# **Innovative Strides**

Developing Lipid Nanocarriers for Enhanced Lung Carcinoma Treatment

ung carcinoma in its recognized state as a global health challenge demands innovative approaches due to issues associated with traditional treatments like chemotherapy, surgery and radiation. This study proposes a novel avenue in the form of local pulmonary inhalation delivery of anticancer agents using a DPI formulation.

The focus is on improving the pharmacokinetic profile of Gefitinib, an EGFR inhibitor, by encapsulating it within lipid nanocarriers. This method aims to enhance drug penetration into deep tumour tissues and achieve targeted delivery via the local pulmonary route, potentially revolutionizing lung cancer therapy.





### Unlocking the Potential of Nano-Lipidic Carriers

Nanocarriers, spherical structures formed in a liquid environment, holds promise for delivering water insoluble drugs. Among them, Nano-Lipidic carriers (NLCs) emerges as a potential alternative. PEGylation, the attachment of PEG molecules to NLCs is introduced to prevent opsonization by lung macrophages, enabling controlled drug release over 24 hours. This sustained release mechanism addresses the limitations associated with inhalation drug delivery.





# Repurposing Drugs for Enhanced Delivery

The study embarks on drug repurposing by designing a formulation for enhanced delivery and pharmacological actions. It involves preliminary screening of excipients, selection of lipid materials and other reagents. Analytical characterization, pre-formulation studies and PEGylation of nanocarriers aim to improve drug availability and retention.

Optimization through a statistical approach, characterization and evaluation of aerosolization behaviour culminate in providing a proof of concept through in vitro studies.



Image 1: (a) Confocal image of lung carcinoma cells



Image 1 (b) The graph of MTT assay (anticancer assay) treated with plain drug, nanoparticles and drug loaded nanoparticles

## Crafting Gefitinib-Loaded Lipid Nanocarriers

Gefitinib-loaded lipid nanocarriers (Gef-NLCs) were prepared using a hot homogenization and ultrasonication method. The process involved heating the drug lipid and aqueous phases separately, followed by their mixing and subsequent ultrasonication. The resulting nanoparticles were then freeze dried for easy handling.

#### Promising Advances in Lung Cancer Treatment

Optimization via Box Behnken design yielded Gef-NLCs with a particle size in the nano-range (100-300 nm), zeta potential between -25 mv to +25 mv and an entrapment efficiency of 50-98%. In vitro drug release studies indicated sustained release behavior with PEG-NLCs exhibiting higher drug release and cell inhibition (>90%) compared to free Gefitinib after 48 hours of incubation. In-vitro lung deposition studies showed promising results with a high percentage emission and suitable aerodynamic characteristics.



#### Significance of Formulation

The research's focus on the formulation, optimization, and evaluation of PEGylated nanocarriers for Gefitinib showcases significant achievements. The optimized composition ensures uniform particle size distribution and suitable surface charge for stability.

The release kinetics indicate Matrix diffusion-based release type kinetics, and PEGylation enhances drug release and cell inhibition. Stability studies support the formulation's stability and suitability for lung disposition.



#### Article By Dr. Asha Patel Parul University

#### A Promising Step Forward in Lung Carcinoma Treatment

The developed Dry Powder Inhaler (DPI) formulation, comprising Gefitinibloaded nano-lipid carriers, demonstrates stability after stability studies. Moreover, it proves to be suitable for lung disposition cytotoxic, showing promise and in reducing proliferating cancerous cells.

This innovative approach aims to improve anti-cancer therapy by enhancing prolongation and bioavailability at the tumor site, marking a significant step forward in lung carcinoma treatment

¥ क्रमांक INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY INDIA भारत सरकार GOVERNMENT OF INDIA पेटेंट कार्यालय THE PATENT OFFICE PATENT CERTIFICATE केच कहा है कि ऐटेरी से, उपरोक्त आरेटन में पचाप्रसीत NOVEL NANOCARRIER PRODUCT SITIONS OF GEFITINIB FOR THE TREATMENT OF LUNG CARCINOMA नामक के किए सेटेर अपिलस, 1970 के उससे के अनुसार अब तरीख जनारी 2021 के अटरसवी दिन से केस पत्र के लिए सेटेर अनुसार किया गय से. It is nereoy certified that a patent has been granted to the patentee for an invention entitled NOVEL NANOCARRIER PRODUCT COMPOSITIONS OF GETITING FOR THE TREATMENT OF LUNG CARCINOMA as disclosed in the above mentioned application for the term of 20 years from the 18° day of January 2021 in accordance with the provisions of the Patents Act, 1970. 30/09/2022 pu tite à attare à les ain, ait pit aux res aus it, mart 2023 à second for al site anà unan soin at à att for its its

**Patent Certificate** 

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