

Available online on 15.04.2019 at <http://jddtonline.info>

## Journal of Drug Delivery and Therapeutics

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Review Article

### Micro-RNA: biomarker for the treatment of cancer

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#### ABSTRACT

MicroRNAs (miRNAs) are presently experiencing a renewed height of attention not simplest as diagnostics, however specifically as noticeably promising novel objectives or gear for medical therapy in several different malignant diseases. MicroRNAs have emerged as key publish-transcriptional regulators of gene expression, involved in diverse physiological and pathological approaches. It changed into located that several miRNAs are without delay worried in human cancers, along with lung, breast, mind, liver, colon most cancers and leukemia. Biomarkers have many capacity packages in oncology, together with danger assessment, screening, differential analysis, dedication of analysis, prediction of reaction to treatment, and tracking of progression of disease. In this evaluation, we summarize the present day know-how and ideas concerning the involvement of microRNAs in cancer, which have emerged from the take a look at of cellular tradition and animal model systems, which includes the regulation of key cancer-related pathways, which include mobile cycle control and the DNA damage response. Importantly, microRNA molecules are already getting into the health facility as diagnostic and prognostic biomarkers for patient stratification and also as therapeutic targets and marketers.

**Keywords:** MiRNA, Biomarkers, cancer.

**Article Info:** Received 13 Feb 2019; Review Completed 22 March 2019; Accepted 24 March 2019; Available online 15 April 2019



#### Cite this article as:

Nawale V, Darekar A, Saudagar R, Micro-RNA: biomarker for the treatment of cancer, Journal of Drug Delivery and Therapeutics. 2019; 9(2-s):511-524 <http://dx.doi.org/10.22270/jddt.v9i2-s.2464>

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#### INTRODUCTION

The discovery of lin-four in *Caenorhabditis elegans*, the primary microRNA (miRNA), caused the identity of numerous hundred other miRNA molecules. MiRNAs are quick noncoding RNA molecules of approximately 19-24 nucleotides in length and are a big magnificence, with greater than 1,000 participants, of small-regulatory RNAs in mammalian genomes.<sup>1-2</sup> MiRNAs had been originally identified as small non-coding RNAs that manipulate the timing of larval development in *Caenorhabditis elegans*. MiRNAs are quick, single stranded RNA molecules that serve as grasp regulators of gene expression. They have been extensively implicated in pathogenesis of numerous human illnesses, consisting of cancers.<sup>3-4</sup> About 20% of all annotated miRNAs proportion excessive conservation among primitive organisms together with *Caenorhabditis elegans* and *Homo sapiens*. It is thought that >60% of human genes are targeted by miRNAs, meditated through the excessive abundance of miRNAs in mammalian cells.

Deregulation of miRNAs in pathological procedures brought about a constantly growing amount of information connecting miRNAs to development of nonmalignant illnesses, as well as malignant illnesses including lung most

cancers and numerous hematological malignancies.<sup>5-6</sup> Their peculiar tiers in tumors have vital pathogenetic effects: miRNAs overexpressed in tumors contribute to oncogenesis by way of downregulating tumour suppressors.<sup>4</sup> For example, miR17-92 cluster reduces tumorigenic degrees of E2F1 transcription component in lymphomas, or miR-21 represses PTEN tumour suppressor in hepatocellular carcinomas. MiRNAs are first of all processed as a primary miRNA (primiRNA) transcript via RNA polymerase II (or by using RNA polymerase III in rare cases) and related transcription factors. The pri-miRNAs are further processed via Drosha, a nuclear RNase III enzyme, to produce precursor miRNAs (pre-miRNAs). The pre-miRNAs are then transported out of the nucleus into the cytoplasm in which they're similarly processed by means of the Dicer, some other RNase III-familial endonuclease, to emerge as w22 base-pairing (bp) miRNA duplexes. Mature miRNAs are then unwound from miRNA duplexes and loaded into the RNA-brought on silencing complex (RISC). The RISC with the mature miRNAs can modify gene expression by using binding to the mRNA transcripts of goal genes, normally on the 30 untranslated regions (30-UTRs). The miRNA-RISC complex can block translation of goal mRNA into protein and/or induce degradation of target mRNA transcript. On the

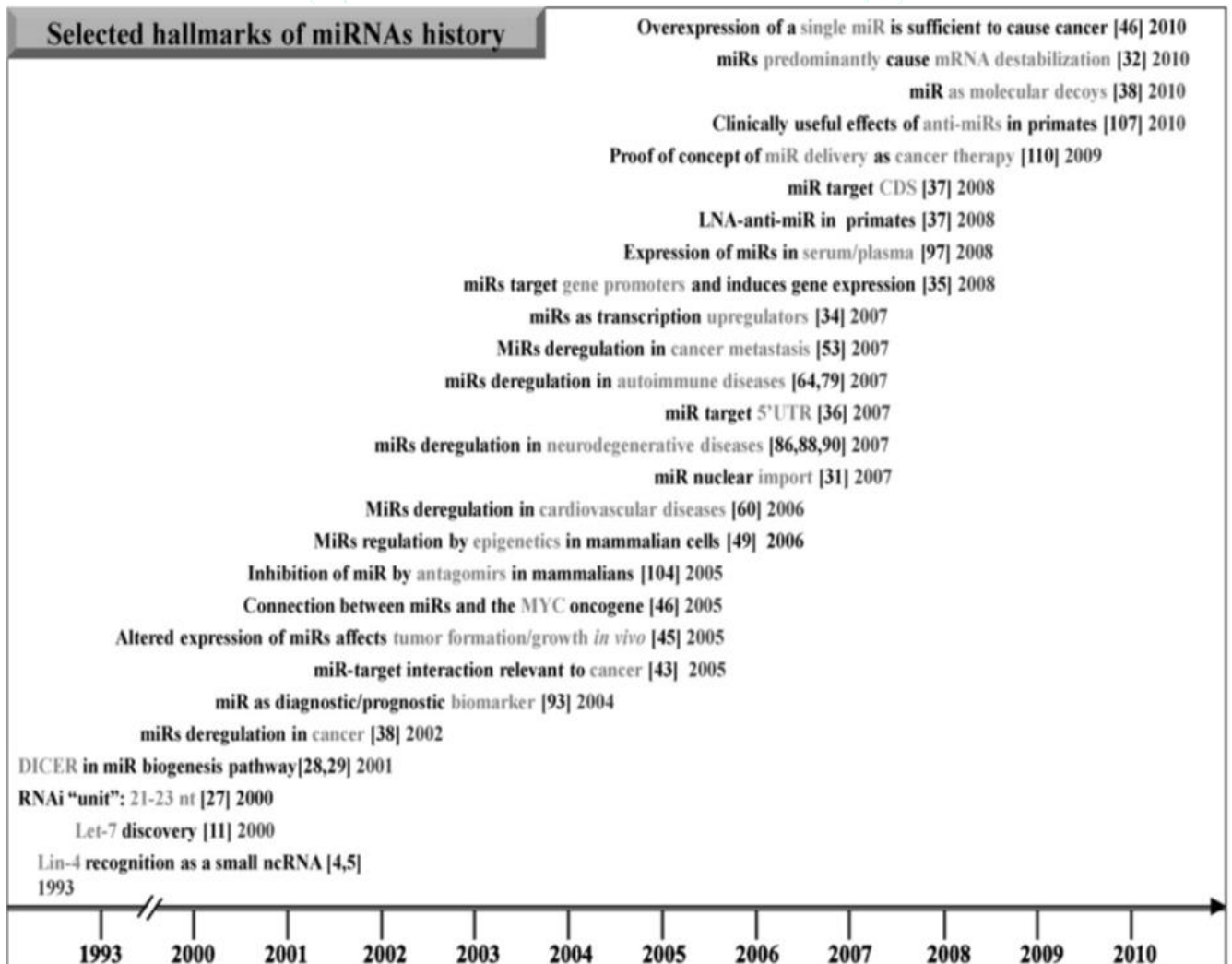
other hand, miRNAs lost by malignant cells usually result in oncogene overexpression. For example, allow-7 circle of relatives represses RAS, HMGA2 and MYC in lung cancers or miR-15a and miR-16-1 downregulate BCL2 in persistent lymphocytic leukemias and cyclin D1 in prostate most cancers and mantle cell lymphoma.<sup>4</sup>

## HISTORY OF miRNA:

### 1. Discovery of the first miRNA: lin-4

Lin-four become the first miRNA to be observed, in 1993, by using the joint efforts of Ambros's and Ruvkun's laboratories. In the nematode *Caenorhabditis elegans*, heterochronic genes manage the temporal development pattern of all larval ranges. One of those genes is lin-four, determined by means of the isolation of a null mutation that causes a failure in temporal development. Animals with lin4 loss-of-feature mutations are lacking a few adult structures, are incapable of laying eggs, and reiterate early improvement packages at inappropriate late larval stages. Lin-four interest is required for the transition from the L1 to L2 degree of larval improvement. In 1987, Ferguson et al., at Horvitz's laboratory, observed that a suppressor mutation in the gene lin-14 was able to revert the null-lin-four mutation phenotype. In truth, null mutations in lin-14 gene brought on an precisely contrary phenotype of the null-lin-four mutations. This exciting opposite phenotype among defects in lin-four and lin-14 genes indicated that lin-4 could

negatively alter lin-14. In 1989, Ambros labored with Ruvkun, at Horvitz's laboratory, to clone the lin-14 gene. At this time, the two colleagues followed two impartial research careers, with Ambros focusing on the lin-four gene and Ruvkun at the lin-14 gene. Ambros, together with Lee and Feinbaum, determined that a 700-bp fragment may want to incorporate lin-four gene however couldn't discover the traditional begin and stop codons. Even so, they introduced mutations within the putative open reading body however lin-four feature remained unchanged. Therefore, Ambros concluded that lin-four did now not encode a protein. In addition, they discovered two very small lin-4 transcripts of best 61 nt and 22 nt in period. On the opposite hand, Ruvkun and his colleagues Wightman and Ha found that lin-14 turned into downregulated at a posttranscriptional degree and that the lin-14 3' UTR area become sufficient for the temporal law. The two companies shared their unpublished information, and in June 1992 Ambros and Ruvkun independently got here to the equal conclusion: lin-4 transcripts have been complementary to a repeated sequence inside the three' UTR of the lin-14 gene. In December 1993, Ambros and Ruvkun independently pronounced within the identical difficulty of *Cell* that the small and non-protein-coding transcript lin-4 regulates lin-14 through its 3' UTR vicinity. A new surprising cellular regulatory mechanism concerning a non-protein-coding transcript were observed.<sup>7</sup>



**Figure 1:** Historical perspective on the evolution of our knowledge about miRNAs. miR: microRNA; UTR: untranslated regions; CDS: coding sequences; LNA: locked nucleic acid.<sup>7</sup>

## 2. Discovery of a second microRNA: Let-7

Likewise lin-4, permit-7 is a heterochronic gene of *C. Elegans* and was the second one miRNA to be observed, in 2000, seven years after the locating of the primary miRNA. Reinhart et al. At Ruvkun's laboratory said that permit-7 became a 21-nt RNA controlling the L4-to-adult transition of larval improvement. Loss of allow-7 interest causes reappearance of larval mobile fates for the duration of the adult stage of improvement, at the same time as accelerated let-7 pastime causes precocious expression of grownup fates. Remarkably, the authors determined that the retarded allow-7 phenotype should partly suppress lin-41 (a permit-7 target) lack of- function mutations. In reality, allow-7 is complementary to two closely spaced web sites in lin-41 3'UTR. Deletion of the lin-41 3'UTR place and permit-7 mutations abolish lin-41 downregulation, displaying that each partners are necessary for this mechanism. Let-7 controls late temporal transitions for the duration of improvement throughout animal phylogeny. Unlike lin-four, the permit-7 collection is conserved across species from flies to people, a reality that had a chief effect at the study of miRNAs in different organisms. Allow- 7 RNA become detected in vertebrate, ascidian, hemichordate, mollusk, annelid, and arthropod however now not in RNAs from plant and unicellular organisms. In human beings, it become detected at one-of-a-kind expression ranges in the majority of the tissues, which include mind, heart, kidney, liver, lung, trachea, colon, small gut, spleen, belly, and thymus. The allow-7 miRNA own family refers to miRNAs that proportion whole series identity with permit-7 on the 5' ends, termed seed areas, and consequently can adjust the identical objectives. The permit-7 family within humans accommodates 12 miRNAs. Some participants of the permit-7 family identified and functionally analyzed in *C. Elegans* consist of miR-forty eight, miR-84, and miR-241. These miRNAs act redundantly to manipulate the L2-to-L3 transition, by way of repressing hbl-1. Functional cooperation amongst miRNA own family members remains studied. The discovery that permit-7 is conserved throughout species caused a revolution within the research of a new class of small ncRNAs, referred to as miRNAs. Currently, hundreds of miRNAs had been recognized in people and other species, and miRNA on line sequences repositories, such as the miRbase database, are available. Furthermore, cutting-edge tools and software program advanced for miRNA goal prediction facilitate studies of miRNAs purposeful community.<sup>7</sup>

### Biomarker

It is stated that a disease begins while detected with the aid of the fine marker to be had to outline it. To date, this generally calls for the presence of a medical symptom, which frequently occurs nicely into the progression of an infection or disease. However, there's sizeable evidence that there are often early, pre-symptomatic biomarkers of contamination and sickness, which if detected, may also permit for earlier treatment.<sup>8</sup> As molecular signs of organic repute, biomarkers, detectable in blood, urine, or tissue, may be useful for the medical management of diverse ailment states. Threshold concentrations can be utilized to discover the presence of diverse illnesses. Concentration fluctuations have the capacity to manual remedy in ailment progression. Numerous biomarkers had been identified for diverse disease states. Many ailment states, specially various types of most cancers, can be better understood via the usage of tumor biomarkers.<sup>11</sup>

## Why miRNAs as biomarkers?

Due to a lack of dependable markers for early detection and type, particularly in malignant sicknesses, the look for biomarkers continues to be ongoing. In 2008, Lawrie et al. Delivered miRNAs as a brand new class of biomarkers for cancer. In this paintings, serum miRNAs had been purified from patient serum using Trizol and decided on miRNAs were quantified through Taqman-based totally real-time polymerase chain response (PCR). Based on the expression sample of miR-155, miR-210, and miR-21, diffuse huge B-cellular lymphoma patients may be distinguished from wholesome controls. In addition, high miR-21 expression stages were associated with higher relapse-unfastened survival in diffuse massive B-cell lymphoma sufferers. Subsequently, serum miRNAs have been profiled in multiple pathological conditions, consisting of autoimmune sicknesses, sepsis, and acute myocardial infarction. However, most of the published research the use of circulating miRNAs as biomarkers targeted on most cancers. Chen et al. Found out that serum miRNAs levels are reproducibly constant throughout people of the equal species. MiRNAs have been established to be robust against external impacts inclusive of enzymatic degradation, freezing, and thawing, or extreme pH conditions and accordingly claimed to function an progressed biomarker for numerous illnesses. In addition to robustness, easy get entry to is every other important criterion for biomarkers. Because miRNAs are detectable in nearly all body fluids and excretions, inclusive of urine, feces, saliva, tear, ascetic, pleural, and amniotic fluid, they could provide a new set of diagnostic equipment for a selection of sicknesses. The truth that miRNAs are frequently noticeably conserved among species might be fantastic for practical applications in in addition research and drug screening on model organisms. However, standardized purification and detection protocols are required.<sup>6</sup>

## The regulations and functions of MiRNAs in cancers

For the beyond ten years the have a look at of miRNAs in eukaryotic organisms has grown exponentially and it's been properly installed that these small RNAs are grasp regulators of gene expression and multiple other organic processes. MiRNAs had been first identified within the mid-Nineteen Nineties with the discovery of Let-7 and Lin-4 in a malicious program (*Caenorhabditis elegans*), but it turned into now not till 2000/2001 while it turned into decided that these miRNAs exist and are especially conserved in more than one eukaryotic organisms and mammalian species.<sup>3-five</sup> This become a primary finding inside the subject of miRNAs, displaying no longer handiest that they exist in multiple organisms but additionally they're possibly foremost regulators of organic methods in these organisms. The next landmark event came soon after in 2002 and 2003 when it changed into observed that miRNAs had been aberrantly expressed in cancer<sup>12-14</sup> and subsequently numerous seminal studies were reported in 2005 that supplied compelling proof to demonstrate the significance of miRNAs in most cancers.<sup>15-17</sup> Since then, the look at of miRNAs in most cancers exploded dramatically and nevertheless represents a totally critical and tough area of research. Furthermore, it is turning into obtrusive that an emerging hallmark of cancer is the dysregulation of miRNAs, each inside the tumor itself and within the surrounding microenvironment. Future paintings on this field will undoubtedly make certain its role in the new hallmarks of cancer. Dysregulated miRNAs can make contributions to tumorigenesis with the aid of playing tumor-suppressive and/or oncogenic roles. As exemplified in Table 1, many miRNAs, along with miR-29b,19,20 miR-34b/c,21,22 miR-

126,23-27 miR-150,28 miR-155,29,30 miR-181a/b,31,32 miR-375,33 miR-494,34 miR-495,35,36 and miR-551a,35 play crucial tumor-suppressor roles in tumorigenesis and/or mark an excellent prognosis for sufferers. These miRNAs have proven to have mighty antitumorogenic properties. However, there are also numerous oncogenic miRNAs which

includes miR-nine,37 miR-17-ninety two,38e40 miR-21,41 miR-27a,forty two miR-30a/c,forty three, miR-126,44 miR-181a/b,45e47 miR-196a,48 miR-196b,49 and miR-421.50 The tricky position of miRNAs in tumorigenesis appears to be easy but it stays complicated. This can be attributed to several reasons in short reviewed in the following phase.<sup>2</sup>

**Table 1:** Examples of tumor-suppressor miRNAs.<sup>2</sup>

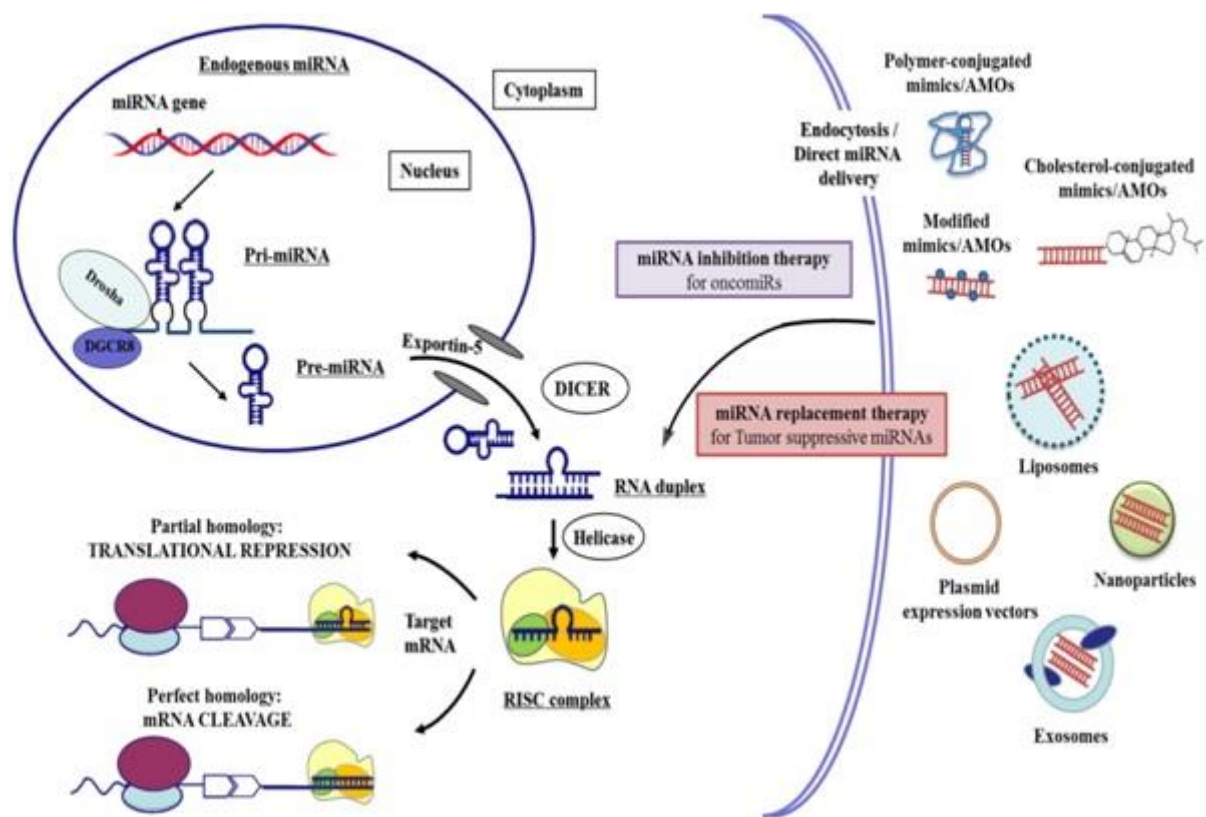
MicroRNA	Cancer type	Function
miR-29b	AML	Represses Sp1 which resulted in c-KIT inhibition
miR-34b/c	Lung cancer	A positive feedback between p53 and miR-34 mediates tumor suppression in human lung cancer
miR-126	Breast, lung, and colon cancers	Plays a critical tumor-suppressor role in tumor initiation and metastasis
miR-150	AML	A critical tumor-suppressor gatekeeper in AML by targeting FLT3 and Myb
miR-155	Breast cancer	Downregulates RAD51 and sensitizes cancer cells to irradiation
miR-181a/b	AML	Their increased expression is associated with good prognosis and hinders tumor cell growth
miR-375	Breast cancer	Forced expression re-sensitizes cells to tamoxifen treatment
miR-494	Lung cancer	Regulated by ERK1/2 it modulates proliferation and apoptosis response
miR-495	AML; gastric cancer	Specifically down-regulated in MLL-rearranged AML; Shown to block migration and invasion
miR-551a	Gastric cancer	Forced expression leads to a block in migration and invasion

\*AML, Acute Myeloid Leukemia.

### MiRNA Biogenesis and Mechanism of Action

MiRNAs are brief (19 to 24 nucleotides) non-coding RNAs which can be processed from longer number one transcripts by way of successive endonuclease enzymatic maturation steps (with the aid of Drosha in the nucleus and Dicer inside the cytoplasm). Functionally, miRNAs alter gene expression in a chain specific manner. Following incorporation into the ribonucleoprotein (RNP) complex RISC (RNA induced silencing complex) (comprising of proteins like Dicer and individuals of the Argonaute (AGO) family), miRNAs bind messenger RNAs (mRNAs) typically at their 3' UTRs, through partial complementarity with their "seed" sequence (the first 2 to 8 nts on the miRNA's 5' stop, which defines miRNA households and is essential for proper goal reputation). Consequently, mRNA translation and/or balance are impaired with an last discount in protein expression degrees. In addition to conventional 3'-UTR mechanism of action, we now know that miRNAs can function in a couple of approaches. For instance, miR-363 and allow-7 can spark off mRNA expression of proteins they commonly repress for the duration of cell proliferation thru recruitment of unique micro-RNPs (like AGO2 and FXR1) to AU-wealthy factors inner mRNA 3'UTRs. It has additionally been proven that miRNAs are capable of goal to five'UTR and 3'UTR sequences alike. MiR-10a can bind to the five'UTR of ribosomal proteins following starvation and enhance their translation. In

addition, miRNA established mRNA repression can also arise via binding web sites placed interior mRNA coding sequences, as shown for miRNAs regulating embryonic stem cell differentiation. Some research have counseled non-cytoplasmic functions of miRNAs in distinct subcellular cubicles. MiR-29b, for example, includes a wonderful hexanucleotide terminal motif that allows its nuclear translocation and subsequent enrichment in the nucleus. MiRNAs within the nucleus had been shown to act at the promoter stage affecting transcription. For instance, miR-551b-3p directly upregulates STAT3 expression through binding to a complementary series at the STAT3 promoter, and recruiting RNA polymerase II and the TWIST1 transcription component to prompt STAT3 transcription. MiRNAs have also been detected in membrane-sure compartments, such as secreted vesicles and mitochondria. Interestingly, muscle-specific miR-1 is capable of stimulate mitochondrial translation of more than one mitochondrial DNA-encoded transcripts, at the same time as repressing its nuclear DNA-encoded targets in the cytoplasm. Few miRNAs act as decoys, through binding directly to RNA-binding proteins, and inhibiting the interaction with their goal RNA. Moreover, miRNAs can also adjust gene expression at the transcriptional level, by binding at once to the DNA regulatory elements. Thus miRNA-mediated regulation of gene expression is a complex science and continues to be an evolving concept.<sup>4</sup>



**Figure 2:** miRNA mechanism and modulation. Canonical biogenesis and processing of miRNAs and mechanism of RNAi-regulated gene silencing is presented. Additionally, the several mechanisms of delivery of miRNA and therapeutic agents are also presented.<sup>4</sup>

### MicroRNA deregulation in cancer

Over the beyond decade, the degree to which miRNAs are involved in cancer has simply emerge as obvious. As has the sheer range of mechanisms by using which miRNA function is deregulated, the most important widespread reasons of altered miRNA expression in most cancers.

#### 1. Genetic alterations

In 2004 it become suggested that round 50% of miRNAs are placed at fragile web sites and most cancers susceptibility loci. However when you consider that then, many more miRNAs had been identified and the connection among website fragility and miRNA density seems some distance more complicated than formerly thought. More entire mapping of the human miRNA genes on fragile sites, most cancers-particular translocation breakpoints, repetitive sequences and CpG islands has given that been carried out and famous that miRNA genes are indeed associated with fragile sites. However the same is proper for protein coding genes and certainly no huge distinction between miRNAs and genes in phrases of their distribution in fragile as opposed to non-fragile web sites was obvious. Significant variations in distribution between miRNAs and genes arose when particular chromosomes had been analysed. For example, a miles higher incidence of miRNAs in fragile sites compared to that of genes became observed in chromosome 19, although in chromosome 14 the reverse is true. These research but are greater wellknown, the relationship between cancer-related regions and miRNA places is not straight-ahead and probably cancer kind unique. Aside from structural genetic changes, somatic translocations of miRNA target websites have also been documented resulting in escape from regulation of an mRNA goal by means of a selected miRNA. Potentially, mutations that adjust an miRNA

seed series should ablate goal repression through tumour-suppressive miRNAs or permit for altered goal choice, which could contribute to oncogenesis. Whereas clearly occurring collection variations, such as SNPs, have been shown to influence miRNA targeting in most cancers-associated pathways, tumour-precise mutations seem to be infrequent. Sequencing from most cancers cells has indicated that notwithstanding mutations being detected in miRNA number one transcripts there was no evidence of mutations that altered the sequence of the mature miRNA. Although the opportunity exists for mutations in the primary transcripts to adjust the secondary structure and hence have an effect on the processing of miRNA precursors, this did not seem like the case.

#### 2. Epigenetic mechanisms

Aberrant epigenetic changes are a well-known characteristic of most cancers cells, consisting of DNA hypermethylation of tumour suppressor genes, giant genomic DNA hypomethylation and alteration of histone change styles. In a comparable style to protein coding genes, miRNA genes are also concern to epigenetic adjustments in cancer. A large proportion of miRNA loci are associated with CpG islands giving strong basis to their law with the aid of DNA methylation. The majority of research have used treatment with chromatin remodelling pills to show epigenetically silenced miRNAs. For example, upregulation of hypermethylated tumour suppressing miRNAs through five-aza-20deoxycytidine treatment inside the case of as miR-127, miR-9-1 and the miR-34b/c cluster. Similarly differential miR-124a expression changed into located in miRNA profiles from colorectal most cancers cells poor in DNMT1- and DNMT3b-enzymes. On the opposite hand, potentially oncogenic miRNAs can be upregulated by way of DNA hypomethylation. Specific transcription elements can

recruit chromatin remodelling enzymes to person miRNA loci, as visible within the case of miR-223 silencing by using the AML1/ETO, the most commonplace fusion protein related to acute myeloid leukaemia. Here both siRNA remedy against AML1/ETO or demethylating treatment more desirable miR-223 tiers and restored cell differentiation. Mapping-primarily based techniques have also helped pick out miRNA promoters silenced in cancers. One take a look at looked for associations among DNA methylation repute of promoters of most cancers-related miRNAs and miRNA expression in breast most cancers cells. A previously unknown opportunity promoter of the miR-200b cluster became diagnosed. Moreover, differential methylation styles of this and the recognized promoter have been located in exclusive breast most cancers sub-kinds. As properly as DNA methylation, histone acetylation represents every other epigenetic phenomenon deregulated in cancer. Reduction in the stage of acetylated histones can decrease expression of anti-oncogenic miRNAs as glaring from research utilizing histone deacetylase inhibitors wherein alteration of miRNA tiers have been determined following treatment. The courting among miRNAs and epigenetics is deepened by means of the reality that sure miRNAs were reported to regulate additives of the epigenetic equipment. Expression of miR-29, for instance, can inhibit DNMT3A and DNMT3B expression, hence counteracting aberrant DNA methylation. Restoration of miR-29 expression in non-smallcell lung cancer cells brought about de-repression of tumour suppressor genes silenced by using CpG island methylation. In addition, miR-101 objectives the histone methyltransferase EZH2, which contributes to the epigenetic silencing of goal genes and regulates the survival and metastasis of cancer cells. In prostate most cancers miR-one zero one expression decreases in the course of cancer progression, paralleling a growth in EZH2 expression. SUZ12, every other element of the polycomb repressor complex 2 (PRC2), of which EZH2 is the catalytic subunit, is targeted via the miR-two hundred family. This seems to be important inside the formation of most cancers stem cells in which loss of miR-200 will increase SUZ12 expression, SUZ12 binding, H3-K27 trimethylation, and Polycomb-mediated repression of the E-cadherin gene.

### 3. Regulation of miRNAs by way of transcription factors in most cancers

Aside from genetic and epigenetic impacts, deregulation of miRNA expression can result from aberrant transcription issue activity in cancer cells. Nearly half of of miRNA genes are placed in the introns of protein coding or lengthy non-coding RNA genes whilst the rest are distinct transcriptional devices with their personal promoters and are transcribed with the aid of RNA polymerase II. MiRNA genes are often clustered and transcribed as polycistronic messages or excised from mRNAs. A plethora of Pol-II related transcription elements are answerable for control of miRNA genes, with a unmarried element doubtlessly able to activate or repress severa miRNA genes. Intriguingly, transcription elements are frequently targets for repression via the miRNAs they alter, generating complicated remarks and feed-ahead circuits.

#### 3.1. MiRNA suppression by oncogenic transcription factors

The oncogenic transcription factor Myc binds promoter regions of many miRNAs. Although Myc is chargeable for upregulating the oncogenic miR-17-92 cluster, the important impact of Myc activation is full-size repression of miRNA expression. Among those miRNAs downregulated by way of Myc are several with documented antiproliferative, pro-

apoptotic and tumour suppressor consequences, consisting of let-7, miR-15a/sixteen-1, miR-26a and miR-34 circle of relatives contributors. Transcriptional features of Myc can also in a roundabout way result in miRNA repression, as an example LIN28A and LIN28B are activated by using Myc and are required for repression of the permit-7 miRNA, itself a bad regulator of Myc. Several research have confirmed a position of miRNAs in other transcription issue networks in most cancers, like that of the activated Ras oncogene. Ras activation leads to repression of the miR-143/145 cluster in KRAS mutant pancreatic cancers through Ras-responsive detail-binding protein (RREB1) binding to the miR-143/145 promoter. Furthermore, KRAS and RREB1 are themselves goals of miR-143/miR-a hundred forty five, representing a feed-forward loop that further amplifies Ras signalling. Likewise, the transcriptional repressor ZEB1 at once inhibits transcription of microRNA-two hundred circle of relatives participants miR-141 and miR-200c, which in turn regulate both ZEB1 and ZEB2, and strongly prompt epithelial differentiation in pancreatic, colorectal and breast cancer cells.

#### 3.2. MiRNA downregulation by means of lack of tumour suppressor transcription factors

Transcription of miRNAs with anti-tumorigenic outcomes is frequently activated by way of transcription elements which might be themselves tumour suppressors. Since many tumour suppressors are misplaced or mutated in cancer this will additionally bring about lack of expression of miRNAs with crucial boom suppressive roles. The well-known transcription aspect p53 governs the cell response to DNA harm and plays a essential position in regulation of the cell cycle and apoptosis. Its significance is emphasised by the reality that it's far mutated in 50% of human cancers and its feature is deregulated by means of numerous different mechanisms in a large share of the the rest. Several miRNAs are beneath transcriptional manipulate of p53. Profiling of miRNA expression levels after induction of p53 with the aid of genotoxic strain has indicated the miR-34 familymembers -a, -b and -c as the most strongly up-regulated miRNAs, with transcription of pri-miRNAs from each the miR-34a and miR-34b/c loci activated in a p53-dependent manner. The mRNA goals of the miR-34 circle of relatives encompass cyclins D and E2, cyclin-based kinases four and 6 (CDK4 and CDK6), CDC25c, Myc and BCL2. Given the features of these numerous target genes in selling mobile proliferation and inhibiting cell cycle arrest and apoptosis, it is plain that miR-34 induction by means of p53 complements its role within the terrible regulation of cell growth. Several different miRNAs have additionally been defined as transcriptional goals for p53. For example miR-107, miR-200 or miR-192, which are miRNAs that inhibit angiogenesis and epithelial-to-mesenchymal transition. Furthermore some of p53-activated miRNAs along with miR-192, miR-194, miR-215, miR-605 and miR-143/a hundred forty five, were proven to goal MDM2. Itself a p53 goal gene, MDM2 is the foremost terrible regulator of p53, thus activation of those afore mentioned miRNAs introduce extra regulatory complexity into the p53-MDM2 remarks loop. The function of p53 in activating the transcription of a couple of miRNAs bolsters its tumour suppressor feature and the mutation or deregulation of p53 in cancers can result in lack of expression of miRNAs, further exacerbating cellular transformation, tumour formation and unfold. Also of notice, the p53 family member p63 undoubtedly regulates transcription of Dicer1 (as well as miR-130b). Tumours deficient in p63 have extraordinarily low Dicer1 expression, resulting in decrease tiers of mature miRNAs and an extended propensity for metastasis. Although mutations in

p63 appear like a rare event in most cancers, it's far misplaced in a selection of tumour kinds and this frequently correlates with invasive capability.<sup>15</sup>

## MiRNA genes epigenetically silenced in most cancers

### 1. MiR-124 own family

Epigenetic silencing of miR-124 own family genes become first pronounced in CRC cells, and is referred to now to be methylated in various varieties of most cancers. MiR-124 is notion to exert tumor suppressor effects by using concentrated on cyclin-structured kinase 6 (CDK6), and epigenetic silencing of miR-124 leads to CDK6 activation and Rb phosphorylation. Within the human genome, three impartial loci (miR-124-1, miR-124-2 and miR-124-three) encode the equal mature miR-124, and all are associated with CpG islands, which can be goals of hypermethylation in cancer. In primary CRC tissues, methylation of miR-124 family genes is located in greater than 70% of the cases. Methylation of miR-124 is also said in haematological malignancies, which includes approximately half of all cases of ALL and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. In ALL, moreover, miR-124 methylation is related to higher recurrence and mortality quotes, and can be an impartial prognostic thing for ailment-unfastened and average survival. MiR-124 own family genes are also often methylated inside the gastric mucosa of *Helicobacter pylori* (H. Pylori)-positive healthy individuals, suggesting their methylation may be prompted via chronic inflammation. Importantly, amongst H. Pylori-bad individuals, miR-124 genes were more highly methylated inside the noncancerous gastric mucosae of gastric most cancers sufferers than in the ones of wholesome people, suggesting miR-124 methylation may be worried in an epigenetic area disorder. In addition, miR-124 circle of relatives genes also are frequently methylated in cervical most cancers, and ectopic expression of miR-124 inhibits cell proliferation and migration. MiR-124 methylation is likewise obtained for the duration of human papilloma virus-mediated transformation, suggesting miR-124 methylation may be a useful marker for detection of cervical cancer and excessive-grade precursors.

### 2. MiR-34 own family

Members of the miR-34 gene circle of relatives (miR-34a, miR-34b and miR-34c) are direct objectives of p53, and their ectopic expression in most cancers cells induces mobile cycle arrest and apoptosis. Within the human genome, miR-34a is positioned on chromosome 1p36, while miR-34b and miR-34c are co-transcribed from a unmarried transcription unit on chromosome 11q23, and both are targets of CpG island hypermethylation in oral, esophageal, gastric, colorectal, pancreatic, breast, lung and renal most cancers; malignant mesothelioma; and melanoma. Methylation of miR-34b/c has also been related to cancer metastasis and invasion. Similar to miR-124, methylation of miR-34b/c within the gastric mucosa is related to H. Pylori contamination, and the noncancerous gastric mucosae of sufferers with multiple gastric cancers display better levels of miR-34b/c methylation than the ones of sufferers with a single gastric cancer, indicating its involvement in an epigenetic subject illness. In non-small cellular lung cancer, methylation of miR-34b/c is related to a high possibility of recurrence and bad standard survival. In addition, methylation-associated silencing of miR-34c turned into these days proven to promote self-renewal and epithelial-mesenchymal transition in breast tumor-beginning cells. These findings, in addition to its contribution to the p53 community, strongly mean that miR-34 family individuals act as tumor suppressors in most cancers. Introduction of miR-34b/c into cancer cells leads to

the downregulation of candidate goal genes, which include MET, cyclin-established kinase four (CDK4), cyclin E2 (CCNE2) and MYC. Likewise, healing of endogenous miRNA expression thru demethylation also downregulates goal genes, suggesting miRNAs will be essential goals for epigenetic cancer therapy.

### 3. MiR-9 circle of relatives

Methylation of the CpG island within the miR-9-1 promoter become first stated in breast and pancreatic cancer. Shortly thereafter, methylation of miR-9 circle of relatives genes (miR-9-1, miR-9-2 and miR-9-3) turned into additionally identified in several metastatic cancer cellular lines. Consistent with that finding, methylation of miR-nine-1 is reportedly associated with lymph node metastasis in CRC, and methylation of miR-nine-1 and miR-9-3 is correlated with metastatic recurrence of renal cell carcinoma. All 3 miR-nine own family genes are concurrently methylated in gastric cancer, and ectopic expression of miR-9 inhibits proliferation, migration and invasion via gastric most cancers cells. MiR-nine has been shown to target fibroblast increase issue receptor 1 (FGFR1) and CDK6 in ALL and caudal-type homeobox 2 (CDX2) in gastric cancer cells, suggesting a tumor suppressive characteristic. Interestingly, xenoestrogen, which might also growth ones chance of developing breast cancer, can induce methylation-associated silencing of miR-nine-3 in breast epithelial cells, indicating that methylation of this miRNA gene may be an indicator of early breast cancer development. In contrast to these findings, however, one recent examine showed that miR-nine is activated with the aid of MYC and MYCN in breast cancer, and that miR-nine promotes metastasis thru downregulation of E-cadherin (CDH1). These effects are indicative of the purposeful complexity of miRNAs in most cancers cells and endorse that miRNAs may also exert opposite outcomes in distinct tissues or settings.

### 4. MiR-200 circle of relatives and miR-205

The miR-200 gene circle of relatives (miR-200a, miR-200b, miR-200c, miR-141 and miR-429) and miR-205 encode key regulators of epithelial-mesenchymal transition (EMT) that act with the aid of immediately focused on zinc finger E-box binding homeobox 1 (ZEB1) and ZEB2, which are transcriptional repressors that downregulate CDH1. Within the human genome, the miR-two hundred family genes are grouped into polycistronic devices, miR-200b/200a/429 and miR-200c/141, positioned on chromosomes 1 and 12, respectively. Expression of miR-200c/141 is regulated by means of promoter CpG islands in regular mammary epithelial cells and fibroblasts, and their silencing is related to aberrant methylation in breast and prostate cancer cells. Methylation of miR-200c/141 is tightly correlated with the invasive ability of breast cancer cells, and induction of EMT by way of ectopic expression of Twist in immortalized human mammary epithelial cells is followed with the aid of elevated methylation of miR-200c/141. Similarly, in nonsmall mobile lung most cancers, promoter methylation is associated with loss of miR-200c expression, that is in turn associated with terrible differentiation, lymph node metastasis and weaker E-cadherin expression. Davalos et al. Verified that the upstream CpG islands of each units (miR-200b/200a/429 and miR200c/141) are unmethylated in cancer cells with epithelial capabilities, but are each methylated and silenced in converted cells with mesenchymal traits. In bladder cancer, each gadgets of the miR-200 own family and miR-205 are coordinately silenced in association with promoter methylation. Epigenetic silencing of the miR-2 hundred own family and miR-205 was additionally observed in carcinogen-dealt with lung

epithelial cells, suggesting that induction of EMT through miRNA dysregulation takes place early at some point of lung carcinogenesis.

### 5. Other miRNA genes

Reduced expression of miR-1 is said in many malignancies, and methylation of the upstream CpG island and silencing of miR-1-1 were stated in each hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) and CRC. Ectopic expression of miR-1 in HCC cells inhibits cell increase through suppression of its target genes, which consist of MET, forkhead field P1 (FOXP1) and histone deacetylase four (HDAC4). In CRC cells, miR-1 suppresses mobile proliferation, motility and invasion with the aid of concentrated on some of genes, such as annexin A2 (ANXA2) and brain-derived neurotrophic element (BDNF), both of which are regularly overexpressed in most cancers and are implicated in invasion and metastasis. Another latest take a look at also affords proof that expression of miR-1 is downregulated in primary CRC, and that miR-1 suppresses CRC cell proliferation and motility by using concentrated on MET. Methylation of miR-1-1 is observed in about 80% of number one CRC tissue samples examined and in 70% of colorectal adenoma tissue samples, suggesting that methylation of miR-1 is an early occasion in the course of colorectal tumorigenesis. MiR-125b is a brain-enriched miRNA and an awesome example of an miRNA that has opposite features in unique tumor types; this is, it could exert oncogenic or tumor suppressor effects, depending of the cell context. Expression of miR-125b is upregulated in several sorts of malignancies, such as prostate most cancers, however it is downregulated in breast most cancers, where it acts as a tumor suppressor via immediately targeting ETS1. In breast cancer, the silencing of miR-125b is associated with methylation of the miR-125b-1 promoter, and the weak expression of miR-125b correlates with a poor analysis. Methylation of miR-129-2 has been pronounced in endometrial, esophageal, gastric, and colorectal most cancers. MiR-129-2 goals SRY-related high-mobility institution box four (SOX4), an oncogene often upregulated in malignancies, and an affiliation between miR-129-2 methylation and SOX4 overexpression become found in both endometrial and gastric cancers. In endometrial cancer, miR-129-2 methylation is associated with microsatellite instability, MLH1 methylation and negative universal survival. Similarly, downregulated expression of miR-129 is reportedly associated with bad clinicopathological functions in gastric most cancers. Methylation of miR-137 changed into first stated in oral most cancers and was sooner or later suggested in colon and gastric cancer. MiR-137 methylation is associated with a poorer survival price amongst sufferers with head and neck squamous cellular carcinoma (HNSCC), and become detected in oral rinses accumulated from HNSCC sufferers, suggesting its utility as a cancer biomarker. Within cancer cells, miR-137 goals CDK6, lysinespecific demethylase 1 (LSD1) and cell division cycle 42 (CDC42), indicating it to be a tumor suppressor, at the same time as in regular cells, miR-137 regulates neuronal differentiation by means of targeting enhancer of zeste homolog 2 (EZH2) and mindbomb 1 (MIB1). MiR-a hundred forty five encodes a well-known tumor suppressor, expression of that's reduced in a colorectal, breast, ovarian and prostate cancers. In breast and colon cancer cells, expression of miR-one hundred forty five is brought on through p53, and miR-a hundred forty five immediately goals MYC, suggesting that p53 represses MYC thru induction of miR-a hundred forty five expression. MiR-one hundred forty five additionally suppresses most cancers cell proliferation, invasion and metastasis by way of focused on mucin 1 (MUC1), insulin receptor substrate-1 (IRS-1) and Fascin homolog 1 (FSCN1). In prostate most cancers,

downregulation of miR-145 expression is related to an aggressive phenotype and a negative prognosis, and promoter methylation is related to its silencing. It changed into additionally currently shown that both DNA methylation and p53 mutation are important causes of faded miR-a hundred forty five expression in prostate cancer. Screening for epigenetically silenced miRNA genes in metastatic most cancers mobile strains discovered a fixed of genes that protected miR-148a. Introduction of miR-148a into methylated most cancers cells inhibited cell motility, increase and metastasis. MiR-148a is methylated in colorectal, breast, lung, head and neck cancers, and is associated with lymph node metastasis. Methylation-induced silencing of miR-148a is likewise seen in pancreatic most cancers and preneoplastic pancreatic lesions (pancreatic intraepithelial neoplasia; PanIN), suggesting it's far an early event in pancreatic carcinogenesis. Aberrant activation of the proto-oncogene KIT is located in diverse malignancies, together with acute myeloid leukemia (AML). Analysis of the 30 UTR location of KIT cautioned numerous miRNAs may additionally serve as regulators; amongst those, methylation-induced silencing of miR-193a is causally associated with KIT overexpression in AML. Interestingly, in HCC cells, miR-193a dictates chemoresistance to five-fluorouracil through concentrated on serine/arginine-rich splicing component 2 (SRSF2). Expression of miR-193a is regulated by way of DNA methylation, and five-fluorouracil-touchy HCC cells display promoter methylation and decreased expression of miR-196a, suggesting it may be an crucial prognostic indicator in HCC. MiR-203 encodes a candidate tumor suppressor and is epigenetically silenced in oral most cancers, hematopoietic malignancies and HCC. MiR-203 without delay controls ABL1 expression, and it also objectives the BCR-ABL1 translocation protein precipitated by Philadelphia chromosome in persistent myelogenous leukemia and B cell ALL in youngsters. The CpG island of miR-203 is in particular methylated in Philadelphia-effective tumors, compared to other hematopoietic malignancies, suggesting that epigenetic silencing of miR-203 enhances the expression of the BCR-ABL1 oncogene. Epigenetic silencing of miR-203 has also been proven to spark off ABL1 in H. Pylori-associated gastric B-mobile lymphoma of mucosa related lymphoid tissue (MALT lymphoma). In HCC cells, miR-203 suppresses cellular boom and downregulates numerous goal genes, which include ATP-binding cassette, subfamily E, member 1 (ABCE1) and CDK6. Dysregulated expression of miR-375 is regularly found in cancers; as an example, it is downregulated in esophageal, gastric, and head and neck cancers, whereas it's far overexpressed in breast cancer. Methylation-precipitated silencing of miR-375 is stated in esophageal squamous cell carcinoma, HCC and melanoma. In the esophageal most cancers cells, miR-375 suppresses cellular proliferation, motility, invasion and metastasis by using concentrated on insulin-like boom element 1 receptor (IGF1R). In esophageal and gastric cancer, miR-375 reportedly exerts its tumor suppressive function by downregulating three-phosphoinositide-dependent protein kinase 1 (PDK1), which in flip reduces Akt phosphorylation. Interestingly, but, miR-375 exerts oncogenic effects by way of targeting RAS dexamethasone-induced 1 (RASD1), and its overexpression is related to promoter hypomethylation.<sup>13</sup>

### Circulating miRNAs as diagnostic and prognostic markers for cancers

The diagnosis of most cancers, carried out with the help of blood-primarily based tumor markers, presently suffers from low sensitivity, specifically in regards to the usage of these markers in screening for the early degrees of tumors.



Unlike the regulatory mRNA expression profiles, tissue miRNA signatures seem to be more reliable inside the detection and staging of most cancers. Moreover, the stages of circulating miRNAs may be used to distinguish cancer patients from healthful individuals. The circulating miRNAs show off higher balance in frame fluids and can be extracted and measured non-invasively. Taken together, circulating miRNAs represent a class of perfect biomarkers for cancer prognosis and diagnosis. In the following sections, we summarize cutting-edge research that specialize in the usage of circulating miRNAs as diagnostic and prognostic biomarkers for various kinds of cancers.

### 1. Lung cancers

Lung most cancers is the most commonplace cancer worldwide, accounting for over 1.37 million deaths yearly. Currently there's no demonstrated or fee-powerful screening method for lung cancer. As the circulating miRNAs constitute a category of perfect biomarkers for lung most cancers prognosis, many studies had been done to decide their capability. Here, we specifically consciousness on non-small-cellular lung most cancers (NSCLC), the most commonplace form of lung cancer. The first look at of circulating miRNAs in NSCLC patients was mentioned in 2008 through Chen and coworkers. In this take a look at, they located an aberrant alternation of miRNAs (28 miRNAs have been missing and 63 new miRNA species were detected) in the serum of NSCLC sufferers, compared to healthy controls by using Solexia deep sequencing. Since miR-25 and miR-223 may be concerned in tumorigenesis of NSCLC, these two miRNAs were selected for in addition validation in an unbiased trial of 75 healthful donors and 152 most cancers sufferers using qRT-PCR. Finally, they concluded that miR-25 and miR-223 can be used as markers for diagnosing NSCLC. As the early treatment of lung most cancers increases the five-year survival charge to ninety two%, most studies are focused on the identity of circulating miRNA signatures that would function early diagnostic markers for NSCLC. The presently recognized circulating miRNA signatures consist of a miRNA (miR-1254 and miR-574-5p), a three miRNA panel (miR-a hundred and fifty five, miR-197, and miR-182), a four miRNA panel (miR-21, miR-126, miR-210, and miR-486-5p), a ten miRNA panel (miR-20a, miR-24, miR-25, miR-one hundred forty five, miR-152, miR-199a-5p, miR-221, miR-222, miR-223, miR-320), and an array of 34 miRNAs. Although every of those signatures showed the potential to locate early degrees of NSCLC with exceedingly high sensitivity and specificity, a few cases of overlapping miRNAs have additionally been mentioned. The foremost purpose for those disparities is probably due to the shortage of a standardized strategies, robust techniques, and widely wide-spread parameters for the detection of circulating miRNAs. Circulating miRNAs can also go out into plasma or serum with the help of vesicles. After setting apart vesicle miRNAs from NSCLC sufferers, a set of miRNAs changed into proven to be substantially altered. Five miRNAs (let-7f, miR-20b, miR-30e-3p, miR-223, and miR-301) have been similarly verified independently and the consequences indicated that best allow-7f and miR-30e-3p may be used for cancer staging in NSCLC sufferers. Studies have also proven that circulating miRNAs can serve as a prognostic marker for NSCLC sufferers. For example, a 4 miRNA panel (miR-486, miR-30d, miR-1 and miR-499) was related to the overall survival of NSCLC sufferers present process surgical procedure in addition to adjuvant chemotherapy. Increased serum levels of miR-125b in NSCLC patients have been related to non-responsive cisplatin-primarily based chemotherapy. Elevated ranges of miR-142-3p and miR-29b inside the sera of early-degree adenocarcinoma patients strongly correlated with cancer

recurrence in the following 24 months, and excessive ranges of miR-22 detected within the blood of NSCLC patients corrected with a lack of response in pemetrexed-dealt with NSCLC sufferers.

### 2. Breast cancers

Some researches have assessed using circulating miRNAs as biomarkers for monitoring the reaction to therapy and additionally for differentiating between everyday cells and breast cancer cells. For example, miR-a hundred and fifty five, an oncogenic miRNA that downregulates SOCS1 at some stage in breast cancer, became recognized within the serum of breast cancer sufferers in one of the sooner studies. Subsequent studies also confirmed that circulating miR-one hundred fifty five become increased in the serum of breast most cancers sufferers. The serum tiers of miR-one hundred fifty five have additionally been shown to discriminate the modifications in tumor mass and the effect of chemotherapy, more touchy than habitual markers along with carbohydrate antigen 15-three (CA15-3), carcinoembryonic antigen (CEA) and tissue polypeptide precise antigen (TPS). Moreover, miR-a hundred and fifty five in aggregate with miR-145 and miR-182 can considerably growth the sensitivity and specificity of breast cancer analysis. Furthermore, a combination of miR-145 and miR-451 can also be used to differentiate among breast cancer and other cancers which includes colorectal most cancers, hepatocellular carcinoma and lung cancer. Therefore, those research suggest that miR-a hundred and fifty five will be a promising biomarker for breast cancer diagnosis, and that it could also be used as a hallmark for the reaction to remedy. Moreover, in comparison to healthful controls, the plasma or serum levels of different circulating miRNAs together with miR-195, miR-21, miR-1, miR-92a, miR-133a, miR-133b, miR-484, miR-127-3p, miR-376a, and miR-652 were additionally shown to be significantly altered in breast cancer sufferers. Altered ranges of circulating miRNAs have also been shown to associate with cancer metastasis in breast cancer. For example, higher degrees of circulating miR-122 can predictively imply metastatic recurrence in stage II and stage III breast most cancers patients. Deregulated serum stages of six miRNAs (miR-10b, miR-17, miR-34a, miR-ninety three, miR-one hundred fifty five, and miR-373) are immediately related to breast carcinomas favouring development and metastatic spread. Elevated tiers of serum miR-214, miR-10b and miR-373 are related to lymph node metastasis in breast cancer sufferers. The altered ranges of circulating miRNAs can also be used to predict the effect of chemotherapy in breast most cancers sufferers. For instance, extended ranges of miR-125b in breast most cancers sufferers can suggest a lower therapeutic reaction to five-Fluorouracil (5-FU), epirubicin, or cyclophosphamide (FEC). Higher stages of miR-210 inside the plasma of breast cancer patients also are related to trastuzumab resistance and tumor development. The serum ranges of circulating miR-375 and miR-122 have additionally been associated with neoadjuvant chemotherapy reaction in breast cancer sufferers. In addition, aberrant levels of circulating miRNAs have additionally been shown to accomplice with breast cancer subtypes. For example, four miRNAs (miR-29a, miR-181a, miR-223 and miR-652) had been proven to be considerably decreased of their expressions in blood of women with Luminal A-like breast tumors, than in healthful controls. More importantly, mixture of 3 (miR-29a, miR-181a and miR-652) of those miRNAs changed into proven to reliably differentiate between Luminal A-like breast most cancers and controls with an AUC of zero.80. Overall, those researches have shown that circulating miRNAs could serve as promising markers for breast most cancers prognosis and

analysis. Several independent agencies record that miR-one hundred fifty five is possibly to be a promising maker for breast cancer prognosis. In the future, it may be vital to correlate the observed tumor feature with the ranges of circulating miR-a hundred and fifty five. Moreover, the identification of an appropriate panel of miRNAs might be required, which blended with miR-a hundred and fifty five, may also substantially enhance the sensitivity and specificity of breast cancer analysis.

### 3. Prostate cancer

Mitchell and colleagues (2008) had been the primary to document using circulating miRNAs as potential diagnostic markers for prostate cancer (PC). In this take a look at, they validated that tumor-derived miRNAs were detected within the plasma of a PC xenograft mouse. Additionally, some miRNA candidates based on their expression in human prostate specimens and the absence inside the plasma of healthy controls had been similarly investigated in their expression within the serum of metastatic PC sufferers and wholesome manage individuals. Subsequently, miR-141 was located to be relatively extended in the serum of PCs. These expanded tiers strongly correlated with the serum prostate-specific antigen (PSA) degrees and may be used for identifying individuals with superior prostate cancer, as they confirmed 60% sensitivity and one hundred% specificity. In any other look at, pre-decided on oncogenic miR-26a, miR-195, and allow-7i had been first of all showed to be upregulated within the tissue, and then proven to be significantly accelerated in the sera of PC patients, compared to those with benign prostate hyperplasia. However, this examine was now not capable of reproduce the huge distinction in miR-141 degrees, and claimed that the miR-141 degrees have been too low for dependable testing. A look at by using Brase et al. Also confirmed that circulating miR-375 and miR-141 were the maximum promising markers for high-risk PCs. Both these miRNAs were similarly discovered to be substantially upregulated in prostate tissue samples. In a current examine, every other miRNA, miR-1290, showed the first-rate diagnostic performance in PC sufferers (with healthy individuals constituting the control institution), whilst 735 miRNAs have been screened from the serum of PC sufferers. Moreover, serum miR-1290 stages should differentiate among controls and patients with early-stage pancreatic most cancers. This biomarker became higher than CA19-9, a more common diagnostic marker with a sensitivity of 70–eighty% in the sera of PC sufferers. Circulating miRNA signatures related to cancer metastases were also investigated in PC sufferers. For example, the ranges of miR-375 and miR-200b were located to boom inside the serum of sufferers with metastatic prostate most cancers, in comparison to wholesome controls or sufferers with a localized disease. Previous look at stated that the accelerated ranges of miR-221 within the plasma of PC sufferers can also be used as a capability biomarker for monitoring tumor dynamics and for predicting malignant results in PC patients. Moreover, as compared to the ones in low-risk localized sufferers, serum degrees of miR-375, miR-378\*, and miR-141 in castration resistant prostate cancer (CRPC) sufferers were drastically upregulated; consequently, implying that those circulating miRNAs can feature as ability prognostic markers for assessing prostate cancer progression. The circulating miRNA ranges of PC patients recuperating from chemotherapy and surgical treatment have also been decided. A recent study confirmed that better serum levels of miR-21 correlated with a resistance to docetaxel in CRPC sufferers. In any other recent have a look at, 3 improved miRNAs (miR-141, miR-146b-3p, and miR-194) in the sera of PC patients have been proven to be

related to a fast biochemical recurrence. Among them, the serum degrees of miR-146b-3p and miR-194 had been associated with disorder progression and miR-146b-3p could imply prognostic information past the standard clinicopathological parameters. For physiological and anatomical reasons, urine may additionally prove to be a valuable source of miRNA biomarkers for the detection of urological cancers. Indeed, miR-107 and miR-574-3p have been gift at considerably higher concentrations in the urine of guys with prostate most cancers, as compared to healthy controls. The diagnostic cost of these two miRNAs has been proven to be better than that of PCA3 miRNA, a urine marker for prostate most cancers that has been included into an FDA-accepted take a look at. Overall, several studies indicate that miR-141 may be a promising marker for diagnosing PC and for predicting PC metastasis. A comparative have a look at between serum miR-141 and the serum tiers of several trendy biomarkers (PSA, circulating tumor cells (CTC) and lactate dehydrogenase (LDH)) indicated that miR-141 has a comparable ability to diagnose or predict clinical progression, while as compared to different clinically proven biomarkers. More importantly, miR-141 could doubtlessly be utilized in a take a look at to become aware of sufferers with previously undetectable micro-metastases at the time of prognosis. Nevertheless, further research want to validate miR-141 in larger cohorts with lengthy-time period scientific follow-ups, which includes research that could examine its capacity to distinguish between PC and different cancers.

### 4. Colorectal cancers

Studies have also evaluated the feasibility of using circulating miRNAs as diagnostic and prognostic markers for colorectal most cancers (CRC). To our information, the first take a look at become accomplished by using evaluating the miRNA profiles of the tissue and plasma of CRC sufferers. A list of miRNAs differentially expressed in each of these samples changed into diagnosed. Subsequently, miR-17-3p and miR-ninety two, each belong to the same miRNA gene cluster and categorized as oncogenic, had been discovered to be considerably accelerated within the plasma of CRC patients and in tumor tissues, in comparison to their ordinary opposite numbers. Further validation with an independent set of plasma samples (n = a hundred and eighty) indicated that miR-92 should differentiate between normal people and CRC patients. It may also distinguish CRC from gastric most cancers and inflammatory bowel disease. Finally, this examine cautioned that miR-92 can be used as a capacity non-invasive marker for CRC diagnosis. However, similar effects had been now not obtained in Chinese CRC sufferers probable because of the truth that unique endogenous controls have been utilized in those two research (miR-16 vs. RNU6B snRNA). Most cancer-related deaths which include CRC may be prevented via early detection and elimination of early-stage most cancers. Thus, the early detection of CRC may be very important for lowering the associated mortality charge. To date, miR-29a and miR-ninety two were found to be elevated inside the plasma of early degree of CRC. Conversely, the plasma levels of miR-601 and miR-760 have been found to be substantially reduced in early level (stage II and stage III) CRC patients, compared to healthful controls. A current look at confirmed that a characteristic miRNA signature (upregulated miR-21 and allow-7g, and downregulated miR-31, miR-181b, miR-92a, and miR-203), which also protected miR-92a, become in a position to distinguish CRC samples from cancer-unfastened controls with higher sensitivity and specificity. This detection became substantially better than that of any single-aspect biomarker, together with CA19-nine or CEA

(35–23%). Moreover, seven exosomal miRNAs (let-7a, miR-1229, miR-1246, miR-one hundred fifty, miR-21, miR-223, and miR-23a) had been determined to be notably increased in number one CRC sufferers (along with people with level I CRC) as compared to healthful controls, suggesting that this exosomal miRNA signature could be potentially advanced as a marker for the early detection of CRC. An accurate assessment of the metastatic CRC levels is critical for customizing CRC therapy. Several circulating miRNAs have been proven to be related to CRC metastasis. Firstly, serum tiers of miR-200c had been proven to be drastically improved throughout CRC metastasis. A excessive level of serum miR-200c confirmed a full-size correlation with the lymph node and remote metastasis, thereby suggesting that serum miR-200c might be used as a trademark for predicting CRC metastasis. Furthermore, miR-141, a circulating miRNA associated with metastatic prostate cancer, become also extensively elevated in the plasma of CRC patients with the level IV disorder. It was also determined out that a combination of miR-141 with the carcinoembryonic antigen (a extensively used marker for CRC) ought to in addition boom the detection accuracy of remote metastasis in CRC. However, miR-141 did now not display any distinction even as detecting tumor tissues among stage IV and stage I-II CRC patients or between tumor tissues and adjoining non-tumor tissues in level IV sufferers, thereby suggesting that the elevation of plasma miR-141 in stage IV sufferers is probably derived from other systemic responses such as inflammatory reactions in sufferers. The degrees of miR-18a and miR-29a have been additionally shown to be significantly better in the sera of stage III CRC sufferers. Higher degrees of miR-29a correlated with colorectal liver metastasis in CRC sufferers, consequently implying that miR-29a can be used as a capacity biomarker for detecting CRC metastasis. In addition, the ranges of numerous circulating miRNAs have been proven to be related to chemotherapy effect and CRC recurrence. For example, a 5 serum miRNA signature panel (miR-20a, miR-130, miR-one hundred forty five, miR-216, and miR-372) is associated with chemosensitivity /chemoresistance in CRC patients. Higher tiers of three miRNAs (miR-27b, miR-148a, and miR-326) have additionally been related to the non-reaction of oxaliplatin-primarily based chemotherapy in CRC sufferers. Additionally, the circulating levels of miRNA 29c and miR-21 were proven to correlate with recurrence in CRC patients.

## 5. Gastric cancers

Gastric cancer (GC) is the second main cause of most cancers-related deaths global. However, few highly touchy or exceptionally precise tumor markers are presently available for GC prognosis. Circulating miRNAs represent an alternative marker for diagnosing GC. The first look at at the levels of circulating miRNAs in gastric cancer sufferers was mentioned in 2010 via Tsujiura and coworkers. In this take a look at, primarily based on previous findings in GC tissue samples, miR-17-5p, miR-21, miR-106a, miR-106b, and let-7a were chosen for evaluation inside the plasma samples. Subsequently, 4 miRNAs (miR-17-5p, miR-21, miR-106a, and miR-106b) were discovered to be drastically increased inside the blood plasma derived from GC patients (relative to controls), while the overall stages of allow-7a showed a considerable decrease. Additionally, the concentrations of some plasma miRNAs (miR-21 and miR-106b) from GC patients were additionally proven to be notably altered in publish-operative samples. This study implied that circulating miRNAs might offer new complementary tumor markers for detecting GC. Concurrently, circulating miR-106a and miR-17 were also shown to be appreciably better within the blood of GC patients as stated in another take a

look at. In current research, increased serum degrees of miR-17-5p/20a and miR-21 in GC sufferers were proven to be notably associated with gastric most cancers metastasis, implying that this miRNA pair may additionally function a diagnostic or prognostic marker for GC. Moreover, a current observe diagnosed miR-18a (a strong miRNA present within the plasma/serum) as a unique non-invasive biomarker in diverse cancers. The stages of miR-18a have been drastically increased inside the plasma of GC sufferers, suggesting that circulating miR-18a may be a useful biomarker for detecting GC. Furthermore, different miRNAs along with miR-195 and miR-421 had been also shown to be significantly altered inside the plasma of GC patients. Studies showed that circulating degrees of some miRNAs have been associated with most cancers metastasis inside the case of GC. Firstly, miR-17, that's relatively expressed in GC tissue and significantly accelerated within the sera of GC sufferers, has been shown to be related to GC metastasis. However, in another take a look at, miR-17 did now not display prognostic variations between GC patients and healthy controls. Secondly, miR-21 changed into additionally proven to be a capacity prognostic maker for GC patients as defined above. In a recent examine, the plasma degrees of three miRNAs (miR-21, miR-146a, and miR-148a) were determined to be multiplied as the GC pN stage advanced, suggesting that these miRNAs will be used a marker for predicting GC metastasis. Furthermore, miR-200c, an miRNA that determines the epithelial phenotype of cancer cells and regulates invasiveness and migration, turned into proven to be appreciably multiplied inside the blood samples of GC patients, therefore suggesting that miR-200c also showcase a potential to expect GC metastasis. Similar to different cancers, the early detection of GC is essential to improve the outcome of remedy and the general affected person survival prices. Several miRNAs including miR-378 and miR-199a had been shown to be capability markers for the early GC detection. In addition, a fiveplasma- miRNA signature panel (miR-16, miR-25, miR-92a, miR-451, and miR-486-5p) turned into recognized as a capacity biomarker for early GC detection. Moreover, a recent look at indicated that decreased miR-122 tiers and elevated miR-192 degrees inside the plasma of GC patients is probably used for the early detection of distant metastasis. Finally, miR-195 was observed to be substantially downregulated within the sera of GC sufferers in comparison to controls, for that reason suggesting that miR-195 should serve as a diagnostic marker for GC.

## 6. Liver cancers

Altered ranges of circulating miRNAs have been additionally shown in sufferers with liver cancers. The first observe on circulating miRNAs in liver cancer sufferers turned into said with the aid of Li and coworkers in 2010. In this examine, they compared miRNA expression profiles in hepatitis B virus (HBV) serum with that on top of things serum and as a result obtained thirteen miRNAs that were differentially expressed in HBV serum. This 13-miRNA based biomarker can correctly discriminate not most effective HBV instances from controls and hepatitis C virus cases, but also HBV-high quality hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) instances from manipulate and HBV instances. In addition, six serum miRNAs (miR-1, miR-25, miR-92a, miR-206, miR-375, and permit-7f) were shown to be drastically upregulated in HCC samples, as compared to healthy controls. Moreover, 3 (miR-25, miR-375, and let-7f) out of the six miRNAs were shown so that you can virtually discriminate HCC cases from healthful controls. In a later take a look at, over 20 miRNAs (which include miR-92a) have been shown to be upregulated inside the sera of HCC sufferers. Among them, miR-885-5p

was discovered to be most vast within the sera of HCC, liver cirrhosis (LC) and chronic hepatitis B sufferers, in comparison to healthful controls or GC sufferers. However, no big differences in the degrees of miR-885-5p had been observed the various controls, LC and HCC agencies, thereby suggesting that miR-885-5p may be used as a biomarker for liver pathologies. In every other examine, three miRNAs (miR-21, miR-122, and miR-223) have been observed to be substantially elevated in the sera of sufferers with HCC or continual hepatitis. A latest have a look at similarly proven the results that miR-122 and miR-223 were drastically superior in the serum of HBV sufferers. However, miR-21 levels had been located to decrease inside the serum of HBV patients with or without HCC, consistent with every other take a look at. Nevertheless, the aforementioned studies imply that certain circulating miRNAs cannot be used to distinguish HCC patients from HBV patients. The ability of circulating miRNAs to distinguish HCC from different hepatocellular diseases is crucial for the accurate prognosis of liver cancer. A current look at has indicated that decreased serum stages of miR-16 and miR-199a can discriminate HCC patients from sufferers with chronic liver illnesses. More importantly, a combination of miR-16 with other tumor markers including AFP and lens culinaris agglutinin-reactive AFP can enhance diagnostic sensitivity and specificity for HCC. Additionally, miR-21 became proven to noticeably elevate within the plasma of HCC sufferers than in patients with persistent hepatitis. However, a observe in Chinese sufferers indicated that there has been no distinction within the serum ranges of miR-21 amongst HCCs without or with HBV. These inconsistent consequences are probably because of the various liver pathologies due to continual hepatitis or HBV hepatitis. A mixed analysis of the stages of miR-15b and miR-130b can potentially distinguish between HCC and HBV hepatitis sufferers. The early analysis of HCC is clinically suited, because the prognosis of HCC is considerably progressed if the sufferers get remedy early on. Several circulating miRNAs including miR-15b, miR-130b, and miR-sixteen were proven to maintain promise in diagnosing patients with early-level HCC. The mixture of miR-15b and miR-130b can increase the sensitivity for liver cancer prognosis, as compared to  $\alpha$ -fetoprotein (AFP) alone. Similarly, serum miR-16 turned into observed to be a extra touchy biomarker for HCC than serum AFP, des- $\gamma$ -carboxy prothrombin (DCP), and Lens culinaris agglutinin-reactive AFP degrees. Several studies have also centered on the altered levels of urinary miRNAs in liver cancers, as urine samples are exceedingly clean to reap. For instance, adjustments inside the urinary miRNAs were shown to be related to early degree HCC. In this precise look at, the tiers of five miRNAs (along with three up-regulated miRNAs viz. miR-625, miR-532 and miR-618 and down-regulated miRNAs, viz. miR-516-5p and miR-650, respectively) had been discovered to vary notably within the urine samples from the HCC (HCV-nice) institution relative to the manipulate institution. Moreover, the sensitivity of the urinary miR-650 degrees and the specificity of the aggregate of miR-618 and miR-650 degrees for detecting HCC have been significantly improved in comparison to the sensitivity and specificity of the corresponding AFP-primarily based detection strategies.

### 7. Hematologic cancers

Circulating miRNAs inside the plasma and serum are in close contact with the blood cells. However, there may be little studies on the relationship between circulating miRNAs and hematologic cancers. The first take a look at at the altered stages of circulating miRNAs in hematologic cancers became carried out in diffuse large B mobile lymphoma (DLBCL)

sufferers in 2008. In this take a look at, miR-21, miR-155, and miR-210 had been proven to be drastically multiplied in the sera of cancer sufferers, than in healthful controls. Further research indicated that miR-21 turned into additionally upregulated in several DLBCL cellular lines as well as in tumor tissues. In addition to its diagnostic ability, a high miR-21 attention become additionally associated with relapse-loose survival, suggesting that miR-21 can be a prognostic marker in DLBCL sufferers. A current have a look at similarly confirmed that miR-21 changed into drastically higher inside the sera of Chinese patents with DLBCL, than the ones in the sera of the corresponding controls. Moreover, themiR-21 concentrations have been inversely correlated to DLBCL ranges (better concentrations of miR-21 in degrees I and II, and lower awareness in stages III and IV). This observe highlighted that miR-21 ought to serve as a biomarker for the early prognosis of Chinese DLBCL. Besides DLBCL, circulating miRNAs had been also shown to be drastically altered in patients with persistent lymphocytic leukemia (CLL), that's another kind of hematologic most cancers. Seven plasma miRNAs (miR-a hundred and fifty, miR-19b, miR-92a, miR-223, miR-320, miR-484, and miR-17) have been particularly ample in all the samples examined with CLL. In addition, the modifications in the circulating miR-195 or miR-20a levels have been proven to be the first-class classifiers for keeping apart CLL patients from wholesome controls. Moreover, miR-a hundred and fifty five, a circulating miRNA diagnosed in CCL, turned into found to be significantly increased inside the plasma of CLL patients, than in the plasma of wholesome controls. Patients with a lower mobile miR-155 expression additionally replied higher to standard healing procedures than patients with better ranges of miR-155. Acute myeloid leukemia (AML) is the most commonplace acute leukemia in adults. The levels of numerous circulating miRNAs have been shown to be altered in the plasma of AML sufferers. For instance, let-7d, miR-a hundred and fifty, miR-339, and miR-342 tiers had been proven to be down-regulated, whereas let-7b and miR-523 ranges were discovered to be up-regulated inside the AML sufferers, than within the wholesome controls. Combined ROC analyses the usage of the downregulated miR-150 and miR-342 revealed an accelerated AUC of 0.86 (95% CI: 0.7819–0.94;  $p < 0.0001$ ), indicating that those miRNAs may also have a capability for AML diagnosis. In addition, 6 miRNAs (miR-10a-5p, miR-ninety three-5p, miR-129-5p, miR-one hundred fifty five-5p, miR-181b-5p and miR320d) were proven to have drastically varying expression degrees within the sera of AML, compared to the controls. Further ROC curve analyses cautioned that these miRNAs should probably discriminate AML patients from wholesome individuals. Moreover, serum levels of miR-181b-5p have been related to an increased survival of AML sufferers, therefore implying that miR-181b-5p can also act as a predictor for AML sufferers.

### 8. Other cancers

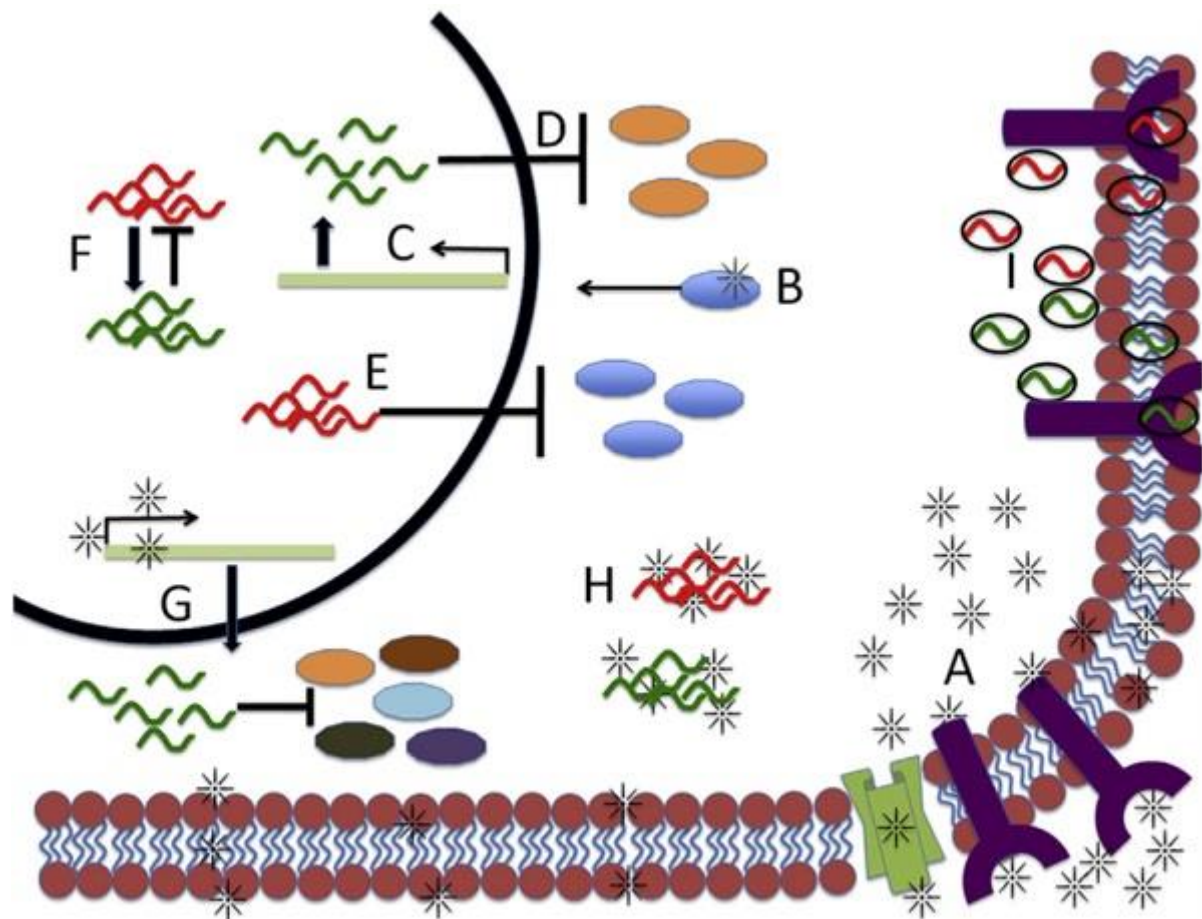
Aberrant tiers of circulating miRNAs were also evaluated in other cancers along with astrocytomas, esophageal cancer, ovarian most cancers, conventional renal cellular cancer (cRCC), osteosarcoma, papillary thyroid carcinoma (PTC), cervical most cancers, pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDAC), and biliary tract most cancers (BTC). Briefly, seven miRNAs (miR-15b\*, miR-23a, miR-133a, miR-a hundred and fifty\*, miR-197, miR-497 and miR-548b-5p) were shown to be appreciably decreased within the serum of patients with astrocytomas and those seven-miRNA panels were able to expect malignant astrocytomas with a excessive sensitivity (88.00%) and specificity (ninety seven.87%). Next, better degrees of miR-205 and decrease stages of allow-7f have

been observed within the plasma of patients with epithelial ovarian cancers (EOC), than in healthful controls. This two miRNA panel turned into capable of offer excessive diagnostic accuracy for EOC, specially in sufferers with degree I disease. In addition, a three-miRNA signature (upregulated miR-21 and downregulated miR-199a-3p and miR-143) within the plasma of osteosarcoma sufferers was proven to discriminate osteosarcoma from controls with an AUC of 0.953. Moreover, serum stages of let-7e, miR-151-5p, and miR-222 have been proven to be significantly increased in PTC cases as compared to benign cases and healthful controls and aggregate of those three miRNAs had a excessive diagnostic sensitivity and specificity for PTC. Furthermore, miR-21 turned into shown to be considerably improved within the plasma of BTC sufferers and inside the serum of esophageal cancer sufferers, than in healthy controls. More importantly, ROC evaluation indicated that miR-21 ought to differentiate BTC sufferers from healthful controls with an AUC of 0.93. Similarly, miR-210 changed into proven to be considerably improved in the serum of cRCC patients; miR-375 became proven to be notably multiplied within the plasma of PDAC patients; decreased

miRNA-218 in the serum of sufferers with cervical most cancers was proven to be associated with later tiers, cervical adenocarcinoma, and lymphatic node metastasis.<sup>16</sup>

### MiRNA-primarily based most cancers remedy

Due to the relevant function of miRNAs in cancer initiation and development, they had been a supply of interest for several years, specially whether or not those miRNAs can be centered or not. As already defined, it has been located that several pills can alter miRNA expression. Moreover, if sure cancers are in particular "addicted" to precise miRNAs (named oncomiR dependancy) then concentrated on particular miRNAs selectively ought to reduce off-goal toxicity. Investigators are inquisitive about designing inhibitors for oncogenic miRNAs and mimics for tumor-suppressor miRNAs which could act on my own or synergistically with currently authorised remedies. In the past ten years numerous strategies of design of miRNA inhibitors had been designed. One approach of miRNA inhibition has been the usage of modified nucleic acids that could bind and inhibit the mature miRNAs.



**Figure 3.** MicroRNAs and cancer therapy. There are multiple ways which microRNAs can be affected by drug therapy. Drugs can either through the cell membrane or bind to receptors or cellular channels (A) to enter the cell. Once inside drugs can bind to protein targets or transcription factors (B) to affect miRNA expression (C) or conversely block the activation of protein targets and prevent that target from activating or blocking a miRNA. By driving miRNA expression this can now lead to inhibition of oncogenes (D) or tumor suppressors (E). Furthermore, miRNAs could potentially regulate each other (F) meaning drugs can have multiple effects on miRNAs. Another possibility is that the drug can directly bind to the regulatory region of miRNAs either inhibiting or inducing expression (G), which can then lead to decrease of miRNA-target genes. Drugs can also potentially bind to miRNAs themselves or to miRNA binding partners (H) leading to a change in miRNA function. Finally miRNAs themselves can be drugs either as modified nucleic acids or as oligos or antisense oligos and then packaged into either viruses or microvesicles and macrovesicles. These miRNAs can enter the cell freely to inhibit downstream targets or potentially bind to cellular receptors (I). Thus, by changing miRNA expression it could change the ability of a cell to respond to drugs either by activating resistance or bestowing sensitivity through a multitude of mechanisms. These are some of the most common mechanisms that miRNAs can be affected by drugs or act as a drug themselves.<sup>2</sup>

An example of that is the anti-miR which could have various chemical modifications that enhance characteristic and growth balance together with locked nucleic acids (LNAs), peptic nucleic acids, phosphorothioate changes, 200-Me and 20-fluoro substitutions and morpholinos. Such miRNA inhibitors were examined effectively in more than one experiments and are currently being evaluated for scientific functions. In assessment, nude miRNA mimics can be packaged immediately with shipping vehicles for therapy. Another energetic location with miRNA research has been the transport of miRNA inhibitors or miRNA mimics to target host regions. One powerful approach is using engineered viruses that result in miRNA inhibition thru the expression of transcripts complementary to mature miRNA sequences. These viral transport methods have had large success in laboratory studies but have limited effectiveness in sufferers because of concerns about off-goal results of the viruses along with immunogenicity and chromosomal incorporations. Another issue is the incapacity to specially target the virus to the tumor and thereby generating toxicity as several of these miRNAs manipulate host processes critical for issues outside of the tumor. Another mechanism for the shipping of miRNA-based totally cures is using nanoparticles. The nanoparticle shipping technique appears appealing as it avoids several of the worries used for viral shipping systems. The nanoparticle transport method has been shown to maintain tremendous capacity. For example, Su et al observed that lipid nanoparticles that contained 20fluoro-modified anti-miR-122 extensively inhibited tumor increase. Another approach currently developed was the usage of biodegradable polymer nanoparticles containing anti-miRNAs to inhibit miR-a hundred and fifty five in a mouse version of pre-B-mobile lymphoma. Nanoparticles conjugated with focused on molecules for unique binding have additionally been designed and examined. For example, Huang et al designed moving-conjugated anionic lipopolyplex nanoparticles carrying miR-29b and showed their precise binding to AML cells and good sized anti-leukemia activities in vitro and in vivo.<sup>2</sup>

## CONCLUSION

In summary miRNAs play crucial roles inside the tumorigenic manner and altered miRNA expression is related to the procedure of carcinogenesis and culminates inside the improvement of most cancers. Examples of miRNAs worried in human cancer. MiRNAs profiles are appreciably altered in severa cancers affecting the cells transcriptome. Nonetheless, these small RNAs are also subjected to regulation by many most cancers-related proteins inclusive of p53 and c-Myc. Their expression styles rely on tumor starting place, histotype, degree and grade. MiRNAs influence remedy responses and curability of tumors.<sup>18</sup> Aberrant DNA methylation and histone modification are major mechanisms underlying miRNA dysregulation in cancer, and methylation of a subset of miRNA genes may be useful biomarkers for detecting most cancers and/or predicting clinical final results. Moreover, replacement of silenced tumor-suppressive miRNAs in most cancers cells may be a promising approach for most cancers remedy.<sup>13</sup> The literature on microRNAs in most cancers has elevated at a super fee due to the fact they had been first connected with the sickness in 2002, and it is becoming hastily obvious that they have got medical utility for the prediction of analysis in various illnesses. In addition to

microRNAs, it's miles starting to emerge that there are other non-coding RNAs with as but unknown features, which include long non-coding RNAs, small nucleolar RNAs, and round RNAs, which may also offer clues to cancer mechanisms as well as improve molecular diagnostics for customized medicinal drug in human cancer.<sup>20</sup>

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