



Characterization of Implantation's Biomaterials Based on the Patient and Doctor Expectations



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Abstract

The aim of this research is to characterize the biomaterials for different implant applications in human body. Biomaterials have been used in different parts of human body such as hips, bones, joints, stents, etc. As these materials are using in different parts of human body, they need to represent properties compatible to the required part which is called biocompatibility. Even the expectations of the patient and doctor from the biomaterials implantation surgery can seriously affect the selection of biomaterials. For an instance, if the patient is too old, they may need to use a biomaterial that may dissolve in human body thus the second surgery for implant removal can be eliminated for the patient convenience. The selection of biomaterials that can offer suitable properties is of high significance. In some cases, they need to be tough like bones and joints with enough stiffness. In some implantations, they need to be flexible like stents for heart valves. In some of the cases, they need to be anti-corrosion due to the hostile environment in human body fluid. On the other hand, in some cases they need to dissolve in human body to eliminate the implantation removal surgery. Furthermore, it seems necessary to evaluate the biomaterials based on their fatigue life because they are subjected to cyclic loads in human body. The objective of this study is to characterize the properties of different biomaterials that can help the doctor and the patient to select the best biomaterials based on their expectations from the implantation surgery.

Keywords: Titanium; Magnesium; Alloys; Human body fluid

Introduction

It has been years that scientists and doctors are looking for biomaterials with adequate mechanical properties and biocompatibility to use in human body as a replacement for bones, joints, hips, etc. [1].

In order to investigate the environmental effect of human body on biomaterials, many experimental procedures are performed [2]. In 2017, the role of metallic materials as biomaterials in human body is introduced by Santos [3]. Metallic materials can be used in artificial valves in the heart, stents in blood vessels, replacement implants in shoulder, knees, hips, elbows, ears and ortho dental structures [3]. Recently, Titanium alloys have attracted many researchers due to their excellence biocompatibility [4,5].

Furthermore, numbers of investigations are performed to characterize the corrosion and fatigue resistance of titanium and magnesium alloys. The reason behind is that corrosion of metallic materials in human body is one of the important issues that needs to be studied. This is due to the corrosive environment of human body fluid. In addition, fatigue is due to the cyclic loads in human body as a result of dynamic loads such as walking, running, etc. Among the investigations in this area, "comparative corrosion behavior of titanium alloys for dental implants" is provided by Lopes et al. [6]. "Resistance of Magnesium alloys to corrosion fatigue for

biodegradable implant applications" is submitted by Raman & Harandi [7]. In addition, "fatigue and corrosion fatigue of Ti-6Al-4V implant grade Titanium alloy in ringer solution" is presented by Yazdani et al. [8]. Furthermore, recently, numbers of studies to predict the fatigue life and failure of materials are provided by Anvari [9-13].

Magnesium against natural bone

Table 1: Comparison of the mechanical properties of natural bone with magnesium implants [9].

| Properties | Natural Bone | Magnesium |
|--|--------------|-----------|
| Density (g/cm ³) | 1.7-2.0 | 1.74-2.0 |
| Elastic Modulus (MPa) | 3-20 | 41-45 |
| Tensile Strength (MPa) | 80-150 | 170-270 |
| Compressive Yield Strength (MPa) | 130-180 | 65-100 |
| Elongation at Failure (%) | 1-7 | 6-20 |
| Fracture Toughness (MPa m ^{1/2}) | 3-6 | 15-40 |

In Table 1 [14], mechanical properties of natural bone and Magnesium are indicated. With a quick review of the mechanical properties of natural bone and Magnesium, it can be concluded

that the values of the material properties of natural bone and Magnesium are close to each other. With the further assessment of Table 1, it is easy to find out that the value of density in natural bone (1.7 to 2.0g/cm³) is approximately in the same range as Magnesium density (1.74 to 2.0g/cm³). It is one of the reasons that Magnesium is one of the best biomaterials for the application of implantations in human body as is a perfect match with natural bone based on density.

Conclusion

In the case of choosing biomaterials as implantations in human body, many options are introduced. Among these options, it seems that Magnesium and its alloys are very suitable to use as biomaterials in human body because of their excellent mechanical properties. In addition, Magnesium and its alloys seem to be biocompatible with human body environment and consequently, it appears they have no harm for human body. Moreover, these biomaterials can dissolve in human body fluid hence they can prevent from second surgery. Avoiding second surgery is very useful because sometimes the patient is too old for the second surgery. Furthermore, generally, doctors and patients are always looking for ways to reduce the numbers of surgery.

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