

Bioceramics - A Medical Revolution

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In ancient text a Greek word Keranika is refer as ceramic, which means burnt stuff.

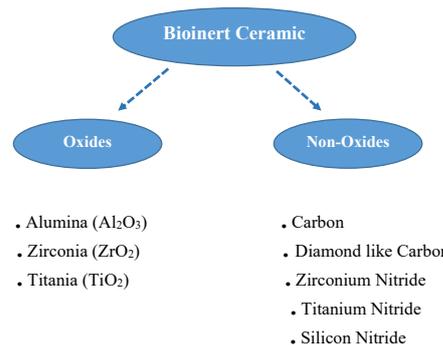
This ceramic derived from heat treated clayed raw material through process of firing, these ceramics are either, glasses, whitewares, structural clay, refractories, cements, abrasives, or advance ceramics [1,2].

Bioceramic its prefix Bio, which being referred to biocompatible, these materials are specifically designed and used for medical and dental purpose, also known as Biomaterial.

Bioceramics are chemically classified according to their composition as ceramics, metallic, polymeric, composite, and can also be derived biologically [3].

- First Generation - Alumina and Zirconia
- Second Generation – Bioglass (Hydroxyapatite & Calcium phosphate cements)
- Third Generation Biomaterials (Cell and Gene-Activating Materials)

Bioinert: Bioinert are the first generation ceramic of bioceramics, they are defined as a biologically inert in nature, material consist of two most important ceramics that is Alumina (AL₂O₃) and Zirconia (ZrO₂), these material are biocompatible and it has excellent wear resistance, thus used in orthopedics cases such as hip joint repair or replacement , keen arthroplasty ,dental implants ,crowns [4].

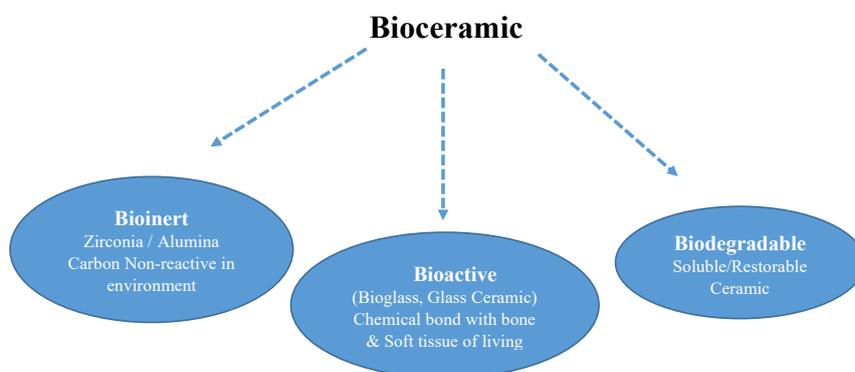


| Uses of Bioinert Bioceramics | |
|------------------------------|--|
| 1. | As bone plates and screws |
| 2. | As drug delivery devices |
| 3. | In the reconstruction of orbital rims |
| 4. | In the form of ceramic-ceramic composites |
| 5. | In the form of ceramic- polymer composites |
| 6. | As components of total and partial hips. |
| 7. | In the form of sterilization tubes |
| 8. | As femoral heads |
| 9. | As middle ear |
| 10. | As ventilation tubes |
| 11. | In the repair of the cardiovascular area |

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Bioactive Glass - It was Hench in 1969, discovered bioactive glass it has the ability to form hydroxyapatite layers when it comes in contact with calcium and phosphate rich tissue fluid [5].

It contains $\text{Na}_2\text{O}-\text{CaO}-\text{SiO}_2-\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$ in specific proportion with main composition silica more than ≤ 50 mol % [6], when used in bone defect there is a release of critical concentration of soluble Ca, Si, P and Na ions inducing a favorable intercellular and extracellular response there by leading to rapid bone formation thus forming silica rich, which reacts when comes in contact with body fluid.

Thus resulting in formation of (Hap)-like on bioglass surface. (7) Its properties are osteoconductive and osteoinductive [8].

| Use of Bioactive Bioceramics in Dentistry (Endodontic) |
|--|
| Putty: MTA (ProRoot MTA, MTA Angelus, NeoMTA Plus, etc.), Biodientie, BC Putty, Bioaggregate, CEM, TheraCal LC, etc. |
| Paste: BC Sealer, MTA Fillapex, BioRoot RCS, Tech BioSealer, Endoseal MTA, etc. |

Bioresorbable /Biodegradable - Combination of bioactive glass and composites of bioactive salts (Calcium silicate, Ca-Ps) along with polymers designed to induce biological reaction at molecular level to stimulate tissue regeneration [9].

| Uses of Biodegradable/Resorbable Bioceramics |
|---|
| 1. As drug delivery devices |
| 2. For repairing bone damaged due to disease |
| 3. For filling space vacated by bone screws, donor bone, excised tumors, & diseased bone loss |
| 4. For repairing and fusion of spinal & lumbo-sacral vertebrae |
| 5. For repairing herniated discs |
| 6. For repairing maxillofacial and dental defects |
| 7. Hydroxyapatite ocular implants |

Calcium Orthophosphates -These are bioceramics such as hydroxyapatite (HA, $\text{Ca}_{10}(\text{PO}_4)_6(\text{OH})_2$) and Tricalcium phosphate (TCP, $\text{Ca}_3(\text{PO}_4)_2$), these are inorganic apatite's having common formula $\text{Ca}_5(\text{PO}_4)_3\text{X}_2$ where X can be either fluoride – fluorapatites, chloroapatite containing chlorine, its main mineral structure is hydroxyapatite $\text{Ca}_{10}(\text{PO}_4)_6(\text{OH})_2$ present in bone and teeth.

Calcium Phosphate - Calcium phosphate was first published in dentistry by Dorozhkin [10] who used in remineralization formula in a toothpaste to reduce sensitivity. Its commonly used commercial products are B-TCP and HA [11-14] such as Durapatil (HA) [15-18], Alvograft (HA) [19]. White composite nanobone consist of nanocrystalline HA containing silver gel matrix with embedded HA particles.

Calcium silicate - The oldest known calcium silicate bioceramic used in dentistry was MTA [20] its main basic components are Ca_3SiO_2 and CaSiO_4 , which induce bioactive activity in endodontic [21, 22].

MTA cement introduce in dental literature in 1993, Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval in 1998 known as MTA Angelus, calcium silicate hydrophilic cement is basically Portland cement. Revisited by Torabinejad et al. [23].

It is widely used in dentistry due to its superior biological and physical property like, root perforation repair, pulp capping, pulp dentin regeneration, pulpotomy, root end filling, apical barrier formation and calcium silicate endodontic sealers have also been introduced [24,25].

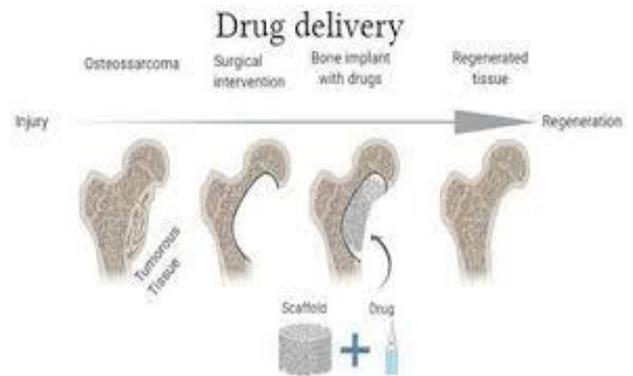
In 2007 first calcium silicate-based sealer know as, iRoot SP was introduce by Innovative Bioceramics, Vancouver, Canada [26].

- **Group 1** – Calcium phosphate silicate-based bioceramic sealers (BioRoot).
- **Group 2** – Tricalcium silicate- and resin-based bioceramic sealers (MTA).
- **Group 3** – Pure tricalcium silicate-based bioceramic sealers (iRoot) [27].

Advance Bioceramic

Drugs - Drugs like aspirin /Ibuprofen, amoxicillin either have carboxyl group or (COOH) or hydroxyl (OH) group can effectively absorbed by surface bond Ca^{2+} ions [28] Thus material with Ca-Si are widely used also on basis of related profile bioceramic composite show sustain drug released capacity, Ca-Si has shown long drug released time usually weeks, thus extending drug therapeutic efficiency [27,29].

Nanocomposites- Nihara in 1991 proposed nanocomposite a structural ceramic, which is a multiphase material, consisting of at least one constitutes phase less than 100um, nanocomposites consist of one or more dimensions of the reinforcing phase ranging from nanometer (1mm= 10A), which may range up to 100nm [30], to improve its compressive strength, fracture toughness, fatigue resistance and biocompatible nanocomposites are being engineered specially for dentistry [31].



Bioceramic Coating- In recent decade plasma spray HA coating, especially in implant which comes in contact with blood, Diamond like carbons have outstanding antithrombogenic properties. Oxidized Zirconium (Oxinium) due to its high or superior wear resistance thus used in hip and knee implants.

Genetic Control and Activated- Third generation biomaterials, which involves molecular tailoring of polymer generating specific cellular response. This promising result induced by specific protein, peptides and biomolecules, thus mimic the extracellular environment, which will provide multifunctional adhesive surface. This cell specific recognized factor like protein fibronectin incorporated in restorable polymer, can be tailored with protein that influence interaction with endothelium [32], neurite stimulation [33] and synaptic development [34].

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