomarkers, enhancing imaging techniques like as computed tomography (CT), positron emission tomography (PET), and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). **Park et al (2020)**



## ***Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)***

By taking advantage of how hydrogen atoms behave in the body, MRI employs radio waves and powerful magnetic fields to produce finely detailed images of soft tissues. The contrast resolution of standard MRI is limited, though, which makes it difficult to identify minor or early-stage lesions and differentiate between various soft tissue types. **Ling et al (2019)**

## ***Computed tomography (CT)***

For the purpose of identifying a variety of medical disorders, CT imaging is essential since it uses X-ray attenuation to create detailed images. Although they are effective, traditional small-molecule iodine-based contrast agents like iohexol and iodixanol are limited in their effectiveness, particularly when it comes to enhancing soft tissue contrast, by their poor targeting specificity, rapid metabolic clearance, and potential for side effects like nephrotoxicity and allergic reactions. Au NPs and other sophisticated contrast agents have been made possible by nanotechnology and provide enhanced stability, targeting, and biocompatibility. **Chiozzi et al (2021)**

### **d. Nanotechnology in Regenerative Science**

Additionally, scaffolds that resemble bone can be made with nanoparticles to help guide the formation of new bone and promote bone regeneration. Furthermore, extremely accurate and personalized implants for bone regeneration can be made with the help of developments in 3D printing technology that employ nanoscale materials. When relating nanotechnology to medicine, nanotechnologists have identified bone weakening and malfunction as a major concern. With the aid of nanotechnology, some research is being conducted on the structure and production of bones. Researchers are working on creating nanostructured materials that have comparable qualities to bone grafts so that body and organ tissues can absorb them. Should these investigations be successful, a new generation of regenerative technologies will be able to repair shattered muscle segments and damaged bones.

### **e. Nanotechnology and Anesthesia**

Induction of anesthesia is an essential stage in delicate medical operations, including brain surgeries and dental surgeries. Researchers are working on nanorobotic suspension mixtures that create a colloidal suspension with millions of nanoscale active analgesic nanoparticles for such anesthesia induction operations. These nanoparticles target patients' gingiva and other delicate areas, penetrating deeply to the level of loose tissue. In-site nanocomputers monitor and regulate the combinational principles of positional navigation and chemical and temperature gradients to facilitate the movement of nanomaterials. With a uniform distribution of anesthetic in the projected organ, like the dental surface, this nanoscale anesthetic action



aids in achieving the intended effect rapidly. Additionally, for a specific tooth that requires surgery, the sensitivity action can be managed. Nanorobots are operated by nanocomputers to return tooth sensitivity to normal following surgery.

#### **f. Nanotechnology in Dentistry**

Researchers are also attempting to develop dental treatments and treatment plans using nanotechnology. This can involve using nanomaterials for the construction of prosthetic teeth with sensitivity controlled by nanorobotics, or it could involve promoting the natural biomineralization process. In an effort to control tooth function, they are employing nanoscale fabrication of nanorods made from calcium hydroxyapatite crystals to create the toughest tissue enamel. Furthermore, reconstructive dental nanoparticles are used to provide patients with a quick and permanent remedy for hypersensitivity. Patients are more concerned about tooth repositioning since it can either provide the groundwork for future oral health care or, in the event of maladjustment, cause disruptions. In this instance, orthodontic nanorobots could be utilized to manipulate tissues in order to achieve painless, seamless tooth rotation, straightening, and repositioning. Additionally, the idea of dental esthetics has developed as a result of consumers' growing interest in enhancing the aesthetic status of their physical appearance.

#### **g. Nanotechnology in Oncology**

To deliver hundreds of targeted anti-cancer compounds to tumor locations, nanomedicine serves as a carrier. Furthermore, while delving deeply into the connections between nanomedicine and cancer, it is important to keep in mind the tumor imaging and immunotherapy techniques associated with nanomedicine. Scientists are replacing conventional cancer therapy methods with targeted therapies that can be used either alone or in combination with currently available anti-cancer medications due to the effectiveness of nanomaterials in cancer treatments. Additionally, attention is being paid to reducing the effects of chemotherapeutic medications by enhancing their pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic characteristics as well as their tumor-targeting effectiveness. Nanorobotics is also being used in conjunction with gene therapy regimens and heat-induced ablation treatment for cancer cells. In oncology, additional cancer therapy alternatives are being used, such as improved tumor microenvironments and tissue imaging, as well as modification through the release of medications bounded by nanoparticles. These nanomedicines have the potential to address problems with drug resistance, instability, and solubility.



## **h. Gene delivery**

These cutting-edge nanoplatfoms are currently making major progress in the delivery of gene therapies, building on their use in drug delivery applications. To prevent or treat a variety of diseases, gene therapy is an experimental technique that introduces nucleic acids (DNA or RNA) into patient cells. This allows the expression of new genes or regulates the expression of target genes by repairing, disrupting, or replacing them. However, because of their poor in vivo stability and vulnerability to quick circulation clearance that impairs cellular uptake, nucleic acids continue to pose a serious problem for efficient in vivo transport into cells. **Vodyashkin et al (2024)**

### **Future trends in nanotechnology for healthcare applications:**

In this section, the future trends of nanotechnology in the healthcare industry are examined, building on the preceding discussion of the main uses of nanotechnology, including antimicrobial/antiviral applications, medication delivery, gene delivery, medical diagnostics, tissue engineering, and cancer therapy. Nanotechnology is offering creative solutions that could improve the effectiveness and customization of medical treatments as it continues to transform healthcare. Notable new developments include theranostics, personalized medicine, and intelligent drug delivery. In addition to being examples of state-of-the-art technology development, these developments could have a big influence on healthcare in the future by making it possible for more accurate, efficient, and customized medical procedures. By adjusting therapy to each patient's unique traits, personalized medicine seeks to increase therapeutic efficacy and minimize adverse effects. **Wang et al (2024)**

In this area, nanotechnology is essential because it makes it possible to create nano formulations that are especially made to interact with unique genetic profiles, improving therapeutic results. demonstrated how pharmacogenomics and nanotechnology can be combined, suggesting that the use of nano formulations could result in the delivery of therapeutic agents that are both targeted and error-free—a crucial component of personalized healthcare. Furthermore, nano informatics—which blends artificial intelligence and nanotechnology—is emerging as a potent instrument in personalized medicine. Nano informatics helps to improve treatment precision by assessing patient-specific data to build better nanomaterials for individualized drug delivery.

### **Related Issues:**

#### ***Regulatory and approval challenges***

Meet the strict regulatory standards, which are essential to guaranteeing the safety, effectiveness, and quality of these products, is one of the biggest obstacles to bringing



nanomedicines and NMDs to market. Safety studies and toxicity testing are crucial parts of the extensive preclinical and clinical evaluations that are usually required for regulatory approval. Certain tests for acute, subacute, and chronic toxicity as well as genotoxicity, immunotoxicity, and environmental toxicity are required to evaluate the possible effects of nanomaterials on biological systems and the environment because of their distinct size and surface properties, which may cause them to display toxicity profiles that are different from those of conventional materials.

### **Financial barriers and R&D costs:**

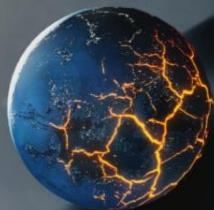
Nanomedicine development is a costly and resource-intensive procedure that presents serious financial obstacles for businesses, especially start-ups and smaller enterprises [275]. A wide range of activities, such as the design, synthesis, characterization, and testing of nanomaterials, are included in the expenses related to research and development. Each of these phases calls for certain tools and knowledge, which might raise costs. A significant investment in equipment and technology is also required to scale up production from laboratory-scale synthesis to manufacturing volumes appropriate for clinical trials and ultimate market supply.

### **Manufacturing and quality control challenges:**

Due to the unique characteristics of nanomaterials, including their small size, large surface area, and reactivity, scaling up the production of nanomedicines from laboratory research to commercial-scale manufacturing poses special obstacles. To ensure constant quality, these features call for specific manufacturing techniques and tools. The final product's safety and effectiveness can be greatly impacted by even small changes in surface characteristics or particle size.

### **Cost-effectiveness consideration:**

One important factor in the development and market uptake of nanomedicines and NMDs is their affordability. These technologies come at a high expense, despite the fact that they have several clinical benefits, including better therapeutic results, tailored delivery, and increased diagnostic capabilities. When compared to conventional pharmaceuticals and medical devices, the development costs of nanomaterials are higher due to the significant initial investments needed for their specialized synthesis and the sophisticated technology required for their production. The financial burden is further increased by the fact that both nanomedicines and NMDs must undergo rigorous preclinical and clinical testing in order to satisfy strict regulatory requirements.



## Environmental risks:

By assisting in the treatment and prevention of pollution from hazardous substances, nanotechnology may prove to be a useful tool in environmental cleanup efforts [392–394]. However, if not handled appropriately, it may also pose hazards to the ecosystem. One significant worry is that the special qualities of nanomaterials—like their small size and strong reactivity—may have unanticipated ecological repercussions. According to research, nanomaterials like silver nanoparticles (Ag NPs) and titanium dioxide nanoparticles (TiO<sub>2</sub> NPs) can cause toxicity in both aquatic and terrestrial animals, potentially upsetting regional ecosystems and biodiversity.

## Conclusion:

These designs exhibit unique advantages as novel nanomedicines that serve as therapeutic agents or drug carriers, or when added to enhance the functionality of NMDs, such as by improving detecting capabilities or antibacterial qualities, among other things. However, a thorough assessment of the hazards associated with nanotoxicity throughout the product lifecycle once hitting the market raises a number of safety issues, and the possible processes were investigated here. The safety risks of nanotechnology in healthcare are complex and frequently impacted by the size, shape, and surface reactivity of nanomaterials. These same qualities, which are essential to nanomedicine's effectiveness, may also be dangerous. Focusing on surface properties and how they deviate from the initial condition is necessary to comprehend and manage these risks. Environmental factors are crucial at every stage of the production of products using nanotechnology. The aging of nanoparticles has a substantial impact on their environmental fate, highlighting the necessity for thorough assessments even though conventional hazard evaluation techniques can be modified for nano-specific characteristics.

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