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Multifunctional nanoassemblies of block copolymers for future cancer therapy

REVIEW ARTICLE

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TOPICAL REVIEW

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Abstract Nanoassemblies from amphiphilic block copolymers are promising nanomedicine platforms for cancer

diagnosis and therapy due to their relatively small size, high loading capacity of drugs, controlled drug release, *in vivo* stability and prolonged blood circulation. Recent clinical trials with self-assembled polymeric micelles incorporating anticancer drugs have shown improved antitumor activity and decreased side effects encouraging the further development of nanoassemblies for drug delivery. This review summarizes recent approaches considering stimuli-responsive, multifunctionality and more advanced architectures, such as vesicles or worm-like micelles, for tumor-specific drug and gene delivery.

PACS 87.85.Qr Nanotechnologies-design

87.19.X- Diseases 81.16.Dn Self-assembly

87.85.J- Biomaterials

82.70.Uv Surfactants, micellar solutions, vesicles, lamellae, amphiphilic systems, (hydrophilic and

hydrophobic interactions)

Subjects Soft matter, liquids and polymers

Medical physics Biological physics

Nanoscale science and low-D systems Chemical physics and physical chemistry

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