

# Mechanism of loading and release in nanocontainers

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## 1 Introduction

The last 10 years have seen out of the ordinary and without proper method during in nanocontainer preparation, which has prompted a fantastic assortment of the formation of various shapes, different compositions, and functionalities. They assume a focal part in various applications, for example, compounds release [1–4], therapeutic imaging [5, 6], individual care [7, 8], microfluidics [9], and nanotechnology [10], etc. The core of the nanocontainer can be produced using any material: polymeric compounds, metal, metal oxide nanoparticles, nonmetal oxide for loading of bioactive compounds, proteins, peptides, or unpredictable oils, and so on. In particular, it is a very important feature that nanocontainers can be loaded with active agents like drugs, genes, DNA, RNA, pesticides, nutraceuticals, and inhibitors, etc. Nanocontainers are to a great degree intriguing for medical, agricultural, food technology, and corrosion applications because of the adaptability, in which their structures can be altered, and ability to bundle and release an active agent, like nanoparticles (NPs), to the desired area of activity. This chapter deals with the bioactive compounds or active materials loading and releasing mechanisms of nanocontainers. The loading mechanism of the drug, gene, DNA, RNA, pesticides, nutraceuticals, inhibitors agent in nanocontainer was discussed throughout the chapter and the active agent (drug, gene, DNA, RNA, pesticides, nutraceuticals, inhibitors agent) was commonly called as active compound/active agents/bioactive compounds, chemical compounds.in this chapter.

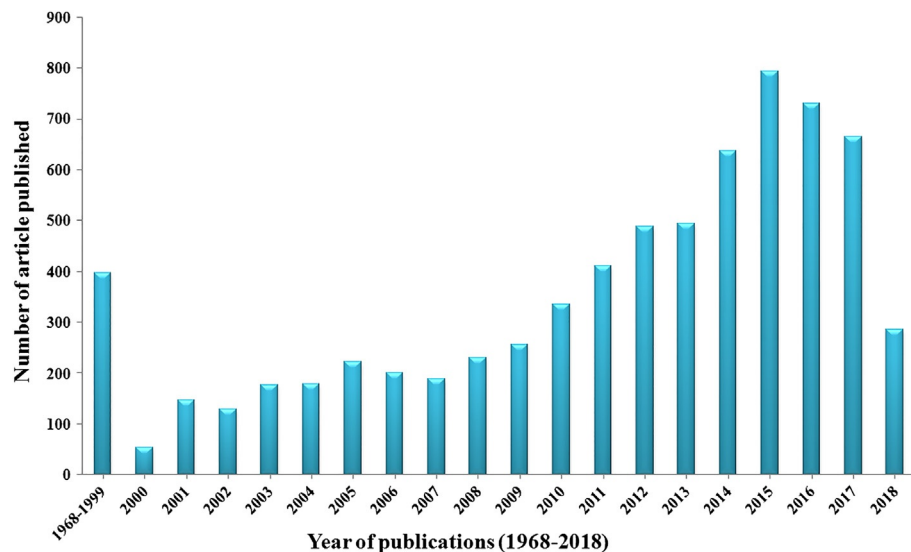
A successful nanocontainer delivery system has high loading capacity; thereby decreasing the loading amount of matrix materials for management. Active compounds loading can be trained by two methods: during or after the synthesis process [11]. In the first method, the loading techniques involve the compound being fused at the period of nanocontainer synthesis. Whereas, in the second method, the absorption/adsorption techniques involves design and intake of the active compound following nanocontainer arrangement; this is accomplished by hatching the container with an intensive compound solution. Encapsulation and entrapment efficacy of the active compound proficiency rely upon tranquilizer dissolvability in the excipients network material, which is identified with the framework organization, subatomic weight, sedate polymer co-operations, and the nearness of end practical gatherings (i.e., ester or carboxyl) in either the cargo or lattice [12, 13].

Several research groups' efforts in developing novel nanocontainer systems have been focused on controlled loading and sustained release forms. Currently, huge efforts are being made to deliver the active compound in such a manner as to get optimum benefits [14]. Nanocontainer technologies offer a promising advance in support of active compound delivery through a combination of compounds to a nanocontainer [15]. Nanocontainer based compound distribution is an alternative approach to enhance the bioavailability of the compounds while at the same time providing the necessary invention of active molecules on desired sites of action. Different types of nanocontainer system such as liposome, polymeric micelles, hydrogel, microspheres, nanoparticles, dendrimers, and carbon materials are mostly used in compound delivery systems [16]. The Scopes results are shown in Fig. 1. Initially, we discussed the different types of loading process of the nanocontainer, followed by the releasing mechanism from the nanocontainer.

## 2 Encapsulation and entrapment mechanism

Nanocontainers are vesicular frameworks in which an active material is restricted to a hole encompassed via polymeric material, though nanospheres are lattice frameworks and it is physically and consistently scattered. Nanoparticles are

**FIG. 1** Number of publications reported based on the nanocontainer system from 1968 to 2018. (Source: Scopes-01.09.2018.)



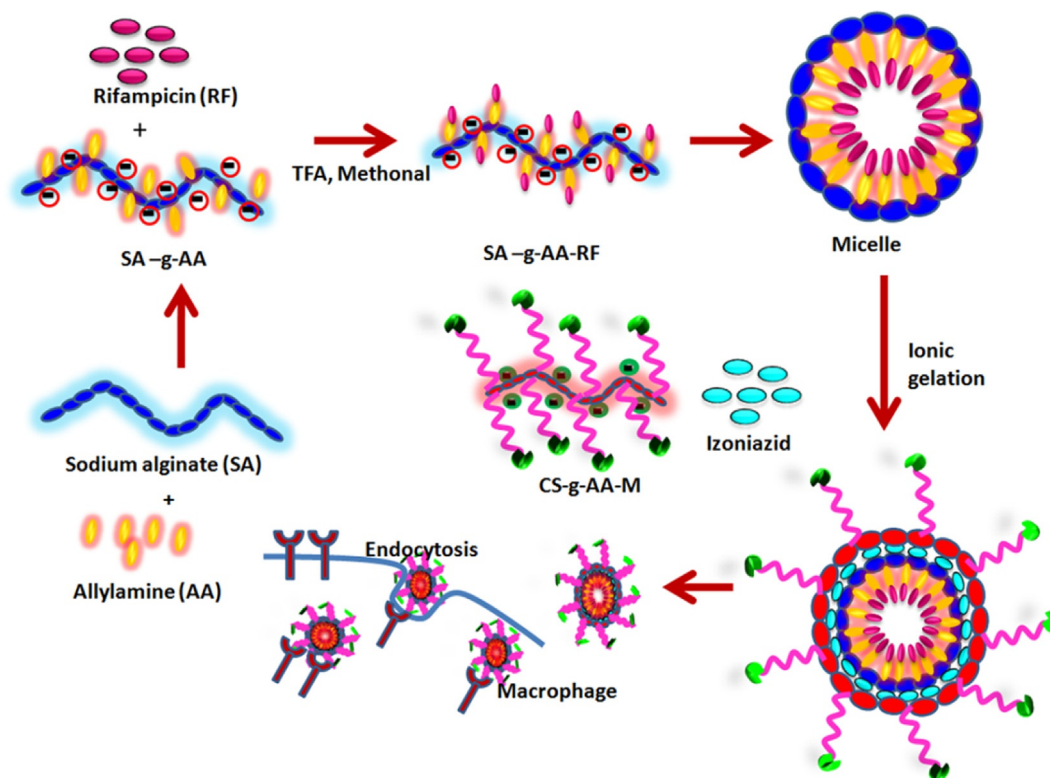
strong, colloidal particles comprising of macromolecular compounds that range from 10 nm to 1000 nm [17]. In any case, particles >200 nm are not vigorously sought after, and nanoparticles frequently alludes to devices <200 nm (i.e., the width of microcapillaries). Normally, the active material of interest is disintegrated, entangled, adsorbed, joined, and additionally typified into or onto a nano-lattice of the nanocontainer. Contingent upon the technique for arrangement of nanoparticles, nanospheres or nanocapsules can be built to have diverse properties and discharge attributes for the best release or loading of the agents [18]. Since the loading of active agents follow two types of encapsulation and entrapment mechanism, these are discussed below

## 2.1 Chemical loading/entrapment mechanism

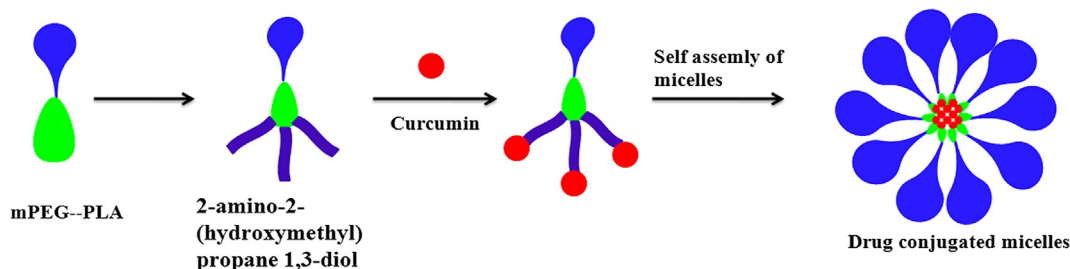
Active agents could be loaded into the nanocontainer through covalent bonding (polymer-active agents conjugation). By virtue of the available functional groups of nanocontainer and active moieties can be attached covalently on a nanocontainer system. The nanocontainers assembled by polymer-active agent conjugation/metal-active agent conjugation have been investigated as promising directions for delivery systems over recent decades [19]. The self-assembly nanocontainer aqueous solution recovers the solubility and further improves the stability of the molecules. In the drug loaded nanocontainer, to prevent carrier early release in blood stream and complete repaid active agent release in tumor area sites, for example, the active agents are coupled with links to the polymeric backbone via covalent conjugation bonds that are sensitive and responsive to environmental or physiological fluids, such as the lower acidic pH in tumor sites, reducing environments in cells, or temperature change, to attain and modulate active agent release. The major aim of this conjugation is to present polymer-active agent conjugates systems that are of medical application [20, 21].

Nowadays, the multidrug delivery system is frequently and significantly used for treatment of tuberculosis, with loading of anti-TB drugs via covalent conjugation. In TB treatment, researchers have concentrated on multidrug resistance regimens comprising rifampicin (RF), isoniazid (INH), pyrazinamide (PZA), and ethambutol (ETM) drugs. RF drug was conjugated with sodium alginate grafted alginic acid conjugated rifampicin (SA-g-AA-RF) and it formed SA-g-AA-RF/CS-g-AA-MA nanoparticles with ionized (INH); this represents a novel kind of polymeric anti-TB drug container that can be used as a multidrug agent to allow the specific delivery of TB drugs, as shown in Fig. 2. Chitosan (CS) and sodium alginate (SA) are widely used in the food and pharmaceutical fields; these are derived from natural sources. The main and important features of this container that differ from existing polymeric systems with multiple drug agents are its loading capacity to controlled and targeted delivery [22].

Furthermore, curcumin (CUR) is a naturally occurring poor water soluble active agent biologically important compound and is chemically conjugated to polymeric material, which improves the solubility for the enhancement of bioavailability [23, 24]. CUR was covalently attached to mPEG-PLA with a tris (hydroxyl methyl) amino methane (tris) as a liker via ester bond formation; the formation of nanomicelle was confirmed by the critical micelle concentration (CMC) values on mPEG-(PLA-Tris-curcumin) and mPEG -(PLA-curcumin) functionalization were created to be 10 times lesser than the mPEG-PLA, as shown in Fig. 3. These also indicate improved stability of the polymeric micelles on strong hydrophobic



**FIG. 2** Schematic representation of synthesis of active compounds-polymer conjugated drug delivery cargo system. (Reproduced with permission from R. Amarnath Praphakar, H. Shakila, V.N. Azger Dusthacker, M.A. Munusamy, S. Suresh Kumar, M. Rajan, A mannose-conjugated multilayered polymeric nanocarrier system for controlled and targeted release on alveolar macrophages. *Polym. Chem.* 9 (2018) 656. Copyright (2018) Royal Society of Chemistry.)

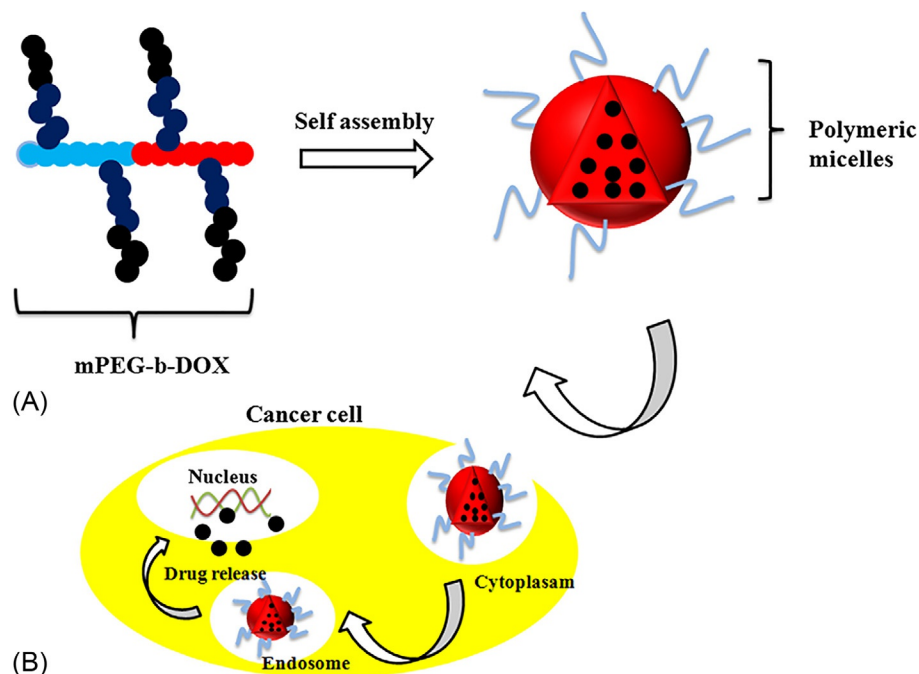


**FIG. 3** Schematic representation of synthesis of DOX-conjugated mPEG-PLA. (Reproduced with permission from R. Yang, S. Zhang, D. Kong, X. Gao, Y. Zhao, Z. Wang, Biodegradable polymer-curcumin conjugate micelles enhance the loading and delivery of low-potency curcumin, *Pharm. Res.* 29 (2012) 3512–3525. Copyright (2012) Springer.)

interaction of core. Finally, the ester-linkage on polymeric materials cleaved by enzymatically via acid /base catalyzed hydrolysis [25].

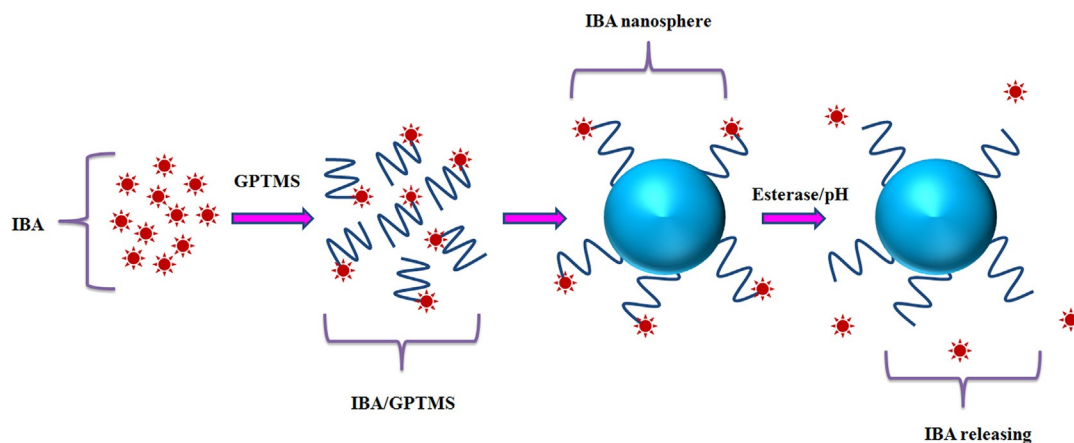
The poly ethylene glycol (PEG) is widely used as a hydrophilic polymer to make a variety of polymeric nanocontainers with various hydrophobic cores [26, 27]. On the other hand, to build more efficient biologically responsive polymeric prodrugs (BRPPs), DOX-prodruglocate PEG monomethylether-b-poly-methacryl amide-tert-butyl carbazate-DOX (MPEG-b-DOX) cancer drug delivery system. The MPEG -b-DOX prodrug was treated with deprotected product of MPEG -b-PMABH (PEG-b-hydrazide) with DOX in anhydrous methanol with trace trifluoroacetic acid. The 73.3% of DOX was covalently functionalized with MABH system, as given in Fig. 4. The amphiphilic block co micelles can self-assemble to a prodrug-loaded vesicle with high amount of drug loading on 58%. Camptothecin (CPT) was used as a prodrug for loading on drug carrier and the hydrophobic core division loaded with another drug such as Doxorubicin (DOX) for synergetic drug delivery for cancer treatment [28]. For the loading of the drugs was explained for donor-acceptor chemical conjugation. Donor-acceptor chemical

**FIG. 4** Schematic illustration of (A) Synthesis of MPEG-b-DOX polymeric micelles and (B) the pH-influence active compounds releasing system. (Modified from Y. Shen, E. Jin, B. Zhang, C. J. Murphy, M. Sui, J. Zhao, J. Wang, J. Tang, M. Fan, E. V. Kirk, W. J. Murdoch, Prodrugs forming high drug loading multi-functional nanocapsules for intracellular cancer drug delivery, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 132 (2010) 4259–4265. Copyright (2010) American Chemical Society.)



conjugation is well known coordination bonding chemistry between electron donors and electron acceptors including Lewis acids and bases. These relations generally exist in materials systems and are expansively utilized for catalysis or self-assembly [29]. Generally, the donor-acceptor covalent conjugation is much stronger than other bonds.

Furthermore, the widespread use of pesticides delivery is an important parameter in agriculture to increase the quality of plant production. Indole-3-butyric acid (IBA) is an effective plant growing controller for promoting germination and the development of rooting of dissimilar plants [30]. IBA-SNs were successfully loaded by chemical conjugation of IBN and 3-glycidyloxypropyltrimethoxysilane (GPTMS) through covalent bond. The outcome indicated that the obtained nanocontainer has a high loading capacity for IBN, about 43%, and may possibly effectively protect IBN against light and thermal degradation. Finally the IBN-SNs demonstrated a good potential as a rooting agent in agricultural applications, as shown in Fig. 5. Li et al. prepared hollow nanoparticles of silica-coated  $\text{CaCO}_3$  as avermectin carriers. The active compounds loading capacity reached 63.6%, effectively preventing avermectin UV light degradation and demonstrating good sustained release properties [31].



**FIG. 5** Schematic representation of synthesis of active compounds-polymer conjugated cargo delivery system. (From H. Dong, M. Guo, Y. Liang, C. Fan, G. Ding, W. Zhang, G. Tang, J. Yang, D. Kong, Y. Cao, Preparation and characterization of indole-3-butyric acid nanospheres for improving its stability and utilization, *Mater. Sci. Eng. C* 89 (2018) 175–181. Copyright 2018 Elsevier.)

DOX (doxorubicin) was selected as a model anticancer hydrophobic drug that possessed electron donor group of primary amine to interact with boronic acid on P-PBA. This is the first report on a convenient method used to prepare micelles conjugating the electron donor group of DOX compounds and electron acceptor group of the polymer. In this method, the author achieved 100% loading efficiency of active agents on polymeric nanocontainer, along with uniform size distribution, and desired lyophilization and stability was measured [32].

## 2.2 Physical entrapment

### 2.2.1 Hydrogen-bonding

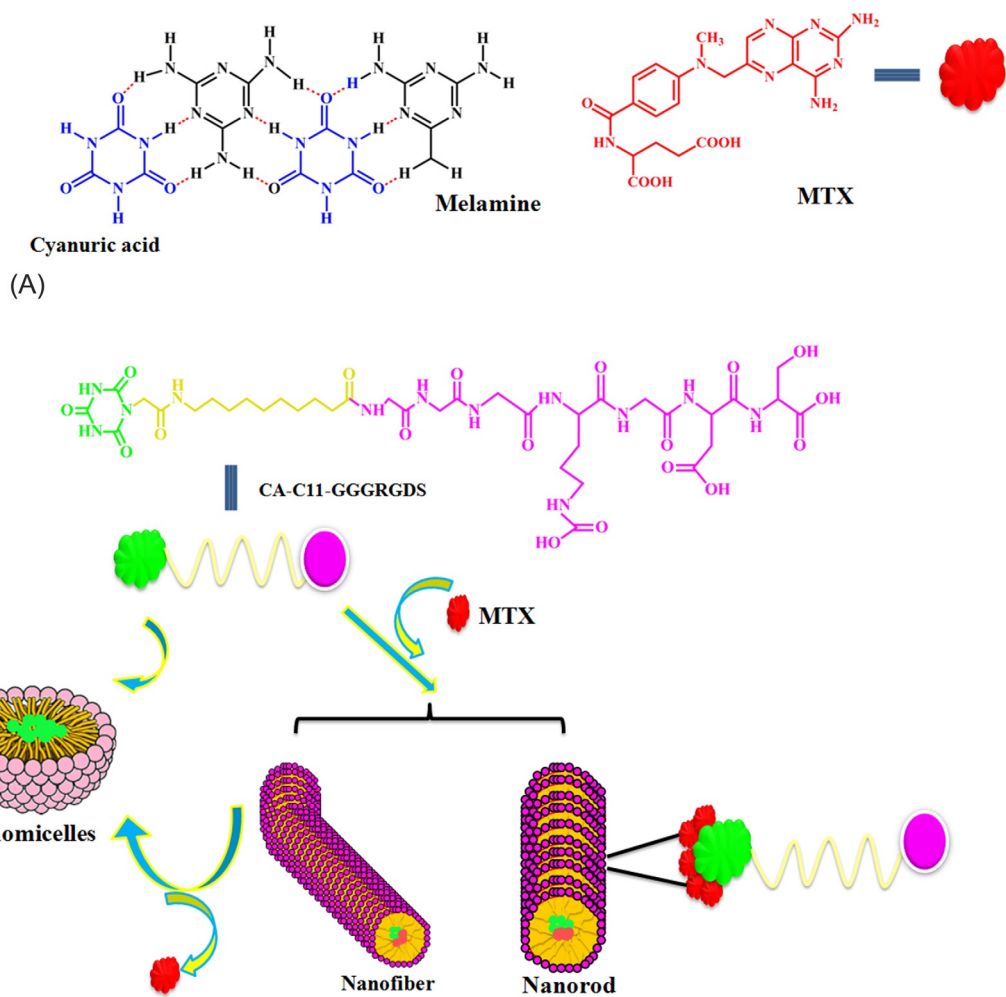
The hydrogen bond is the interaction of a lone pair of an electronegative atom (e.g., N, O, and F) and a hydrogen atom; this widely exists between active compounds loading into the nanocontainer. In the nanocontainer, mostly the hydrophilic segments interact with loaded active agents via hydrogen bonding. Hydrotropes may break the hydrogen bonds between crystallization mechanisms of active agent. The hydrogen bonding is directional and selective, as well as a comparatively physically powerful interaction to build promising formation of hydrogen bonding donor and acceptor, with the purpose of delivering the active agent in the desired time and site. In addition, the above advantages also introduce the strong hydrogen bonding of active compounds and polymeric nanocontainer determinedly delayed compounds release from the polymeric carrier, to demonstrate the slow release of loaded compounds and improve the bioavailability. Zhang et al. (2010) established methotrexate (MTX) loaded amphiphilic peptide nanocontainers that could release MTX on 66.9% within-hour (h) physiological domain due to the corresponding hydrogen bond interaction of cyanuric acids in peptide and melamines in methotrexate (Fig. 6) [33]. Furthermore, the influence of Nifedipine and polymer interactions exclusively hydrogen bonding and molecular mobility on the material permanence of drug in SD (solid dispersions) [34]. The great advantage of certain drug-polymer interaction as an implement of physical stabilization of drugs has formed the base of widely efficient for polymer screening studies.

For enhancement in crop production, the pesticide was loaded on the nanocontainer and released as sustained with specific environment. Sunita et al. (2018) concentrated the synthesis of pesticide (Cypermethrin) loaded nanocontainer prepared by calcium alginate nanocontainer using emulsion method. The pesticide was successfully loaded via inter molecular hydrogen bonding of pesticides and nanocontainer [35]. Thiourea is one of the best strong hydrogen bond donor compounds [36], which can easily form hydrogen bond with other groups, such as carboxyl, nitro, and phosphate groups [37]. Yang et al. (2012) prepared PEG-PUC polymeric micelles show high loading capacity of anticancer active agent DOX successfully on interior core [38]. In addition, TU (thiourea) is a neutral compound in physiological conditions; TU-based gene carrier decreased the cytotoxicity compared with other polymeric carriers in gene delivery system [39, 40]. Gao et al. demonstrated efficient pDNA carriers by post modification of poly (glycidylmethacrylates) with alkyl amine and isocyanate. Supramolecular based amphiphilic diblock copolymers on poly ( $\epsilon$ -caprolactone) (PCL) and poly (ethylene glycol) (PEG) based on the uracil/adenine combined two fold hydrogen bonds, which can formed stimuli-responsive drug released of core part of the micelles in aqueous medium [41]. The hydrogen bonding among carbamazepine and nicotinamide to in-situ formation of microcrystal and improved the compound permanence of carbamazepine through the hot melt extraction system [42].

### 2.2.2 Electrostatic interaction

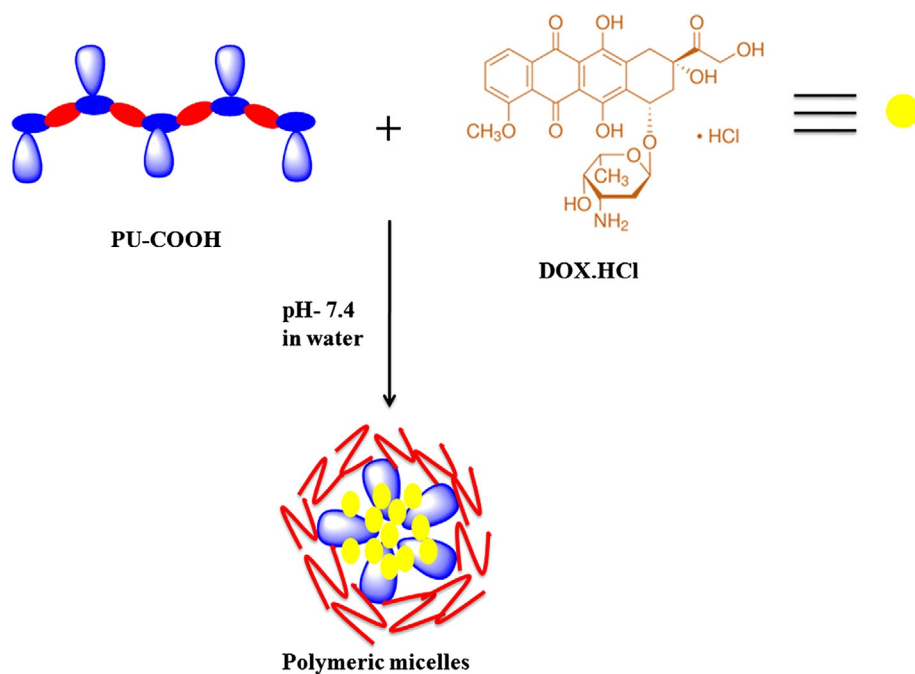
Electrostatic interaction of ions involves the interaction between opposite electric charges, such as cations (positive) and anions (negative). Polymeric micelle formation of ionic interaction have great advantages in encapsulating the active agents, proteins, peptides, and nucleic acid delivery. The ionic interaction can take place involving two oppositely charged polymeric matrices and active compounds. Noncovalent interactions—in other words, ionic interactions—could also help for active agents loading and releasing systems [43, 44]. Some commonly reported delivery systems are described below. An electrostatic interaction of DOX molecule with cholic acid-based block copolymeric nanocontainer was developed. Poly (allylglycidyl ether) (PAGE) and poly (ethylene glycol) (PEG) were connected from the cholic acid (CA) core yielding a star-shaped block copolymer with 4 arms of (CA-PAGE-b-PEG)<sub>4</sub> carrier with loading of DOX through nano precipitation techniques [45]. The electrostatic interaction exhibits the lowest IC<sub>50</sub> value and maximum cellular internalization, demonstrating the preeminence of this interaction in DOX loading on the carrier. The same DOX molecule was loaded on poly urethane (PU-COOH) nanocontainer by electrostatic interaction, as shown in Fig. 7, among amphiphilic polyurethane with carboxyl pendent groups and active agent molecule. When DOX was found into PU-COOH by electrostatic interaction, the zeta potential of the PU-DOX nanoparticles improved and size of the particles can be decreased and maximum loading





**FIG. 6** (A) Molecular structures of the hydrogen bonded pair (cyanuric acid and melamine) and the antitumor active compounds MTX; (B) Molecular structure of the amphiphilic peptide and the illustration of the co-assembly of this amphiphilic peptide with MTX. (Modified from H. Cheng, Y. J. Cheng, S. Bhasin, J. Yi. Zhu, X. D. Xu, R. X. Zhuo, X. Z. Zhang, *Complementary hydrogen bonding interaction triggered co-assembly of amphiphilic peptide and antitumor drug*, *Chem. Commun.*, 51 (2015) 6936–6939. DOI: 10.1039/C5CC00501A. Copyright (2015) Royal Society of Chemistry.)

**FIG. 7** Preparation of polyurethane (PU) and doxorubicin hydrochloride (DOX.HCl) micelles. (Reproduced with permission from D. Huang, Y. Zhou, Y. Xiang, M. Shu, H. Chen, B. Yanga, X. Liao, *Polyurethane/doxorubicin nanoparticles based on electrostatic interactions as pH-sensitive drug delivery carriers*, *Polym. Int.* 67 (9) (2018) 1186–1193. Copyright (2018) Society of Chemical Industry.)



capacity was achieved in this system [46]. The electrostatic interaction increased the stability of the nanocontainer and loading capacity.

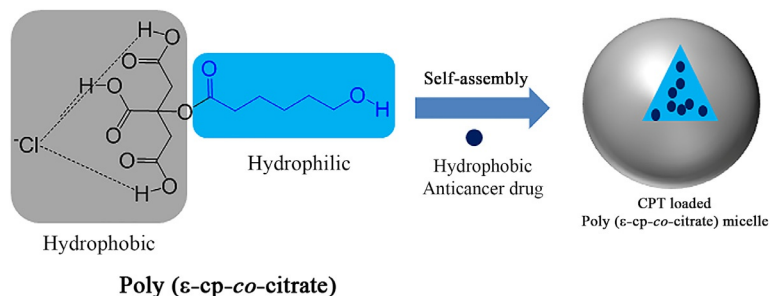
Porous calcium carbonate microspheres made-up by co-precipitation process synchronized by soluble starch use as a container and prometryn (PMT) is active herbicide loaded on the carrier to plan slow release. The S—S bonds of the prometryn molecules was self-organized into nano aggregates that bind  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  via electrostatic interaction [47]. The high performance slow-release PMT was constructed using optimal-PCMs-SS as the nanocontainer. Therefore, electrostatic interaction and hydrogen bonds played an important role in the loading of active herbicide in optimal-PCMs-SS carrier. The same type of interaction Lanthanum-modified chitosan oligosaccharides (Cos-La) nanocontainers were prepared by simple ionic cross linking between oligosaccharides and Lanthanum-citric acid complex. This container was used to deliver water insoluble avermectin pesticide for plant growth [48]. The avermectin (AVM) is one of water insoluble pesticides, which was loaded on nanocontainer via electrostatic interaction. The controlled release and environmentally eco-friendly multifunctional pesticides formulation could be expanded in nanocontainer pesticides delivery. Arnedo et al. (2002) investigated the desorption properties of the oligonucleotides from BSA nanoparticles that was easily affected by pH and ionic strength medium. The electrostatic force is an important role of the interaction of negatively charged oligonucleotides and the positively charged amino groups on the surface area of the nanoparticles [49].

Li et al. (2013) and Zhang et al. (2016) investigated the DOX loaded nano system by electrostatic interaction linking anionic methoxy poly (ethylene glycol)-b-poly (glutamic acid) and cationic charged doxorubicin hydrochloric acid. These results also indicate the pH-dependent drug release and good anticancer activity of cancer chemotherapy [50, 51]. The pH-mediated and different electrostatic interaction between polydopamine (PDA) and the hymexazol compounds on GO sheets nanocontainer, at the acidic environment PDA easily protonated, and neutral pH amino group of PDA deprotonated, which is made up of PDA with negative charge [52]. In the final product, electrostatic attractions and repulsions interactions between PDA and hymexazol was noted, therefore these results also concluded that hymexazol could be controlled release of pH-dependent manner and an NIR laser treatment. Chemical adaptation of single walled carbon nanotubes (SWCNTs) functionalized with hexa methylene diamine (HMDA) and poly (di allyldimethyl ammonium) chloride (PDDA) to required carrier was capable to attach negatively charged siRNA by electrostatic interactions and the PDDA modified SWCNTs to be an efficient nanocontainer for siRNA-mediated gene silencing system [53]. Furthermore, a cationic active agent of imi-oramine hydrochloride was successfully encapsulated into a four-armed poly (ethylene oxide)-b-poly (methacrylic acid) bloc *co*-polymer via the ionic interaction involving the negatively charged polymeric unit and positively charged active agents segments [54].

### 2.2.3 Hydrophobic interaction

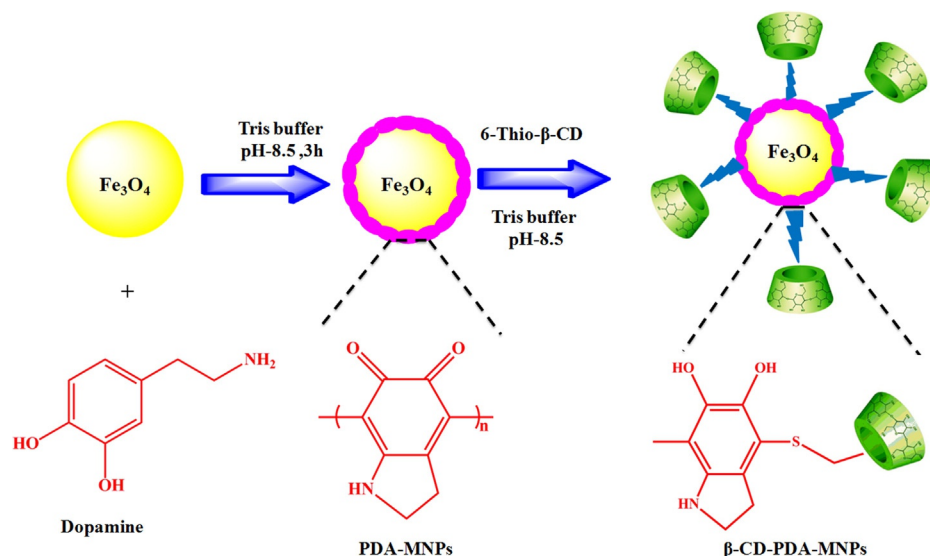
Hydrophobic interaction are the widely studied non-covalent interactions and the driving force for the homogeneous self-assembly of amphilic diblock copolymers into micelles in water system. Hydrophobic interactions are generally engaged in the aim of the nanomicellar with the loading of active agents. The hydrophobic interactions within self-assembly of block copolymers and hydrophobicity of the micelle core-forming hydrophobic moities, along with the agents, because of good biocompatibility of the polymer and compounds. Pradeepkumar et al. (2018) prepared amphiphilic block polymers among combination of hydrophobic unit of polycaprolactone and hydrophilic unit of citric acid via ester linkage [55]. As shown in Fig. 8, the micelle is formed that increases the hydrophobic core, as confirmed by CMC studies. The enhanced hydrophobic-hydrophobic interaction between camptothecin anticancer drug and hydrophobicunit polycaprolactone also indicates good drug solubility, and 45% drug loaded on hydrophobic core.

For the past two decades, the strong physical interaction between  $\pi$  -  $\pi$  interaction system is well known for the loading of active agents in nanocontainer. For example, graphene sheets interact with active agents through  $\pi$ - $\pi$  interaction.



**FIG. 8** The preparation method of self-assembly of CPT-loaded poly ( $\epsilon$ -cp-co-CA) polymeric micelle. (Modified from P. Pradeepkumar, A.M. Elgorban, A.H. Bahkali, M. Rajan, *Natural solvent-assisted synthesis of amphiphilic co-polymeric nanomicelle for prolonged release of Camptothecin delivery*, *New J. Chem.* 42 (12) (2018) 10366–10375. DOI: 10.1039/C8NJ00901E. Copyright (2018) Royal Society of Chemistry.)

**FIG. 9** Synthesis of  $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4$  magnetic nanoparticles conjugated cyclodextrin nanocontainer. (Reproduced with permission from M. Oroujeni, B. Kaboudin, W. Xia, P. Jonsson, D.A. Ossipov, Conjugation of cyclodextrin to magnetic  $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4$  nanoparticles via polydopamine coating for drug delivery, *Prog. Organ. Coatings* 114 (2018) 154–161. Copyright 2018 Elsevier.)



Graphene oxide (GO) is a 2D  $\text{sp}^2$  hybridization of carbon atoms synthesized by the oxidation of natural graphite, which has been used in biomedical applications and in nutraceuticals for the treatment and prevention of chronic disorders due to good biocompatibility and low toxicity [56]. The graphene based nano materials (GbNs) properties are pertinent for active agent delivery systems and medicinal applications, which incorporates surface zone, layer number, horizontal measurement, surface science, and virtue. The GbNs have higher surface region ( $2600 \text{ m}^2 \text{ g}^{-1}$ )—four sizes higher than the surface of some other nanomaterials [57]. A monolayer of graphene permits a higher stacking limit contrasted with different nanomaterials. In the event that there are expansive number of layers it will lessen the surface zone and thus builds the unbending nature of the nanocarriers required for cell infiltration [58]. This is the vital parameter in keeping up the auxiliary honesty of transporters and in the event that it is excessively inflexible, they could harm the cell. Thus, it is imperative to decrease the inflexibility of GbNs on the grounds that it might be a hindrance for conveying dynamic constituents [59].

Paclitaxel (PTX) was successfully loaded on GO surface via hydrophobic interaction. The rich amounts of PTX were loaded on GO-PEG surface, as evidenced by the PTX characteristic peak at 229 nm in UV-vis absorbance spectrum. Finally, physical adsorption of PTX may well protect its biological activity in comparison with the active compounds loading on nanocontainer [60]. Vinothini and Rajan (2017) studied the hydrophobic interaction of two anticancer drugs, 5-fluorouracil (5-FU) and cisplatin (CDDP), on the graphene nanocarrier. From this investigation, the 5-FU has high loading capacity compared with CDDP. The authors explained 5-FU has more interaction towards graphene platform through the hydrophobic,  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking interaction than CDDP [61]. The magnetic nanocontainer used to deliver the hydrophobic compound was made-up of  $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4$  nanoparticles with polydopamine (PDA) followed by conjugating with 6-thio- $\beta$ -cyclodextrin. Diclofenac is an antiinflammatory compound. CDs were used in the formation of different nanocontainers to improve the hydrophobic Diclofenac compound loading on the container [62]. Hydrophobic interactions between active compounds and CD compounds allowed also controlled release of active agents into the carrier, as shown in Fig. 9. In addition, Xiao et al. prepared  $\text{AB}_2$  type of polymeric micelles on hyper branched polypeptide and poly (ethylene oxide) di block copolymers to successfully load on DOX in hydrophobic interaction on polymeric core [63]. For instance, to prepare glutathione (GSH)-responsive poly (ethylene glycol)-b-polycarbonate-b-poly-(ethylene glycol) triblock copolymer that self-assembles into micelle nanoparticles with loaded doxorubicin as hydrophobic active agents [64].

## 2.2.4 Vander Waals interaction

Physical surface adsorption is the simple approach for loading of therapeutic compounds on the polymeric materials. Van der Waals interaction, with magnetism and repulsion connecting molecules, exists in all the systems. Compared with other interactions, Van der Waals force has a weak interacting nature. Doxorubicin (DOX) was loaded on fluorinated graphene (FG) used for cancer photo thermal therapy and the strong Van der Waals interaction of DOX on FG and the loading ratio  $>200\%$ , pH-triggered drug release low cytotoxicity and good combination treatment of cancer chemotherapy [65]. In addition, poly-L-lysine (PLL) was explored in favor of covering with BSA nanoparticles to be a good alternative for polyethylene imine (PEI). Furthermore, ribonucleic acid (siRNA) and BMP-2 were loaded in PLL-coated BSA nanoparticles as



model active agents. It can be seen that polymers are able to formulate brush-like structures on nanoparticle surfaces that might decrease by van der Waals based interactions between the nanoparticles, so stabilizing them [66, 67]. Van der Waals interactions between PEG and albumin were distinguished via binding force measurements [68]. The crystal morphology analysis of PEG–protein matrix showed the multiple coordination linking of PEG backbone and positively charged amino acids, that is, Lys, Arg, His, through the physical interaction force [69]. The development of composite between PEG and proteins probably induces micelle aggregation as healthy as unimer withdrawal, which could considerably change the micelle strength in vivo studies.

The benzene ring is mainly hydrophobic and the pyridine rings redistribute the  $\pi$ -electrons more than the ring system. The amide assembly and nitrogen group of the pyridine ring could perform as the hydrogen bonding donor and acceptor, respectively. Almost insoluble active compounds consist of one or several benzene rings and hydrophilic groups, the self-aggregation property of hydrotropes container exist prolonged to complication among hydrotropes and lipophilic active compounds [70, 71]. The usual polymeric nanomicelles contain only an inert role, the improvement of drug solubility in water, which is consequent from hydrophobic interaction among hydrophobic polymer block and active agent [72]. The hydrophobic interaction also called an inner core of hydrophobic amphiphilic molecule is an experience induces by the London dispersive force that exists linking of any kind molecules. The hydrophobic effect is motivated when hydrophobic molecules are miscellaneous with water, since the London dispersive force connecting lipophilic compounds and hydrophobic blocks is greatly stronger than that between the lipophilic molecule and water [73].

Hatamie et al. (2015) used curcumin as a natural reducing agents as it is one of the very effective natural antioxidants. The  $\pi$ - $\pi$  staking of curcumin onto the RGO sheets was considered by spectroscopical methods such as Raman and Fourier transform infrared spectroscopies (FTIR). They also found that the curcumin functionalized graphene sheets have higher cytotoxicity and viability against human breast cancer cell lines, also a normal mouse cell line, respectively [74]. The natural cationic polymer coated GO sheets were developed for anti-TB drug delivery system. The hydrophilic drug of isoniazid (ISN) successfully loaded on GO sheets via two kind of interaction (i) H-bonding and (ii)  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking of pyridine groups on GO sheets [75]. Several earlier reports also indicated that the hydrogen bonding and Van der Waals interaction of active agents are high loading capacity of polymeric nanocontainer system [76, 77]. The physisorpted compounds through the hydrophobic,  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking and Van der Waals interaction correspond due to the high amount of insoluble active agents loaded on graphene-based materials without compromising the efficiency of the compound [78, 79]. Tables 1 and 2 represent the loading mechanism followed by the nanocontainer preparation and different types of active agents loaded polymeric nanocontainers.

### 3 Mechanisms of active compound release

Loaded bioactive or new active components released from a polymeric, metal, ceramic, protein, or other nanocontainer are ejected by a number of factors as well as the kind of composition like drug, polymer, and excipients, the fraction of composition, physical or chemical nature of the substance, and preparation method [11, 95]. Based on the releasing upon the nanovesicles, the mechanism can be separated into four ways: (i) diffusion, (ii) solvent, (iii) chemical interaction, and (iv) stimulated release.

The goal of compound release from a container is to maintain and manage the concentration of the drug, gene, DNA/RNA, inhibitors, nutraceuticals, pesticides, insecticides, and plant growth materials in the prevention, control, cure, or enhancement of the treatment systems. Influence of the main four mechanisms to release the active component from the container may be followed by the following five type types of releases [96]: (i) delayed release, (ii) sustained release, (iii) controlled release, (iv) extended release, and (v) site specific targeting release.

#### 3.1 Delayed release

The quantity of an active agent form that releases as a separate portion or portions of active agent at a time other than punctually following direction. An initial portion could be released punctually after administration. Enteric-coated dosage forms are regular delayed-release products (e.g., enteric-coated aspirin and other nonsteroidal antiinflammatory drugs (NSAID) products) from the loaded containers [97]. Delayed release of a stable pill formulation of aspirin nanocontainer was developed for the extended activity of aspirin drug [98]. The delayed release pills are anticipated to release the pills after some delay or after pills pass the GI tract. Aspirin delayed release pills are used to increase bioavailability and to decrease danger of hospitalization for heart failure or coronary thrombosis by delivering active agents at a near constant rate for 24h. The aim of the delayed release is to avoid degradation of active agents in the acidic surroundings of the

**TABLE 1** Various types of loading mechanism followed by the nanocontainer preparation

| S.No | Polymeric nanocontainer   | Active agents                                      | Types of interaction      | Application              | References |
|------|---|--|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| 1.   | SA-g-AA-RF/CS-g-AA-MA nanoparticles                                       | Isoniazid (INH), Pyrazinamide (PZA) and Ethambutol | Covalent bonding          | Anti-TB drug delivery    | [22]       |
| 2.   | mPEG –PLA diblockcopolymer  | Curcumin (CUR)                                     | Covalent bonding          | Cancer therapy           | [23]       |
| 3.   | MPEG -b-PMABH (PEG-b-hydrazide) amphiphilic block co polymer              | Doxorubicin(DOX) Camptothecin (CPT)                | Covalent bonding          | Cancer drug delivery     | [28]       |
| 4.   | Silica nanoparticles  | Indole-3-butyric acid                              | Covalent bonding          | Pesticides delivery      | [30]       |
| 5.   | silica-coated CaCO <sub>3</sub> Nanoparticles                             | Avermectin   | Covalent bonding          | Pesticides delivery      | [31]       |
| 6.   | Polymeric micelles  | Doxorubicin  | Covalent bonding          | Cancer drug delivery     | [32]       |
| 7.   | Amphiphilic peptide nanocontainer   | Methotrexate (MTX)                                 | H-bonding                 | Cancer drug delivery     | [34]       |
| 8.   | Calcium alginate Nanocontainer  | Cypermethrin                                       | H-bonding                 | Pesticides delivery      | [35]       |
| 9.   | Polymeric nanoparticles   | pDNA   | H-bonding                 | gene delivery            | [36]       |
| 10.  | Amphiphilic diblock copolymers PEG-PUC                                    | Doxorubicin  | H-bonding                 | Cancer therapy           | [38]       |
| 11.  | (CA-PAGE-b-PEG) <sub>4</sub>  | Doxorubicin (DOX)                                  | electrostatic interaction | Cancer therapy           | [45]       |
| 12.  | poly urethane (PU-COOH) nanomicelles                                      | DOX•HCl  | electrostatic interaction | Cancer therapy           | [46]       |
| 13.  | PCMs-SS nanocontainer   | Prometryn (PMT)                                    | electrostatic interaction | Herbicide delivery       | [47]       |
| 14.  | Lanthanum modified-Chitosan oligosaccharides (Cos—La) nanocontainer       | Avermectin (AVM)                                   | electrostatic interaction | Pesticides delivery      | [48]       |
| 15.  | Nanoparticles   | BSA  | electrostatic interaction | Protein delivery         | [49]       |
| 16.  | Poly (ethylene glycol)-poly (glutamic acid)                               | Doxorubicin.HCl                                    | electrostatic interaction | Cancer therapy           | [50, 51]   |
| 17.  | Carbon nanotubes  | SiRNA  | electrostatic interaction | Gene delivery            | [52]       |
| 18.  | Graphene oxide  | Hymexazol  | electrostatic interaction | Photo thermal therapy    | [53]       |
| 19.  | Four-armed poly (ethylene oxide)-b-poly(methacrylic acid) bloc co-polymer | Imioramine Hydrochloride                           | Ionic interaction         | drug delivery            | [54]       |
| 20.  | (ε-cp-co-CA) Polymeric micelles   | Camptothecin                                       | Hydrophobic interaction   | Anticancer drug delivery | [55]       |
| 21.  | Graphene oxide  | Paclitaxel   | Hydrophobic interaction   | Anticancer drug delivery | [60]       |
| 22.  | Graphene  | 5-flurouracil and cisplatin                        | Hydrophobic interaction   | Anticancer drug delivery | [61]       |

**TABLE 1** Various types of loading mechanism followed by the nanocontainer preparation—cont'd

| S.No | Polymeric nanocontainer                                   | Active agents             | Types of interaction              | Application                    | References |
|------|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| 23.  | Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> nanoparticles              | Diclofenac                | Hydrophobic interaction           | antiinflammatory drug delivery | [62]       |
| 24.  | polypeptide and poly (ethylene oxide) di block copolymers | Doxorubicin hydrochloride | Hydrophobic interaction           | Anticancer drug delivery       | [64]       |
| 25.  | Fluorinated (FG) graphene                                 | Doxorubicin               | van der Waals interaction         | Anticancer drug delivery       | [65]       |
| 26.  | BSA nanoparticles   | siRNA                     | van der Waals interaction         | Gene delivery                  | [66]       |
| 27.  | RGO   | curcumin                  | $\pi$ - $\pi$ staking Interaction | Breast cancer drug delivery    | [74]       |

**TABLE 2** Different types of active agents loaded polymeric nanocontainers

| S.No | Name of nanocontainer                     | Active agent             | Applications                                    | References |
|------|---|--------------------------|---|------------|
| 1.   | Liposomes                                 | Camptothecin             | Cancer therapy                                  | [80]       |
| 2.   | Micelles                                  | Cisplatin                | Cancer therapy                                  | [81]       |
| 3.   | Micelles                                  | Doxorubicin              | Cancer therapy                                  | [82]       |
| 4.   | Polyurethane-amine dendrimer              | Pendimethalin            | Pesticide delivery                              | [83]       |
| 5.   | Mesoporous silica nanoparticles           | Prochloraz               | Pesticides delivery                             | [84]       |
| 6.   | Nanoparticles                             | Paraquat                 | Herbicide delivery                              | [85]       |
| 7.   | Hydrogel                                  | BSA                      | Protein drug delivery                           | [86]       |
| 8.   | Block copolymer                           | Doxorubicin              | Cancer therapy                                  | [87]       |
| 9.   | Nanoparticle                              | 8-hydroxyquinoline       | Anticorrosion and corrosion sensing application | [88]       |
| 10.  | Mesoporous silica nanocontainers          | Benzotriazole            | Self-healing coatings                           | [89]       |
| 11.  | Graphene oxide nanoscrolls                | Benzotriazole            | Self-healing coatings                           | [90]       |
| 12.  | Diblock copolymer                         | Lysozyme                 | Gene delivery                                   | [91]       |
| 13.  | CaCO <sub>3</sub> particles Nanoparticles | $\alpha$ -CD-rhodamine B | Drug delivery                                   | [92]       |
| 14.  | Diblock copolymer                         | plasmid DNA              | Gene delivery                                   | [93]       |
| 15.  | PIC micelles                              | rHV2                     | Platelet-targeted delivery                      | [94]       |

stomach. Hence, suitable enteric coating active agents release into the small intestine so that drug carrier formulated outside region for absorption.

Low molecular weight Polylactic acid was to be a shows potential matrix for the controlled release of pesticides in both particles (granule) and film formulations [99]. The properties of primarily slow, followed by rapid release (delayed or lag-burst release), are not common in polymeric pesticide formulations but have been established for lignin matrix granules, where there is also liberation of a low molecular weight portion, offering illustration of the delayed releasing system.

### 3.2 Sustained release

Sustained releases dosage forms can be traced to the 1938 patent of Israel Lipowski [100]. Sustained release systems are conventionally a combination of active agents that involve the net rate of dissolution of the active agent molecule over an extended period of instance with least side effects. Sustained release forms follow first-order kinetics [101, 102].

The three main advantages of sustained drug delivery system are: (i) decreased see-saw fluctuations, (ii) overall quantity of dose decreases, and (iii) extended safety of drugs. Two main disadvantages of sustained drug delivery system are: (i) possibilities of dose dumping, and (ii) reduced potential for accurate dose adjustment.

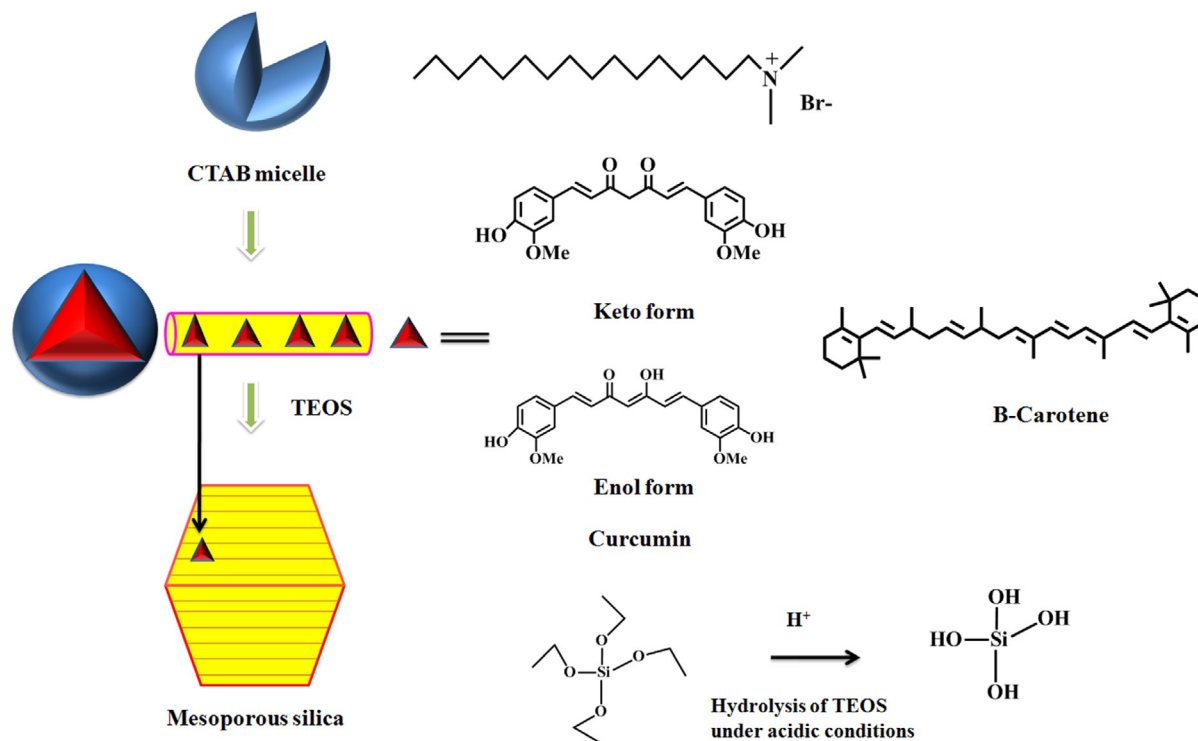
### 3.3 Controlled release

Controlled release nanocontainers are devised to permit better control of active agent contact more than time, to assist active agents in traveling physiological barriers, to shield active agent from early removal, and to deliver active agents to the preferred location of treatment, while reducing active agent exposure in other parts of the body. One mechanism is involved at a given time, or different mechanisms may dominate at different stages of the releasing method. Controlled releases follow zero order kinetics. Moreover, controlled release technologies to the delivery of DNA have the possible to overcome extracellular barriers to maximum gene therapy. Controlled release systems can improve gene delivery and enhance the amount and period of transgene expression comparative to more conventional delivery methods [103].

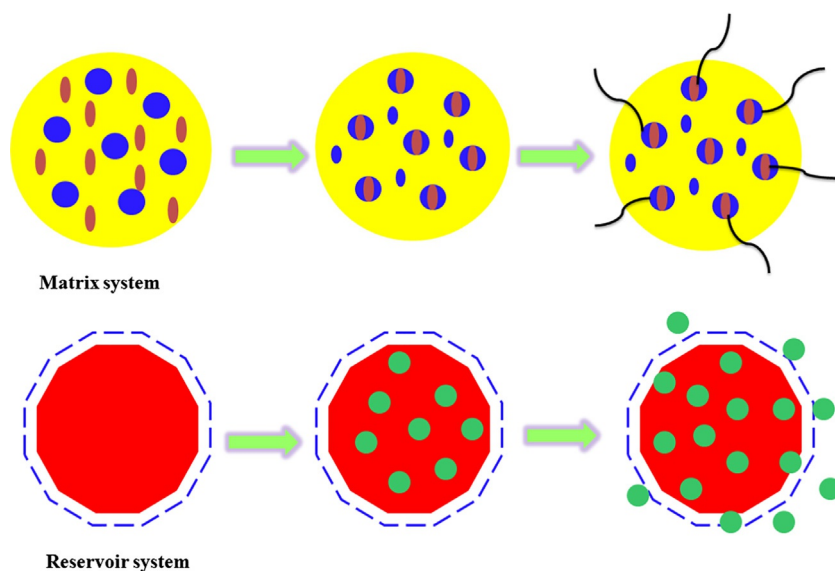
Clifford et al. 2007 investigated for controlled release of mesoporous silica nanoparticles (MSN) to encapsulate nutraceuticals and thereby serve as a molecular tracker [104]. A nutraceutical undergoes hydrolytic cleavage during Curcumin release in acidic condition from MSNs which showed in Fig. 10. Release mechanism depends on stages including the three following processes [105, 106]: (i) diffusion-controlled release, (ii) solvent-controlled release, and (iii) biodegradation.

#### 3.3.1 Diffused controlled release

The procedure of active compound releases from the nanocontainer has a few unmistakable focal points as far as the planning of management of reply of the nanocarrier. The rate at which water can swell the container of a cross-linked material is altogether faster than the erosion. The expression “dissemination” alludes to the activities of the medication



**FIG. 10** Schematic representation of the formulation, encapsulation, and releasing mechanism of nutraceuticals in mesoporous silica particle. (Modified from N. W. Clifford, K. SwaminathanIyer, C. L. Raston, *Encapsulation and controlled release of nutraceuticals using mesoporous silica capsules*, *J. Mater. Chem.* 18 (2008) 162–165. Copyright (2008) Royal Society of Chemistry.)



**FIG. 11** Diffusion-controlled releasing mechanism from the nanocontainer. (Modified from C. L. Stevenson, J. T. Santini, R. Langer, *Reservoir-based drug delivery systems utilizing microtechnology*, *Adv. Drug Deliv. Rev.* 64 (2012) 1590–1602. Copyright 2012 Elsevier.)

particles upon presentation to jolts influencing its outer condition [107–110]. The rate-constraining advances of dispersion active compound loaded system are the dissemination through, commonly, a water-insoluble obstruction. Dissemination agent release containers are commonly both matrix-based or reservoir diffusion. In matrix-based nanocontainers, the active agent is joined with a polymeric matrix to form composite framework wherever water penetration prompts also growth or osmotically restricted frameworks [111]. Because the network is made out of mutually polymer and active agents, the enlargement impact is viewed as the same amount as development of the mass polymers, causing the opening of pores all through the network structure. This is reasonably much the same as a wipe that consistently swells with water.

In arranging for successful dispersion of the compound particles to happen, the pore size of the swelled matrix nanocontainer should significantly surpass the measure of the hydrophilic atom or hydrophobic molecule. In reservoir nanocontainers, the compound arrangement is embodied inside a polymer bead, making a penetrable hindrance between the molecule arrangement condition and the encompassing condition, as given in Fig. 11 [112]. Since the reservoir is made out of a porous polymer hindrance covering, the swelling impact is viewed as a nonuniform volume extension, where the obstruction covering takes into account water penetrability and swells, while the inward parts can diffuse out of the container. This is considered much the same as a dialysis pack, which permits free dispersion and diffusion of water and size-particular porousness of its interior constituents. Altogether, for successful dissemination of active agents to happen, the pore size of the swelled obstruction should greatly surpass the extent of the hydrophilic compounds or hydrophobic chemical molecule.

### 3.3.2 Solvent-controlled release

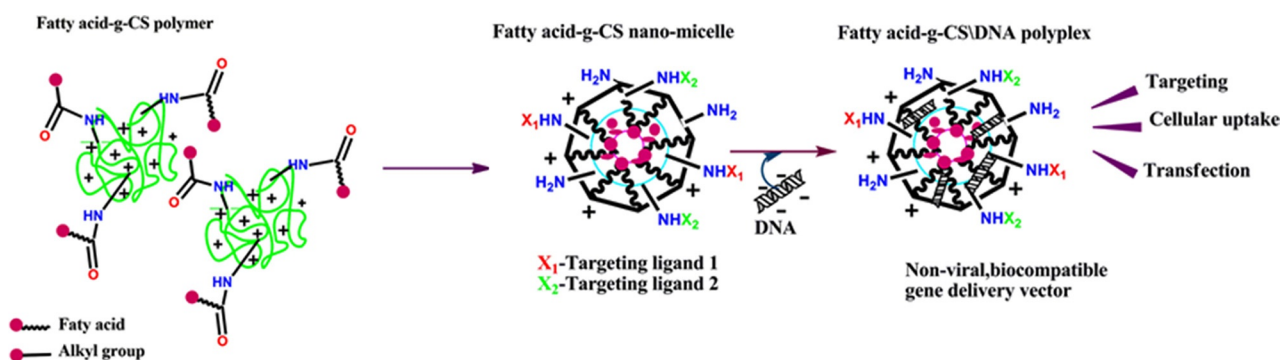
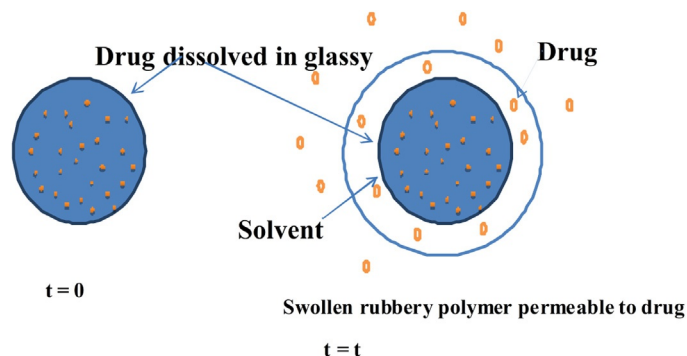
One approach to control arrival of active compounds that are scattered in a polymer is to utilize a polymer that is ordinarily smooth, yet when dissolvable, infiltrates the grid; swelling happens and the polymer chains end up loose and enables the active agents to diffuse out. As the dissolvable front advances, the region that is infiltrated swells, and the shiny center zone starts to recoil. A Portion of glassy hydrophilic polymeric systems are placed in an aqueous solution including body fluids, water can flow from outside of the carrier system (with a low drug concentration) to the drug-loaded core system (with a high drug concentration). The water uptake results in the swelling of the polymeric particles followed by drug released (swelling-controlled release), shown in Fig. 12. Additionally, there is no blasted impact. In any case, the quantity of accessible polymers is not expansive, and in spite of the fact that for direct polymers, disintegration takes place after the swelling procedure, cross connected or somewhat crystalline container can cause issues with zones that do not swell, resulting in the presence of mechanical shortcomings [113, 114].

### 3.4 Extended release

Expanded delivery is likewise offering a promising approach to diminish the symptoms of compound by keeping the change of the restorative and movement convergence of the compound and other active compound, respectively.



**FIG. 12** Swelling nature of the releases as controlled manner from the nanocontainer. (Reproduced with permission from S. Darandale Abhishek, J. GhulePrashant, A. Aher Abhijit, B.M. Narwate, Sustained release dosage form: a concise review, *Int J. Pharm. Drug. Anal.* 5 (2017) 153–160. Copyright 2017 *Int J. Pharm. Drug. Anal.* Open access: [ijpda.com](http://ijpda.com).)



**FIG. 13** Fatty acid-grafted-chitosan (fatty acid-g-CS) nanocarrier for receptor targeting gene delivery. (From D. Sharma, J. Singh, Synthesis and characterization of fatty acid grafted chitosan polymer and their nanomicelles for nonviral gene delivery applications, *Bioconjug. Chem.* 28 (2017) 2772–2783. Copyright (2017) Royal Society of Chemistry.)

The extended release delivery system has significant advantages like [115] reducing dosing frequency of compound, maintaining therapeutic concentrations/active concentrations, reducing the toxicity by slow absorbed compound, avoiding high blood concentration, reducing systemic side effects, enhancing the therapeutic efficacy, enhancing bioavailability of the compounds, and minimum usage of the compound. Disadvantages of extended delivery rates include various parameters such as high cost of formulation, and sometimes the target tissue will be exposed to constant amount of drug over extended periods, resulting in drug tolerance.

### 3.5 Exact places targeting release

These nanocontainers allude to focusing of a dosage straightforwardly to a specific coordinated or required area. For this situation, the objective is contiguous or in the diseased organ or tissue [116]. Divya Sharma et al. (2017) combine and portray unsaturated fat united chitosan (unsaturated fat g-CS) polymer and their nanomicelles for use as transporters for gene release mechanism (Fig. 13) [117]. The amphiphilic fatty acid-g-CS polymers self-collected in a fluid situation to frame nanomicelles of 200 nm molecule estimate and marginally positive net charge because of the cationic idea of free essential amino gatherings on CS particle. The surface of these nanomicelles can be additionally adjusted with ligands taking into account particular focus on enhanced cell binding and disguise. These nanomicelles could thus be used as potential nonviral gene release vectors for sheltered and effective gene treatment (Table 3).

## 4 Conclusion

In the application of compound delivery from the nanocontainer, it is fundamental that a controlled nanocontainer ought to hold the compound amid dissemination yet discharge it with no significant postponement once they land at target site or intracellular organelles. The drug loading and releasing property has been satisfied with necessity by utilizing different forms of nanocontainers and biomaterials. The consideration of boost-responsive materials has empowered extra control

**TABLE 3** Nature of nanocontainers and their releasing mechanism for various applications

| No | Description of carrier   | Drug                                  | Releasing mechanism                      | Release system           | Application                                     | References |
|----|--|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|---|------------|
| 1  | PLGA Nanoparticles   | Quercetin and Catechin                | Hydrolytic cleavage                      | Controlled release       | Gastro intestinal tract                         | [118]      |
| 2  | Selenium in chitosan nanoparticles   | Selenium                              | Electrostatic interaction                | Targeted delivery        | Protects cells from selenium-induced DNA damage | [119]      |
| 3  | Polyphosphoester, poly(2aminoethyl propylenephosphate) (PPE-EA)  | Plasmid DNA                           | Cleavage of the backbone phosphate bonds | Sustained release        | Enhanced gene expression                        | [120]      |
| 4  | Poly(lactic acid)-based microcapsules  | Lambda-Cyhalothrin                    | Carbonyl cleavage                        | Controlled release       | Pesticides                                      | [121]      |
| 5  | PAMAM-based novel polyurea   | pendimethalin                         | Electrostatic interaction                | Controlled release       | Herbicide                                       | [122]      |
| 6  | Aquated Cisplatin and Heparin-Pluronic nanocomplexes   | Cisplatin                             | Amide bond cleavage                      | Sustainable Release      | Lung Cancer                                     | [123]      |
| 7  | Lectin functionalized poly(lactide-co-glycolide)   | Isoniazid rifampicin and pyrazinamide | Amide bond cleavage                      | Sustained release        | Tuberculosis drug delivery                      | [124]      |
| 8  | Pluronic-chitosan  | Metipranolol                          | Electrostatic attraction force           | Sustained release        | Ocular delivery                                 | [125]      |
| 9  | L-fucose-bound liposomes   | Cisplatin                             | Enzyme cleavage                          | Specific site release    | Pancreatic Cancer therapy                       | [126]      |
| 10 | Silver nanoparticle functionalized chitosan grafted-(cetyl alcohol-maleicanhydride-pyrazinamide)                   | Rifampicin                            | Amide bond cleavage                      | Sustained and controlled | Antituberculosis drug delivery                  | [127]      |
| 11 | Nanohydroxyapatite reinforced with xylitol based poly (xylitol sebacate) co-polymer with capsaicin loaded scaffold | Capsaicin                             | Ester bond cleavage and nucleation       | Controlled drug delivery | Bone Tissue Engineering                         | [128]      |
| 12 | Phospholipids cholesterol liposome   | Ketorolac tromethamine                | Electrostatic attraction force           | Controlled release       | Ocular delivery                                 | [129]      |
| 13 | Dendritic Polyrotaxane drug-polymer  | Doxorubicin                           | Amide bond cleavage                      | Site-specific delivery   | Cancer therapy                                  | [130]      |
| 14 | Mesoporous silicananoparticles functionalized with Biotin- modified Hyaluronic acid                                | Doxorubicin                           | Enzymatic cleavage                       | Site-specific delivery   | Colon cancer therapy                            | [131]      |

Continued

**TABLE 3** Nature of nanocontainers and their releasing mechanism for various applications—cont'd

| No | Description of carrier  | Drug            | Releasing mechanism            | Release system         | Application           | References |
|----|---|-----------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------|
| 15 | Red fluorescent protein plasmid (pRFP) and poly (amidoamine)penetratin complex        | Protein plasmid | Electrostatic binding          | Target delivery        | Retinal gene delivery | [132]      |
| 16 | Sodium alginate nanoparticles   | Imidacloprid    | Electrostatic attraction       | Site targeted delivery | Pesticide             | [133]      |
| 17 | $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin ( $\alpha$ -CD) anchored hollow mesoporous silica              | Avermectin      | Enzymatic cleavage             | Controlled release     | Insecticidal          | [134]      |
| 18 | Poly(lactic-co-glycolicacid)microparticles incorporating chitosan-based nanoparticles | Ranibizumab     | Electrostatic attraction force | Sustained release      | Ocular delivery       | [135]      |

of the energy and areas of compound delivery. Be that as it may, much remains to be improved in translating new advances to clinically viable products. One of the issues that warrant prompt consideration of researchers is the in vitro conditions in which drug release are tried in the improvement arrange. While endeavors to create useful biomaterials and new transporter gatherings will continue to be very important, it is similarly critical to try to build up an approach to look at compound releasing profiles in conditions exceedingly applicable to the environmental conditions.

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## Further reading

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