



INTEGRATION OF COMPUTERIZED TECHNIQUES AND NANOTECHNOLOGY IN LUNG CANCER DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT

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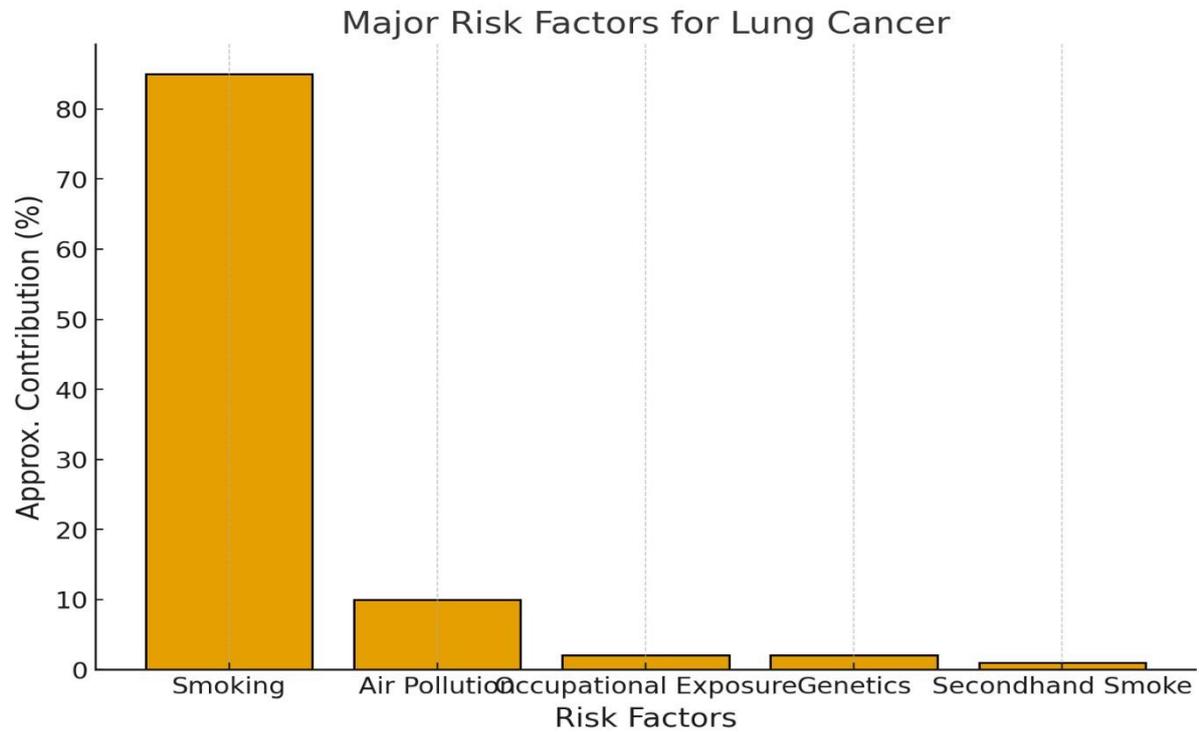
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Abstract : Lung cancer remains a major cause of cancer mortality, largely due to late diagnosis and limited treatment specificity. Integrating computerized systems with nanotechnology offers a more precise and personalized approach to its management. Artificial intelligence-based techniques, including radiomics, deep learning, and digital pathology, enhance early tumor detection, classify tumor subtypes, and support individualized treatment planning. Nanotechnology further contributes by enabling targeted drug delivery, controlled release, and reduced systemic toxicity through platforms such as liposomes, polymeric nanoparticles, dendrimers, and metallic nanocarriers. Recent advancements also include AI-guided theranostic nanosystems that combine imaging and therapy for real-time monitoring of treatment response. However, clinical translation remains restricted due to data variability, nanoparticle stability issues, safety concerns, and regulatory challenges. Continued progress requires standardized clinical datasets, explainable AI models, biocompatible nanomaterial development, and scalable manufacturing strategies to enable routine integration in lung cancer care

IndexTerms - Component,formatting,style,styling,insert.

I. INTRODUCTION

Lung cancer kills a lot of people worldwide, making it a serious public health issue. According to the International Agency for Research on Cancer's (IARC) GLOBOCAN 2020 projections of cancer incidence and mortality, lung cancer continues to be the primary cause of cancer-related fatalities, accounting for an expected 1.8 million deaths (18%) in 2020. Although it can also harm non-smokers, smoking tobacco—including cigarettes, cigars, and pipes—is the main risk factor for lung cancer. Hereditary cancer syndromes, prior chronic lung disorders, air pollution, occupational risks (such as asbestos, radon, and certain chemicals), and secondhand smoking exposure are additional risk factors.(1)



Small-cell lung cancer and non-small-cell lung cancer (NSCLC) are the two primary subtypes of lung cancer, making up 15% and 85% of all cases of lung cancer, respectively. Squamous cell carcinoma, adenocarcinoma, and giant cell carcinoma are the three further subtypes of NSCLC. (2,3) The primary cause of lung cancer, accounting for 80–85% of cases globally, is tobacco smoke, which includes over 7000 compounds and at least 69 carcinogens, such as benzene, tobacco-specific nitrosamines, and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons. (3,4)

In 1950, Doll and Hill proposed that the two primary causes of lung cancer are exposure to outside contaminants and tobacco usage [6]. Up until recently, tobacco usage was the main focus of cancer prevention initiatives and research. As smoking rates continue to fall, it is anticipated that the number of lung cancer fatalities linked to tobacco use will diminish over the next 25 years. However, the percentage of lung cancers among nonsmokers will continue to rise as smoking-related lung malignancies decline [7], [8].

Lung cancer has a high incidence and fatality rate, according to Global Cancer Statistics [10], [11]. The majority of individuals with lung cancer receive their diagnosis at an advanced stage [12]. The reason is that many patients are at an advanced stage when they are definitively identified with lung cancer, and the majority of patients do not exhibit any clear, distinct symptoms at the onset of the illness [13]. The clinical stage of lung cancer is tightly linked to the prognosis, according to statistics, meaning that early detection can directly enhance the patient's prognosis [14]. As a result, choosing efficient screening and diagnosis techniques is essential to improving the prognosis and early diagnosis rate of lung cancer.

TYPES OF LUNG CANCER :

1. Small cell lung cancers (SCLC)
2. Non-small cell lung cancers (NSCLC)

1. Small cell lung cancer (SCLC):

It accounts for 20% of all lung malignancies and is one of the most aggressive and quickly spreading types. Cigarette smoking has a substantial correlation with this form of cancer. SCLC is frequently detected in its advanced stages and spreads quickly to several locations. Under a microscope, the cells in these tumors seem different from those in non-small cell lung cancer because they are smaller. The cells in SCLC proliferate rapidly and develop into massive tumours that spread throughout the body, frequently remaining in the centre of the lung and growing along the wall of the major bronchus [15].

2. Non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC):

About 80% of all lung cancers are of this type, making it the most prevalent.

NSCLC can be divided into three main types:

- **Adenocarcinomas:**

This is the most prevalent form of non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) among women and nonsmokers, and it is located in the lung gland that makes mucus. Up to 50% of non-small cell lung malignancies are adenocarcinomas, which develop in the lung's outer, or peripheral, regions. Bronchioloalveolar carcinoma is a subtype of it that usually appears in several locations inside the lungs and spreads along the alveolar walls that are already there. Adenocarcinomas can occasionally develop around scar tissue and are linked to asbestos exposure.

- **Squamous Cell Carcinomas:**

They make up around 30–40% of initial lung tumours and are also referred to as epidermoid carcinomas [16]. This kind of cancer typically develops in the core regions around the main bronchi in a pseudo-ductal or stratified configuration. The cells exhibit individual cell keratinisation and an epithelial pearl formation.

- **Large Cell Carcinomas**

The tumour cells lack any particular physical characteristics and are large. They are the least prevalent kind of non-small cell lung cancer and are occasionally called undifferentiated carcinomas [17].

CURRENT TREATMENT AND ITS LIMITATION

TREATMENT APPROACH	MECHANISM	KEY LIMITATIONS
1. Surgery	elimination of the original tumour; primarily used for NSCLC in its early stages before spreading	ineffective for advanced or metastatic cancer; if microscopic cancer persists, there is a considerable chance of recurrence.
2. Chemotherapy	use cytotoxic drugs, frequently in conjunction with other drugs, to destroy rapidly proliferating cancer cells.	Non-specific - harms healthy cells Fatigue, hair loss, and severe systemic toxicity; less impact in later phases
3. Radiotherapy	When surgery is not an option, high-intensity radiation is frequently utilized to shrink or eliminate tumor cells.	may cause radiation pneumonitis or fibrosis in the surrounding lung tissue; extreme caution is needed.
4. Targeted therapy	inhibit growth signaling pathways by focusing on certain genetic abnormalities in tumor cells.	works only if the mutation is present; after a month, patients frequently become resistant to the medication.
5. Immunotherapy	increases the immune system's capacity to identify and eliminate cancerous cells.	work on just 20–30% of people; costly; may result in autoimmune responses

- Even while lung cancer outcomes have improved with the use of modern therapies such as surgery, chemotherapy, radiation, targeted therapy, and immunotherapy, each of these methods has important drawbacks. The majority of treatments harm healthy

tissues, have poor tumor selectivity, and frequently fail when drug resistance sets in. Furthermore, early detection is still challenging, which reduces the effectiveness of treatment by the time cancer is discovered. These drawbacks emphasize the need for more precise medication delivery methods and diagnostic systems, which are now being investigated using computational methods and nanotechnology.

NANOTECHNOLOGY IN LUNG CANCER :

1) Rationale (why nano)

In conventional chemotherapy, only a minimal fraction of the administered drug actually reaches the tumour site, while the majority circulates systemically and results in significant toxicity to healthy tissues (18). Moreover, lung cancer cells often develop drug resistance through mechanisms such as drug-efflux pumps, which decrease intracellular drug accumulation and reduce therapeutic effectiveness (19). Using nanocarriers enhances drug retention at the tumour site and enables targeted or controlled release, thereby improving the overall treatment efficiency (20).

2) Mechanism of action :

Nanotechnology enhances the therapeutic performance of anticancer drugs in lung cancer by improving drug delivery, cellular internalisation, and tumour selectivity. The Enhanced Permeability and Retention (EPR) effect, resulting from the abnormal and leaky vasculature of tumours, enables nanoparticles to accumulate and persist preferentially at the tumour site while minimising exposure to healthy tissues (18). When chemotherapeutic drugs are encapsulated in nanocarriers, they undergo controlled and sustained release, which decreases systemic toxicity and reduces the frequency of dosing (20).

Additionally, nanoparticles facilitate direct intracellular drug transport, helping to bypass multidrug resistance pathways such as P-glycoprotein-mediated efflux (19). Targeting efficiency is further enhanced when nanoparticles are functionalized with ligands or antibodies that recognise tumour-specific receptors such as EGFR or folate receptors, resulting in improved drug selectivity and fewer off-target effects (21). Nanocarrier systems can also codeliver chemotherapeutic agents along with gene-silencing molecules (e.g., siRNA), producing a synergistic and more potent anti-tumour response (22).

3) Types of nanocarriers used in lung cancer:

Different nanocarrier systems are being utilised to improve drug targeting and therapeutic activity in lung cancer. Polymeric nanoparticles (such as PLGA and chitosan) are commonly employed because they can encapsulate the drug, protect it from early degradation, and release it gradually at the tumor site, while also allowing surface functionalization for better tumor specificity (23). Lipid-based carriers, including liposomes and solid lipid nanoparticles, enhance the solubility and stability of hydrophobic anticancer drugs and reduce systemic toxicity due to their biocompatible lipid composition (24). Dendrimers, which possess a highly branched nanoscale architecture, can accommodate multiple drug molecules and targeting ligands simultaneously, leading to more efficient intracellular delivery (25). In addition, inorganic nanoparticles such as gold and iron oxide nanoparticles are favoured for their imaging and therapeutic dual-function capability, enabling drug delivery combined with diagnostic tracking or photothermal applications (26). Nanoemulsions also represent an effective platform due to their high drug-loading capacity and enhanced penetration across biological membranes, particularly useful for poorly water-soluble anticancer agents (27).

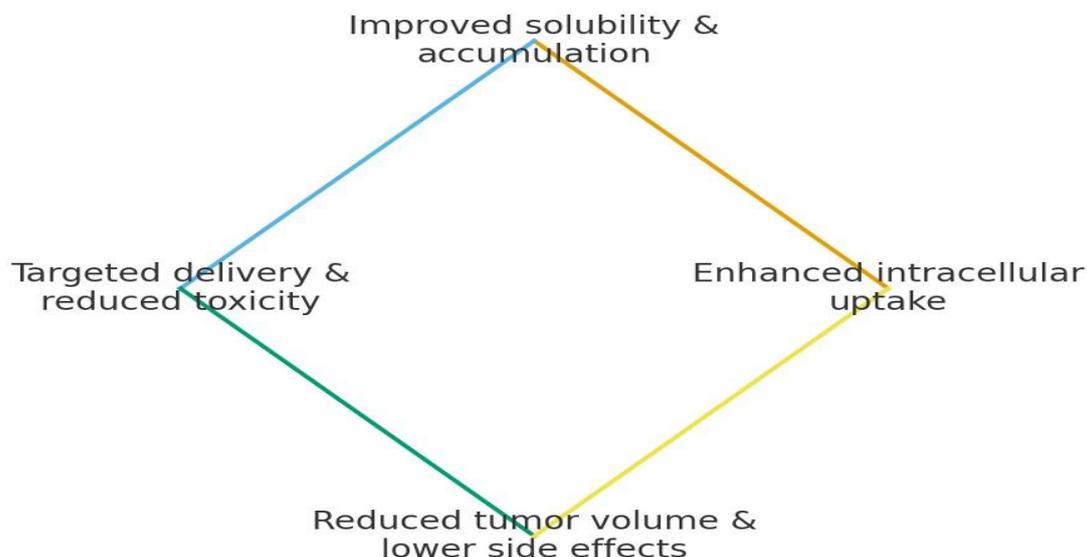
4) Case study : dendrimer based nanocarriers in lung cancer

Doxorubicin-loaded PAMAM dendrimers have been reported to significantly enhance intracellular drug uptake in lung cancer cells, resulting in an improved therapeutic response. (28)

This dendrimer-based system also increases the aqueous solubility of doxorubicin and promotes higher drug accumulation in tumor tissues, effectively overcoming efflux-mediated drug resistance. (29)

Furthermore, surface modification of PAMAM dendrimers with folic acid provides selective targeting toward folate receptor-overexpressing lung cancer cells, thereby minimizing unintended toxicity to healthy tissues. (25)

In vivo studies demonstrated that folate-targeted PAMAM-DOX formulations significantly reduced tumor volume while exhibiting lower systemic side effects compared to free doxorubicin. (30)



5) Clinical translation and FDA / clinical stage nanomedicines in lung cancer :

Although several nanocarrier systems have shown strong efficacy in preclinical models of lung cancer, only a few have progressed to large-scale clinical use. Among these, nab-paclitaxel (Abraxane®) is the only widely FDA-approved nanomedicine used in metastatic non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC), in combination with carboplatin. Other formulations such as liposomal cisplatin (Lipoplatin®) and polymeric micellar paclitaxel (Genexol-PM®) are currently in Phase II/III clinical trials and have shown reduced systemic toxicity and improved tumor delivery, but are not FDA-approved yet.

NANOMEDICINE	FORMULATION TYPE	CLINICAL STATUS	USE	REFERENCE
Abraxane® (Nab-Paclitaxel)	Albumin-bound paclitaxel nanoparticles	FDA-Approved (2012)	Used with Carboplatin for First-line treatment of metastatic NSCLC	(31)
Lipoplatin® (Liposomal Cisplatin)	Liposomal drug carrier system	Phase III Clinical trials	Demonstrated reduced nephrotoxicity and selective tumor accumulation in NSCLC	(32)
Genexol-PM® (Polymeric Micellar Paclitaxel)	PEG-PLA micelle formulation	Approved in South Korea, Phase II trials in NSCLC elsewhere	Improved solubility and lower neurotoxicity compared to Taxol	(33)
MM-302 (HER2-targeted Liposomal Doxorubicin)	Antibody-targeted liposomal system	Phase II	Under study for HER2positive metastatic cancers including lung	(34)

CRLX101 (CamptothecinLoaded Cyclodextrin Nanoparticles)	Polymer-drug conjugate nanoparticle	Phase II	Investigated in advanced NSCLC, shows prolonged drug retention	(35)
NC-6004 (Nanopartic✓ Cisplatin Derivative)	PEGylated cisplatin nanoparticle	Phase II	Designed to reduce renal toxicity and improve	(36)
			tolerability in NSCLC	

• COMPUTERIZED TECHNIQUES IN LUNG CANCER DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT

To further the use of nanotechnology in lung cancer treatment, nanocarrier design and optimization are essential. However, this procedure is difficult due to the intricacy of biological systems and the variety of drug delivery needs. Research and development expenses are decreased, and design efficiency is greatly increased thanks to computational design's strong theoretical underpinnings and technological tools. The various uses of computational design in nanocarrier optimization are examined in this section. (81)

Lung cancer diagnosis heavily relies on imaging modalities such as CT, X-ray, MRI, and PET scans, but manual interpretation of these images often leads to inter-observer variation and delayed diagnosis. To overcome these limitations, computerized techniques such as Machine Learning (ML), Deep Learning (DL), Radiomics, and Computer-Aided Diagnosis (CAD) systems are now being integrated in clinical practice. These techniques help in automated detection, tumor boundary identification, classification of tumor stage, and predicting patient prognosis with higher accuracy compared to traditional visual evaluation alone. (37)

1) Medical Imaging In Lung Cancer Diagnosis :

Medical imaging is the primary and most reliable approach for the early detection, staging, and monitoring of lung cancer. Among the available imaging techniques, Low-Dose Computed Tomography (LD-CT) has emerged as the most effective screening tool, particularly for high-risk individuals such as chronic smokers. LD-CT allows detection of small pulmonary nodules at an early stage before clinical symptoms appear, which significantly reduces mortality associated with lung cancer [38].

The National Lung Screening Trial (NLST) demonstrated that LD-CT screening reduced lung-cancer-related deaths by 20% when compared with traditional chest X-ray screening [38,39]. This has led to LD-CT becoming the globally recommended screening method, particularly in developed healthcare systems. However, a limitation of LD-CT is its tendency to generate false-positive results due to benign nodules, infections, or inflammatory lesions appearing similar to malignant nodules [39].

To improve diagnostic accuracy, PET-CT (Positron Emission Tomography – CT) is used where the metabolic activity of lung tissue is visualised. Cancerous tissues show high glucose uptake, helping distinguish malignant from benign lesions [40]. PET-CT is also widely used to determine cancer spread (metastasis) and thus plays a crucial role in staging and treatment planning.

MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging), although less commonly used for lung parenchyma due to motion artifacts, is especially valuable for detecting brain and bone metastasis in advanced lung cancer patients [41]. Meanwhile, Chest X-rays, though historically used, are no longer recommended for screening due to poor sensitivity and inability to detect small early-stage tumors [38].

The World Health Organization (WHO) lung tumor classification (2021) emphasises integrating imaging findings with biopsy, molecular testing, and histopathology for confirmatory diagnosis, showing that imaging is a gateway step rather than a standalone diagnostic tool [41].

2) Deep Learning (DL) and Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) in Lung Cancer Diagnosis

Deep Learning (DL) techniques, particularly Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), are widely used for the detection and classification of pulmonary nodules in lung cancer imaging. (44)

CNN-based models automatically learn imaging features from CT scans, eliminating the need for manual feature selection used in traditional radiomics approaches. (42) A landmark study by Google Health demonstrated that a deep CNN system outperformed board-certified radiologists in detecting early-stage lung cancer from low-dose CT scans. (43)

CNNs are also effective in classifying nodules as benign or malignant by analyzing shape irregularity, texture heterogeneity, and growth patterns. (46)

Furthermore, deep radiomics models can predict tumor molecular characteristics such as EGFR and KRAS mutation status directly from imaging data, allowing noninvasive personalized therapy decisions.

CNN-based evaluation also supports treatment response monitoring, identifying early changes in tumor volume and metabolic activity that are not visually noticeable. (46) Thus, DL and CNNs significantly improve early detection, diagnostic accuracy, staging precision, and personalized treatment planning in lung cancer.

3) Radiomics in Lung Cancer:

Radiomics is an advanced computational technique that converts medical images into a high-dimensional dataset of quantitative features, enabling the objective assessment of tumour phenotype and behaviour (42). Unlike traditional radiology, which depends on visual interpretation, radiomics extracts mathematical descriptors of tumor texture, shape, edge sharpness, pixel distribution, and temporal changes from CT, MRI, and PET scans (49). These quantitative parameters allow clinicians to identify tumor heterogeneity, which is strongly associated with aggressiveness, metastatic potential, and treatment resistance in lung cancer (47).

In lung cancer diagnosis, radiomics has shown significant accuracy in differentiating benign pulmonary nodules from malignant lesions by analyzing subtle texture patterns that are not visible to the human eye. Radiomic signatures have also been successfully integrated into predictive models for TNM staging, response to targeted therapy, immune therapy response classification, and prediction of overall survival in NSCLC patients. Additionally, radiomics supports early detection of recurrence by identifying microstructural variations before they are noticeable on routine imaging (50).

A major advancement within radiomics is radiogenomics, which correlates imaging features with specific gene expression profiles. This enables the non-invasive prediction of key driver mutations such as EGFR, ALK, and KRAS, reducing the need for repeated invasive biopsies in lung cancer management. Studies have verified that radiomics can predict EGFR mutation status from CT features with clinically relevant accuracy, supporting precision medicine approaches (51).

The performance of radiomics significantly improves when combined with deep learning and machine learning classifiers, which help interpret complex imagederived data and establish diagnostic and prognostic algorithms (48). These integrated models are now being incorporated into clinical decision-support systems and image-based treatment planning workflows. As a result, radiomics provides reproducible, quantitative, and non-invasive biomarkers, making it a key technology for personalized lung cancer diagnosis, prognosis, and continuous therapy monitoring.

4) Computer-Aided Drug Design (CADD) in Lung Cancer:

Computer-Aided Drug Design (CADD) utilizes computational tools to identify and optimize drug molecules that target key proteins involved in lung cancer progression. It reduces experimental workload, accelerates lead discovery, and increases precision by predicting molecular interactions before synthesis. CADD has become essential for discovering inhibitors against oncogenic targets like EGFR, ALK, KRAS, and PD-L1, which drive lung tumor growth and metastasis (52).

4.1) Molecular Docking:

Molecular docking predicts the binding orientation and affinity of small molecules to target proteins, helping identify potent inhibitors. In lung cancer, docking is heavily used to design EGFR inhibitors. For example, several quinazolinone derivatives were docked against EGFR, and high-affinity compounds showed significantly improved anti-proliferative activity in vitro, confirming docking accuracy (53).

4.2) Virtual Screening:

Virtual Screening (VS) screens large chemical libraries computationally to shortlist promising drug candidates. Structure-based VS identifies molecules that complement the shape of oncogenic proteins. For instance, virtual screening helped discover novel KRAS-G12C inhibitors which progressed into clinical trials, demonstrating VS as a direct pipeline to real therapeutic candidates (54).

4.3) Pharmacophore Modeling:

Pharmacophore modeling identifies the essential chemical features required for biological activity. In lung cancer research, pharmacophore models for ALK tyrosine kinase inhibitors enabled the rational design of next-generation drugs like brigatinib that overcome resistance caused by ALK mutations (55).

4.4) Molecular Dynamics (MD) Simulation:

Molecular Dynamics simulation evaluates the stability of drug-protein binding under physiological conditions. MD simulations have validated that EGFR inhibitors remain stably bound even after mutation-induced conformational changes, supporting their clinical relevance for patients with acquired resistance.

4.5) ADMET & Toxicity Prediction:

ADMET analysis predicts absorption, distribution, metabolism, excretion, and toxicity profiles before synthesis. Computational ADMET screening helped eliminate lung-cancer drug candidates with cardiotoxicity or poor metabolic stability early, reducing laboratory cost and failure rate (56).

5) AI-Assisted Pathology in Lung Cancer:

Artificial intelligence (AI) has transformed histopathology by enabling automated detection and classification of lung cancer directly from digitized tissue slides. (57) AI models reduce the dependency on manual microscopic inspection and minimize inter-observer variation among pathologists. (57)

Deep learning models, particularly Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), can analyze whole-slide images (WSIs) and identify tumor regions with accuracy comparable to expert pathologists. (58)

In lung cancer, CNNs have been used to distinguish adenocarcinoma from squamous cell carcinoma, achieving high classification accuracy and providing explainable heatmaps for tumor localization. (58)

AI-assisted pathology also improves prognostic prediction by extracting morphological patterns that are not visible to the human eye. (59)

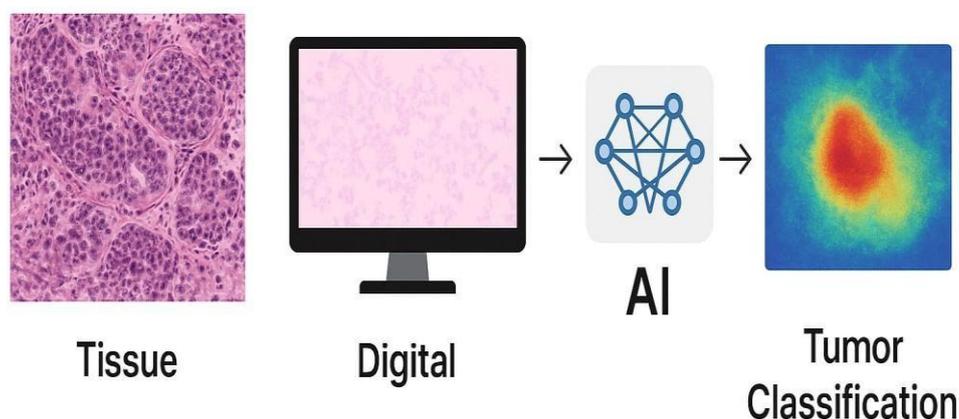
These models integrate histopathological patterns with patient survival data to generate personalized risk scores, supporting clinical decision-making. (59)

Recent advancements combine AI pathology with immune profiling to predict the response to immunotherapy in lung cancer patients. (60)

This approach allows selection of patients who are more likely to benefit from PD-

1/PD-L1 checkpoint inhibitors, avoiding unnecessary toxicity and cost. (60) AI-assisted pathology improves lung cancer diagnosis by reducing subjectivity and increasing accuracy compared to conventional microscopic examination. Deep learning-based CNN models trained on whole-slide images can classify tumor types and even predict key genetic alterations (like EGFR, ALK, PD-L1) directly from H&E slides, reducing dependence on costly molecular tests (58). AI tools also quantify tumor microenvironment features such as immune cell density and stromal composition, helping predict response to immunotherapy (60). Additionally, AI enhances workflow efficiency by automating tissue segmentation, grading, and artifact removal, leading to faster and more consistent reporting in pathology labs (61).

AI-Assisted Pathology in Lung Cancer



• AI – NANOTECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION IN LUNG CANCER

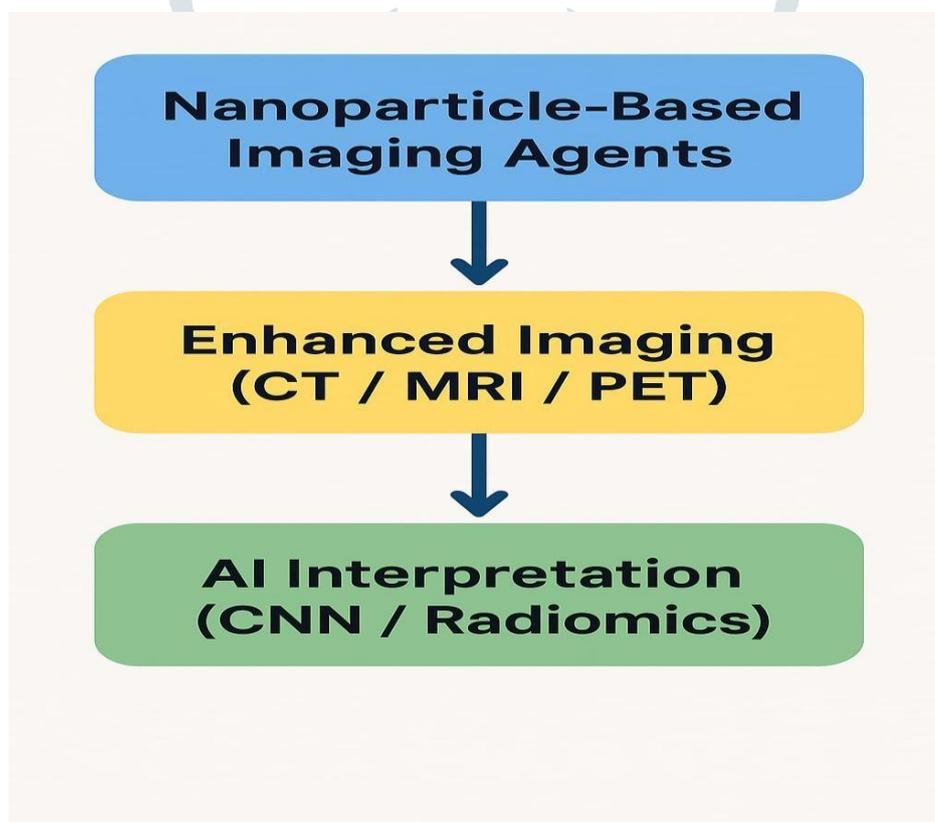
1) **Rationale for Integration of Computerized Techniques and Nanotechnology:** Lung cancer continues to be one of the leading causes of cancer-related deaths, mainly due to late diagnosis, high tumor heterogeneity, and limited response to generalized treatment approaches (62). Conventional chemotherapy distributes drugs throughout the body, causing systemic toxicity and reducing therapeutic efficiency (63). Nanotechnology-based drug delivery systems offer advantages such as improved drug solubility, protection of therapeutic agents, targeted delivery to tumor tissues, and controlled drug release (64). However, designing the optimal nanocarrier requires precise selection of particle size, surface charge, ligand molecular arrangement, and release kinetics, which is challenging because tumor characteristics vary significantly among patients (65).

Computerized diagnostic techniques, including deep learning, radiomics, and AI-driven histopathological analysis, enable quantitative characterization of tumor morphology and behavior, revealing inter-patient heterogeneity more accurately than conventional imaging (66). Integrating this computational profiling with nanotechnology allows development of personalized nano-therapeutic systems, where nanocarrier composition and drug loading are tailored specifically to the patient's tumor biology (67). Additionally, AI-based predictive monitoring models can assess response to nanotherapy through real-time imaging feedback and adjust treatment dosage or formulation dynamically (68). Thus, combining computerized diagnostic systems with nanotechnology ensures more precise diagnosis, individualised treatment planning, targeted drug delivery, and adaptive monitoring in lung cancer therapy (69).

2) AI-Enhanced Nano-Based Imaging for Early Lung Cancer Detection:

Early detection of lung cancer remains a major clinical challenge due to the small size and deep localization of early-stage tumors. Nanoparticle-based imaging agents, when combined with AI-driven image interpretation, significantly improve tumor visibility and diagnostic accuracy. Gold nanoparticles, quantum dots, and superparamagnetic iron oxide nanoparticles (SPIONs) are commonly used due to their strong optical and magnetic properties. These nanoparticles selectively accumulate in tumor tissues through mechanisms such as EPR (Enhanced Permeability and Retention) effect and receptor-mediated targeting to overexpressed biomarkers such as EGFR, PD-L1, MUC1, and VEGF on lung cancer cells [70].

Once administered, these nanoparticles enhance contrast during CT, MRI, PET, or fluorescence imaging, improving tumor boundary clarity. However, interpretation of imaging still requires high expertise and is prone to human error. This is where AI algorithms, particularly Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) and Radiomics-based classifiers, enable automated feature extraction including tumor texture, irregularity, nodule shape, and growth rate patterns, which cannot be reliably assessed by the human eye [71]. These systems reduce false positives in CT scans (common in benign nodules) and increase the sensitivity of detecting small, early-stage malignant nodules (<6 mm), which are often overlooked in routine screening [72]. Moreover, AI-enhanced nanoimaging enables dynamic monitoring of treatment response. Nanoparticles that are activated by tumor microenvironmental factors (e.g., pH-sensitive, ROS-responsive systems) provide real-time imaging feedback, allowing physicians to evaluate whether the therapy is working, adjust dosages, or switch treatment approaches earlier than conventional assessment methods [73]. This combined nanoscale imaging and AI-based interpretation thus leads to more accurate diagnosis, earlier intervention, reduced biopsy dependency, and improved personalized treatment planning.



3) Synergistic Therapeutic Platforms (Computerized + Nanotechnology CoApplication):

The integration of nanotechnology with AI-driven computerized systems has enabled the development of combined therapeutic platforms that allow controlled drug release, tumor-specific targeting, and real-time monitoring of treatment response. Nanocarriers such as liposomes, polymeric nanoparticles, dendrimers, and metallic nanoshells can be engineered to carry both anticancer drugs and imaging agents at the same time, enabling theranostic applications. AI algorithms assist in predicting optimal nanoparticle size, surface charge, ligand density, and drug loading efficiency based on tumor microenvironment data, improving delivery precision and minimizing toxicity to normal tissues (74).

Computerized systems also assist in treatment planning, where imaging data (CT/PET/MRI) is processed using machine learning models to identify regions of hypoxia, angiogenesis, and drug-resistant tumor clusters, allowing personalized dosage adjustments and selection of nanoparticle formulations (75). Additionally, AI-guided photothermal

and photodynamic therapy utilizes nanoparticles such as gold nanorods and graphene quantum dots, which convert external laser/light exposure into localized tumor cell destruction while minimizing systemic damage (76). These combined platforms significantly enhance therapeutic efficiency, reduce recurrence rates, and improve overall survival outcomes in lung cancer patients (60).

4) Nano-enabled AI-Assisted Drug Delivery and Targeted Therapy in Lung Cancer:

AI-assisted nanocarrier systems enable precise drug delivery to lung tumor tissues by optimizing nanoparticle properties such as particle size, ligand density, surface charge, and release kinetics based on computational tumor profiling. In lung cancer, the tumor microenvironment exhibits characteristics such as high interstitial pressure, hypoxia, and elevated ROS levels, which conventional chemotherapy fails to address efficiently. Nanoparticles such as liposomes, polymeric nanoparticles, solid lipid nanoparticles, dendrimers, and metallic nanoshells are engineered to exploit features like the Enhanced Permeability and Retention (EPR) effect and active ligand-mediated targeting directed toward tumor-specific receptors including EGFR, PD-L1, MUC1, and VEGF (61). AI models analyze patient genomic and radiomic signatures to predict which receptor-target pairs will yield maximum therapeutic uptake, thereby reducing off-target toxicity and systemic side effects (33).

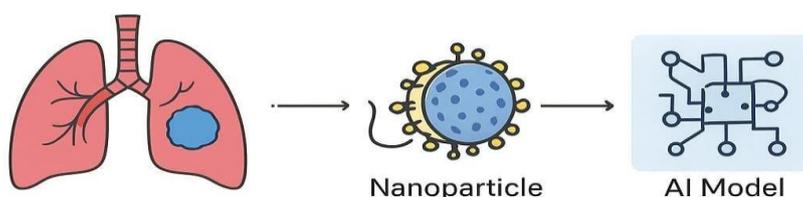
Additionally, AI-driven predictive release algorithms allow real-time modulation of drug release through stimuli-responsive nanocarrier systems that respond to pH changes, hypoxia gradients, or enzymatic signatures within lung tumor tissues (23). For example, pH-sensitive liposomal formulations remain stable in systemic circulation but rapidly release anticancer drugs in the acidic tumor microenvironment. Similarly, ROS-sensitive polymeric nanocarriers release loaded drugs upon encountering elevated reactive oxygen species inside tumor cells, enhancing intracellular cytotoxicity (55). These combined AI-guided nanomedicine strategies significantly improve treatment precision, delay resistance development, and enhance overall therapeutic outcomes in lung cancer patients (69).

This diagram (4.1) illustrates how AI-assisted nanotechnology is used to deliver anticancer drugs specifically to lung tumor tissues. Lung tumors have a unique microenvironment characterized by high interstitial pressure, hypoxia, and elevated ROS levels, which makes drug penetration difficult. Nanoparticles such as liposomes, polymeric nanoparticles, solid lipid nanoparticles, dendrimers, and metallic nanoshells are engineered to carry drugs directly to the tumor site.

AI models analyze imaging data and tumor biology to determine the optimal nanoparticle size, surface charge, and ligand density, improving drug targeting and reducing side effects. Targeting strategies include the EPR effect and binding to tumor-specific receptors like EGFR, PD-L1, MUC1, and VEGF, ensuring precise drug accumulation in lung cancer cells while sparing healthy tissue.

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NANO-ENABLED AI-ASSISTED DRUG DELIVERY AND TARGETED THERAPY IN LUNG CANCER

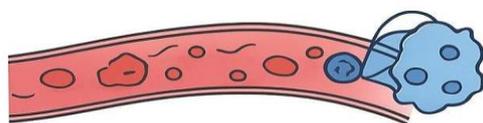


Precise drug delivery to lung tumor tissues

Tumor microenvironment:
high interstitial pressure,
hypoxia, elevated ROS levels

Nanoparticles:

- liposomes, polymeric nanoparticles
- solid lipid nanoparticles, dendrimers
- metallic nanoshells



Targeting:

- EPR effect, tumor-specific receptors (EGFR, PD-L1, MUC1, VEGF)

5) AI-Guided Nano-Immunotherapy in Lung Cancer:

Immunotherapy has become a major treatment approach in lung cancer, particularly through immune checkpoint inhibitors such as PD-1/PD-L1 and CTLA-4 blockers. However, several patients show limited therapeutic response due to tumor immune evasion, poor T-cell infiltration, and high intratumoral heterogeneity.

Nanotechnology-based delivery systems help overcome these limitations by transporting immunomodulators, cytokines, neoantigen peptides, or siRNA directly to the tumor site, achieving better stability, improved biodistribution, and enhanced targeting efficiency, while minimizing systemic toxicity (75).

Commonly used nanocarriers in lung cancer immunotherapy include:

- Lipid nanoparticles
- Polymeric nanoparticles
- Exosomes

- Nanogels

These platforms enhance antigen presentation, promote T-cell activation, and facilitate immune-mediated tumor destruction. Additionally, AI-driven computational tools enable detailed profiling of the tumor immune microenvironment using radiomics, digital histopathology, and multi-omics data to classify tumors as:

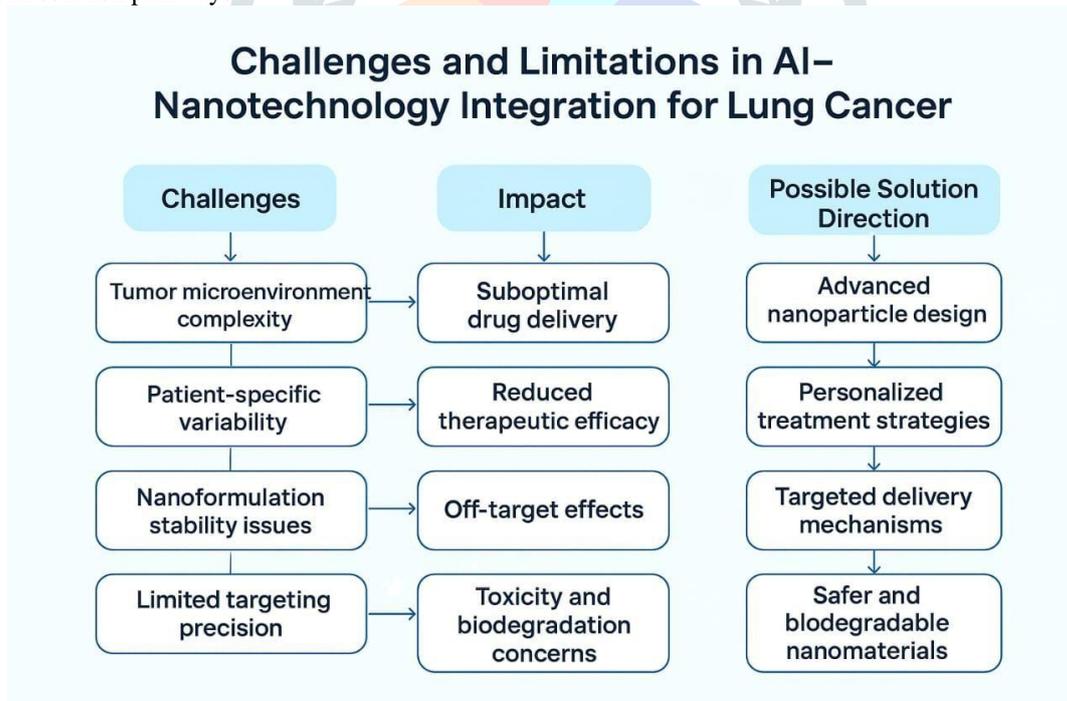
- Immuno-responsive (hot)
- Immuno-suppressive (cold)

This assists in selecting which patients will benefit from immunotherapy and in predicting optimal nanoparticle composition, surface ligand density, and drug loading based on individualized tumor characteristics (75).

The integration of AI-based immune profiling with nano-enabled immunotherapy leads to:

- Improved T-cell infiltration
- Reversal of immunosuppressive tumor environment
- Reduced treatment resistance
- Lower recurrence probability
- Increased progression-free and overall survival in lung cancer patients (27).
- Challenges and Limitations in Computerized–Nanotechnology Integration for Lung Cancer

This diagram (5.1) highlights the key barriers in implementing AI-assisted nanomedicine for lung cancer therapy, along with their clinical impact and potential solution pathways.



MERITS AND DEMERITS OF COMPUTERIZED TECHNIQUE:

Computerized Technique	Merits	Demerits	Reference
AI / Deep-learning Computer-Aided Diagnosis (CADx)	Improves sensitivity and consistency of nodule detection and assists radiologists in early detection and triage.	Model bias and variable performance; requires large, well-curated datasets and external validation.	(77)
Radiomics + Machine Learning (Quantitative Image-Feature Biomarkers)	Extracts quantitative imaging features to generate non-invasive prognostic biomarkers and integrates with genomics.	Reproducibility and standardization issues; many models lack external validation.	(78)
AI / Computational Multi-omics & Predictive Models	Combines imaging, genomic, and clinical data for personalized treatment and survival prediction.	Needs large, annotated datasets and interpretability; limited regulatory and clinical validation.	(79)
In-silico Design & Computational Optimization of Nanocarriers	Accelerates nanocarrier development, optimizes drug loading and release, predicts biodistribution.	Simplifies biological systems; safety and toxicity remain major challenges.	(80)
Computer-Aided Nanodiagnosics & Nanoparticle-Enhanced Imaging	Enhances imaging sensitivity and enables molecular/early detection with AI interpretation.	Nanoparticle safety, clearance, and high costs limit widespread use.	(82)
Computational Control & Navigation for Microrobots / Nanorobots	Provides precise drug delivery and combined diagnostic–therapeutic (theranostic) functions.	Mostly preclinical; immune clearance, safety, and translation challenges remain.	(80)

- **Conclusion:**

- The convergence of computerized technologies and nanotechnology is transforming lung cancer management by moving from conventional, broad-spectrum interventions toward personalized, data-driven therapy. Artificial intelligence enhances diagnostic precision through improved imaging interpretation, tumor characterization, and treatment prediction models, while nanocarrier-based drug delivery systems increase therapeutic specificity and minimize systemic toxicity. Moreover, the emergence of theranostic nanoplateforms enables simultaneous diagnosis and real-time monitoring of therapeutic outcomes.

- Despite these advances, translation to routine clinical practice remains limited. Tumor microenvironment complexity, nanoparticle instability in physiological conditions, insufficient standardized clinical datasets, and the limited interpretability of AI algorithms represent major barriers to large-scale implementation. Therefore, the integrated AI–nanotechnology strategy remains promising but not yet clinically mature. Future progress will require robust multi-center clinical trials, transparent and explainable AI

systems, improved biocompatibility of nanomaterials, and cost-effective manufacturing approaches to ensure safe, reliable, and accessible application in real-world lung cancer care

Future scope :

Future progress in lung cancer management will depend on the stronger integration of AI-driven computational models with nanotechnology-enabled drug delivery systems.

As large-scale, multi-center imaging and genomic datasets become more standardized, AI models will be able to more accurately differentiate early-stage lesions, predict metastatic potential, and stratify patients based on individualized risk profiles. In parallel, advances in nanoparticle engineering—particularly stimuli-responsive, surface-functionalized, and multi-drug-loaded nanocarriers—are expected to significantly improve controlled drug release and tumor-specific accumulation within the complex lung tumor microenvironment.

The next phase of development is likely to focus on AI-guided theranostic nanosystems, where diagnosis, targeted therapy, and real-time treatment monitoring are integrated into a single platform. This may reduce recurrence rates and minimize systemic toxicity. However, the transition from laboratory research to widespread clinical use will require overcoming barriers such as long-term biosafety validation, scalable and cost-effective nanoparticle manufacturing, transparent AI decisionmaking, and streamlined regulatory approval pathways. Strong collaboration between oncologists, nanomaterial scientists, and computational model developers will be critical to translate these technologies from controlled experimental settings into routine clinical practice.

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