

An in vivo and in vitro investigation on a novel silica-based antibacterial coating for titanium implant

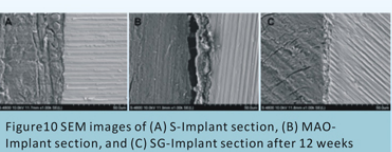
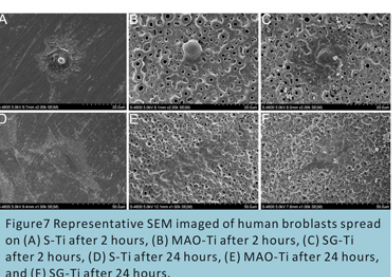
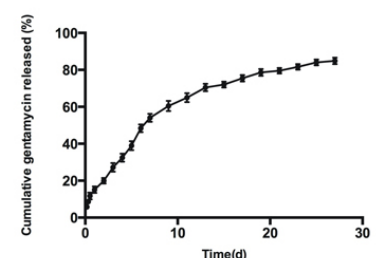
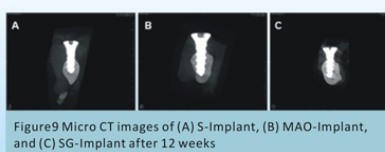
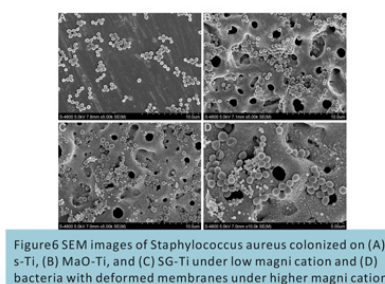
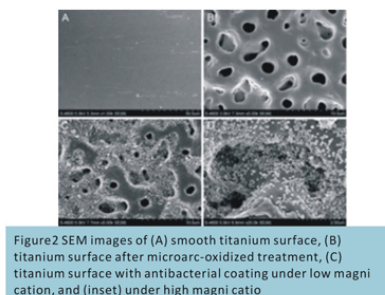
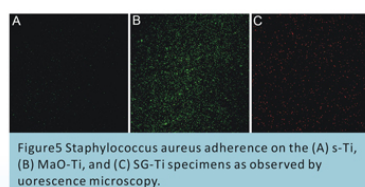
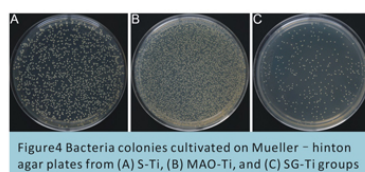
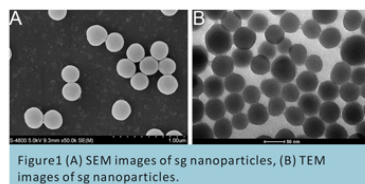
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Introduction and Purpose: Although titanium implant prosthesis has become the best choice for the missing teeth, peri-implantitis still occurs at a significant rate. This unwanted complication occurs due to adhesion of bacteria and subsequent bioinfection. To solve this problem, our team has developed a novel self-decomposable silica nanoparticle-based coating on micro arc-oxidized titanium implant.

Materials and methods: In this study, silica-gentamycin (SG) nanoparticles were successfully fabricated using an innovative one-pot solution. The nanoparticles were incorporated within a gelatin matrix and cross-linked on micro arc-oxidized titanium. To characterize the SG nanoparticles, their particle size, zeta potential, surface morphology, in vitro drug release, and decomposition process were sequentially evaluated. The antibacterial properties against the gram-positive *Staphylococcus aureus*, including bacterial viability, antibacterial rate, and bacteria morphology, were analyzed using SG-loaded titanium specimens. Any possible influence of released gentamycin on the viability of human fibroblasts, which are the main component of soft tissues, was investigated. Titanium specimens with antibacterial coating were implanted into rat tibia to evaluate the formation ability of a stable skin-implant seal. The animals were killed for the examinations of gross, scanning electron microscope (SEM), micro CT, and histological studies 12 weeks of operation.

Results: SG nanoparticles from the antibacterial titanium coating continuously released gentamycin and inhibited *S. aureus* growth. In vitro investigation showed that the obtained nanodelivery system has good biocompatibility. Results also indicated that the designed coating titanium screws are more suitable for the application of implant which penetrates the skin when compared to the control groups.



Conclusions: Therefore, this design can be further investigated as a method to prevent infection around implants.

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