

Ultrasonic-assisted Synthesis Of Rod-shaped Hydroxyapatite Nanoparticles

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Abstract. In this paper, to develop a new method to rapidly synthesize hydroxyapatite nanoparticles as a controlled release carrier, sonochemical method was used to prepare nano-hydroxyapatite (nHAP) without any surfactant and used calcium nitrate tetrahydrate and diammonium hydrogen phosphate as source materials. The composition of obtained hydroxyapatite nanoparticles was determined by X-ray powder diffraction (XRD) and fourier transform infrared spectra (FT-IR). The morphologies and microstructure were observed by transmission electron microscope (TEM). Pure nHAP was successfully synthesized by ultrasonic method without any surfactant. The particles shows not obvious reunion and display rod-shaped structure with length of about 40-120 nm and width of about 30 nm.

Introduction

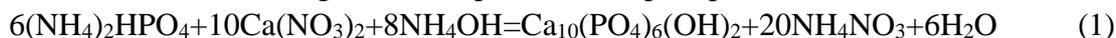
Hydroxyapatite (HAP), the mineral composition of human bone tissue, has attracted considerable attention on bone tissue engineering for its biocompatibility and biological activity in recent decades [1, 2]. Additionally, nano-hydroxyapatite (nHAP) have become a research focus in drug carrier systems [3]. Besides, nHAP can improve the permeability of drugs in biological membrane, which is contributed to the percutaneous absorption and thus may improve the bioavailability [4]. However, these good properties would be affected by crystallinity, stoichiometry and specific surface area of nHAP. Therefore, a synthetic route to obtain well-difined nHAP should be taken into consideration.

At present, synthetic routes to obtain nHAP including chemical precipitation method [5], sol-gel method [6], electrochemical deposition method [7] and hydrothermal method [8]. Hydrothermal method may cause extraordinarily time consumption and the waste of reagent. Electrochemical deposition method needs high cost. Therefore, a synthetic routes with advantages of low cost and efficiency is still need to be investigated. In recent years, ultrasonic method is become a novel technique to obtain nanomaterials [9]. Ultrasonic method can effectively reduce the particle aggregation via cavitation phenomenon that is the formation, growth and severe collapse of cavitation bubble in the liquid medium at the action of ultrasound [10]. In this paper, to develop a new method to rapidly synthesize hydroxyapatite nanoparticles as a controlled release carrier, sonochemical method was used to synthesize nHAP without any surfactant.

Materials and methods

Materials. Diammonium hydrogen phosphate, calcium nitrate tetrahydrate and ammonia solution were used to prepare nHAP and obtained from Zhiyuan (Tianjin, China). All aqueous solution were prepared with deionized water and the reagent was without further purification.

The preparation of nHAP. HAP nanoparticles were prepared by ultrasonic systems with ultrasonic horn generates superaudible at a frequency of 25 kHz with the power of 100-950 W (SCIENTZ-IID, Ningbo, China). Firstly, aqueous solutions of diammonium hydrogen phosphate was added into calcium nitrate solution slowly until the Ca/P molar ratio reaching about 1.67. The milky white suspension formed under continuous magnetic stirring and then was treated by ultrasonic irradiation at 280 W for 30 min. The pH of reaction mixture was adjusted to 10 with ammonia solution during the whole process. The precipitation reaction was as follows:



After finishing the ultrasonic radiation, the reaction mixture was filtered and the residue was washed with purified water and ethanol in sequence. Finally, the residue was dried and subsequently calcined at 700°C for 2 hours.

The characterization of nHAP. The composition of nHAP was determined by X-ray powder diffraction (XRD, D8 Advance Diffractometer, Bruker, Germany) with $\text{CuK}\alpha_1$ radiation. Perkin Elmer Spectrometer 100 device was used to record the fourier transform infrared spectra (FT-IR) from 400–4000 cm^{-1} . The morphologies and microstructure were observed by transmission electron microscope (TEM, FEI Tecnai G2 F20 S-Twin).

Results and discussion

Figure 1 shows the XRD pattern of obtained product, which shows the major diffraction peak at (200), (111), (002), (102), (210), (211), (300), (202), (301), (310), (222), (213) and (004) plane when compared to the JCPDS data (no. 09-0432). No any impure peaks exists in the above XRD patterns, and diffraction peaks are sharp and clear. It reveals that obtained product is pure nHAP with high intensity.

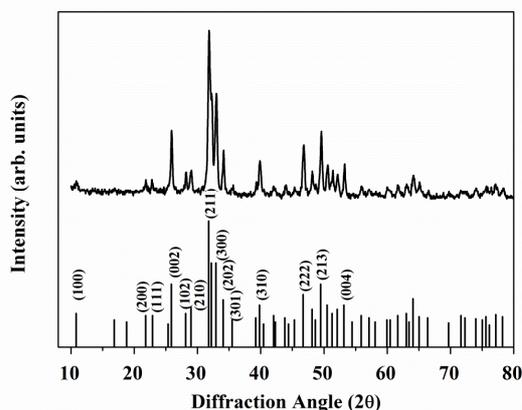


Figure 1. XRD pattern of obtained powder

The FT-IR spectrum of as-synthesized nHAP was shown in Fig. 2. The bands detected at 1091, 1044, 964, 603, 571 and 473 cm^{-1} were assigned to vibration peak of PO_4^{3-} group [11]. The hydroxyl stretching vibration of nHAP was located at 3571 and 633 cm^{-1} [11]. However, weak peaks of carbonate group was also detected at 1455 and 1410 cm^{-1} [12]. It reveals that obtained nHAP was doped by carbonate ions, due to the carbon dioxide in atmosphere reacted with reaction

mixture.

The TEM images was shown in Fig. 3. It can be seen from the TEM images, as-synthesised nHAP display a rod-shaped structure with length of about 40-120 nm and width of about 30 nm. Beside, the rod-shaped particles has no obvious reunion. It reveals that the pure nHAP was successfully synthesized by ultrasonic method without any surfactant in a environmental-friendly and effective approach. In addition, the ultrasonic method is less time consumption and reagent waste when compared to the previous reported literatures [13, 14].

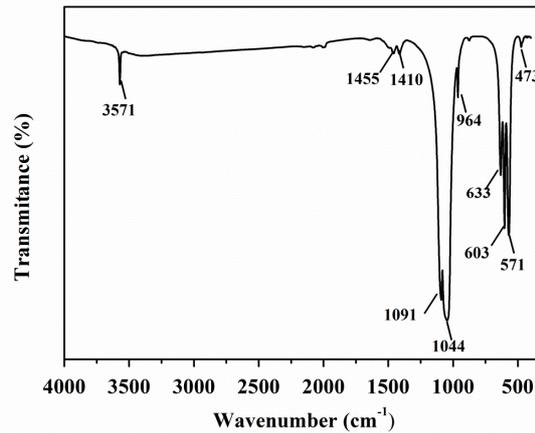


Figure 2. FT-IR spectrum of nHAP

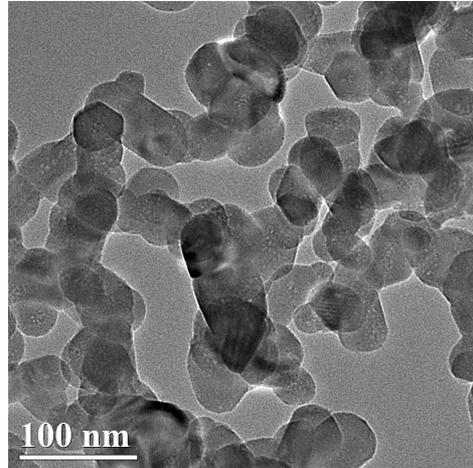


Figure 3. TEM images of nHAP

Conclusions

The pure nHAP was successfully synthesized by ultrasonic method without any surfactant in a environmental-friendly and effective approach. The rod-shaped hydroxyapatite nanoparticles shows not obvious reunion and the rod-shaped structure with length of about 40-120 nm and width of about 30 nm.

Acknowledgements

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