

## Dendrimers a new class of polymer in Drug Delivery System; Synthesis and Application

Gayatri Gajendra Patil <sup>1</sup>, Pranav A. Patil <sup>1</sup>, Rameshwar A.Kakde <sup>1</sup>, Lalit V. Patil <sup>1</sup>, Yash P.Nikum <sup>1</sup>, Adhiraj Channwal <sup>1</sup>, Kalpit Hendve <sup>1</sup>, Rohit V. Baviskar <sup>2</sup> and Kuldip R. Patil <sup>2,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Trimurti Institute of Pharmacy, Paldhi, Jalgaon, Maharashtra, India, 425103.

<sup>2</sup> Department of Pharmaceutics, TSPM'S Trimurti Institute of Pharmacy Paldhi, Jalgaon, Maharashtra, India, 425103.

World Journal of Advanced Research and Reviews, 2024, 23(01), 797–810

Publication history: Received on 12 January 2024; revised on 30 June 2024; accepted on 03 July 2024

Article DOI: <https://doi.org/10.30574/wjarr.2024.23.1.0368>

### Abstract

Dendrimers is a tree like structure; Dendrimers are characterized by branched repeating units that emerge from a focal point. Drugs are delivered through nanotubes in therapy, and specifically in the treatment of cancerous tumors. They protect drugs from being destroyed in the bloodstream, regulate delivery through precise release kinetics, and, ideally, provide exogenous or endogenous stimulus-based targeting properties of a vector or release mechanism. In comparison to spherical drug delivery systems. Mainly using two strategies can broadly divergent and convergent method. Divergent synthesis starting from EDTA. Dendrimers are applicable for cancer treatment, nucleic acid cancer and nonmedicine.

**Keywords:** Branch chain polymer; Divergent; Convergent; EDTA; Cancer therapy; Nanomedicine

### 1. Introduction

Students studying chemistry from all over the world are attempting to incorporate natural architectural techniques into the synthesis of compounds as part of a larger plan to comprehend the evolution of natural building blocks. This introduced a time of macromolecules and polymers. The aggregates of two or more molecules held together by intermolecular forces are referred to as “macromolecules” in chemistry [1]. The term ‘dendrimers’ comes from two Greek words “dendron” and that implies tree and “meros” and that implies parts, hence alluding to the common tree-like appearance of these compounds[2]. Dendrimers are synthetic polymers with numerous exposed anionic, neutral, or cationic terminal functionalities on the surface, resulting in hydrophilic or hydrophobic compounds [3]. Dendrimers are characterized by branched repeating units that emerge from a focal point. Drugs are delivered through nanotubes in therapy, and specifically in the treatment of cancerous tumors. They protect drugs from being destroyed in the bloodstream, regulate delivery through precise release kinetics, and, ideally, provide exogenous or endogenous stimulus-based targeting properties of a vector or release mechanism. In comparison to spherical drug delivery systems, nanocarriers may offer additional advantages because of their rod- or tubular shape [4]. Dendrimers possess numerous advantages when used as carriers, including a high loading capacity of the drug through numerous functional surface groups and internal cavities[7,8], high bioavailability of the attached drug through covalent or non- covalent bonds, and the high penetrability of biological barriers and cell membranes[9].

### 2. History

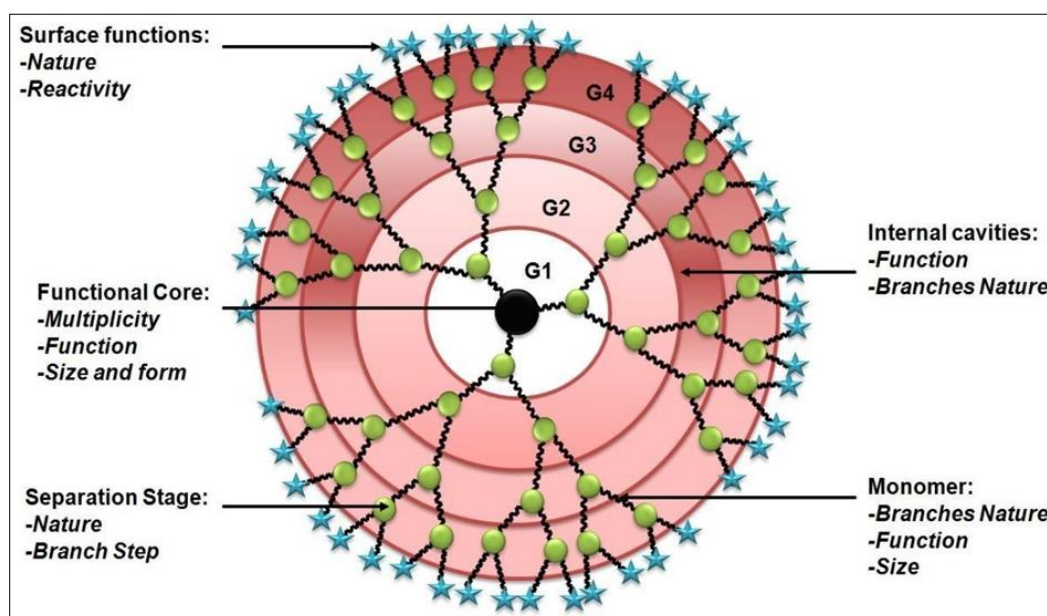
In comparison to traditional surfactants. Additionally, these drug carrier particles have the additional choice of axial ratio, curvature, and “invasive” hydromatic alternation. Fritz Vögtle performed the initial dendrimers synthesis in 1978,

\* Corresponding author: Kuldip R. Patil

R.G. Denkewalter at Allied Corporation in 1981, Donald Tomalia at Dow Chemical in 1983 and 1985, and George Newkome in 1985 used divergent synthesis approaches. Jean Fréchet introduced a convergent synthetic Approach in 1990[10]. Polyamidoamines (PAMAM) were the first dendrimers that could be synthesized. Simultaneously Newkome and Fréchet revealed the union of comparative Macromolecules they called 'arborols'[11]. Dendrimers are an appealing restrictive class of Polymers with controlled structure. A dendrimer is both a distinct nanoparticle and a molecule that is assembled covalently. The divergent synthesis developed by Fritz Vogtle in 1978 [12] and R.G. Denkewalter at Allied Corporation in 1981[13] led to the completion of the initial dendrimers. In 1983 and 1985, Donald Tomalia worked at Dow Chemical [14]. And in 1985 by George Newkome[15]. Jean Fréchet introduced a convergent synthetic Approach in 1990[16]. Although a lot of research has already been done on the various properties and applications of dendrimers, many researchers still believe that it is still in its early stages.

## 2.1. The structure

The nitrogen atom serves as the building block for the dendrimer[17]. After that, a chemical reaction adds carbon and other elements.[19]



**Figure 1** The nanostructured structure of dendrimers

## 2.2. Component of the structure of dendrimers

- A core in the interior
    - Interior layers (generations) made up of repeating units, radicals attach to the interior core. [17]
    - Exterior (terminal functionality) attaches to the outermost interior generations. [18]
  - The pincer
    - Dendrimers have a variety of pincers on their outer shells, each one formed by the last focal point before the dendrimer surface. The number of pincers in Poly propylene imine (PPI) and Poly amido amine (PAMAM) dendrimers is reduced to half that of the surface groups because the chain of dendrimers is divided at the focal points. Because the Chain splits in two at each focal point in these dendrimers).
  - Shell
    - Between the focal points is the generation space, or homo-structural spatial segment, known as the dendrimer shell.
    - Shell exterior: The outer shell extends from the last outer branching point to the surface.
    - Internal shells: The inner shell of a dendrimer is inside.
  - The Generation
    - Homostrucural layers form between the focal points (branching points) due to hyperbranching when moving from the center of the dendrimer to the periphery[17].
- The generation
- Age number is the quantity of central focuses present In the dendrimer counting from the center towards the Dendrimer surface. [ 18] Fifth era Dendrimer:

- A dendrimer having five (5) central focuses while moving From the middle towards the fringe is implied as the fifth era dendrimer and truncated as G5-Dendrimer.
- Ex: Dendrimers of the fifth generation of polypropylene imine (PPI) are referred to as G5-PPI. The center of the Dendrimer is now and again assigned as age zero (G0)
- i.e the center design have no central focuses, as Hydrogen substituents are not considered as central focuses. Dendrimer synthesis intermediates are sometimes referred to as half-generations. Ex: End-group End groups are more commonly referred to as the surface group of the dendrimer or the terminal group of PAMAM dendrimers.
- End-group
  - Amino-terminated dendrimers are dendrimers whose ends have amine end group the end group determines the dendrimer's solvability in a solvent.

### 2.3. The Chemistry of Dendrimers

Dendrimer molecules have a core, which is an atom or group of atoms in the center. Through a variety of chemical reactions, the branches of other atoms known as “dendrons” grow from this central structure. There keeps on being a discussion about the specific design of dendrimers, specifically whether they are completely stretched out with most extreme thickness at the surface or whether the end-bunches overlay once again into a thickly pressed inside[20,21]. The structure of some Dendrimer repeat units, such as the 1,3-diphenylacetylene unit developed by Moore[22], can be seen in Figures. Dendrimers can be prepared with a level of control that is not possible with most linear polymers. This results in nearly monodisperse, globular macromolecules with a large number of peripheral groups.

Dendrimers are a novel class of polymeric belongings. One of the most appealing and rapidly expanding areas of new chemistry is their chemistry[23,24]. Like other specialized research fields, dendrimer chemistry has its own terms and abbreviations. In addition, the various chemical events taking place at the surface of the dendrimer are described using a structural nomenclature that is more succinct. Dendrigrfts are a class of dendritic polymers like dendrimers that can be developed with an obvious sub-atomic design, i.e., being monodisperse[25]. Dendrimers' special structure makes it possible for host-guest chemistry (see Figure 3) and is especially well-suited for multivalent interactions. At the same time, container Compounds, in which small substrates are bound within the internal voids of the dendrimer, were one of the first proposed uses for dendrimers [26]. In hyper branched polymers and dendrimers, experimental evidence for unimolecular micelle properties was established many years ago [27, 28].

#### 2.3.1. Nomenclature

The creation and synthesis of complex dendrimers in recent years have necessitated a widely accepted name for this novel class of macromolecules. Dendrimers' names become more difficult to pronounce as generations pass. Newkome and others portrayed the primary efficient terminology

Arrangement for naming outpouring polymers. Dendrimers' general line formula (1) is shown as:  $C[R_1 (R_2 \dots R_1 \dots R_n (T)N_{bn} \dots)XN_{bi} \dots)N_{b2}N_{b1}]N_c$  (1)

Where C is the core moiety of the initiator; The repeat unit is  $R_i$ ; T: terminal groups;  $N_{bi}$ : the number of repeat units in the tenth branch; and  $N_c$ : multiplicity of branches out of the central core. For dendrimers having uniform branch unit, the above line equation (1) might be streamlined as (2):

$[Core\ unit] [(repeat\ unit)G N_b (Terminal\ unit)] N_c$

The traditional method of naming dendrimers was found to be inappropriate because it fails to indicate the hydrocarbon nature of the interior branches or the number or type of terminal moieties. The formula provides the general form of the name (3).

$Z_{cascade}$ :  $N_c$  CoreUnit: middle repetition unit: Z: terminal unitl (3) l and the number of terminal moieties: layers of units that are repeated (the number of generations in this instance). Now, applying formula (3) to the dendrimer of methane nonylidyne propanol.

- The beginning: 12-Cascade: propane: methane [4](nonylidyne).
- Generation two: 36-Cascade: methane (#4): nonylidyne) 2: propanol.
- Generation three: 108-Cascade: methane (#4): nonylidyne)3: propanol

A more point by point and intriguing portrayal of dendrimer classification has been accounted for somewhere else (Newkome et al., 1993; Friedhofen and Vogtle, 2006) [29,30] Dendrimers can also be depicted as concentric circles, with the inner core and various generations shown therein. A further simple portrayal of an Outline of Dendrimers and Their Biomedical Applications. [31, 32]

Methods that are made up

A review of the relevant literature reveals that numerous synthetic strategies for dendrimer synthesis are available. Divergent Synthesis: These strategies can broadly be broken down into two categories: divergent and convergent approaches [33].

### 2.3.2. Divergent synthesis

Divergent synthesis begins with ethylene diamine (EDA), a multifunctional core molecule. Next, the Michael addition reaction adds four arms to the nitrogen of EDA (two arms can be added to each nitrogen), and then the amidation reaction reacts with the formed four arms in the second step, as depicted in figure 1. The number of arms in each generation doubles from the previous generation, so these two steps can be repeated multiple times to form different generations of dendrimers [34].

Divergent synthesis of dendrimers makes use of a large excess of Michael donor (EDA) in order to avoid structural defects in subsequent generations. This divergent method (Tomalia, 1984) is advantageous for increasing yield from dendrimers of lower purity (Hummelen, 1997)—or, to put it another way, it compromises purity for increasing yield [35]. As a result, this method of synthesis is widely utilized for the production of dendrimers on a commercial scale all over the world. Divergent synthesis of dendrimers has a lower purity primarily because of one of the following:[36]

- Missing repeat units
- Intramolecular and intermolecular cyclization
- Ester Hydrolysis

Missing recurrent units

As divergent synthesis suggests that the Michael addition reaction takes place when the nitrogen of EDA (Michael donor) reacts with methyl acrylate (Michael acceptor), but if only one hydrogen of the amine is replaced and another hydrogen is omitted to react, then this missing unit remains as it is and the synthesis continues, producing an impure dendrimer[37].

Intramolecular and intermolecular cyclization

During the second step of amidation, two arms containing the same molecule of ethylene diamine may undergo intramolecular cyclization, which would halt further dendrimer growth at these two arms. Intermolecular cyclization is also produced when a single EDA molecule is amidated between two distinct dendrimer molecules. The growth of both dendrimer molecules at these two arms is halted by this kind of dimer formation caused by intermolecular cyclization.[38]

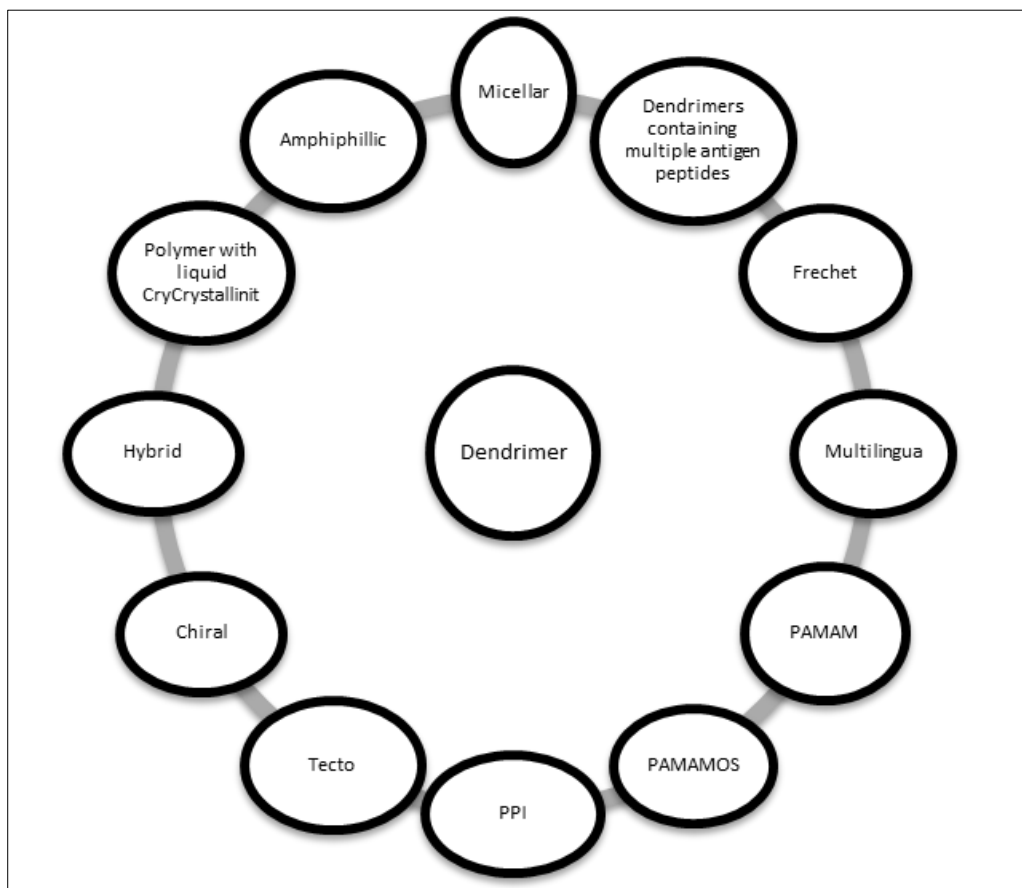
Hydrolysis of ester

During dendrimer synthesis, the ester bond of Michael Acceptor—similar to that of methyl acrylate—may hydrolyze. Under reaction conditions, this ester hydrolysis results in the formation of an acid group that is not reactive with the amine. Therefore, defects in dendrimer synthesis are also caused by ester hydrolysis.[39]

## 2.4. Types of dendrimers

- Micellar Dendrimer
- Dendrimers containing multiple antigen peptides
- Frechet type dendrimer
- Multilingual dendrimers
- PAMAM Dendrimer
- PAMAMOS Dendrimer
- PPI Dendrimer
- Tecto Dendrimer
- Chiral Dendrimers

- Hybrid dendrimer
- Polymer with liquid CryCrystallinit
- Amphiphilic dendrimer.



**Figure 2** Type of dendrimers

Since the 1980s, a variety of dendrimers have been developed, but the ones derived from polyamidoamine (PAMAM) are undeniably the most widely used. PAMAM's branching units are based on methyl acrylate and ethylene diamine, and they have amine and carboxyl-terminated groups.

PAMAM's core is most commonly ethylene diamine, but it contains more hydrophobic molecules.

They referred to them as a molecular cascade. Pamam Dendrimer:-[40, 41]

#### 2.4.1. PANAM Dendrimer

- Poly (amidoamine) dendrimers/starburst Dendrimer
- Technique for amalgamation: Disparate beginning from smelling salts Or ethylenediamine initiator center reagents. Methanol Solutions are the commercially available forms of PAMAM dendrimers. PAMAM dendrimer is also known as Starburst because of the star-like pattern that can be seen in the two-dimensional structure of these high-generation dendrimers.[40]
- Use: Computer toners, material science, and biomedicine. Eg : Pamamos Dendrimer:- DendritechTM

#### 2.4.2. PAMAMOS Dendrimer

- Dendrimers made of poly (amido amine organosilicon) with a radially layered structure were first discovered in 1990 by Dr. Petar Dvornic and his colleagues at the Michigan Molecular Institute. These dendrimers contained silicon.
- The structure:

- End users: Organosilicon (OS) with hydrophobic properties: Nucleophilic, hydrophilic polyamidoamine synthesis method: Diverse and Convergent.
- Use: Chemical catalysis, nanolithography, electronics, and photonics are all precursors to honeycomb-like network preparations.
- E.g.: SARSOX

#### 2.4.3. PPI Dendrimer

- Poly-Propylene Imines/Spot/POPAM
- Is the most established known dendrimer type grew at first by Vögtle. The structure:
- End users: Essential amines.
- The interior: Various tertiary trispropylene amines. Up to G5, PPI dendrimers are commercially available.
- POPAM is elective name to PPI. It is also known as DABdendrimers, and DAB refers to the core structure, which is typically based on diamine butane. Poly (Propylene Amine) is its acronym.
- Synthesis process: Divergent. Use: Biology and materiology. Eg: Asramol by DSM:-

#### 2.4.4. Tecto Dendrimer

- Structure: It had multiple dendrimers at its periphery in addition to a central dendrimer.
- Synthesis process: Diverse Uses: Diseased state drug delivery diagnosis, diseased cell recognition, and reporting location to therapy outcome
- Eg: Mercapto, Starburst®, and Stratus® CS Acute Care TM

#### 2.4.5. Chiral Dendrimer

- Structure: Chilarity is based on the construction of branches to a chiral core that are chemically similar but constitutionally distinct.
- Synthesis process: Convergent.
- Use: Biomedical applications, chiral have for Enantiomeric goals and as chiral impetuses for unbalanced combination.
- Eg: pentaerythritol-derived chiral dendrimers.

#### 2.4.6. Hybrids dendrimer

- Structure: These are mixtures (block or unite polymers) of Dendritic and straight polymers got by complete Mono functionalization of the fringe amines of a “zero- age”.
- Polyethyleneimine dendrimer provides structurally distinct lamellar, columnar, and cubic self-organized Lattices that are more difficult to come by than are other modified dendritic structures.
- Synthesis process: Divergent.
- Use: Nanophotonics, biomedical electronics, and sensing technologies, for example: Polysilsesquioxanes are a hybrid dendritic linear polymer.

#### 2.4.7. Crystalline Dendrimer in Liquid Form

- The structure: A profoundly stretched oligomer or polymer of Dendritic construction containing mesogenic bunches that can Show mesophase conduct. They are mesogenic (liq). Monomers (crystalline).
- Technique for Union: Divergent. Use: Engineering and sciences.
- Eg : Mesogen-functionalized carbosilane dendrimers

#### 2.4.8. Amphiphil Dendrimer

- Structure: Global dendrimers that are not symmetric and are constructed from two chain end sites that are distinct from one another. The other half is electron withdrawal and the first half is electron donation.
- Technique for Amalgamation: Divergent.
- Use: Transfection of cells and genes, use as a polar component, and structure- directiMicellar Dendrimers Ex :- SuperFect, Hydraamphiphiles, and Bolaamphiphiles:

#### 2.4.9. Micellar Dendrimer

- Structure: These are water-soluble, monomolecular, hyperbranched polyphenylene micelles.
- Synthesis Process: Diverse Uses: applications in biology and medicine, drug delivery, and imaging agent.
- Eg : Magnevist® NX-200, beclomethazone dipropionate:

#### 2.4.10. Multiple Antigen Peptide Dendrimer

- This kind of dendrimer was presented by J. P. Hat in 1988, has transcendently tracked down its utilization in natural Applications.
- Structure: It is a dendron-like sub-atomic develop in light of a polylysine skeleton. Since it has an alkyl amino side chain, lysine is an excellent monomer for introducing numerous branching Dendrimers
- Synthesis Process: Convergent.
- Use: in the study of diagnostics and vaccines. Applications in biology. Eg : VivaGel

#### 2.4.11. Frechet type Dendrimer

- Structure: Dendrimers with a hyperbranched skeleton, surface groups of carboxylic acid, and polybenzyl ether.[40,42]
- Method of Synthesis: Use in Convergence: Drug delivery, purifiers, organic synthesis, drug carrier, detecting agent Eg : Dendron azides, Priostar™

---

### 3. Recent trends in Dendrimers as drug delivery vehicles

Dendrimers have emerged as an essential class of nanostructured carriers for the development of nanomedicine to treat a variety of diseases. Dendrimers have been used in a variety of ways to deliver drugs and genes due to their structural diversity and adaptability. Dendrimers, which have a core that is hydrophobic and a periphery that is hydrophilic, can act like unimolecular micelles and have been used to entrap hydrophobic drugs in the intramolecular cavity to solubilize them. As non-viral gene carriers, cationic dendrimers have been extensively utilized. Dendrimer surface gatherings can be formed with drugs and other utilitarian moieties. The main benefits of combining dendrimers with polymers like polyethylene glycol (PEG), polysaccharide, and polypeptide are an increase in the therapeutics' stability and solubility. PEG chains are frequently conjugated to dendrimers via the process of PEGylation, which results in the formation of a unimolecular micelle[65]. Most of the time, dendrimer-polysaccharide conjugates are used to give the nanomaterials better compatibility and attractive binding properties. Dendrimers have been widely conjugated to polysaccharides like chitosan, hyaluronic acid, cyclodextrin, and dextran. Due to the strong affinity of hyaluronic acid for CD44 receptors, which are overexpressed on tumor cells and cancer stem cells, a PAMAM dendrimer that was conjugated with hyaluronic acid demonstrated enhanced tumor penetration properties. He and co. reported a mannose-conjugated PAMAM dendrimer for the specific delivery of liver-x-receptor (LXR) ligands to macrophages because mannose can specifically bind to mannose receptor expression on the surface of macrophages.[66]

---

### 4. Recent drug therapy based on dendrimers

#### 4.1. Dendrimers in Anti-Cancer Treatment

Cancer is an abnormal proliferation of cells brought on by a variety of physical, chemical, biological, or genetic changes. This causes an imbalance between cell proliferation and apoptosis, eventually leading to the development of distant-site invasive cells, which result in significant morbidity and mortality. Despite sustained efforts to find effective treatments over the past few decades, cancer remains one of the leading causes of death. [43] Dendrimers' role as useful ligands in transporting the drug molecule to tumor tissue through various biological compartments and maximizing the pharmacodynamics activity to the targeted site serves as an advantage and constitutes an important strategy therapy [44]

#### 4.2. Poly(amidoamine) Dendrimers (PAMAPAMA)

Poly(amidoamine) dendrimers have been habitually formed with different medications showed in Neoplastic sicknesses: Paclitaxel (PTX) was conjugated with a PAMAM G4 dendrimer via a Glycine–phenylalanine–leucine– glycine peptide linker for the indication of breast cancer. Doxorubicin (DOX) is used to treat lung cancer and brain tumors. When compared to the PTX molecule on its own, the dendrimeric conjugate exhibits greater cytotoxicity and specificity[45]. PTX was conjugated with a PAMAM-G4-DHA dendrimer grafted with omega-3 fatty acids for the indication of gastrointestinal neoplasm. Dendrimers for Nucleic Acid Delivery in Cancer Therapy Nucleic acid therapeutics have already received a lot of attention due to their biocompatibility and specificity in comparison to generic chemotherapies. For this type of conjugation, an increase in pharmacological Activity in the upper gastrointestinal neoplasm has been demonstrated In comparison to the cytotoxic Molecule alone. [46]

### 4.3. Dendrimers as Nucleic Acid Delivery in Cancer Therapy

Nonetheless, nucleic acids are huge hydrophilic particles, which can't enter through cell films and are powerless against enzymatic debasement in the circulatory system. Therefore, in order for nucleic acid therapies to be effective, they require delivery systems that both transport nucleic acid molecules to the desired locations and shield them from damage. When delivering nucleic acids, two types of carriers are typically utilized: vectors based on viruses and nonvirals. Viral vectors, on the other hand, raise concerns about immunological and oncological side effects due to their increased transfection efficiency, which prevents their use in clinical settings. Non-viral vectors, on the other hand, are made of natural or synthetic molecules that elicit weak immune responses. These vectors are not difficult to create and can be changed with different focusing on moieties towards assorted organs. Dendrimers as targeted carriers for anticancer agents One of the main investigations into dendrimers biological applications is related to cancer therapy. These advantages make non-viral vectors ideal platforms for the delivery of nucleic acids. The bioactive compound can be specifically delivered to cancer tissues by conjugating those nanocarriers to targeting groups, reducing off-target effects (Wang et al., 2013; Mendes and other, 2017; Castro and other, 2018). For example, folate, transferring, and epidermal growth factor receptors, among other abnormal components, cancer cells typically allow for targeted delivery (Akhtar et al., 2014). The activity of the PAMAM dendrimer when coupled to the synthetic antibody trastuzumab (TZ) and complexed with docetaxel (DTX) (TZDendDTX)

---

## 5. Dendrimer and anticancer drug delivery

One of the most important uses for dendrimers is as a delivery mechanism for a variety of anticancer medications. Dendrimers are ideal carriers for various anticancer drugs because their structure and tunable surface functionality permit the encapsulation or conjugation of multiple entities, either in the core or on the surface. There are various instances of dendrimer interceded designated drug nanoparticle

### 5.1. Toxicity and nanoparticles

Although consumer product research on nanoparticles and nanotechnology has grown rapidly in recent years, there is currently insufficient information regarding the potential harmful effects on human health and the environment. The intracellular and in vivo fate of the nanoparticulate systems in relation to their surface properties and morphology must urgently be investigated in order to conduct a systematic toxicity assessment. Zinc oxide and titanium dioxide nanoparticles used in sunscreen were found to be able to catalyze oxidative damage to DNA in cultured human fibroblasts and in vitro in a 1997 study by Dunford and colleagues<sup>5</sup>. At a conference on nanoscale materials and toxicity in 2004,, Vyvvan Howard presented his initial findings, which showed that when injected into pregnant rats, gold nanoparticles have the ability to travel across the placenta from the mother to the fetus. Carbon nanotube toxicity has been evaluated in a few studies. Theorized by Shvedova and colleagues. That the skin's increased oxidative stress following SWCNT exposure was the cause of the probable dermal toxicity and morphological changes observed. Crystalline silver nanoparticle- related cytotoxicity in lesioned skin, growing human fibroblasts, and keratinocytes was demonstrated by Lam and colleagues and Poon and Burd. These studies, among others, have begun to reveal the toxicity of nanoparticles and will pave the way for progression in this field of study. Other toxicity studies of carbon nanotubes describe the of cause granulomas in rats and mice after acute exposure. Other studies of toxicity of carbon.

### 5.2. Dendrimers in Treatment for Inflammation

Nanotechnology is a technological approach that has a significant impact on medical practice and a wide range of potential applications. Ibuprofen is a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) that is frequently prescribed for a variety of diseases due to its analgesic and anti-inflammatory properties. As one of the most significant applications of nanotechnology, nanomedicine combines nanotechnology with medical therapeutics and includes highly specific drugs for clinical practice [47]. The molecule's hydrophobic nature restricts its bioavailability when taken orally, particularly at high doses[48]

#### The Use of Dendrimers in Antibacterial Treatment

- Chemotherapeutic agents are used in antimicrobial treatments because they interfere with the integrity of the membrane or by inhibiting the synthesis of the cell wall, proteins, nucleic acids, or other metabolic pathways, among other ways [49]. They are useful for controlling bacterial infections, but they have some limitations, such as a limited antimicrobial activity spectrum, concerns about the drug's safety and tolerability(50), and the possibility of unwanted reactions (such as side effects, allergies, or toxicity) if the medication is administered incorrectly(51), as well as ineffective drug distribution and delivery(52) and bacterial resistance to antibiotics(53).



### 5.3. Dendrimers in Antiviral Therapy

Human wellbeing can be impacted by different specialists, similar to microbes, infections, organisms and different parasites.[54]Of these, infections can imitate inside living cells by utilizing their enzymatic frameworks[55]. Dendrimeric conjugates with active substances have been the subject of numerous studies in the field of antiviral therapy. These conjugates have a number of advantages, including reduced toxicity, extended half-life, and increased specificity and bioavailability [56]. Using dendrimeric nanoparticles with dimensions between 1 and 40 nm[57] and distinct generations G1-S4, G2-S16, and G3-S16[58], nanotechnology with polyanionic carbosilane dendrimers (PCD) has been a promising strategy for improving the characteristics of antiretroviral drugs over the past ten years in HIV treatment. The sulfonate groups in the peripheral structures of these compounds define them: G1-S4 PCDs have four peripheral sulfonate groups, while G2-S16 and G3-S16 have 16[59,60]. The quantity of rehashed layers of iotas of silicon decides the age Of dendrimers.

---

## 6. Gene delivery

The primary promise that the complete human genome sequence and an understanding of disease molecular pathways would produce safer, more effective medicines and transform patient care has not yet been realized. In any case, there is little uncertainty that hereditary treatments will make a critical commitment to our restorative armamentarium once a portion of the key difficulties, like explicit and productive conveyance, have been settled. The capacity to convey bits of DNA to the necessary pieces of a cell incorporates many difficulties. Utilizing dendrimers to transport genes into cells without causing DNA damage or deactivation is the subject of current research. Dendrimer/DNA complexes were encapsulated in a water-soluble polymer and then deposited on or sandwiched between functional polymer films with a rapid degradation rate to mediate gene transfection in order to maintain DNA's activity during dehydration.

Dendrimers as Reagents for Gene Transfer: Gene transfection is a straightforward method in which DNA is attached to an inert solid nanoparticle and openly targeted at the nucleus of a cell. If transfection of eukaryotic cells is a successful method for modifying the genetic material of cells, 55 The group of Szoka and Baker 56 first reported the use of dendrimers for transfection. PAMAM dendrimers were the first established to be useful for transfection. The organization named Quiagen fostered a modern transfection plan in light of PAMAM dendrimers followed by crafted by Szoda et al and Cook et al 57.

### 6.1. Dendrimer/gene complexation

PAMAM dendrimers with an amino terminus have been extensively utilized as gene transfection vectors. PAMAM dendrimers have a greater capacity for loading nucleic acids and a higher biocompatibility than branched polyethylenimine (PEI).

PAMAM dendrimers' nanoscopic size, spherical shape, and cationic surface make it easier for the complexed nucleic acid to be absorbed by cells. Additionally, PAMAM dendrimers' proton sponge effect facilitates endosomal escape, an essential step in increasing transfection efficiency. In a xenograft tumor mouse model of head and neck squamous cell carcinomas, we tested G4-FA as a vector for the local delivery of siRNA against vascular endothelial growth factor A (siVEGFA). G4-FA significantly slowed down the growth of head and neck cancer tumors by facilitating siVEGFA delivery, promoting its tumor-specific uptake, and facilitating its delivery. Contrasted and siVEGFA bunch, two portions of G4- FA/siVEGFA intratumorally directed eight days separated brought about a huge restraint on cancer development, went with significant decrease in angiogenesis.[67]

Dendrimers are frequently enriched with extra practical moieties, for example, peptides to defeat intracellular quality conveyance boundaries. The use of a PAMAM dendrimer complexed with a synthetic diblock nuclearlocalization sequence peptide (NLS) for gene delivery was recently reported by our group. The complexed NLS facilitated the entire dendrimer/nucleic acid polyplex's nuclear translocation and then destabilized the association between PAMAM and the plasmid in the nucleus, enhancing gene transfection. Cationic dendrimers can also bind to other negatively charged molecules, like heparin or polyanions, just like gene transfection does. Because it neutralizes the anticoagulant activity of heparin in plasma, the polylysine dendrimer complex with heparin has the potential to be utilized as stable anti-angiogenic therapies [68]

---

## 7. Dendrimer-based drug and gene delivery challenges and solutions:

Despite the advantages of dendrimers as drug delivery carriers, there are still some problems that need to be solved. Dendrimers' toxicity and biodistribution are closely linked to their size and surface chemistry. Size constraint is an

essential concern. PAMAM dendrimers of age 5 or lower can be adequately killed through glomerular filtration in the renal discharge pathway, while the leeway of PAMAM age 6 and higher depend erring on the hepatic freedom pathway. The ability to cross the cellular endocytosis barrier and interact with nanometric cellular components is shared by dendrimers with sizes between 4 and 10 nm. PAMAM dendrimers of generation 6 and higher, on the other hand, are rarely utilized due to their high cost and severe toxicity. Cationic dendrimers make it easier for cells to be internalized and have a high affinity for nuclei or anion compounds. However, the reticuloendothelial system rapidly eliminates cationic dendrimers after they are subjected to nonspecific plasma protein adsorption. Dendrimers and nucleic acids cannot dissociate completely inside the cell. Cationic dendrimers generally have a higher toxicity than neutral or anionic dendrimers, particularly at high doses, because their interaction with negatively charged cell membranes can destabilize biological membranes and cause cell lysis.[69] Pryor et al. studied PAMAM's toxicity on embryonic zebra fish models and discovered that, at the same concentration, cationic PAMAM generation 6 was statistically more toxic than neutral PAMAM generation 6 and anionic PAMAM generation 6[70]

## 7.1. Transdermal drug administration

When taken orally, NSAIDs can cause side effects like gastrointestinal and renal side effects, which limits their clinical use. With transdermal drug delivery, these side effects are avoided and the therapeutic blood level is maintained for a longer period of time. Because of the skin's barrier function, transdermal delivery has lower rates than transcutaneous delivery. Dendrimers have tracked down applications in transdermal medication conveyance frameworks. Dendrimers are typically a good option for an effective delivery system for bioactive drugs with hydrophobic moieties and low water solubility.

### 7.1.1. Properties

- Dendritic polymers that can be built with a Clear cut sub-atomic construction, for example being monodisperse, not at all like to straight polymers.
- Nanoscale sizes with dimensions comparable to those of important bio- building blocks like proteins and DNA.
- When dendrimer surfaces altered with little Utilitarian gatherings or polyethylene glycol (Stake) show Non or low-immunogenicity.
- The capacity to change the mode of excretion from the body in response to the nanoscale diameter.
- Small molecule drugs, metals, or imaging moieties can be encapsulated inside a void space, which reduces the drug's toxicity and enables controlled release.
- Numbers of terminal surface gatherings appropriate for Bioconjugation of medications, flagging gatherings, focusing on Moieties or biocompatibility gatherings.
- Surfaces that can be made to resist trans-cellular, epithelial, or vascular biopermeability by using functional groups
- Dendrimers are single-sided macromolecules. During the traditional polymerization process, dendrimers' size as well as their molecular mass can be precisely controlled.
- When the sub-atomic mass of dendrimers builds, Their natural thickness goes through a greatest at the Fourth era and afterward starts to decline.
- The high reactivity and high solubility and miscibility are due to the abundance of chain ends.
- The nature of surface groups has a significant impact on the solubility of dendrimers.
- The dendrimer ought to be: non-toxic, on-immunogenic, able to cross bio barriers (biopermeable), able to remain in circulation for the amount of time required to have a clinical effect, and able to target a specific structure[61,62]

---

## 8. Dendrimer future prospects

Dendrimer future prospects include the development of dendrimers clusters, in which multiple dendrimers are bound together through physical or chemical forces to assemble a multifunctional therapeutic system that incorporates the anticancer drugs, targeting ligands, and imaging agents. This will create a new way for combination anticancer therapy along with in vivo imaging of the targeted tumor. Dendrimer future prospects: The difficulty of synthesizing the desired systems in large quantities at clinical grade purity for clinical trials and regulatory hurdles that require detailed characterization of the polymeric carriers along with the linkages and the incorporated drug make their application in cancer therapies with defined dosage regimens still not acceptable, despite their effectiveness.

### 8.1. Dendrimer Based Products

Several dendrimer grounded products have formerly been approved by the FDA and some in Phase II clinical trials.

Various dendrimer based products are

- Alert ticket for Anthrax Detection
- Priofect™, Priostar™ and Starburst for targeted Diagnostic, remedial delivery for cancer cells
- SuperFect for Gene Transfection
- Stratus CS for Cardiac Marker
- Vivagel for precluding HIV

## 9. Conclusion

Dendrimers are macromolecular nanoparticles used in drug synthesis. Each dendrimer has unique characteristics that make it a potential candidate for a variety of applications. Dendrimers have numerous applications due to their structural versatility, which makes them less cytotoxic and improves the drug Polyethylene glycol's (PEG) stability. They can be utilized in a variety of fields, including immunology and biopharmacy; the multi-step amalgamation actually Requires incredible exertion. When it comes to the formulation and development of a drug entity, physicochemical properties, such as solubility, must be taken into account. However, this hyperbranched three-dimensional carrier has demonstrated its ability to solubilize and carry a variety of hydrophobic drug molecules with success.

## Compliance with ethical standards

### *Disclosure of conflict of interest*

No conflict of interest to be disclosed.

## References

- [1] Singh, U., Dar, M.M. and Hashmi, A.A. (2014). Dendrimers: Synthetic Strategies, Properties and Applications, Oriental Journal of Chemistry, Vol. 30. No3
- [2] Carmo, D.R., Silveira, S.F.T., Laurentiz, S.R., Bicalho, M.L., Filho, D. L. and Paim, L.L. (2013). Synthesis and a Preliminary Characterization of Poly(Propylene)Imine Hexadecylamine Dendrimer (DAB-Am-16) Modified with Methyl Acrylate, American Chemical Science Journal, 3(3): 314-324
- [3] Lyu Z., Ding L., Huang A.Y.T., Kao C.L., Peng L. Poly(amidoamine)dendrimers: Covalent and supramolecular synthesis. Mater. Today Chem. 2019;13:34–48. Doi: 10.1016/j.mtchem.2019.04.004.
- [4] LaVan DA, McGuire T, Langer R. (2003). Small-scale systems for in vivodrug delivery, Nat Biotechnol, 21(10), 1184–1191.
- [5] Cavalcanti A, Shirinzadeh B, Freitas RA Jr, Hogg T. (2008). Nanorobot architecture formedical target identification, Nanotechnology, 19(1), 015103(15pp).
- [6] Shadrack D., Swai H., Munissi J., Mubofu E., Nyandoro S. Polyamidoamine dendrimers for enhanced solubility of small molecules and other desirable properties for site specific delivery: Insights from experimental and computational studies. Molecules. 2018;23:1419.
- [7] Shadrack D., Mubofu E., Nyandoro S. Synthesis of polyamidoamine dendrimer for encapsulating tetramethyl scutellarein for potential bioactivity enhancement. Int. J. Mol. Sci. 2015;16:26363–26377. Doi: 10.3390/ijms161125956.
- [8] Prajapati R.N., Tekade R.K., Gupta U., Gajbhiye V., Jain N.K. Dendrimer- mediated solubilization, formulation development and in vitro-in vivo assessment of piroxicam. Mol. Pharm. 2009;6:940–950. Doi: 10.1021/mp8002489.
- [9] Otto D.P., de Villiers M.M. Poly(amidoamine) dendrimers as a pharmaceutical excipient. Are We There yet? J. Pharm. Sci. 2018;107:75–83. Doi: 10.1016/j.xphs.2017.10.011
- [10] Tomalia DA, Baker H, Dewald J, Hall M, Kallos G, Martin S, Roeck J, Ryder J and Smith P, A New Class of Polymers Starburst-Dendritic Macromolecules, Polym. J, 17(1), 1985, 117-132.
- [11] Newkome GR, Yao ZQ, Baker GR and Gupta VK, Cascade molecules: A new approach to micelles, J. Org. Chem,50(11), 1985, 2003–2006

- [12] Gaudana R, Jwala J, Boddu SHS, Mitra AK, Recent perspectives in ocular drug delivery, *Pharmaceutical Research*, 2009; 26(5): 1197–1216.
- [13] Ranta VP, Mannermaa E, Lummepuro K, Barrier analysis of periocular drug delivery to the posterior segment. *Journal of Controlled Release*, 2010; 148(1): 42–48.
- [14] Kolhea P, Misraa E, Kannana RM, Kannanb S, Lieh-Laib M, Drug complexation, in vitro release and cellular entry of dendrimers and hyperbranched polymers. *International Journal of Pharmaceutics*, 2003; 259(2003): 143-160
- [15] Tomalia DA, Baker H, Dewald J, Hall M, Kallos G, Martin S, Roeck J, Ryder J, Smith P, A New Class of Polymers: Starburst-Dendritic Macromolecules. *Polymer Journal*, 1985; 17(1): 117-132.
- [16] Hawker CJ, Fréchet JMJ, Preparation of polymers with controlled molecular architecture. A new convergent approach to dendritic macromolecules. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 1990; 112(21): 7638-7645.
- [17] Pushkar S, Philip A, Pathak K, and Pathak D, Dendrimers: Nanotechnology Derived Novel Polymers in Drug Delivery, *Indian J. Pharm. Educ. Res*, Vol40(3), 2006, 153-158.
- [18] Tripathy S, Das MK, Dendrimer and their application as novel drug delivery carriers, *Journal of applied pharmaceutical science*, 3(09), 2013, 142-149.
- [19] Zimmerman SC, Lawless LJ, Supramolecular chemistry of Dendrimers, *Topics in Current Chemistry*, 217, 2001, 95-119.
- [20] Zimmerman SC. Dendrimers in molecular recognition and self-assembly. *Curr Opin Colloid Interfac Sci*. 1997;9:89.
- [21] Zeng FW, Zimmerman SC. Dendrimers in supramolecular chemistry: from molecular recognition to selfassembly. *Chem Rev*. 1997;9:1681.
- [22] Moore JS. Shape-persistent molecular architectures of nanoscale dimension. *Acc Chem Res*. 1997;9:402.
- [23] Boris D, Rubinstein M. A self-consistent mean field model of a starburst dendrimers: dense core vs. dense shells. *Macromolecules*. 1996;9:7251–7260
- [24] Spataro G, Malecaze F, Turrin CO, Soler V, Duhayon C, Elena PP. Designing dendrimers for ocular drug delivery. *Eur J Med Chem*. 2010;9(1):326–334.
- [25] Tomalia DA, Hedstrand DM, Ferritto MS. Comb-burst dendrimer topology: new macromolecular architecture derived from dendritic grafting. *Macromolecules* 1991;9:1435
- [26] Maciejewski M. Concepts of trapping topologically by shell molecules. *J Macromol Sci Chem*. 1982;9:689.
- [27] Kim YH, Webster OW. Water soluble hyperbranched polyphenylene: “a unimolecular micelle?” *J Am Chem Soc*. 1990;9:4592
- [28] Newkome GRM, Baker GR, Saunders MJ, Grossman SH. Uni-molecular micelles. *Angew Chem Int Ed Engl*. 1991;9:1178.
- [29] Abbasi, E., Aval, S. F., Akbarzadeh, A., Milani, M., Nasrabadi, H. T., Joo, S. W., Hanifehpour, Y., Koshki, K. N., & Asl, R. P., (2014). Dendrimers: synthesis, applications, and proper-ties. *Nanoscale Res. Lett.*, 9, 247
- [30] .Abid, C. K. Z., Jackeray, R., Jain, S., Chattopadhyay, S., Asif, S., & Singh, H., (2016). Anti-microbial efficacy of synthesized quaternary ammonium polyamidoamine dendrimers and dendritic polymer network. *J. Nanosci. Nanotechnol.*, 16, 998–1007.
- [31] Adams, G., Ruth Ashton, M., & Khoshdel, E., (2003). Hydroxyl- Functionalized Dendritic Macromolecules in Topical Cosmetic and Personal Care Compositions. U. S. Patent, 6, 582, 685 B1, June 24.
- [32] Adronov A, Frechet JMJ. Light Harvesting Dendrimers. *Chem. Commun*, 2000, 1701-10.
- [33] Aulenta F, Hayes W, Rannard S. Dendrimers: A new class of nanoscopic containers and delivery devices. *Eur Polym J*. 2003; 39: 1741-71
- [34] Buhleier E, Wehner W, Vogtle F. “Cascade” and “Nonskid-Chain-like” Syntheses of Molecular Cavity Topologies,” *Synthesis* 1978; 2:155-8.
- [35] D Emanuele A, Attwood D. Dendrimer-drug interactions. *Adv. Drug Delivery Rev*. 2005; 57: 2147-62.
- [36] De Barbender-van den Berg EMM, Meijer EW. Polypropyleneiminedendrimers: Large scale synthesis by heterogeneously catalysed hydrogenation. *Angew Chem Int Ed* 1993; 32: 1308-10.

- [37] Florence AT. Dendrimers: a versatile targeting platform. *Adv. Drug Delivery Rev.* 2005; 57: 2101-2286.
- [38] Gillies ER, Fréchet JMJ. Dendrimers and Dendritic Polymers in Drug Delivery. *Drug Discovery Today*, 2005; 10: 35-43.
- [39] Grayson SM, Frechet JMJ. Convergent dendrons and dendrimers: From synthesis to applications. *Chem Rev* 2001; 101: 3819-67.
- [40] Hawker C, Frechet JMJ, Preparation of polymers with controlled molecular architecture: A new convergent approach to dendritic macromolecules, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 112, 1990, 7638–7647.
- [41] Priya P, Mand S, Jeyapragash R, Dendrimer: A novel polymer, *Int J of research in pharmacy and chemistry*, Vol 3(2), 2013, 495-501.
- [42] Yiyun C, Zhenhua X, Minglu M and Tonguen X, Dendrimers as Drug Carriers: Applications in Different Routes of Drug, *J. Pharma. Sci*, 97(1), 2008, 123- 143.
- [43] Ferlay, J.; Colombet, M.; Soerjomataram, I.; Mathers, C.; Parkin, D.M.; Piñeros, M.; Znaor, A.; Bray, F. Estimating the global cancer incidence and mortality in 2018: GLOBOCAN sources and methods. *Int. J. Cancer* 2019, 144, 1941–1953.
- [44] Castro, R.I.; Forero-Doria, O.; Guzmán, L. Perspectives of dendrimer-based nanoparticles in cancer therapy. *An. Acad. Bras. Cienc.* 2018, 90, 2331–2346.
- [45] Satsangi, A.; Roy, S.S.; Satsangi, R.K.; Vadlamudi, R.K.; Ong, J.L. Design of a paclitaxel prodrug conjugate for active targeting of an enzyme upregulated in breast cancer cells. *Mol. Pharm.* 2014, 11, 1906–1918.
- [46] Dichwalkar, T.; Patel, S.; Bapat, S.; Pancholi, P.; Jasani, N.; Desai, B.; Yellepeddi, V.K.; Sehdev, V. Omega-3 fatty acid grafted PAMAM-paclitaxel conjugate exhibits enhanced anticancer activity in upper gastrointestinal cancer cells. *Macromol. Biosci.* 2017, 17, 1600457.
- [47] Kesharwani, P.; Jain, K.; Jain, N.K. Dendrimer as nanocarrier for drug delivery. *Prog. Polym. Sci.* 2014, 39, 268–307.
- [48] Lipinski, C.A. Poor aqueous solubility—An industry wide problem in drug discovery. *Am. Pharm. Res.* 2002, 19, 1894–1900.
- [49] Weledji, E.P.; Weledji, E.K.; Assob, J.C.; Nsagha, D.S. Pros, cons and future of antibiotics. *New Horiz. Transl. Med.* 2017, 4, 9–1.
- [50] Tsafnat, G.; Coptly, J.; Partridge, S.R. RAC: Repository of Antibiotic resistance Cassettes. *Database* 2011, 2011, bar054.
- [51] Spellberg, B.; Bartlett, J.G.; Gilbert, D.N. The future of antibiotics and resistance. *N. Engl. J. Med.* 2013, 368, 299–302.
- [52] Walsh, F. The multiple roles of antibiotics and antibiotic resistance in nature. *Front. Microbiol.* 2013, 4, 255. 53]
- [53] Partridge, S.R.; Tsafnat, G. Automated annotation of mobile antibiotic resistance in Gram-negative bacteria: The Multiple Antibiotic Resistance Annotator (MARA) and database. *J. Antimicrob. Chemother.* 2018, 73, 883–890.
- [54] Lewis, K. Antibiotics: Recover the lost art of drug discovery. *Nature* 2012, 485, 439–440.
- [55] Brownlie, J.; Peckham, C.; Waage, J.; Woolhouse, M.; Lyall, C.; Meagher, L.; Tait, J.; Baylis, M.; Nicoll, A. *Infectious Diseases: Preparing for the Future— Future Threats*; Office of Science and Innovation: London, UK, 2006.
- [56] Mhlwatika, Z.; Aderibigbe, B. Application of dendrimers for the treatment of infectious diseases. *Molecules* 2018, 23, 2205.
- [57] Vacas-Córdoba, E.; Maly, M.; De la Mata, F.J.; Gómez, R.; Pion, M.; Muñoz- Fernández, M.Á. Antiviral mechanism of polyanionic carbosilane dendrimers against HIV-1. *Int. J. Nanomed.* 2016, 11, 1281–1294.
- [58] Relaño-Rodríguez, I.; Juárez-Sánchez, R.; Pavicic, C.; Muñoz, E.; Muñoz- Fernández, M.Á. Polyanionic carbosilane dendrimers as a new adjuvant in combination with latency reversal agents for HIV treatment.
- [59] Rasines, B.; Sánchez-Nieves, J.; Maiolo, M.; Maly, M.; Chonco, L.; Jiménez, J.L.; Muñoz-Fernández, M.Á.; De La Mata, F.J.; Gómez, R. Synthesis, structure and molecular modelling of anionic carbosilane dendrimers. *Dalton Trans.* 2012, 41, 12733–12748.

- [60] Arnáiz, E.; Vacas-Córdoba, E.; Galán, M.; Pion, M.; Gómez, R.; Muñoz- Fernández, M.Á.; de la Mata, F.J. Synthesis of anionic carbosilane dendrimers via “click chemistry” and their antiviral properties against HIV. *J. Polym. Sci. Part A Polym. Chem.* 2014, 52, 1099–1112.
- [61] Sakthivel T, Toth I and Florence AT: Synthesis and physicochemical properties of lipophilic polyamide dendrimers, *Pharm. Res.*, 15, 1998, pp776-782.
- [62] Peeyushkumar, K.P. Meena, Pramod Kumar, Champalal Choudhary, Devendra Singh Thakur, Pranav Bajpaye; Dendrimer: A Novel Polymer For Drug Delivery; *JITPS* 2010, Vol.1 (6) pp252-269
- [63] Singh P, Dendrimers and their applications in immunoassays and clinical diagnostics, *Biotech Appl Biochem.*, 48, 2007, 1-9.
- [64] McCarthy TD, Karellas P, Henderson SA, Giannis M, Heery G, Dendrimers as drugs: discovery and preclinical and clinical development of dendrimer-based microbicides for HIV and STI prevention, *Mol Pharm.*, 2, 2005, 312-8.
- [65] Yang H, Morris JJ, Lopina ST. Polyethylene glycol–polyamidoamine dendritic micelle as Solubility enhancer and the effect of the length of polyethylene glycol arms on the solubility of pyrene in water. *J Colloid Interface Sci.* 2004;273:148– 154.
- [66] He H, Yuan Q, Bie J, Wallace RL, Yannie PJ, Wang J, et al. Development of mannose functionalized dendrimeric nanoparticles for targeted delivery to macrophages: use of this platform to modulate atherosclerosis. *Transl Res.* 2018;193:13–30. Doi: 10.1016/j.trsl.2017.10.008.
- [67] Abedi-Gaballu F, Dehghan G, Ghaffari M, Yekta R, Abbaspour-Ravasjani S, Baradaran B, et al. PAMAM dendrimers as efficient drug and gene delivery nanosystems for cancer therapy. *Appl Mater Today.* 2018;12:177– 190. Doi: 10.1016/j.apmt.2018.05.002.
- [68] Al-Jamal KT, Al-Jamal WT, Kostarelos K, Turton JA, Florence AT. Anti- angiogenic polyL-lysine dendrimer binds heparin and neutralizes its activity. *Results Pharma Sci.* 2012;2:9–15. Doi: 10.1016/j.rinphs.2011.12.002
- [69] Thiagarajan G, Greish K, Ghandehari H. Charge affects the oral toxicity of poly(amidoamine) dendrimers. *Eur J Pharm Bio pharm*, 2013; 84:330–334. Doi: 10.1016/j.ejpb.2013.01.019.
- [70] Pryor JB, Harper BJ, Harper SL. Comparative toxicological assessment of PAMAM and Thiophosphoryl dendrimers using embryonic zebrafish. *Int J Nanomedicine.* 2014;9:1947–1956.