

# Antibacterial Coating of Implants



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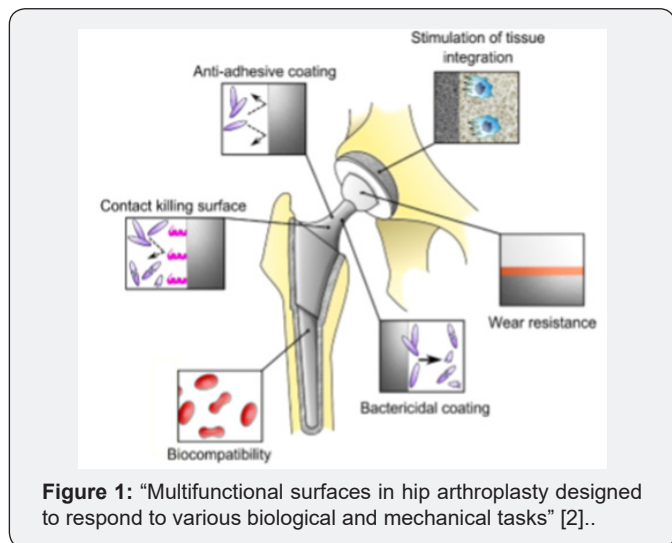
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## Introduction

Biomaterials are biological or artificial elements designed to perform, improve or replace the normal tasks of unique tissues, depending on the biological system. The best biomaterial properties vary depending on the substituted tissue and the required function. Many researchers have focused on “the development of effective antibacterial surfaces that prevent bacterial adhesion” and spread to nearby tissues [1]. The purpose of this mini-review is to summarize the current knowledge in this area, its stress on technologies suitable for inhibiting joint infection in total joint arthroplasty. Related technologies may be involved in predicting surgical infections in additional orthopedic conditions related to implants, such as plates and external fixators.

## Perspectives of Antibacterial Modification



Numerous principles have been proposed from basic research to transform orthopedic implants into technologies appropriate for the antibacterial effect. It is easy to distinguish

between technologies that offer anti-adhesion properties, those who work as antimicrobial agents, and those that combine the attitudes mentioned above. Anti-infective surfaces can be categorized by as “contact killing” and by eluting the antimicrobial agent [2]. The coatings may also be degradable and non-degradable. In terms of functionality, the surfaces can be separated as single-function and multi-functional. The second is expected to target several biological tasks at the same time (Figure 1). A “smart surface” is a completely different method designed as a self-responding, multitasking micro machine that removes antimicrobial materials after being inspired by microbiological indications.

## Titanium Surface Antibacterial Modification

A wide variety of materials are used as biomaterials; however, we will focus on the surface modification of titanium in this mini-review. Ti and its alloys (adding V, Fe and Nb into Ti-6Al alloy) are one of the most commonly used materials for both trauma and elective applications in orthopedics. Ti has better corrosion resistance, high strength, low density and elastic modulus than other metals. The advantage of using Ti-based alloys is that they are not reactive due to automatic passivation. Conversely, the bioinert structure of Ti also means that it does not exhibit osteoinduction as a flat surface. Titanium is a very compatible material, and many methods have been used to connect the porous architecture to adapt surface roughness and support osseointegration. Common micro-scale surface modification methods for enhanced osseointegration can be separated into surface roughening (e.g., plasma spray, etching and anodising) and surface coating (e.g., hydroxyapatite (HA) coating). Presently marketed implants include a porous coating; plasma spray HA coating; HA coated plasma spray HA coated sintered titanium beads on porous plasma spray titanium alloy. Clinical studies have shown good clinical results and prosthetic persistence with uncontaminated fixation [3]. However, the

effect of macro-micro-surface roughness on bone growth is insufficient [4]. Many of these methods produce bone growth due to wear and deterioration on the surface due to poor attachment between the surface layer and underlying implant, rather than allowing growth and bone growth [5]. In addition, the effect of these surface changes on bacterial adhesion and biofilm formation was investigated.

### Adverse effects of surface modification

The wear particles from both the bed and the implant materials may be limited and have universal implications. Wear particles are found in the “liver, spleen and lymph nodes and silver nanoparticles” are recognized in brain astrocytes [6]. Wearing polyethylene wear particles are one of the main causes of periprosthetic osteolysis which causes the release and failure of the implant. “Particle size plays an important role in defining the cellular reaction”. “Particle sizes greater than 500nm tend to be immersed by professional phagocytes with an actin-dependent mechanism [7], but small particles are endocytosis by non-professional phagocytic cells”. Ti wear particles (1.5–4µm) have adverse effects on osteoblast spread and feasibility, convincing fibroblasts to increase the activity of MMP2 and 9, which causes the release of matrix metalloproteinases (MMP) in osteolysis and decreases bone development. Micrometric Ti particles reduced Saos-2 adhesion strength, migration and diffusion. In addition, Ti wear particles induce the production of inflammatory cytokines, induce lymphocytes to initiate an immune reaction and increase vascular endothelial growth factor expression [8].

“Ti dioxide (TiO<sub>2</sub>) is widely used for nanoscale surface modification”; however, TiO<sub>2</sub>-specific nanoparticles may have opposing effects. It has been shown that TiO<sub>2</sub> nanoparticles are distributed to the heart, lung and liver, and can pass through the placenta [9]. It has been shown in a mouse model that it is transferred to offspring and affects the cranial nervous system, has a large number of “immunomodulatory effects and may be associated with genotoxicity” [10]. “In the local setting, TiO<sub>2</sub> nanoparticles have been shown to adversely affect cell migration and MSC differentiation in rats”. In contrast, no long-term clinical trial showed any hostile effect on the distribution of TiO<sub>2</sub> particles.

### Conclusion

Inhibition is the best response to the increasing problem of orthopedic implant infections. The work in the field of antibacterial surface treatment has emerged in numerous skilled technologies. Bacterial adhesion and a little delay in the early stages of biofilm development. Others have smooth antibacterial properties. Policies involving nanotechnologies have created numerous potentials. Potentially, multifunctional smart surfaces can open up new ways to prevent bacterial adhesion but can also open new paths for the healing and restoration of tissue homeostasis.

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