

NANOTECHNOLOGY FOR THE PREPARATION OF COSMETICS USING PLANT-BASED EXTRACTS

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Lipid vesicles: potential nanocarriers for the delivery of essential oils to combat skin aging

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6.1 Introduction

Since humanity's habitation of planet Earth, cosmetics have been an integral part of human culture. Nowadays, people all over the world are highly focused not only on health but also on beauty and looks. This means that the use of cosmetics is not a need generated by the cosmetic industry but something that has emerged spontaneously in human culture. In this fast-paced society, looking good is considered a requirement for a happy and successful lifestyle. The obsession with looking younger is not confined to the older generation. It has been noticed that people in the age group of 25–40 are progressively using antiaging cosmetics to look youthful. Recent breakthroughs in the cosmetics industry have sped up the availability of products marketed as “antiaging” cosmetics claiming magical outcomes with a short-term application. It is to be noted that natural aging is genetically determined, but extrinsic skin aging can be slowed down with the use of scientifically designed and evaluated cosmetic formulations. Higher demand for antiaging cosmetics has contributed to the launch of innovative antiaging cosmetics with minimum side effects by the cosmetics companies. According to market research, the global antiaging cosmetics market was estimated at US\$17.28 billion and is projected to hit US\$27.29 billion by 2026, with a composite annual growth rate (CAGR) of 5.9% [1]. So the need of the hour is to put serious efforts into the development of such products to fulfill the stated claims in the case of extrinsic skin aging.

Smoking, sun exposure, alcohol, unhealthy habits, etc. are key causes of premature skin aging [2]. Antiaging cosmetics are claimed to not only minimize the signs of skin aging (e.g., black spots, fine lines, wrinkles) but also boost skin texture and hydration, enhance collagen and elastin, and protect the skin from ultraviolet (UV) rays. We are living in an age when people are becoming more conscious about the ingredients in the cosmetics they are applying to their body. The inquisitiveness of consumers about the impact of synthetic beauty ingredients on the body has caused a shift to the conscious use of cosmetics. The use of

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