

**INFLUENCE OF ACIDIC CALCIUM PHOSPHATE
SOLUTION CONCENTRATION ON THE
PROPERTIES OF DICALCIUM PHOSPHATE
DIHYDRATE COATED ON β -TRICALCIUM
PHOSPHATE PELLETS**

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**INFLUENCE OF ACIDIC CALCIUM
PHOSPHATE SOLUTION CONCENTRATION ON
THE PROPERTIES OF DICALCIUM
PHOSPHATE DIHYDRATE COATED ON
 β -TRICALCIUM PHOSPHATE PELLETS**

by

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**Thesis submitted in fulfilment of the requirements
for the degree of Master of Science**

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that I have conducted, completed the research work and written the dissertation entitled **“Influence of Acidic Calcium Phosphate Solution Concentration on The Properties of Dicalcium Phosphate Dihydrate Coated On β -Tricalcium Phosphate Pellets”**. I also declare that it has not been previously submitted for the award of any degree or diploma of similar title as this for any other examining body or university.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

DECLARATION.....	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.....	iv
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	v
LIST OF TABLES	ix
LIST OF FIGURES	x
LIST OF SYMBOLS	xiii
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	xiv
ABSTRAK	xv
ABSTRACT	xvi
CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 Background of Research	1
1.2 Problem Statements.....	2
1.3 Research Objectives	4
1.4 Research Approach	4
CHAPTER 2 LITERATURE REVIEW.....	7
2.1 Introduction of bioceramics as bone substitute materials for clinical application	7
2.2 Categories of calcium phosphate groups.....	12
2.2.1 Dicalcium phosphate dihydrate (DCPD)	12
2.2.2 Monocalcium phosphate monohydrate (MCPM)	15
2.2.3 Octacalcium phosphate (OCP).....	15
2.2.4 Amorphous calcium phosphate (ACP)	16
2.2.5 Tricalcium phosphate (TCP).....	17
2.2.5.1 α -Tricalcium phosphate	17
2.2.5.2 β -Tricalcium phosphate	18

2.2.6	Hydroxyapatite (HAp)	19
2.3	Tricalcium phosphate as bone substitute materials	20
2.4	Advantages of β -tricalcium phosphate as bone substitute	21
2.4.1	Bone regeneration	21
2.4.2	Cell responses	22
2.4.3	Solubility effect.....	23
2.5	Types of β -tricalcium phosphate as bone substitute.....	26
2.5.1	β -TCP granules	26
2.5.2	β -TCP cements.....	27
2.5.3	β -TCP blocks	28
2.5.4	β -TCP scaffolds	29
2.6	Osteoconductivity issue of β -tricalcium phosphate as bone substitute materials	30
2.7	Recent studies to improve osteoconductivity of β -TCP bone substitute materials	31
CHAPTER 3 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY		33
3.1	Introduction	33
3.2	Raw materials and chemicals	33
3.2.1	Calcium carbonate powder.....	33
3.2.2	Dicalcium phosphate dihydrate (DCPD) powder	34
3.2.3	Monocalcium phosphate monohydrate (MCPM) powder	34
3.2.4	Ethanol	34
3.2.5	Phosphoric acid solution	34
3.2.6	Hank's balanced salt solution	35
3.3	Preparation of acidic calcium phosphate solution.....	35
3.4	Fabrication of specimen pellets.....	36
3.5	Exposure of pellet specimen in acidic calcium phosphate solution	37

3.6	Evaluation of HAp formation on DCPD-coated β -TCP pellet in Hank's Balanced Salt Solution	38
3.7	Specimens characterizations	39
3.7.1	Phase compositional analysis.....	39
3.7.2	Functional group analysis	40
3.7.3	Morphological analysis	40
3.7.4	Surface topographical analysis.....	41
3.7.5	Porosity test.....	41
3.7.6	Compression test.....	42
3.7.7	Dissolution rate analysis	43
3.7.8	pH analysis	43
3.7.9	Evaluation of hydroxyapatite formation	44
CHAPTER 4	RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	45
4.1	Introduction	45
4.2	Characterization of raw materials	46
4.2.1	Physical appearance of raw materials	46
4.2.2	Morphology of raw materials.....	47
4.2.3	Phase analysis of raw materials	48
4.3	Effect of acidic calcium phosphate solution concentration in fabricating bi-layer DCPD-coated β -TCP bioceramics	50
4.3.1	Physical appearance	50
4.3.2	Phase analysis of pellet specimen	53
4.3.3	Phase compositional analysis of bi-layer DCPD-coated β -TCP pellet	54
4.3.4	Functional group analysis	57
4.3.5	Surface morphological analysis	58
4.3.6	Surface topographical analysis.....	61
4.3.7	Porosity analysis	63

4.3.8	Compression test	65
4.3.9	Dissolution rate and pH analysis.....	66
4.4	Assessment of hydroxyapatite formation on bi-layer DCPD-coated β -tricalcium phosphate bioceramic.....	69
4.4.1	Phase compositional analysis.....	69
4.4.2	FTIR analysis	72
4.4.3	Morphological analysis	73
4.4.4	Topography analysis	76
CHAPTER 5 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATION.....		78
5.1	Conclusion.....	78
5.2	Recommendation.....	79
REFERENCES.....		80
APPENDIX A: CONCENTRATION OF CALCIUM AND PHOSPHATE IONS.....		89
APPENDIX B: CALCULATION OF CALCIUM TO PHOSPHATE RATIO .		90
APPENDIX C: CALIBRATION CURVE.....		91

LIST OF TABLES

	Page
Table 2.1: Various type of bioceramics and its application as a bone substitute for clinical	9
Table 2.2: Various type of calcium phosphate with their calcium phosphate ratio (Ca/P)	13
Table 3.1: The concentration of Ca^{2+} and PO_4^{3-} ions in acidic calcium phosphate solution.....	36
Table 4.1: Particle size analysis of raw materials.	46
Table 4.2: Physical appearance of β -TCP pellet before and after soaking into different concentration of acidic calcium phosphate solution at various soaking time (enlargement of magnification shows shimmering condition of specimen).....	52
Table 4.3: The surface roughness value of β -TCP pellet after soaked with 50 mmol/L MCPM and 75 mmol/L MCPM at various soaking time.....	63
Table 4.4: The pH value of HBSS solution after soaked 3 hours treated pellet using different acidic calcium phosphate solution at 1, 3 and 7 days...	68
Table 4.5: The surface roughness value of β -TCP pellet specimen treated for 3 hours using 50 mmol/L MCPM and 75 mmol/L MCPM pellet specimen soaked in HBSS solution at 1, 3 and 7 days.	76

LIST OF FIGURES

	Page
Figure 1.1: The flowchart process of fabricating bi-layer DCPD-coated β -TCP pellet and its characterization.....	6
Figure 2.1: Illustration of human body structure with bioceramics in clinical application.....	11
Figure 2.2: The SEM image of DCPD crystal formed.....	14
Figure 2.3: The interconnecting channel implants of α -TCP bone cement. The existence of fibro-vascular projections after (a) 15 days and (b) 180 days of the surgery	18
Figure 2.4: Image of HAp powder by using SEM.	20
Figure 2.5: The presence of new bone formation (B) around the β -TCP scaffolds (Sc).	22
Figure 2.6: The solubility phase diagram of (a) calcium ions and (b) orthophosphate ions	25
Figure 2.7: Morphological of β -TCP granules by SEM.....	27
Figure 2.8: Implantation of β -TCP granules at large calvarial bone defects area	27
Figure 2.9: Injectable TCP cement used as bone substitute in clinical application	28
Figure 2.10: The photographs of β -TCP block	29
Figure 2.11: The image of β -TCP scaffolds with the porosity around 40% and pore size of 500 μm	30
Figure 2.12: The function of acidic calcium phosphate solution over reaction time in the formation of DCPD	32

Figure 3.1: The sintering profile in the fabrication of β -TCP pellet.	36
Figure 3.2: The step involved in fabrication of β -TCP pellet.	37
Figure 3.3: Experimental set-up to coat DCPD layer on β -TCP pellet surfaces.	38
Figure 3.4: Experimental set-up for HAp formation assessment on bi-layer DCPD coated β -TCP pellets.	38
Figure 3.5: The steps involve in determine the porosity of β -TCP pellet.	42
Figure 3.6: Schematic diagram of compression strength analysis.	43
Figure 4.1: The photographs of raw materials (a) CaCO_3 , (b) DCPD and (c) MCPM powders which used in fabricating bi-layer DCPD layer coated β -TCP pellets.	47
Figure 4.2: The morphologies of raw materials at 1000x magnification for (a) CaCO_3 , (b) DCPD powders and at 5000x magnification for (c) MCPM powder taken by SEM.	48
Figure 4.3: The XRD patterns obtained from the raw materials with their standard of (a) CaCO_3 , (b) DCPD and (c) MCPM powders.	50
Figure 4.4: XRD result of fabrication of β -TCP pellet specimen.	53
Figure 4.5: XRD patterns of specimens after exposing β -TCP pellet with (a) 50 mmol/L MCPM-25mmol/L H_3PO_4 and (b) 75 mmol/L MCPM-25mmol/L H_3PO_4 at various soaking time.	55
Figure 4.6: The amount of DCPD (mass%) formed after soaked β -TCP pellet with different concentration of acidic calcium phosphate solution at various exposure time.	56
Figure 4.7: The FTIR analysis of β -TCP pellet specimen after treating with (a) 50 mmol/L MCPM-25 mmol/L H_3PO_4 and (b) 75 mmol/L MCPM-25 mmol/L H_3PO_4	58
Figure 4.8: Surface morphologies of specimens after soaking β -TCP pellet with 50 mmol/L MCPM and 75 mmol/L MCPM solutions at 1, 3 and 5 hours.	60

Figure 4.9: Surface topographical image of specimens before and after treated β -TCP pellet with 50 mmol/L MCPM and 75 mmol/L MCPM of acidic calcium phosphate solution at 1, 3 and 5 hours of soaking time.....	62
Figure 4.10: The schematic diagram illustrates the structure of DCPD crystal on the β -TCP pellets surfaces.....	63
Figure 4.11: Porosity analysis of specimens after treated β -TCP pellets with 50 mmol/L MCPM and 75 mmol/L MCPM at 1, 3 and 5 hours of soaking time.	64
Figure 4.12: The mechanism of acidic calcium phosphate solution penetrate through the pores inside β -TCP pellet.....	65
Figure 4.13: Compressive strength analysis of specimen after exposing β -TCP pellet with 50 mmol/L MCPM and 75 mmol/L MCPM at 1, 3 and 5 hours of soaking time.	66
Figure 4.14: Concentration of Ca^{2+} and PO_4^{3-} ions released in HBSS solution from (a-b) 50 mmol/L MCPM and (c-d) 75 mmol/L MCPM treated sample respectively.	68
Figure 4.15: pH value changes when 3 hours treated pellet specimen soaked in HBSS solution for 1, 3 and 7 days.	69
Figure 4.16: The XRD pattern of HAp formation after soaked 3 hours pellet specimen in (a) 50 mmol/L MCPM and (b) 75 mmol/L MCPM solution.....	71
Figure 4.17: FTIR analysis of 3 hours treated pellet with (a) 50 mmol/L MCPM and (b) 75 mmol/L MCPM in HBSS solution.	73
Figure 4.18: The morphologies image of 3 hours treated of bi-layer DCPD-coated β -TCP pellet before and after soaked in HBSS solution at physiological body condition for 1, 3 and 7 days.	75
Figure 4.19: Surface topographical image of specimens after treated β -TCP pellet treated for 3 hours using 50 mmol/L MCPM and 75 mmol/L MCPM pellet specimen in HBSS solution at physiological body condition for 1, 3 and 7 day.	77

LIST OF SYMBOLS

α	Alpha
β	Beta
θ	Theta
$^{\circ}$	Degree
μ	Micron
ρ	Density
π	Pi
nm	Nanometer
wt%	Weight percent
$^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{min}$	Degree celcius per minute
$^{\circ}\text{C}$	Degree celcius
mmol/L	Millimoles per litre
cm^{-1}	Wavelength

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

α -TCP	α -TRicalcium Phosphate
AFM	Atomic Force Microscopy
A.u	Arbitrary unit
ACP	Amorphous Calcium Phosphate
β -TCP	β -TRicalcium Phosphate
CaCO ₃	Calcium Carbonate
CaP	Calcium Phosphate
Ca/P ratio	Calcium to Phosphate ratio
DCPD	Dicalcium Phosphate Dihydrate
DTS	Diametral Tensile Strength
FESEM	Field Emission Scanning Electron Microscope
FTIR	Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy
H ₃ PO ₄	Phosphoric Acid
HAp	Hydroxyapatite
HBSS	Hank's Balanced Salt Solution
ICDD	International Centre for Diffraction Data
ICP-OES	Inductive coupled plasma-optical emission spectrometry
L/P ratio	Liquid to pellets ratio
MCPM	Monocalcium Phosphate Monohydrate
MPa	Mega Pascal
OCP	Octacalcium Phosphate
TCP	Tricalcium Phosphate
XRD	X-ray Diffraction

**PENGARUH KEPEKATAN LARUTAN KALSIUM FOSFAT BERASID
TERHADAP SIFAT-SIFAT PELET β -TRIKALSIUM FOSFAT
DISALUTI DIKALSIUM FOSFAT DIHIDRAT**

ABSTRAK

Matlamat kajian ini adalah untuk mengkaji kesan kepekatan larutan kalsium fosfat berasid dalam penghasilan pelet β -trikalsium fosfat yang disaluti oleh dikalsium fosfat dihidrat (DCPD). Pelet β -TCP akan didedahkan kepada larutan kalsium fosfat berasid selama 1, 3 dan 5 jam bagi menghasilkan lapisan salutan DCPD di atas pelet β -TCP melalui tindak balas penguraian-pemendakan. Beberapa kaedah pencirian seperti Pembelauan Sinar-X (XRD), Spektroskopi Inframerah Transformasi Fourier (FTIR), Mikroskop Elektron Imbasan (SEM), Mikroskop Daya Atom (AFM), analisis keliangan dan ujian mampatan telah dijalankan ke atas spesimen. Analisa XRD dan SEM menunjukkan jumlah kristal DCPD yang termendak di atas pelet akan meningkat apabila kepekatan larutan kalsium fosfat berasid ditingkatkan. Peningkatan jumlah pembentukan DCPD akan mengurangkan keliangan sehingga 20% dan meningkatkan kekuatan mekanikal spesimen hingga mencapai 40%. Sementara itu, analisis XRD dan SEM menunjukkan bahawa pembentukan hidroksiapatit (HAp) akan meningkat apabila masa rendaman bagi pelet β -TCP yang didedahkan selama 3 jam dengan menggunakan kepekatan larutan kalsium fosfat berasid yang berbeza dalam larutan garam seimbang Hank (HBSS) ditingkatkan pada keadaan fisiologi badan. Oleh itu, berdasarkan kajian ini menunjukkan bahawa jumlah penghasilan salutan DCPD di atas pelet β -TCP dapat dikawal dengan mengubah kepekatan larutan kalsium fosfat berasid yang dapat mencetuskan pembentukan HAp pada keadaan fisiologi badan.

**INFLUENCE OF ACIDIC CALCIUM PHOSPHATE SOLUTION
CONCENTRATION ON THE PROPERTIES OF DICALCIUM PHOSPHATE
DIHYDRATE COATED ON β -TRICALCIUM PHOSPHATE PELLETS**

ABSTRACT

The aim of this study is to investigate the effect of acidic calcium phosphate solution concentration in fabricating dicalcium phosphate dihydrate (DCPD) coated on β -TCP pellets. β -TCP pellets were exposed to an acidic calcium phosphate solution for 1, 3 and 5 hours in order to obtain DCPD-coated layer on β -TCP pellets through dissolution-precipitation reaction. Several characterization methods such as X-Ray Diffraction (XRD), Fourier-Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR), Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM), Atomic Force Microscope (AFM), porosity analysis and compression test were carried out on specimen. The analyses of XRD and SEM showed that the amount of DCPD crystal precipitated on the pellets were increased when increasing the acidic calcium phosphate solution concentration. Increasing the amount of DCPD formation will reduced the porosity until 20% and increased the mechanical strength of specimen up to 40%. Meanwhile, XRD and SEM analyses showed that hydroxyapatite (HAp) formation were increased after increasing the soaking time of β -TCP pellet treated for 3 hours using different concentration of acidic calcium phosphate solution in Hank's Balanced Salt Solution (HBSS). Therefore, based on this study shows that the amount of DCPD coated on β -TCP pellet could be regulated by changing the concentration of acidic calcium phosphate solution that induced HAp formation at physiological body condition.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Research

Calcium phosphate (CaP) is one of the promising bone substitute material that had been widely used in clinics and hospitals. This material are well known for their good biocompatibility inside the body (Kwon et al., 2003). In addition, calcium phosphate also have the ability to regenerate new bone formation when being implanted in the body (Dong et al., 2002). Moreover, CaP had bioactive properties where it can induced specific biologic response with living tissues (Veis et al., 2009). Besides, CaP also having an important roles in human and animal daily lives due to the main components of the bone and teeth containing calcium phosphate itself (Habraken et al., 2016).

Currently, calcium phosphate bone substitute are being applied in various applications such as orthopaedic, dentistry and maxillofacial surgery. Also, CaP had widely studied as potential candidate for drug delivery application as they are compatible with the drugs (Cheng and Kuhn, 2007) such as gentamicin (Sundblom, Gallinetti, Birgersson, Engqvist, & Kihlström, 2019) and vancomycin (Uchida et al., 2018). Moreover, in the application of bone tissue engineering, CaP are mainly used as artificial bone substitute which help to induced formation of new bone (Canillas et al., 2017). Nowadays, calcium phosphate bone substitute materials has been produces in various shapes such as calcium phosphate cements (Xu et al., 2006), coatings (Paital and Dahotre, 2009), blocks (Lim et al., 2015), pellets (Baradari et al., 2012) and scaffolds (Shepherd and Best, 2011).

Beta-tricalcium phosphate (β -TCP) is one of the calcium phosphate that had been widely used due to their good biodegradability and biocompatibility despite higher dissolution after being implanted in the body. While dissolution process occurs in the body, osteoclast cell will resorbed the β -TCP and new bone formation will deposited on the β -TCP by osteoblast cells (Billington & Reid, 2019). Although, β -TCP show good new bone formation after implantation, its osteoconductivity are still inferior with the natural bone after implantation takes place in the large bone defect area. Therefore, recent study by Shariff et al., (2017) reported that osteoconductivity of β -TCP bone substitute in large bone defect size (above 6mm) was improved after coating β -TCP granular surfaces with a layer of dicalcium phosphate dihydrate (DCPD). Based on this idea, in this study, influence of acidic calcium phosphate solution concentration in fabricating bi-layer DCPD-coated β -TCP pellet will be investigated and its biological response towards Hank's Balanced salt Solution (HBSS) will be evaluated.

1.2 Problem Statements

Beta-tricalcium phosphate (β -TCP) had been widely used as artificial bone substitutes due to their similar chemical composition with natural bone. This advantages contributed to the good biocompatibility and osteoconductivity of β -TCP bone substitute. However, the new bone formation rate of β -TCP bone substitute is still inferior towards large bone defect size due to quick dissolution of β -TCP in large bone defect area (Zheng et al., 2014). Therefore, if new bone formation rate of β -TCP can be enhanced, its clinical applications could be enhanced.

Recent study by Shariff et al., (2017) had reported that the osteoconductivity of β -TCP were improved by coating β -TCP granular surfaces with a layer of dicalcium

phosphate dihydrate (DCPD). Histological evaluation using rats calvarial model shows that the β -TCP granules coated with 5 mass% amount of DCPD shows the largest new bone formation after implanted in rat calvarial for 2 and 4 weeks. Besides, in-vivo studies done by Fukuda et al., (2018) and Eddy et al., (2018) found that the presence of DCPD phase in β -TCP granular cement were significantly improved the new bone formation after implanted in 9 mm of rat calvarial bone defect size. Although this studies succeed to prove that DCPD phase can improved the new bone formation rate of β -TCP granular, there is no clearly study has been carried out in order to understand the correlation between in-vivo and in-vitro responses towards bi-layer DCPD-coated on β -TCP granular. Previous study had reported that the granular shape specimens show drawbacks during cell studies such as high probability of cells to be detached from the specimens due to the irregular shape of granules (Mebarki et al., 2017).

Meanwhile, there is a study reported that advantageous of pellet shape specimen for cell studies purposes. Study by Huang et al., (2017) found that cell can be easily attached on the pellet surface specimen during in-vitro study. This is due to the pellets shaped having flat shape surface while granules have irregular shape surface. Therefore, in this study, effect of acidic calcium phosphate concentration in fabricating bi-layer DCPD-coated on β -TCP pellet will be investigate and its biological activity will be tested using Hank's Balanced Salt Solution (HBSS).

1.3 Research Objectives

1. To investigate the effect of acidic calcium phosphate solution concentration in fabricating bi-layer DCPD-coated β -TCP pellet and its mechanical properties.
2. To evaluate hydroxyapatite formation on bi-layer DCPD-coated β -TCP pellet after exposing with Hank's Balanced Salt Solution at physiological body condition.

1.4 Research Approach

To determine the effect of acidic calcium phosphate solution in fabricating bi-layer DCPD-coated β -TCP pellet. There are two different concentration of acidic calcium phosphate solution were used which 50 mmol/L MCPM–25 mmol/L H_3PO_4 and 75mmol/L MCPM-25 mmol/L H_3PO_4 . The exposure time for the coating process of DCPD on β -TCP pellet were set to at 1, 3 and 5 hours.

From the first stage, the characterization of bi-layer DCPD-coated β -TCP pellet were examined using X-ray Diffraction (XRD) which used to analyse the phase compositional present in the pellet. The presence of functional group in the specimen was analysed using Fourier Transform Infrared spectroscopy (FTIR). The surface and cross section morphology of the pellets were examined using Field Emission Scanning Electron Microscopy (FESEM). Moreover, Atomic Force Microscopy (AFM) was used to analyse the surface topography and surface roughness of the specimens. The relationship between porosity and compressive strength test was conducted in order to evaluate the mechanical properties of the pellets. Next, the pH analysis was carried out to determine the pH value of the HBSS solution after being exposed with the pellets.

Then, dissolution behaviour of Ca and P ions for the specimens were measured using Inductive coupled plasma-optical emission spectrometry (ICP-OES).

Based on the characterization in the first stage, specimen treated for 3 hours using both concentration of acidic calcium phosphate solution were selected for biological evaluation using HBSS solution at physiological body condition. Assessment of hydroxyapatite formation on the bi-layer DCPD-coated β -TCP pellet were evaluated using XRD, FTIR, FESEM and AFM. The method of producing bi-layer DCPD-coated β -TCP pellet and its biological test were summarized in Figure 1.1.

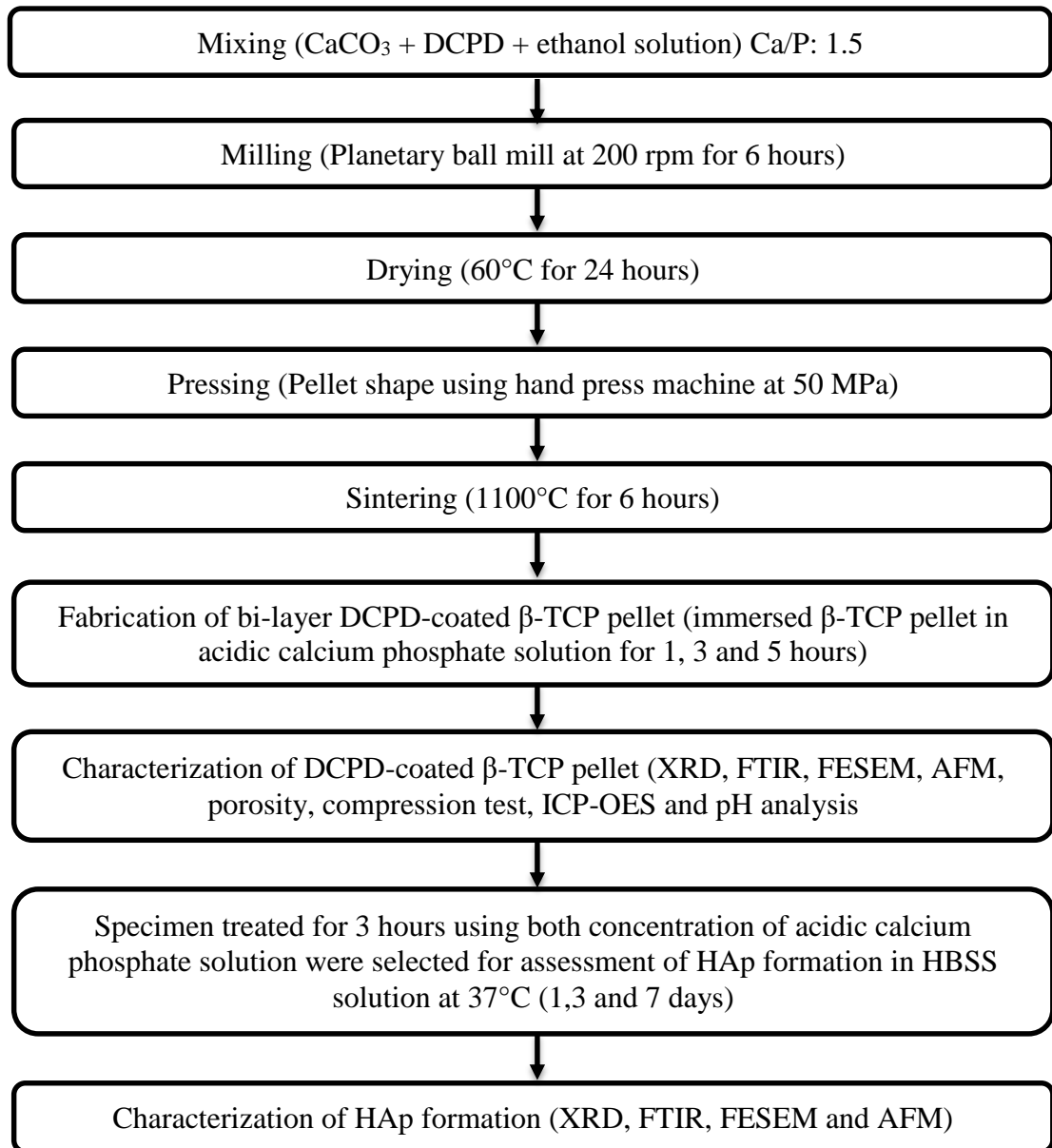


Figure 1.1: The flowchart process of fabricating bi-layer DCPD-coated β -TCP pellet and its characterization.

CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction of bioceramics as bone substitute materials for clinical application

Bioceramics is a type of ceramics with biological functionality and its classify as the advanced ceramics material, product or component that utilize in wide range of clinical application. Usually, bioceramics is used for repairing and replacing the damaged of bone tissues depending on the application. Since the human and animal bodies consist of bioceramics such as teeth and bone, this bioceramics give an outstanding application to replace various bioceramics parts. Moreover, bioceramics have the properties of biocompatibility and bioactive which helps in the interaction with the surrounding tissues in the body either by supporting tissue growth or by inducing new bone formation. Some of the clinical application of bioceramics that has been widely used are hip prosthesis, cardiac valves and dental implants which due to their great inertness to physiological fluids, having a high compressive strength and give the aesthetic value (Shanmugam & Sahadevan, 2018).

Besides, bioceramics can act as a bioinert ceramics where it remains inactive in mechanical load carrier application (Roy, Bandyopadhyay, & Bose, 2016). In addition, there various types of biological interaction that should be considered between the materials and the body immune system. First, the toxicity of the materials which tissues could die due to the chemical leaching from the ceramics. This reaction usually happens when the tissue are react with implanted material and shows an inflammatory response where it is usually develop around 2 to 7 days after implantation . Second, the biologically inert of the materials which the tissues can

forms a non-adherent fibrous capsule around the implant surface. In other words, introducing a bioinert materials to the body and will not cause any harmful reaction. Third, bioactive materials which the tissue can chemically make a bonding with the surface of implants. The bonding was due to the formation of hydroxyapatite on the materials when immersed in body fluid (Mohamed, El-Aziz, & Breitingner, 2019).

An osteoconductive material is one of the bioactive materials where the material can makes a bond with the hard tissues and stimulate the new bone formation. The bond formed are strong due to the similar apatite layer in host bone (Hench & Jones, 2005). Lastly, the dissolution of implant in which the surface of implant dissolves and allow tissues to fully spread into the space occupied by the implant before. The main bioactivity mechanism of calcium phosphate (CaP) is dissolution and release of ionic products where it is mainly depends on their chemical composition. Studied by Eliaz and Metoki, (2017) mentioned that CaP material such as HAp, TCP and OCP are not easily dissolve in vivo. However, in body fluids, OCP and TCP dissolve much faster than HAp. The statement was proved by Leó and Jansen, (2009) where usually implants made up of HAp are often remains several years in the body and the dissolution are expected to be significant. Table 2.1 has classified various type of bioceramics and its clinical application as a bone substitute.