

NANOROBOTS: AN EMERGING TOOL IN MEDICAL SCIENCE

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ABSTRACT

This article aims at giving summary on the present prominence of Nanomedicine in medical science. Now a day medical science is developing various new scientific innovations. Nanomedicine is such a field which helps to change the vision of the medical science. Nanorobots is the part of the Nanomedicine which is an outstanding tool for future medicine. It is defined as, any smart structure which is capable of actuation, sensing, signaling, information, processing, intelligence, management and swarm performance on Nano scale (10-9m). Nanorobots are very tiny thus they can simply carry the various drugs and go across the human body. Researchers report that the external part of nanorobots will possibly be assembled of carbon atoms in a diamond structure. Super smooth surfaces will minimize the chances of stimulating the immune system of the body. We also summarize briefly medicinal application of the nanorobots. It is used in the cancer treatment which carry and transport large amounts of anticancer drugs into cancerous cells and reduces the side effect related to the current conventional chemotherapy. Diseases such as neoplasm, hepatitis, diabetes, pulmonary, dentistry and cancer can be used this nanorobotics technology. Nanorobots are also used in the area of dentistry. It helps in inducing oral analgesia, desensitize the tooth, straighten the irregular set of the teeth and improve durability of the teeth. Medical nanorobots can willingly treat genetic diseases.

The aim of this review paper is to give an overview on the field of Nanorobots based on papers published in the last three decade. References to earlier publications on this topic can be found in citing papers published up from 1992 until 2019. The present review article is an attempt to provide comprehensive knowledge about various aspects and details about Nanorobotics. To make this review various national and international books, some journals and various websites for collecting the information regarding nanorobots. These articles probably focus on the nanorobots and its various tools, its components, mechanism and application of the nanorobots in medicinal science. In addition, the existing study comprises the prospect aspects of the nanorobot.

Key words –Nanomedicine, Nanorobots, Nano scale, Anticancer drugs

INTRODUCTION

Nanotechnology is the study, design, creation, synthesis, manipulation and application of materials, devices, and system at the nanometer scale (1m consists of 1 billion nanometers). Nanotechnology is a scientific study of effect of matter on an atomic as well as molecular scale[1]. Nanomedicine is the part of the nanotechnology, which is helping to change the vision of the medical science by improving the various scientific innovations. Nanomedicine deals the overlook of human syndromes and the progress the biological system by means of engineering Nano scale robots that travel from all over human bodies. Nanorobot is a new technique that redefined conventional process. Also by developing a micro scale delivery system, we hope to replace a need for traditional methods and instruments.

Nanomedicine is the procedure of detecting, treating and inhibiting disease and traumatic damage of relieving pain and of conserving and improving human health, using several molecular tools as well as molecular knowledge[2].

Theory of nanorobots-

According to nanorobotic concept “Nano robots are microscopic in size, it would possibly be essential for very large numbers of them to work together to perform microscopic and macroscopic tasks” [3,4]. Nanorobotics is the creating the robots at the scale the nanometer or micrometer. It is the emerging field which is used for medical application. This is a nanoelectromechanical system created to perform a specific task. Nanorobotics is a more advantageous technology than the conventional medicine.

Nanorobots are very tiny because they can certainly travel over the human body. Scientist reports the peripheral of a nanorobot will likely bring together of carbon atoms in a diamond structure. Super smooth surfaces will minimize the chances of triggering immune system of the body and permit the nanorobots to go almost their business without hindrance[5].

Advantages of Nanorobots-

Advantages of the nanorobots over current methods are discussed following.

- 1) In treatment of cancer, only tumor cells are treated by nanorobots without damaging to healthy cells. Hence nanorobots are used as targeted therapy in cancer.
- 2) The nanorobots are very durable. Theoretically; they can operate for years without any damage owing to their miniature size, which reduces mechanical damage.
- 3) Nano robots are environment friendly because it produces slight pollutions from production.
- 4) It can guide externally or as per program, targeting specific locations hence it is used as targeted therapy.
- 5) In any of invasive technique, the patient's life is totally in hand of surgeon. It is risky, as one mistake could influence disaster. Nanorobots can guide as per program an account of computerization. Hence less error occurs.

- 6) Nanorobots are so tiny, it can deliver various drugs, and hence it provides better availability of drugs.
- 7) Some harmful diseases such as HIV, Cancer, and diabetes can be cured by nanorobots with the help of nanorobotic technology.
- 8) Nanorobots are so tiny thus they can complete works faster than larger robots.
- 9) A drug molecule are passed by nanorobots and released where needed, the advantage of large interfacial area during mass transfer can be recognized.
- 10) Nanorobots can guide externally hence useful for monitoring, detecting and fighting diseases.

Disadvantages of Nanorobots-

The disadvantages of the nanorobots are as follows.

- 1 The cost for the designing of nanorobots is high.
- 2 The designing of the nanorobot is very difficult.
- 3 It is hard to interface, modify and design and is complex.
- 4 Privacy is the other possible risk involved with nanorobots[6,7].
- 5 Electrical system can create stray fields which can possibly make active bio- electrical based molecular recognition system[8].
- 6 In the field of terrorism, nanorobots can cause a vicious risk.

Components of the nanorobots-

The various components of the nanorobots are mentioned in the figure.1

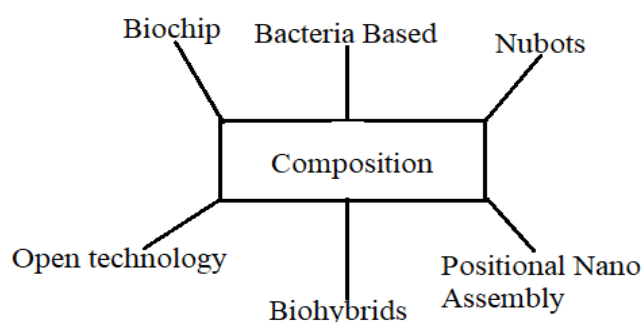


Fig.1: Components Of Nanorobots[50]

1) Biochip

Synthesis includes the combination of nanotechnology, photography and new biomaterials. It can be used for manufacturing of nanorobots for various medical applications. This medical application involves surgical instrumentation, diagnosis and delivery of several drugs. Nanotechnology has prepared biochips which have various applications for commercial purpose, where biochips can be inserted in the body and helps to transfer the information and observe any biological changes in-vivo. Electronics industries currently use biochip for manufacturing. Biochip is inserted into nanorobots can be integrated into Nano electronics devices which will allow tele-operation and advanced skills for medical instrumentation [8].

2) Bacteria based

This approach uses biological microorganism like Escherichia coli bacteria. In this model a flagellum is used for propulsion purpose. The electromagnetic field is generally applied to regulate the motion of this biological integrated device.[9,10]

3) Nubots

Nubots are manmade machine-like devices on the Nano scale. Nubots is an acronym for Nucleic acid robots. To assemble 2D and 3D Nano mechanical devices, DNA structure is provided. By using, proteins, small molecules and other molecule of the DNA this DNA based machine can be activated. Nubots involves DNA structure, as a carrier for targeting drug delivery [12,13].

4) Open technology

An article with a scheme of Nano biotech development using open technology approaches has been addressed to the United Nations General Assembly. According to the document sent to UN, Linux and Open Source has in modern years faster the progress of computer systems, a similar approach should be useful to the society at great and speed up nanorobotics development [13,14].

5) Biohybrids

The bio - hybrid system is the developing field which is the combination of artificial structural components and biological components for biomedical and robotic applications. The components of bio-nanoelectromechanical structures are in nanoscale size, for example DNA, protein [15].

6) Positional Nano assembly

Robert Freitas and Ralph Merkle were established a Nano factory cooperation in 2000, which is a focused continuing work comprising 23 researchers from 10 organizations and 4 countries. This researcher develops a practical research program having aim is develop positionally controlled diamond mechanosynthesis that would be accomplished by constructing diamondoid medical nanorobots [16].

Nano- fabrication and mechanism of action-

Nanorobots in medicine are used for the purpose of conserving and protecting the human body against pathogens. They are $0.5 - 3 \mu$ in diameter and are assembled of parts with dimensions in the range of 1 to 100 nm. The carbon is the main component used in the form of diamond or fullerenes. Nanocompound due to its improved strength and chemical inertness. Oxygen, nitrogen is some light components may be used for particular purposes. The external passive diamond covering provides a smooth, sound coating. Also, this external passive diamond induces less reaction from the immune system.

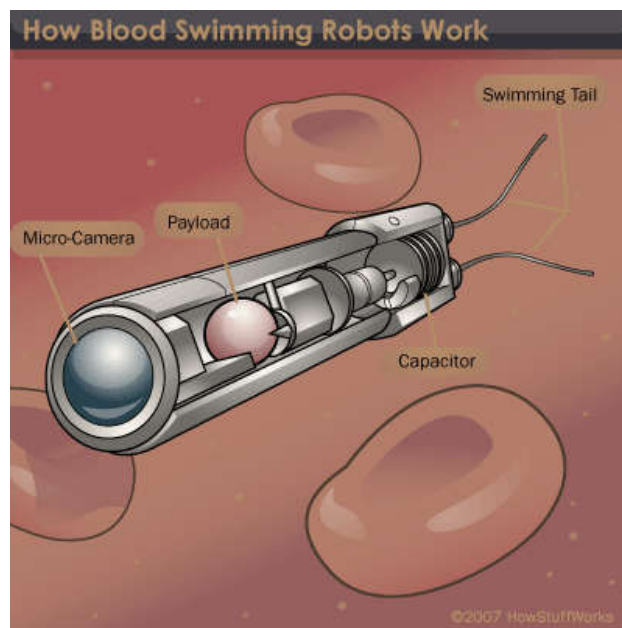


Fig.2: Mechanism of Nanorobots[47,48,49]

Nanorobots can be powered by local glucose, oxygen and sound energy which is supplied externally. They can be controlled by onboard computers. Communication with the device can be attained by broadcast type audio signaling. A navigational set-up fixed in the body, which is responsible for high accuracy and keeps trajectory of the various devices in the body. Nanorobots are capable to make a distinction between diverse cells by examining their surface antigens. Nano robots can be fabricated by the use of various parts like sensors, actuators, power, communications and interfacial signals through longitudinal scales and between organic or inorganic alongside with biotic or abiotic systems. Nano actuators can be monitored by electrical signals[17,18].

When the mission of the Nano robots is over, they can be recovered by permitting them to effuse themselves. They can also be detached by active scavenger systems.

Nano robot Architecture:

The medical Nano robot for Biohazard resistance should consist of a set of application-specific integrated circuit blocks. The structural design of the nanorobot has provided a synchronous interface for antenna, sensor, and a Nano processor, which is able to deliberate actuator and ultrasound communication activation when suitable. The number

of Nano devices to integrate a Nano robot must keep the same hardware sizes with respect to the inside body operation applicability [19,20].

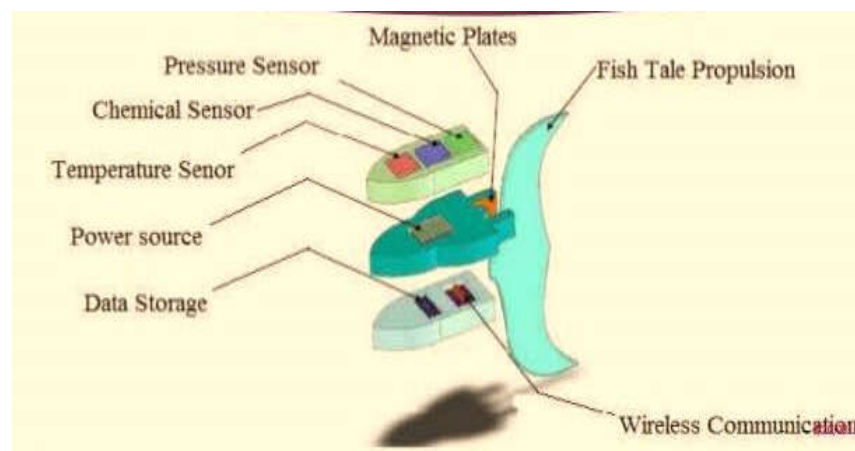


Fig.3:Architecture of Nanorobots[51,52]

Medical and pharmaceutical applications-

Nanorobots are composite machine used for diagnosing, treating and preventing diseases relieving pain, preserving and improve human health. The detail applications of the nanorobots are explained below.

In Dentistry

Nanodentistry is a novel field which is primarily launched to develop interest in future of dental applications nanotechnology. To develop interest in the future. Principal to launch of novel field. Dental nano robots can be beneficial for preventing, healing and curative procedures. This dental nanorobot helps to desensitize the teeth, convincing oral analgesia, desensitize teeth, and straighten teeth. The dental nanorobots can perform the following applications.

1) Maintenance of oral hygiene-

A mouthwash containing smart nanorobots could detect and finish pathogenic bacteria where as permitting the innocuous flora of the mouth to flourish in a healthy ecosystem. Additionally the nanorobots can identify food particles and plaque and removed this food particle and plaque from teeth to be cleaned away. Also, they prevent tooth decay[21].

2) Cavity preparation and Restoration

Various nanorobots in work on the teeth in unison, too small to see the naked eye, can be used for cavity preparation and repair of teeth. This cavity preparation is specially controlled to the demineralized enamel and dentin, consequently, given that the full protection of complete tooth structures.



Fig.4:DentalNanorobots[49,50].

3) Tooth repair-

Nanodental consist of various engineering techniques such as genetic engineering, tissue engineering, tissue regeneration processes for s primary tooth repair. Nanorobots provide comprehensive dentition replacement therapy containing mineral in addition to cellular components.

4) Dentin hypersensitivity

Dentin hypersensitivity is a pathological condition caused by pressure transferred hydrodynamic to the pulp. Reconstructive dental nanorobotes selectively and accurately block specific dentinal tubules within minutes, offering patients a rapid and long-lasting cure from hypersensitivity.

5) Esthetic Dentistry

Dental Nanorobots is cast off for dentition re-naturalization techniques in esthetic dentistry. They dig out old amalgam repairs and remanufacture teeth. Biological materials are used in manufacturing for make a distinction from original teeth.

6) Tooth repositioning

Orthodontic nanorobots can operate the periodontal tissue, containing gingiva, periodontal ligament, cemented and alveolar bone permitting quick and painless tooth straightening, replacement and repositioning in minutes to hours[22].

In Cancer Detection and treatment-

Cancer could be defined as the group of the diseases categorized by the uncontrolled growth and spread of abnormal cells in the body. Cancer medicines, when formulated as nanoparticles, have more advantages than when in taken as free drugs. They are specific to the diseased cells; they have no side effects, they increase the solubility of some hydrophobic drugs, they can penetrate inside cells and so on[23]. The clinical application of the nanorobots in cancer is the diagnosis and treating the carcinogenic cells. Cancer treatment

is most likely the main reason for the development of the nanorobotics. With the help of the nanorobotics cancer can be effectively cured with recent stages of medical skills and the various therapy tools. Nanotechnology holds tremendous potential for overcoming many of the problems that conventional methods face in the treatment, diagnosis and detection of cancer[24]. The several chemical biosensors are inserted into the nanorobots which can be used to carry out the finding of the tumor cells in the early stages of development by detecting the intensity of the E-cadherin signals inside the patient's body[25].

Another important feature of nanorobots in cancer is that, it can achieve an effective cure for patients by developing effective targeted therapies to drop the side effect from existing chemotherapy. Nanorobots can transfer and deliver large quantities of anticancer drugs into malignant cells without damaging healthy cells.

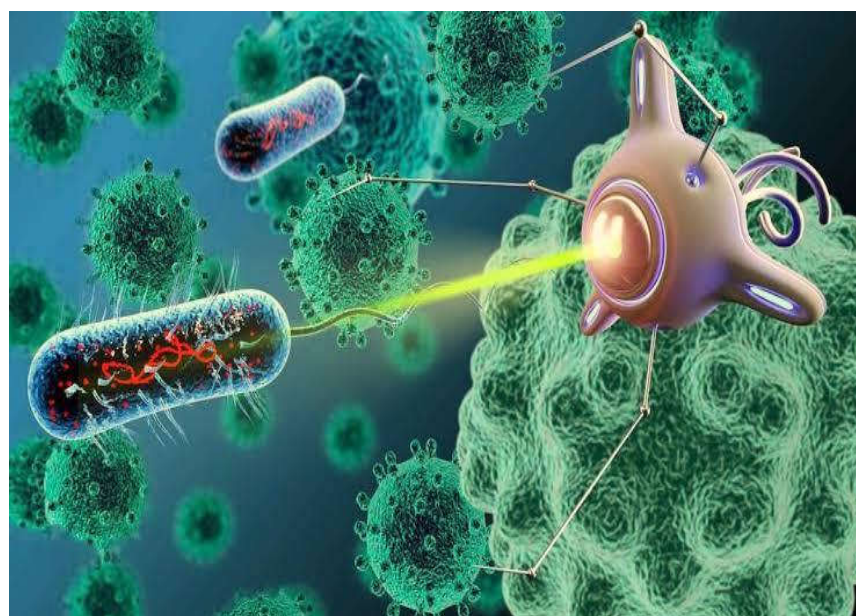


Fig.5: Cancerous cells killed by Nanorobots[45]

In the diagnosis and treatment of Diabetes-

To maintain the human metabolic rate functioning healthfully, the glucose passed through the blood circulation is essential and its exact level is a main problem in the diagnosis and treatment of diabetes.

The hSGLT3 molecule can help to express the glucose levels for diabetes patients. For identification of glucose, this protein works as sender.

The simulated nanorobot archetype model has inserted Complementary Metal Oxide semiconductor (CMOS) Nano Bioelectronics. It features a size of $\sim 2\mu\text{m}$, which permits it to run freely inside the body. Whether the Nano robot is invisible or visible for the immune reactions, it was no interfering for identifying levels of glucose in blood. For the monitoring of glucose the nanorobot uses implanted chemosensor that includes the inflection of hSGLT3 protein glucosensor action. Through its chemosensor, the nanorobot can identify that the patient has wanted to inject insulin or not. If needed, medication clinically suggested by the nanorobots.

In architecture of medical nanorobots, measured data can be then transferred automatically through the RF signals to the mobile phone passed by the patient. At any time, if the glucose attains acute levels, the nanorobot gives off an alarm through the mobile phone. In the simulation, the nanorobot is planned similarly to emit a signal based on definite lunch times, and to measure the glucose levels in preferred intervals of time [26].

In surgery

Surgical Nano robots could be implanted into the human body through the vascular system. [27,28]. A surgical Nano robot, are monitored by a human surgeon which can act as a semi-autonomous on-site surgeon inside the body. Examining for pathology and then diagnosing and improving scratches by Nano manipulation, are the several functions of such devices and it can be controlled by an on-board computer while keeping communication with the controlling surgeon by the use of code ultrasound signals [29,30].

In brain Aneurysm

For brain aneurysm diagnosis, Nano robots essential to path the vessel endothelial damage in advance a subarachnoid hemorrhage occurs. These modifications on chemical concentration are used to monitor the Nano robots to detect brain aneurysm in the early stages of development [31].

Nanomedicine

Early detection and targeted therapy for cancer, biomedical equipment's, surgery, checking of diabetes, and health care are various uses of nanorobots in medicines. In such planning, forthcoming medical nanotechnology is predictable to employ Nano robots inserted into the patient to carry out treatment on a cellular level. Such Nano robots proposed for use in medicine would be non-replicating [32] as replication would unnecessarily increase device complexity, decrease consistency and hamper with the medical mission. Instead, medical Nano robots are recommended to be fabricated in hypotheticals, carefully controlled nano factories in which Nano scale machines would be firmly integrated into a thought desktop scale [33] machine that would construct macroscopic products.

Nano Impression

Impress material is accessible by nanotechnology application. Nano filler is incorporated in the vinyl polysiloxanes, creating a distinctive addition siloxane impression material. It has better flow; improved hydrophilic properties are the main advantages of these materials, hence less voids at boundary and improved detail precision [34].

In gene therapy

Medical nanorobots are treating genetic diseases by linking the molecular structures of DNA and proteins which are found in the cell identify reference structures. Any abnormalities can then be rectified. In some cases, chromosomal replacement therapy is more in effect than in cytotrepair. Floating inside the nucleus of a human cell, an assembler-built repair vessel carries out some genetic preservation. Elongation of a supercoil DNA occurs between its lower pair of robot arms, and the nanomachine gently stretch the unwound strand through a gap in its prow for investigation. Upper arms, meanwhile, remove regulatory proteins from the chain and place them in an intake port [35].

The structures of both DNA as well as proteins are related to information stored in the database on a bigger Nano computer situated exterior the nucleus and attached to the cell-repair ship by a communications link. If irregularities are creating in any structure, then this is rectified and the proteins reattached to the DNA chain, which is back away to its initial form. Through a diameter of 50 nanometers, the repair vessel would be lesser than furthestmost bacteria and viruses, however, capable of treatments and cures well away from the reach of present-day physicians. With trillions of these machines running through a patient's bloodstream, "internal medicine" would take on new consequence. Disease would be attacked at the molecular level, and such conditions as cancer, viral infections and arteriosclerosis could be spread out.

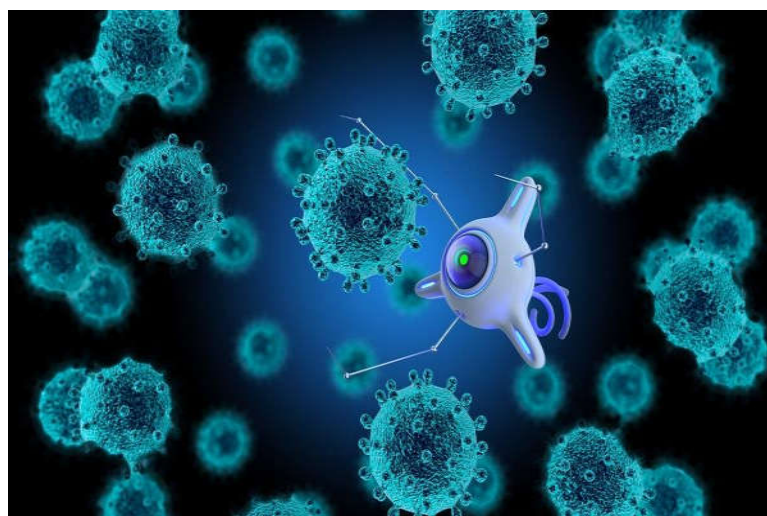


Fig.6:Nanorobots used in gene therapy[43,44]

Diagnosis and testing

Medical nanorobots having an enormous range of functions such as diagnostic, testing and monitoring functions, in tissues as well as in the blood. All vigorous signs containing temperature, pressure, chemical composition, and activity of the immune system, from all diverse parts of the body could constantly record and reported by the nanorobots.

Nanorobots acceptable by a patient for diagnostic purposes approach the surface of the stomach lining to begin their examine for signs of infection [36].

As Artificial phagocyte (Microbivore)

Microbivore is a small microscopic size, artificial mechanical phagocyte whose principal function is to abolish microbiological pathogen found in the human blood stream. The main function of the microbivore is to wipe out microbiological pathogen like viruses, bacteria, and fungi found in the human blood stream, by "digest and discharge" process. They could digest the unwanted microbiological pathogen. Microbivore can achieve complete clearance of most severe septicemic infections in hours, when given IV [37].

Cell repair and lysis (Chromalloy)

Chromalloy is a one more type of nanorobot which would replace whole chromosomes in distinct cells, thus reversing the effect of genetic disorder and other accrued damage to our genes, inhibiting aging. They would be able to heal whole cells, organs and restore health.[38].

As Artificial Neurons

Nano robots can be employed in substituting every neuron in one's brain with nanorobot which is intended to function just like normal, everyday, natural neurons. The nanotech neurons are functionally the same. They link to the same synapse and do the same functional starring role[39].

Magnetic nanoparticles

The prospective of magnetic nanoparticles stems from the fundamental characteristics of their magnetic cores collective with their drug loading capability, biochemical properties. the modern advancement of magnetic nanoparticles for drug delivery, focusing chiefly on the impending applications like targeted drug delivery, bioseparation, ,magnetic resonance and cancer diagnosis, induction of hyperthermia, induction of hyperthermia, nanorobotic agents ,tissue engineering ,artificial muscle ,magnetically activated polymers, controlled tissue assembly, control cell function, bone regeneration scaffold ,destruction of blood clots ,labeling stem cells with magnetic nanoparticles, implant-assisted intrathecal magnetic drug targeting, biodegradable magnetic nanocomposite stent, local drug delivery etc.[40]

Gout

Gout is a state characterized by the peculiarly higher amount of uric acid in blood, frequent attack of joint inflammation (arthritis), hard pieces of uric acid set down in the joints, and reduced kidney function. In this condition kidney lose the capacity to eliminate the waste from the breakdown of fats from the blood stream. This waste left around the joints, specially knee and ankles. Nano robots can break up these crystals in joints and relief from symptoms, though it wouldn't be capable to inverse the state permanently.

Kidney stones

It can be extremely painful, bigger the stone the more difficult to pass. A Nano robot having the ability to breakdown of such kidney stones by means of a smaller laser.

Cleaning wounds

Nanorobots can help to remove debris from the wounds, decreasing the risks of infection. They would be mainly useful in cases of perforation of lesions, where it can be not be possible to treat by various conventional methods.

Atherosclerosis

Atherosclerosis is a condition in which the arteries become hard and narrowing due to buildup of plaque in the arteries which restrict the blood flow. Medical nanorobot have capability that they can very easily find the atherosclerotic lesion blood vessels, and treat them chemically or pharmacologically[41].

Hemophilia

The syndrome in which blood does not clot generally called as hemophilia. When blood can not clot generally, unnecessary bleeding (internal and external) occurs after any damage. A special type of nanorobot called clottocyte which transmits a small mesh net that softens into a tacky membrane upon contact with blood plasma [42].

CONCLUSION-

This article aims at giving an overview of the current position of nanorobotics in the medical science. Nanorobotics helps to change the vision of the medical science by improving the scientific discovery. They will provide combine actions they help in diagnosing, treating and preventing disease, relieving pain, conserving and improving human well-being various molecular tools and molecular information of the human body. Nanorobots have a numerous advantages in the delivery of drugs over a present method. These include improved bioavailability, targeted therapy, less surgeon mistakes, better accuracy, fewer side effects and rapid speed of drug action. A few application discussed in this article have already been established and are now helping patients in all over the world. It includes cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, neurogenerative and psychiatric disease, viral infections, kidney stones, gout, atherosclerosis, hemophilia and dental applications.

Nanotechnology helps in the future to cure a many diseases that will not cure today. As future research continues in this field, more diagnostic and treatment methodologies will be discovered.

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