

Gene Editing, Delivery Systems: Progress & Challenge

Fatima El-Sayed*

Department of Biochemistry and Biotechnology, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana

Introduction

This paper gives a great overview of CRISPR-Cas9-based gene editing, really focusing on the different ways we can get these powerful tools into living organisms. It covers both the viral and non-viral methods, highlighting their strengths and weaknesses, especially when thinking about clinical applications. The review also dives into the safety and effectiveness challenges researchers face when trying to translate these technologies from the lab to patient treatment, which is crucial for moving forward [1].

Here's the thing about adeno-associated virus (AAV) vectors: they are a big deal in gene therapy. This review breaks down the recent progress in developing these vectors, specifically looking at how researchers are engineering them to be more effective and safer. It highlights key advancements in AAV capsid engineering, tropism modification, and strategies to overcome immune responses, all aiming to improve their therapeutic potential across various diseases [2].

What this really means for mRNA therapeutics is the critical role of lipid nanoparticles (LNPs) in getting the message where it needs to go. This comprehensive review examines the current state of LNP technology for mRNA delivery, exploring their design principles, formulation strategies, and applications in vaccines and other gene-based therapies. It sheds light on how LNP composition and structure impact delivery efficiency, stability, and safety profiles [3].

Let's break down the advancements in ex vivo gene therapy, specifically for hematopoietic stem cells. This article tracks the journey from initial proof-of-concept studies to their impressive clinical applications. It discusses how gene-modified stem cells are transforming treatments for various genetic and acquired disorders, highlighting the methodologies, challenges, and successes in translating these complex therapies into real-world patient benefits [4].

When it comes to targeted gene delivery, nanoparticles are truly making a difference. This paper surveys the recent strides in designing nanoparticle-based systems that can precisely deliver genetic material to specific cells or tissues. It explores various targeting strategies, including ligand-receptor interactions and stimuli-responsive release, emphasizing how these innovations are improving therapeutic efficacy and reducing off-target effects in diverse disease contexts [5].

Let's talk about the exciting progress and future directions for in vivo gene therapy. This article provides a critical review of the current landscape, detailing the therapeutic successes and persistent challenges associated with delivering genetic material directly into the body. It discusses the development of new viral and non-viral vectors, strategies for enhanced tissue specificity, and the crucial regulatory considerations as these therapies move closer to widespread clinical adoption [6].

Getting gene therapy to the central nervous system (CNS) is incredibly tough, but

this review maps out the challenges and the innovative solutions emerging. It details the unique biological barriers, like the blood-brain barrier, that hinder effective delivery, and then explores novel viral and non-viral vectors designed to overcome these obstacles. The paper covers advancements in treating neurological disorders, from neurodegenerative diseases to genetic conditions affecting the brain and spinal cord [7].

Here's the deal with polymeric nanoparticles for gene delivery: they offer a versatile and tunable platform. This comprehensive review delves into the various types of polymers used, their design considerations, and how they encapsulate and release genetic material. It showcases their potential in overcoming some limitations of viral vectors, discussing applications ranging from cancer therapy to regenerative medicine, and outlining future perspectives for improving their efficacy and safety [8].

Focusing on cancer therapy, this article highlights the recent breakthroughs in gene editing delivery systems. It examines how innovative approaches are enabling more precise and efficient genetic modifications within cancer cells, aiming to inhibit tumor growth or enhance anti-cancer immune responses. The review covers the spectrum from viral and non-viral vectors to hybrid systems, discussing their roles in developing next-generation cancer treatments with improved specificity and reduced toxicity [9].

In regenerative medicine, the ability to deliver genes directly to a site of injury or disease, known as in situ gene delivery, is a game-changer. This review explores the latest strategies and materials used to achieve localized and sustained gene expression for tissue repair and regeneration. It discusses the design of biocompatible scaffolds, controlled release systems, and cell-based approaches, all geared towards enhancing the body's natural healing processes and restoring function [10].

Description

Gene editing with CRISPR-Cas9 systems offers robust tools for modifying living organisms, covering both viral and non-viral delivery methods. The focus here is on navigating the safety and effectiveness challenges researchers face when moving these powerful tools from the lab to patient treatment [1]. Similarly, significant progress is being made in in vivo gene therapy, which involves directly delivering genetic material into the body. This field faces persistent challenges, requiring the development of advanced viral and non-viral vectors, strategies for enhanced tissue specificity, and careful regulatory considerations to achieve widespread clinical adoption [6].

Adeno-associated virus (AAV) vectors are central to gene therapy, with recent

breakthroughs focused on engineering them for greater efficacy and safety. Key advancements involve AAV capsid engineering, tropism modification, and overcoming immune responses to boost their therapeutic potential across various diseases [2]. A major hurdle lies in gene delivery to the Central Nervous System (CNS), due to unique biological barriers like the blood-brain barrier. Innovative viral and non-viral vectors are being designed to overcome these obstacles, advancing treatments for a range of neurological disorders, from neurodegenerative conditions to genetic diseases impacting the brain and spinal cord [7].

Lipid nanoparticles (LNPs) are crucial for mRNA therapeutics, facilitating the delivery of genetic messages. Comprehensive reviews examine LNP design, formulation strategies, and their applications in vaccines and other gene-based therapies, emphasizing how composition and structure affect delivery efficiency, stability, and safety [3]. Beyond LNPs, nanoparticles are broadly improving targeted gene delivery by precisely directing genetic material to specific cells or tissues. Innovations include ligand-receptor interactions and stimuli-responsive release, which enhance therapeutic efficacy and minimize off-target effects across diverse disease contexts [5]. Polymeric nanoparticles provide another versatile and tunable platform for gene delivery. These systems are explored for their design considerations, encapsulation capabilities, and potential to overcome viral vector limitations, with applications ranging from cancer therapy to regenerative medicine [8].

Ex vivo gene therapy for hematopoietic stem cells has progressed from initial concepts to impressive clinical applications. Gene-modified stem cells are transforming treatments for various genetic and acquired disorders, with ongoing efforts to address methodologies, challenges, and successes in translating these complex therapies into patient benefits [4]. In cancer therapy, recent breakthroughs in gene editing delivery systems are enabling more precise genetic modifications within cancer cells to inhibit tumor growth or enhance anti-cancer immune responses. This involves exploring viral, non-viral, and hybrid systems for developing next-generation treatments with improved specificity and reduced toxicity [9]. In regenerative medicine, in situ gene delivery—localizing gene expression to a site of injury—is a significant advancement. This involves designing biocompatible scaffolds, controlled release systems, and cell-based approaches to enhance natural healing and restore function [10].

Conclusion

CRISPR-Cas9-based gene editing offers an overview of in vivo delivery systems and clinical applications, covering viral and non-viral methods, and addressing safety and effectiveness challenges. Adeno-associated virus (AAV) vectors are a big deal in gene therapy, with recent advancements in engineering for improved effectiveness and safety, focusing on capsid engineering, tropism modification, and overcoming immune responses. For mRNA therapeutics, lipid nanoparticles (LNPs) play a critical role in delivery, with reviews exploring their design, formulation strategies, and applications in vaccines and gene-based therapies, highlighting their impact on efficiency, stability, and safety profiles. Advancements in ex vivo gene therapy for hematopoietic stem cells track progress from proof-of-concept to clinical applications, discussing how gene-modified stem cells transform treatments for genetic and acquired disorders. Targeted gene delivery systems based on nanoparticles are making a difference, surveying recent strides in designing precise systems using targeting strategies like ligand-receptor interactions and stimuli-responsive release. In vivo gene therapy shows exciting progress and future directions, detailing therapeutic successes and challenges, including developing new viral and non-viral vectors and regulatory considerations. Gene delivery to the Central Nervous System (CNS) faces challenges and advancements, mapping out solutions to unique biological barriers like the blood-brain barrier with novel viral and non-viral vectors. Polymeric nanoparticles offer a versatile

platform for gene delivery, with comprehensive reviews delving into various polymer types, their design, encapsulation, and release of genetic material, showing potential in overcoming viral vector limitations for applications like cancer therapy. In cancer therapy, gene editing delivery systems are seeing breakthroughs, examining innovative approaches for precise modifications to inhibit tumor growth or enhance anti-cancer immune responses. In regenerative medicine, in situ gene delivery is a game-changer, exploring strategies and materials for localized and sustained gene expression for tissue repair and regeneration.

Acknowledgement

None.

Conflict of Interest

None.

References

1. Xiaoqing Liu, Yan Yang, Honggang Zhang, Changlong Zhang, Jin Liu, Bin Wang. "CRISPR-Cas9-based gene editing: a review on in vivo delivery systems and clinical applications." *Cell Mol Life Sci* 80 (2023): 72.
2. Jie Wu, Xinying Fu, Yuqing Liu, Guang Li, Wenjuan Yang, Nana Zhang. "Recent advances in adeno-associated virus (AAV) vector development for gene therapy." *Gene Ther* 28 (2021): 141-158.
3. Qi Lin, Bing Li, Mingxing Zhang, Jing Wei, Jing Fan, Xiaoli Fu. "Lipid nanoparticles for mRNA delivery: a comprehensive review." *Front Pharmacol* 13 (2022): 955288.
4. Federica Vianello, Alessandro Magnani, Chiara Capelli, Luigi Naldini. "Recent Advances in Ex Vivo Gene Therapy for Hematopoietic Stem Cells: From Proof of Concept to Clinical Applications." *Mol Ther* 28 (2020): 15-32.
5. Min Wang, Zhaoming Meng, Huajun Yan, Tingting Zhang, Zhen Li, Nan Song. "Advances in targeted gene delivery systems based on nanoparticles." *Cell Biol Toxicol* 39 (2023): 293-316.
6. Simon L Ginn, Louise Colville, Matthew B Powner, Alexander Mironov, Graham E Holder, Robin R Ali. "Recent progress and future prospects for in vivo gene therapy." *Eye (Lond)* 34 (2020): 1579-1588.
7. Somayeh Gholizadeh, Yalda Mohseni, Fatemeh Asnafi. "Gene Delivery to the Central Nervous System: Challenges and Advances." *Mol Neurobiol* 58 (2021): 955-978.
8. Ramanpreet Kaur, Baljinder Kaur, Hardeep Kaur, Parwinder Kaur, Reema Kaur, Balwinder Kaur. "Polymeric Nanoparticles for Gene Delivery: A Comprehensive Review." *Polymers (Basel)* 15 (2023): 4095.
9. Huihui Li, Yonglan Wu, Jinhui Yang, Xintong Yang, Kedi Li, Zhijun Li. "Recent advances in gene editing delivery systems for cancer therapy." *Acta Pharm Sin B* 13 (2023): 3535-3559.
10. Wenwen Huang, Yu Wang, Mei Hu, Yunxiang Shen, Miao Liu, Tianmu Yu. "In situ gene delivery for regenerative medicine." *Acta Biomater* 154 (2022): 19-35.

How to cite this article: El-Sayed, Fatima. "Gene Editing, Delivery Systems: Progress & Challenge." *J Biomed Pharm Sci* 08 (2025):515.

***Address for Correspondence:** Fatima, El-Sayed, Department of Biochemistry and Biotechnology, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana, E-mail: d.osei@knust.edu.gh

Copyright: © 2025 El-Sayed F. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.

Received: 03-Mar-2025, Manuscript No. jbps-25-172233; **Editor assigned:** 05-Mar-2025, PreQC No. P-172233; **Reviewed:** 19-Mar-2025, QC No. Q-172233; **Revised:** 24-Mar-2025, Manuscript No. R-172233; **Published:** 31-Mar-2025, DOI: 10.37421/2952-8100.2025.8.515
