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"Threads Of Innovation" - How Nanofibers Are Shaping Dermatology

[1] Thejalakshmi Chettyparambil Lalchand and [2] Jijo Joseph

[1]Department of Medicine at David Tvildiani Medical University
Tbilisi, Georgia
Email – thejalakshmicl00@gmail.com

[2]Department of Medicine at David Tvildiani Medical University
Tbilisi, Georgia
Email- jijojosephomin@gmail.com
Corresponding Author: Thejalakshmi Chettyparambil Lalchand

Abstract

Background
Nanofibers are considered an innovative breakthrough in dermatology due to their extensive range of therapeutic applications and exceptional drug delivery selectivity. They are excellent delivery methods for biological agents such as corticosteroids, antibiotics, and anti-inflammatory drugs because of their high surface area, porosity, and biocompatibility. The effectiveness of treatment increases alongside the significant decrease in systemic adverse effects with this focused strategy. Furthermore, published research has shown nanofibers themselves include antibacterial qualities, which enable them to effectively treat ailments such as skin cancer, fungal infections, dermatitis, wounds, and pigmentation. The controlled release of active substances from nanofibers makes them vital in cosmetic dermatology, particularly in anti-aging treatments.

Materials and Methods
A literature review was performed by analyzing articles published on PubMed and Google Scholar, focusing on the keywords electrospun nanofibers, controlled drug release, noninvasive dermatological applications, wound healing, skin regeneration, and anti-aging. The role of nanofibers in delivering medications into the skin, addressing skin concerns, cosmetic applications, manufacturing and scaling of these fibers was among the primary areas of consideration

Results
Previously established results show evidence of nanofiber treatment preserving the stability of active formulations for acne treatment and their timely, dose-dependent distribution into the skin, avoiding side effects. They enhance the penetration of substances into deeper layers of skin, making them an effective scar treatment. For atopic dermatitis, nanofiber therapy reduces the frequency of medication application and controls moisture loss, providing hydration to the skin. Nanofibrils have revolutionized early skin cancer detection by capturing tumor biomarkers earlier than conventional methods. Nanofibers infused with Myrtus communis extracts and coenzyme Q10 show evidence of protection against UV-induced aging and boost skin regeneration. Electrospun nanofiber face masks also provide a non-invasive alternative to microneedling or laser treatments.

Conclusion
The unique quality nanofibers possess, such as their small size, high surface area, and enhanced penetration, enable their application in wound healing, tissue engineering, and enhancing treatments for acne, dermatitis, and skin cancer. However, challenges like high production costs, scalability, and biocompatibility concerns persist. Rigorous studies and cost-effective manufacturing techniques are essential for realizing their full potential in dermatology.

Keywords – Electrospun Nanofibers, Controlled drug release, noninvasive dermatological applications, Wound healing, skin regeneration, anti-aging techniques, Novel pharmaceutical interventions.

INTRODUCTION

The emerging development in dermatology has been remarkably reflected in the results of each procedure performed by doctors for various skin conditions, which previously were partially successful or had no cure at all. Nanofibers play a major role in medical science due to their exceptional quality in delivering drugs to the target organ, reducing the systemic side effects, unlike the traditional drug delivery method. The fibers are made by using polymers, which can be natural, such as chitosan, collagen, or silk, or synthetic ones like polycaprolactone (PCL), polyvinyl alcohol (PVA), or polylactic acid (PLA), which are the most commonly used.[1] The scaffolds of these fibers are highly effective in wound healing since materials like PCL provide structural support to the extracellular matrix of the skin, which can then encourage the healing process and new collagen formation, and its biodegradable nature eases the complications of external trauma to the skin as well as complications like wound infections. There are a variety of methods, such as electrospinning, melt spinning, solution blowing, forcespinning, and template synthesis, to create these fibers, and each method is selected according to the fiber characteristics, material quality, and the intended application. The most used process is electrospinning, where a high-voltage electric field is applied to the polymer solution to melt it and then extracted into extremely thin fibers.[2] In the initial step, a melted polymer solution is prepared and inserted into a syringe. A high-voltage electric field is applied to the polymer solution, which causes it to form a Taylor cone at the tip of the needle. A narrow jet of polymer structures is ejected when the electric field overcomes the surface tension. Electrostatic repulsion and solvent evaporation enable the jet to stretch and thin into nanofibers that measure a diameter of 100-500 nm. Several variables, including voltage, collector distance, and polymer concentration, affect the fibers' diameter.[3] As the solvent evaporates, the nanofibers are gathered on a revolving drum or grounded surface and hardened. For improved mechanical qualities, these nanofibers can be cross-linked or functionalized with medicinal substances.

Among its many uses, electrospun nanofibers are especially useful in dermatology. These substances are perfect for use in delivering medications effectively into the skin, skin regeneration, wound healing, and cosmetic procedures because of their large surface area and biocompatibility. In this review article, we are going to delve deep into the usefulness of nanofibers in the effective treatment of various skin conditions like acne and dermatitis, early detection of skin cancer and their treatment, and anti-aging.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Thirty-seven published articles from 2010 to 2025 were analyzed for this literature review. Keywords such as electrospun nanofibers, controlled drug release, noninvasive dermatological applications, wound healing, skin regeneration, and anti-aging were utilized to source relevant studies from Google Scholar, PubMed, and other online resources. This review explores the diverse applications of nanofibers in dermatology, extending beyond traditional therapeutic approaches and diagnostic techniques for skin conditions. A range of case studies, clinical trials, and literature reviews were examined to provide a comprehensive understanding of the topic.

Since we did not find sufficient recent information to fully support our review, the scope of research was extended to include data published more than five years ago. Additionally, the study highlights the role of nanofibers in targeted drug delivery to the skin, addressing specific skin concerns, cosmetic applications, and the challenges of manufacturing and scaling these fibers for broader use.

1) Nanofibers in acne treatment

Acne has been the most prevalent dermatological condition, especially among adolescents. This can be associated with hormonal imbalances, stress, dietary changes that cause inflammation, cosmetics, and the shift in the sebaceous lipid profile that occurs throughout puberty. Perifollicular inflammation is caused by a combination of factors, including androgen-induced stimulation of sebaceous gland secretion, microbial colonization of pilosebaceous units by Propionibacterium acnes, hyperkeratinization, and obstruction of sebaceous follicles due to improper keratinization of the infundibular epithelium.[4] There are various forms of acne, including severe, inflammatory, and non-inflammatory acne. The treatment's effectiveness can be increased by encapsulating the active components in the nanofibers, which can offer targeted distribution and controlled release. One promising method for treating acne is the encapsulation of active substances in nanofibers. Furthermore, encapsulation can enhance stability and prevent degradation of active substances, extending the product's shelf life and enhancing treatment uniformity.[5] In addition to reducing possible adverse effects and enhancing stability, encapsulated nanofibers may offer a more focused and efficient treatment for acne. All-trans retinoic acid, also known as tretinoin, is applied topically as a gel, lotion, or cream to treat acne. The ingredient is applied topically as part of an anti-aging regimen that increases the production of collagen and hyaluronic acid. Nevertheless, it is highly unstable chemically, has poor water solubility, and is susceptible to oxidation, thermal deterioration, and photodegradation. According to published research, tretinoin-loaded nanofibers have the potential to be used as a facial anti-acne patch. Its stability and drug-release properties make it ideal for a successful regimen. Numerous investigations demonstrate the successful creation of nanofibers loaded with tretinoins which were fully integrated into the fiber without clumping. The optimal storage conditions for these recently produced nanofibers are cold temperatures.[6] Although tretinoin-loaded nanofibers by themselves lack significant antibacterial properties, they do have a considerable level of aerobic activity when paired with erythromycin or clindamycin, which can destroy the anaerobic bacteria that cause inflammatory acne.[7] Chitosan nanofibers loaded with melittin (Ch/Mel) showed great potential in the treatment of Propionibacterium acnes-induced acne vulgaris.[8],[9] A peptide found in bee venom called melittin showed potent antibacterial and anti-inflammatory qualities, but it also had drawbacks like instability and high cytotoxicity. These problems were resolved by encapsulation within chitosan nanofibers, which improved stability and decreased toxicity. Higher melittin concentrations formed stronger polymeric networks and decreased water uptake in the produced nanofibers, which showed concentration-dependent changes in viscosity and fiber diameter. Higher melittin concentrations allowed for a slow, sustained release, according to drug release experiments, which made the formulation appropriate for prolonged activity.[9] While chitosan nanofibers by themselves were non-toxic, encapsulation dramatically reduced the cytotoxicity of melittin as compared to its free form. Antimicrobial testing showed that Ch/Mel 0.003%, in particular, effectively inhibited bacterial growth while maintaining a sustained release profile.[8] The capacity of melittin to reduce inflammatory cytokines and modulate the MAPK and NF-κB signaling pathways has been connected to these anti-inflammatory properties.[10] Other treatments such as hyaluronic acids (HAs), especially alpha hyaluronic acids (AHAs) and beta hyaluronic acids (BHAs), are frequently utilized in skincare and acne treatments because of their exfoliating, hydrating, and anti-aging qualities. While BHAs, like salicylic acid, are particularly useful for acne-prone skin as they thoroughly penetrate and clear pores, AHAs, like glycolic and lactic acids, improve skin texture, stimulate collagen synthesis, and enhance skin brightness. Lactic acid incorporation into L-ascorbic acid (LAA)-loaded nanofibers offers a two-pronged strategy for treating post-inflammatory hyperpigmentation (PIH) and acne vulgaris (AV). The alpha-hydroxy acid (AHA) family includes lactic acid, which is well known for its skin-renewing and exfoliating qualities. By gently exfoliating dead skin cells, it avoids clogged pores, which are a contributing factor to the development of acne. Additionally, lactic acid enhances barrier function and encourages skin hydration, which lessens the irritation and inflammation frequently linked to acne.

Apart from its ability to prevent acne, lactic acid also reduces hyperpigmentation and avoids the dark spots that can arise from PIH by inhibiting the action of tyrosinase, an enzyme essential to the formation of melanin. Lactic acid is a perfect partner for LAA in nanofiber compositions because of its two-fold action.

Lactic acid and LAA are more stable and effectively delivered when encapsulated in nanofibers. The enclosed form allows for a continuous release of both active components while shielding LAA from oxidative breakdown. Lactic acid's steady therapeutic impact is guaranteed by this controlled release, which also minimizes irritation from high concentrations and permits to continue its exfoliating and depigmenting properties. Additionally, both lactic acid and LAA are better absorbed through the skin attributable to the nanofiber matrix, which ensures that they target the intended locations with minimal systemic absorption.[11]

A synergistic approach to controlling AV and PIH, this novel combination of LAA and lactic acid within nanofibers uses nanotechnology to improve the stability, effectiveness, and safety of these powerful active components. The outcome is a promising noninvasive treatment method that could greatly enhance the appearance and health of the skin. A published study focused on the use of centrifugal spinning to create natural fibers from a mixture of Gum Arabic (GA) and pullulan (Pul) with zinc oxide nanoparticles (ZnO NPs). The antibacterial properties of these fibers against acne vulgaris were assessed. Compared to synthetic polymers, which can cause dryness, natural polymers like pullulan have a number of benefits, such as being easier and more environmentally friendly to prepare, being soluble in water, and causing minimal skin irritation.[12] After ZnO NPs were successfully transferred and distributed uniformly throughout the fibers, their presence was verified by SEM and EDXRF analysis. Even at low ZnO concentrations (as little as 1.5 weight percent), the fibers showed strong antibacterial activity against Staphylococcus epidermidis and Cutibacterium acnes, with stronger antibacterial activities at higher ZnO concentrations.[12]

2) Nanofibers in Atopic Dermatitis

Eczema, also known as atopic dermatitis, is one of the most prevalent skin conditions that affect the majority of the population. This disease is caused by a weakening of the skin barrier, which can occur in most cases in conjunction with other medical diseases like asthma. It is caused by a variety of reasons, including genetics, autoimmune disorders, and environmental factors. External irritants such as soap, laundry detergents, pet dander, textiles, dust mites, and pollens can exacerbate atopic dermatitis, which can manifest as dry, itchy skin that, if overlooked, can develop into a staphylococcal infection. This condition can also lead to uneven hyperpigmentation due to the healed scars and takes a long time to heal on its own. Several conventional treatments, like corticosteroids, calcineurin inhibitors like tacrolimus, or phosphodiesterase E4 inhibitors, have been used worldwide, especially as ointments to be directly applied to the skin because of their greater viability and more penetration into the localized area of concern.[13] This method of treatment has been successful, and the same principle has been proven to be more beneficial when we incorporate these medications into nanofibers and supply them directly to the skin. A method for encasing tacrolimus in polymer nanofiber membranes was developed and described in the published literature, allowing continuous drug delivery. The study indicated that the less frequent administration of the tacrolimus-loaded nanofiber system could be a good substitute for tacrolimus ointment because it was shown that employing nanofiber membranes every other day was just as effective as applying 0.03% tacrolimus cream consistently. [14] Additionally, there is evidence from other studies that used poly vinyl alcohol (PVA) and glycerol in combination with polyacrylonitrile (PAN) to electrospun core-shell (CS) nanofibers. The core ensures controlled drug release and increases the patch's strength, while the shell provides skin moisturization and exudate absorption. This innovation in treatment strategies for atopic dermatitis, which requires being treated for the rest of one's life, was made possible by the nanofiber patch's enduring nature.[15] Antibacterials can also be used in the same patch method to quickly eradicate the staphylococcus infection that developed from this breakdown of the skin barrier.[14],[15] In addition to the treatment plan, skin moisturization is crucial for resolving pruritus-related problems. The evening primrose oil was found to be less viscous at lower temperatures in studies that used polyvinyl butyral (PVB) patches that were incorporated with emollients like borage, black cumin, and evening primrose oil. Additionally, the hydrophobic nature and high porosity (92.6–97.3%) of PVB meshes facilitate rapid oil spreading and adhesion, with nanofibers better retaining and distributing low-viscosity oils, allowing them to be released into the skin and retaining moisture in the skin barrier.[16] When it comes to treating eczema, these oils are significant because they include Gamma-Linolenic Acid (GLA), an omega-6 fatty acid that is crucial for enhancing the skin barrier and possesses anti-inflammatory qualities on its own. Because they can increase oil release, decrease trans epidermal water loss (TEWL), and improve skin hydration, electrospun patches composed of hydrophilic polymers like PA6 are essential for treating atopic dermatitis.[17] Atopic skin that experiences dryness and barrier dysfunction needs a long-lasting moisturizing effect, and PA6's hydrophilic nature enables it to hold and release oils gradually.[17] In order to regulate oil movement and release in patches, fiber size and structural design, such as flat or cotton-like structures, are essential. Flat shapes guarantee uniform distribution, while cotton-like features improve oil absorption and retention. Hydrophilic PA6 and hydrophobic PS are used in composite materials such as cPS-PA6, which balance moisture retention and oil distribution to meet specific requirements.[18]

3) Nanofibers in early detection of skin cancer

Skin cancer is the most prevalent cancer in the world, with millions of new cases being identified each year. It comes in a variety of forms, such as squamous cell carcinoma, basal cell carcinoma, and melanoma, all of which pose serious health hazards if they are not identified and treated quickly. Its frequency is influenced by environmental factors, genetic susceptibility, and excessive UV exposure. Skin cancer survival rates are greatly increased, and treatment complexity is decreased with early identification. However, conventional diagnostic techniques can be intrusive, expensive, and time-consuming, which frequently causes delays in diagnosis. Conventional therapies, such as radiation, chemotherapy, and surgery, can also have adverse effects and cause damage to healthy tissues. Biomarker identification is a crucial technique for early diagnosis since cancer cells overexpress particular protein biomarkers that can be found in bodily fluids. Electrospun nanofibers have been studied as ultrasensitive biosensors for tumor biomarkers because of their high surface-area-to-volume ratio, biocompatibility, and flexible surface alterations.[19] They improve selectivity and sensitivity when paired with microfluidic methods.[19],[20] By altering their surface, nanofibers have also been utilized to capture circulating tumor cells (CTCs), which are important in the spread of cancer. Nanofiber-based oxygen sensors also provide crucial insights into the biology of cancer cells. Electrospun coaxial nanofibers facilitate regulated, targeted chemotherapy by acting as drug-delivery vehicles during treatment. A potential, minimally invasive method for cancer diagnosis and surveillance is the detection of circulating tumor cells (CTCs). As indicators for early identification, prognosis, and disease development in cancers such as breast, prostate, colorectal, stomach, and lung cancer, CTCs are derived from primary tumors and circulate in bodily fluids. Their presence correlates with tumor progression, metastasis, and reduced survival rates.[20]

Label-dependent techniques employing tumor-specific antigens such as EpCAM and label-independent techniques based on physical characteristics (such as size and stiffness) are two examples of CTC collection techniques. Significant improvements in CTC capture have been made possible by developments in nanotechnology, especially electrospun nanofibers. Nanofibers improve target cell adhesion and preserve biological traits for further examination by simulating the natural microenvironment.[21]

The effectiveness of devices based on nanofibers for CTC capture has been shown in published studies as an illustration, where TiO2 nanofibers functionalized with anti-EpCAM demonstrated improved cell adherence and pseudopodia production in contrast to flat surfaces. The topographical complexity and functionalized surfaces of nanofibers, including MnO2, PLGA, and PDA-modified fibers, have allowed for high capture and release rates in microfluidic devices. Effective downstream analysis, such as sequencing and biomarker detection, is also made possible by these technologies; in fact, some studies have shown mutations like BRAFV600E in melanoma cells.[22]

Because of its high surface-to-volume ratio and porous structure, electrospun nanofiber-based sensors outperform traditional solid film-based sensors as extremely sensitive and specific cancer detection instruments. These sensors provide sophisticated diagnostic capabilities by enabling the detection of numerous genes and variables linked to cancer.

Hypoxia, which occurs frequently in solid tumors because of an inadequate oxygen supply, is a crucial cancer indication. Using a biocompatible design with a gas-permeable core and an oxygen-sensitive probe for imaging tumor oxygen conditions, nanofiber-based oxygen sensors, such as the one created by Xue et al., provide precise microscale monitoring of hypoxic regions in tumors.[23]

The presence of reactive oxygen species (ROS) in cancer cells, such as hydrogen peroxide (H2O2), is another indicator of malignancy. Zhang et al. created an electrospun Au–Ag/Co3O4 nanofiber sensor that effectively detects H2O2 from human breast cancer cells. Because of the nanofibers' enormous surface area, the sensor exhibits excellent sensitivity.

Furthermore, genes linked to tumors, such as p53, are significant indicators of the development of cancer. Using electrospun MWNTs-PA6 composite nanofibers, Wang's group created an electrochemical biosensor that can highly sensitively detect the wild-type p53 gene. The ability of this sensor to identify extremely low p53 concentrations paves the way for the detection of additional genes linked to cancer.[24]

One of the published research projects showed creation of advanced materials by adding manganese (Mn) and lithium (Li)-doped calcium phosphates (CPs) to electrospun nanofibers (NFs) derived from chitosan (CS) and polyethylene oxide (PEO). By utilizing the therapeutic qualities of Mn and Li, these compounds were created to specifically target cancer cells, especially melanoma. The produced CPs showed great qualities, such as tiny particle size and large surface area, and they were efficient at producing hydrogen peroxide (H2O2) and reactive oxygen species (ROS), both of which are essential for cancer treatment. Apoptosis assays and gene expression analysis (raised P53 and Bax levels) demonstrated that Mn-doped CPs significantly induced apoptosis in melanoma cells, indicating the materials' potential performance in biological evaluations. Crucially, normal fibroblast cells were not harmed by these substances.[25]

4) Nanofibers in the treatment of skin cancer

When employing nanofibers to treat skin cancer, it is important to understand how to target the cancer cells and ensure that normal fibroblasts are not harmed in any manner before or after therapy. Active and passive targeting of the cancer cells are the two primary methods for addressing these cells. In order to prevent harm to healthy cells, active targeting involves incorporating therapeutic medications as nanoparticles into nanofibers. The selection process should be centered on finding the best ligand-receptor combination. This method is mostly utilized to treat melanoma, where medications such as rituximab and trastuzumab are successfully integrated into nanofibers. The second technique, known as passive targeting, mainly uses the therapeutic drug's inherent qualities, such as its small size and solubility, which can make it easier when paired with the tissues' enhanced permeability and retention effect.[26] The majority of the permeability and retention effects are observed in tumor cells, which in certain cases have a leaky vasculature that enables these small medications to enter the tumor cells, build up there, and have a therapeutic effect. Normal cells do not exhibit this leaky effect, making it simple to differentiate them from cancerous ones. The therapy addresses the concern by either directly reducing the tumor mass or by blocking the biochemical pathway or mutant proteins that are necessary for skin cancer development.[27] Drugs can also be administered by nanofibers to various places, such as hair follicles, the stratum corneum, or through microscopic skin grooves, in situations like ulcerated squamous cell carcinoma, where direct topical treatment is challenging.[28] The use of molybdenum particle-attached nanofibers as a skin cancer treatment has been shown effective in a number of published studies. When added to polycaprolactone nanofibers, molybdenum oxide is utilized to localize tumor cells and trigger their apoptosis while preserving healthy cells. This is verified by staining techniques using AO/PI and JC1 dye. According to the same study, zebrafish in vivo testing revealed a 30% decrease in the spread of cancer during a 14-day period. This method can be applied to skin tumors of both melanoma and non-melanoma types.[29] Studies have been published using similar techniques, including levan, a hydrophilic, bioactive polymer that improves drug penetration through the skin and has anti-irritating and hydrating properties, into polycaprolactone nanofibers. This procedure, known as levan functionalization of PCL, involves the addition of tanshinone IIA, which has been found to have cytotoxic effects on melanoma cells through the activation of autophagy and the inhibition of pathways linked to malignancy. Squamous cell carcinoma (SCC) cells were used to examine the effectiveness of the Tan-loaded nanofibers, which demonstrated cytotoxicity, induction of apoptosis, and impacts on cell migration and the cell cycle.[30] Additionally, there are a number of topical implantable devices with a cross-linked gelatin shell composed of PLGA (poly lactic-co-glycolic acid)) and PCL (poly-caprolactone). Encapsulated in the core is the anticancer medication doxorubicin (DOX), which works on the same concept of selectively killing tumor cells while sparing normal cells.[31]

5) Nanofiber therapy in skin anti-ageing

Numerous techniques have been employed to slow down signs of aging and rejuvenate the skin, including topical application of active ingredients such as retinoids, glycolic acid, and lactic acid; vitamin supplementation; moisturizers, peptides, and sunscreen; and dermatological procedures such as micro needling, dermabrasion, laser treatments, platelet-rich plasma therapy, and a variety of other techniques that are specific to each patient's skin type and needs. Nanofiber therapy is one step ahead of all these conventional methods, by its focused application of these compounds onto the important part of your skin. Utilizing nanofibers has improved the bioavailability of these compounds, which has shown to be beneficial in preventing aging and encouraging collagen production. A published study, which investigated the potential of functionalized polycaprolactone (PCL) nanofibers embedded with myrtle (myrtus communis extract) (NanoPCL-M) to prevent UV-induced skin aging showed us that, in skin cells, such as keratinocytes, stem cells, and fibroblasts, the electrospun nanofibers demonstrated regulated release of bioactive compounds, improving cell viability and offering defense against oxidative stress. While encouraging the expression of stemness genes (Bmi1, Oct-4, Sox-2, Nanog), which are critical for skin regeneration, NanoPCL-M successfully suppressed the activation of senescence-associated genes (p16 and p19).[32] Furthermore, the nanofibers promoted the expression of HAS2, which is essential for the synthesis of hyaluronic acid and supports the extracellular matrix, preserving the integrity of the skin. Moreover, they protect the dermal matrix while reducing the aging effects of UV exposure, making them a viable substitute for conventional cosmetic procedures. NanoPCL-M has the potential to be used topically due to its safety and biocompatibility, making it a good substitute for traditional cosmetics like face masks.[33] Coenzyme Q10 (CoQ10)-loaded electrospun polyvinyl alcohol (PVA)/gelatin (Gel) nanofibers are used to create the nanofibrous under-eye patch (NFEP). The remarkable biocompatibility and anti-aging potential of

NFEP were demonstrated by the MTT assay, antioxidant activity, and collagen measurement in fibroblast and keratinocyte cultures.[34] Additionally, electrospun PVA and PVP nanofibers functionalized with Helichrysum Italicum oil (HO) have been manufactured to improve skin protection and anti-aging properties. Hydrodistillation was used to extract the essential oil, and GC-MS analysis was performed to identify its constituent parts. The ability of the nanofibers to encapsulate HO and improve its regulated release, as well as their biocompatibility and biodegradability, were assessed during fabrication. The nanofibers showed protective benefits by enhancing cell survival, preventing UV-induced aging, and modifying gene expression linked to stemness and senescence when applied to stem cells and fibroblasts under UV exposure.[35] With components like ascorbic acid, lactic acid, retinoic acid, and gold nanoparticles integrated into nanofibers and produced in dry form to preserve their stability, nanofiber face masks are also a promising step towards anti-aging. These masks instantly dissolve into the skin when moist, allowing the active components to be absorbed immediately.[36] Furthermore, published research on the application of chitin nanofibers in conjunction with hyaluronic acid, primarily for anti-aging products. These nanofibers are created by a process known as gelation, in which the molecule forms a gel that holds active ingredients. This can improve the stability and bioavailability of substances like antioxidants and leutin. They are very effective in repairing photo aged skin and acne-prone skin.[37]

DISCUSSION

In dermatology, nanofiber therapies have shown enormous potential because they minimize systemic effects while delivering drugs to a specific place of interest in a timely and tailored manner. Acne is treated with standardized methods that use active chemicals that quickly lose their stability. The stability of these active formulations has been preserved by the nanofiber treatment, which also distributes them gently into the skin and helps avoid negative effects, including skin irritation, dryness, and itching. Additionally, because of their adaptability, nanofibers enable substances to penetrate deeper into the skin, possibly assisting in the treatment of deeply situated scars and producing faster results than traditional therapies. Atopic dermatitis, which has a high systemic side effect profile and necessitates corticosteroids and tacrolimus as a therapeutic strategy, has benefited from nanofiber therapy, which also reduces the frequency of topical medicine application. Furthermore, hydrophilic nanofibers aid in sealing in moisture, hydrating the skin barrier, and reducing moisture loss from the skin, all of which reduce eczema symptoms. The major revolution in early detection of skin cancer using nanofibrils has been discussed, and unlike histopathologic methods like skin scrape and biopsy, which are invasive and time-consuming, nanofibrils, which have a high surface area-to-volume ratio, capture the circulating tumor cells or tumor-specific biomarkers earlier than the conventional methods could detect. As much as the role of early skin cancer treatment is appreciated, the treatment strategies have also been effective using nanofibers, for both melanoma and nonmelanoma type skin cancers by using both active and passive methods and incorporating drugs like trastuzumab, rituximab, or molybdenum oxide into the skin. PCL nanofibers embedded with myrtus communes extracts demonstrate their effectiveness against UV radiation and promote skin regeneration, demonstrating the protective character of nanofibers and their success in the anti-aging sector. Additionally, the coenzyme Q10-loaded nanofibers and helichrysum italicum essential oils protect against UV-induced aging, boost cell viability, and promote skin health in general. By facilitating their entry into the skin's deeper layers, nanofibers also significantly increase the efficacy of conventional anti-aging substances like glycolic acid and retinoids. A promising strategy for delivering an instantaneous release of these active chemicals is the formulation of electrospun nanofiber face masks such that they dissolve into the skin when applied, giving a successful, non-invasive substitute for more invasive techniques like microneedling or laser treatments.

CONCLUSION

Nanofibers' unique qualities—such as their small size, high surface area, and enhanced penetration of active ingredients into the skin—have allowed them to be successfully used in a variety of skin treatment applications, including wound healing, tissue engineering, burn and ulcer treatments, and enhancing the conventional treatment modalities for conditions such as acne, dermatitis, and skin cancer. Alongside its benefits, this therapy approach has some drawbacks. It is still unclear how to ensure that these nanofibrils will be biocompatible with the skin over the long term, and there are not numerous investigations on the subject. Further, these incompatibilities may cause an immunological reaction, that may be mild or severely concerning.

The next challenge is the large-scale manufacture of these nanofibers; maintaining their distinctive size, shape, thickness, and homogeneity across all fibers takes a significant amount of time, effort, and money. Such an expensive technique would prevent it from being widely accessible or regularly utilized in dermatology applications of traditional treatments. Obtaining regulatory organizations' approval before incorporating nanofibers into treatment methods may be another issue. Since this is a novel method, a standardized protocol is still being amended for its clearance to be utilized commercially in dermatological applications. A thorough clinical and preclinical study should be conducted before incorporating these nanofibers into treatments. When applied to the skin with active ingredients, nanofibers, which are composed of biodegradable materials, have a propensity to break down rapidly, which prevents the treatment from producing the intended results in some instances. The harboring of microbes in the nanofibers, which can occur during manufacturing or the incorrect handling of the fibers without adequate sterilization, is another limitation aside from clinical trials. This can subsequently result in the growth of bacteria in the skin that are challenging to eradicate. Some nanofibers, due to their non-biodegradable composition, may also be hazardous to the environment, which exacerbates the issue of environmental pollution. Careful research on the cytotoxicity and immunogenicity of these nanofibers, as well as how to address them, is necessary to address all of these challenges. Another objective is to develop a more cost-effective and secure method of producing these nanofibers while closely adhering to hygienic standards and manufacturing procedures. For nanofibers to be sterile and safe for use in private or clinical settings, such risks must be minimized using appropriate manufacturing, packaging, and storage methods. Subsequently, the biodegradability of these nanofibers should be designed such that they can efficiently convey the substances into the skin, retain a sufficient concentration, and pose no environmental hazards. In light of our findings, nanofibers offer a potentially revolutionary aspect in dermatological treatments. By addressing these concerns and limitations through rigorous studies and involving multiple disciplinary collaborations to manufacture them properly, conducting clinical trials, and ensuring their safety, cost-effectiveness, and environmental sustainability. Only through these efforts can nanofiber-based treatments fulfill their promise in dermatology, offering innovative solutions for wound healing, drug delivery, and a range of other skin-related conditions.

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