

Preface

*Diagnose the illness, trace its cause,
seek the proper remedy and apply it with skill.*

—Thirukural (Verse 948) by Thiruvalluvar, a Tamil Poet (2 B.C–8 A.D)

Inspite of being the major cause of death, efficient cancer therapy and its early diagnosis remains elusive for the researchers around the world. With the advent of new nanomaterials, the present century has revolutionized the application of nanoscale formulations for healthcare applications, especially in the field of cancer therapy or diagnosis. These nanoscale materials by virtue of their small dimension and improved therapeutic and diagnostic efficacy against cancer have transcended to the next generation of nanoscale formulations capable of achieving cancer therapy and diagnosis simultaneously. Such multifunctional nanoscale formulations would invariantly consist of therapeutic and diagnostic components combined together within a nanoscale carrier molecule. Realizing such multifunctional theranostic systems in the imminent future can reinvent the current cancer management strategies.

In concert with the aforementioned theme, this book would provide a clear insight into the recent advances in the field of cancer theranostics with special emphasis on nanoscale carrier molecules (polymeric, protein and lipid based) and imaging agents (organic and inorganic).

Cancer Nanotheranostics

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