



# Calcium Phosphate Ceramics

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**SUMMER SCHOOL**  
CERAMIC & GLASS SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY,  
APPLICATION TO BIOCERAMICS & BIOGLASSES

Madrid, 17-19 June 2015

# Outline

- 1** Synthetic bone grafts: concept and applications
- 2** Why Calcium phosphates?
- 3** Calcium phosphate sources: natural vs synthetic
- 4** High-T vs low-T calcium phosphates
- 5** Porosity in Calcium Phosphates
- 6** Biological performance of Calcium Phosphates: resorption, bioactivity and osteoinduction

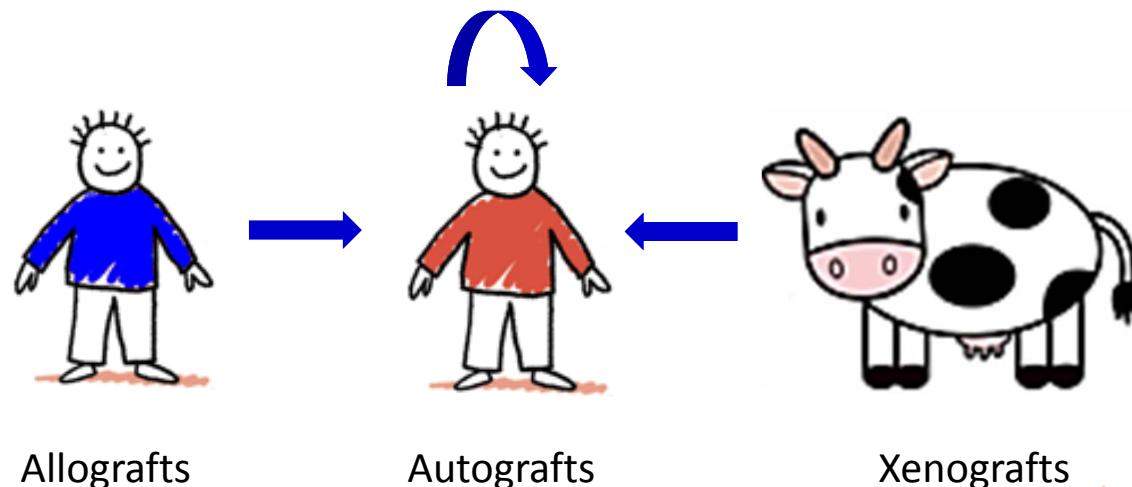


## Bone Grafting procedures

2 million bone grafting procedures  
worldwide every year

≈ 1 million in Europe

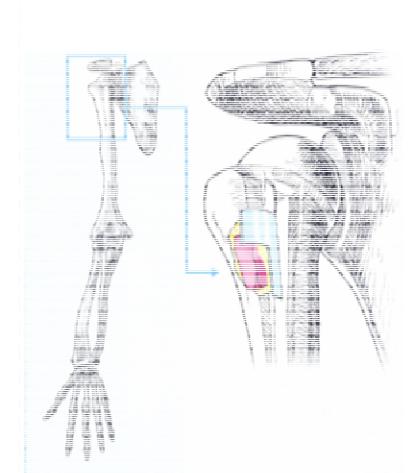
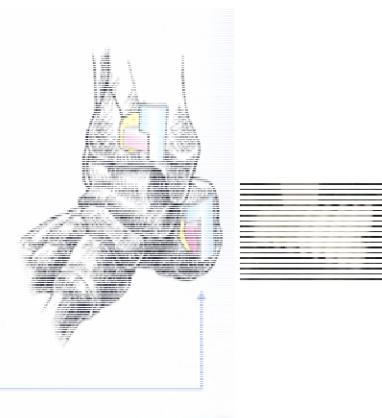
Greenwald AS et al. J Bone Joint Surg Am. 2001;83-A,  
suppl 2, part 2:98-103.



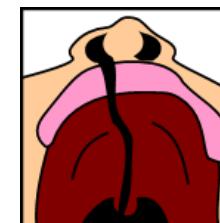
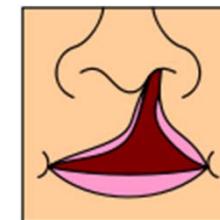
## Applications of synthetic bone grafts



## Applications of synthetic bone grafts



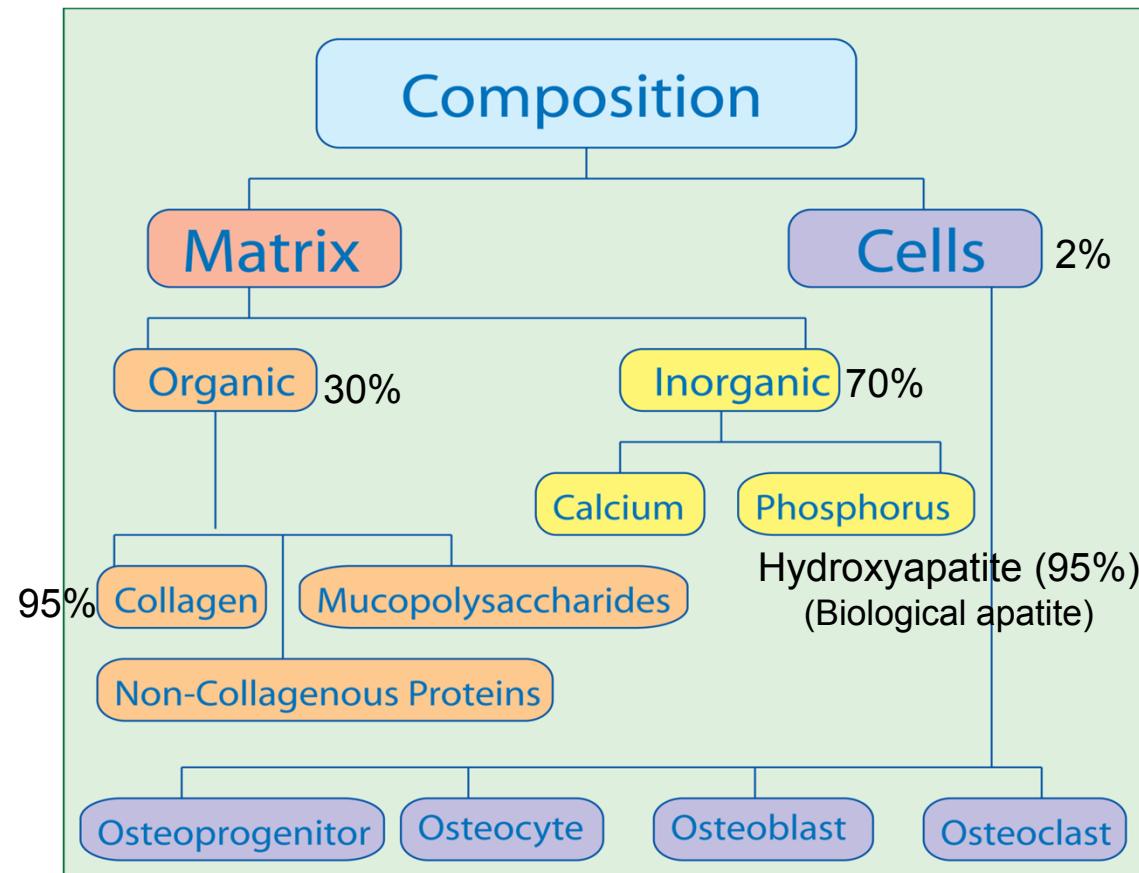
## Applications of synthetic bone grafts



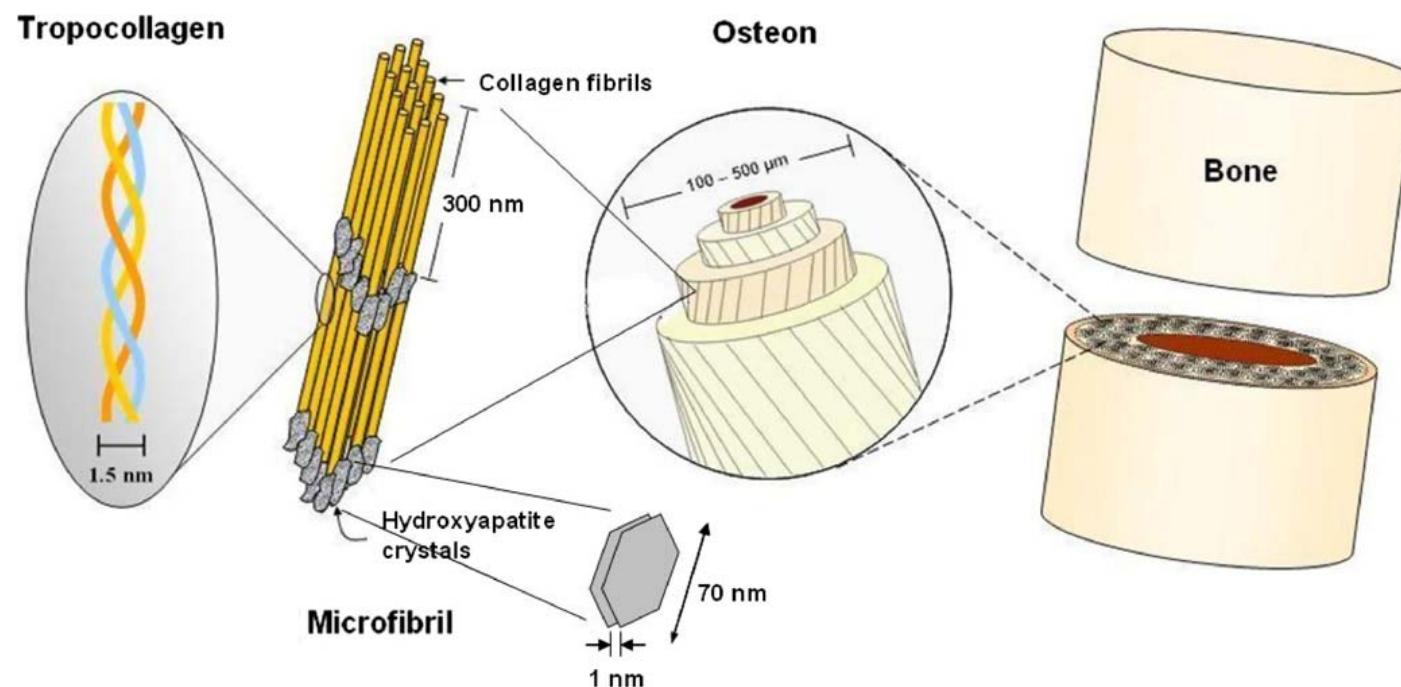
Treatment of bone tumors is one of the clinical fields where bone grafts are required

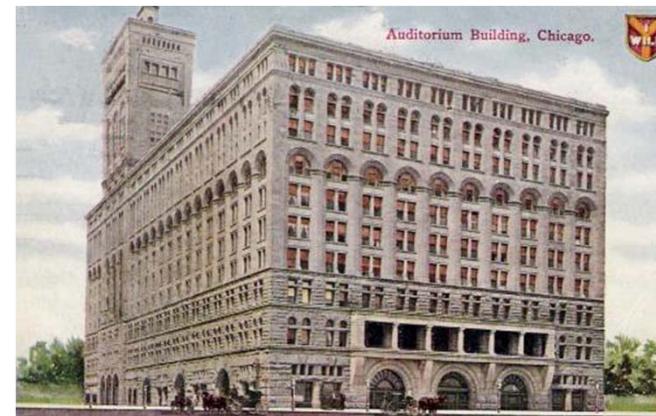
**Maxillofacial reconstruction**  
(cleft lip and palate)

## Why Calcium Phosphates?



## Why Calcium Phosphates?





“Form follows function” Louis Sullivan (1896)

## Hard tissue functions

### Bone

- ✓ Mechanical: support and protection – strength and toughness
- ✓ Metabolic: Ion reservoir / Protein and growth factor regulation
- ✓ Autorepair

### Dental Enamel

- ✓ Mechanical: to tear and chew food - hardness, resistance to abrasion
- ✓ Resistance to acidic dissolution
- ✓ Partial re-mineralization

## Conventional Calcium Phosphates

### Calcium Phosphates:

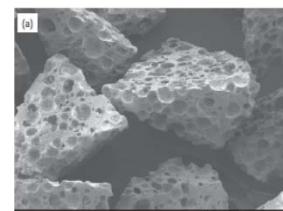
Hydroxyapatite

$\beta$ -Tricalcium Phosphate

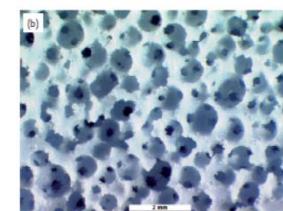
Biphasic Calcium Phosphates (HA/ $\beta$ -TCP)

## Shapes and Forms

Granules  
(0.1-5 mm)



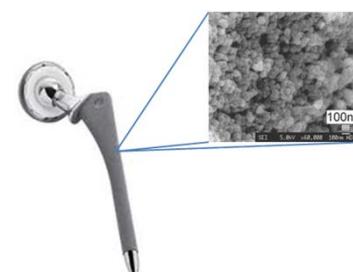
Cement



Block



Putty



Coating

M. Bohner, Materials today  
(2010) 13:24-30

## Origin of commercial CaP



### Natural

- Bovine bone
- Coral

### Synthetic

- High temperature
- Low temperature

## CaP of natural origin

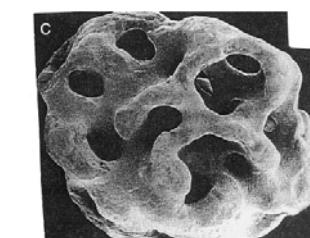
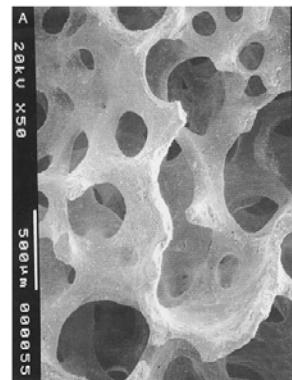
### *Coralline Hydroxyapatite*

- Hydrothermal conversion (260 °C, 15,000 psi) of coral (mostly  $\text{CaCO}_3$ , calcite form) in the presence of ammonium phosphate to hydroxyapatite (*Interpore™* and *Pro-Osteon™* manufactured by *Interpore International, Inc, Irvine, CA*)



- F, Sr, and  $\text{CO}_3$  present in the coral become incorporated in the resulting hydroxyapatite. Other ions (Mg) become incorporated in the minor  $\beta$ -TCP component that forms after hydrothermal conversion.

*Trabecular bovine bone-derived hydroxyapatite (Endobon™),*



*Coralline hydroxyapatite (Interpore™).*

R.Z. LeGeros, *Clin. Orthop. Rel. Res.*  
395 (2002): 81–98

## CaP of natural origin

### ***Bovine-bone Derived Apatites***

2 types, depending on the method of preparation:

- (1) unsintered (*Bio-Oss™*, by Geistlich Biomaterials, Geistlich, Switzerland)
- (3) sintered (*Osteograf-N™* by CeraMed Co Denver, CO and *Endobon™* by Merck Co, Darmstadt, Germany).
- The unsintered bone mineral consists of small crystals of bone apatite (carbonatehydroxyapatite) and other trace elements originally present in bone, whereas the sintered bone mineral consists of much larger apatite crystals without  $\text{CO}_3$  when sintered above 1000 °C.
- Safety concerns after mad cow disease (Creutzfeldt–Jakob disease ): bovine-derived graft biomaterials may carry a risk of prion transmission to patients.



*Wenz B, Oesch B, Horst M. Biomaterials. 22 (2001):1599-606.*

*Kim Y, Nowzari H, Rich SK. Clin Implant Dent Relat Res. 15 (2013):645-53.*

## Synthetic CaP

### High Temperature

Sintered ceramics

Coatings (plasma spray)

### Low Temperature: Biomimetic CaPs

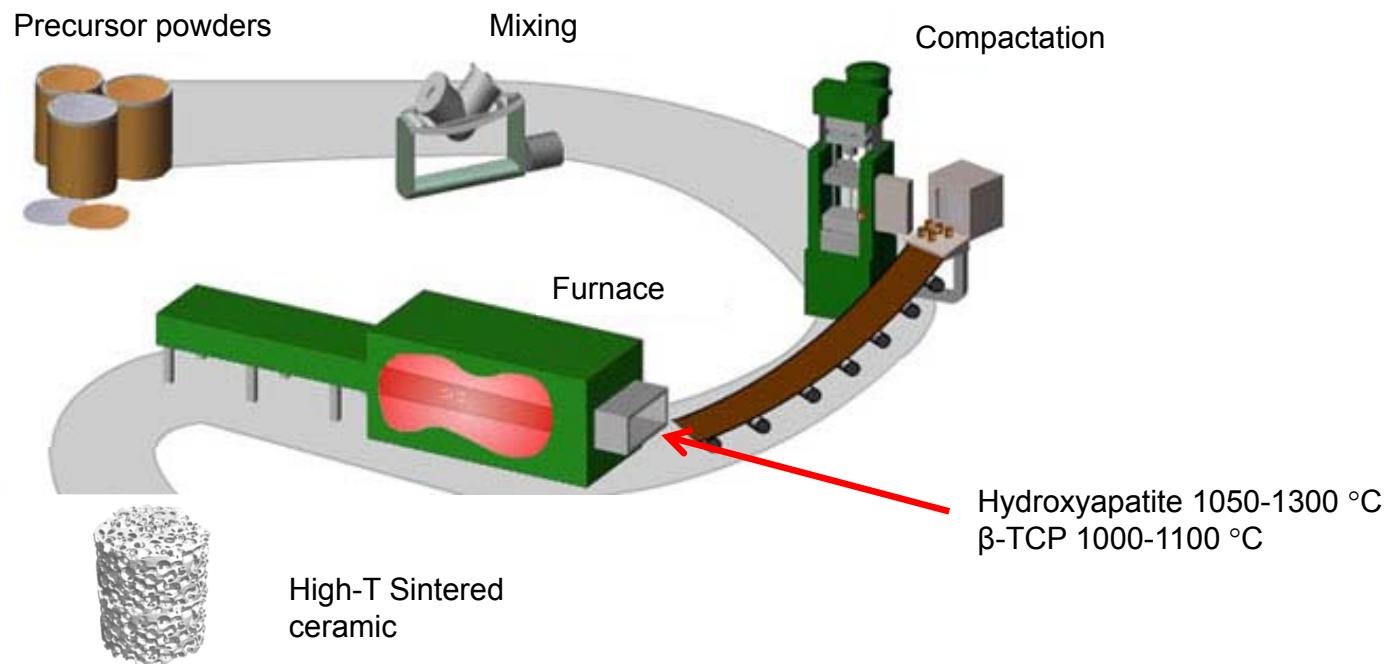
Calcium phosphate cements

Biomimetic coatings

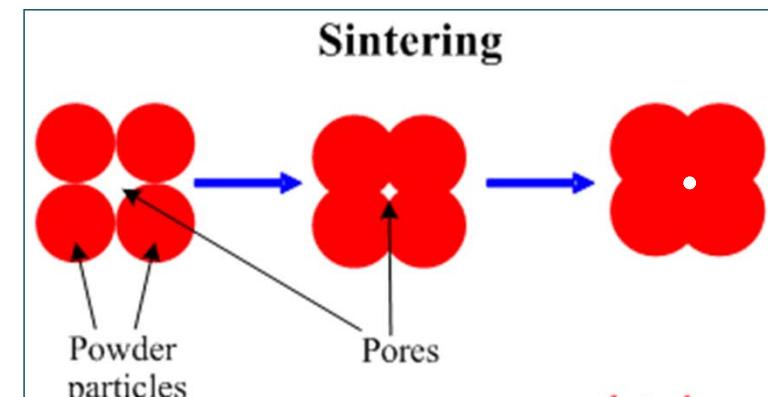
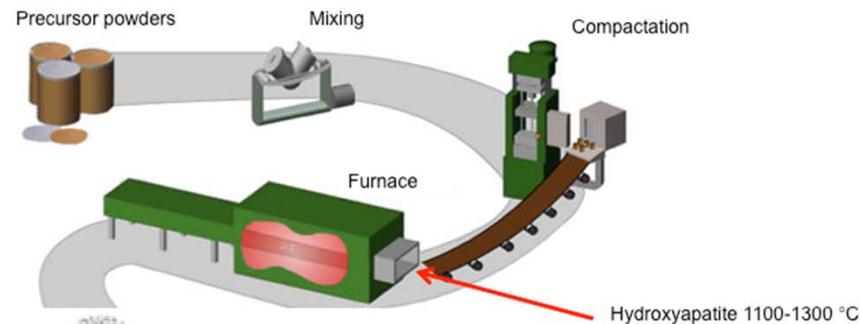
CaP Nanoparticles



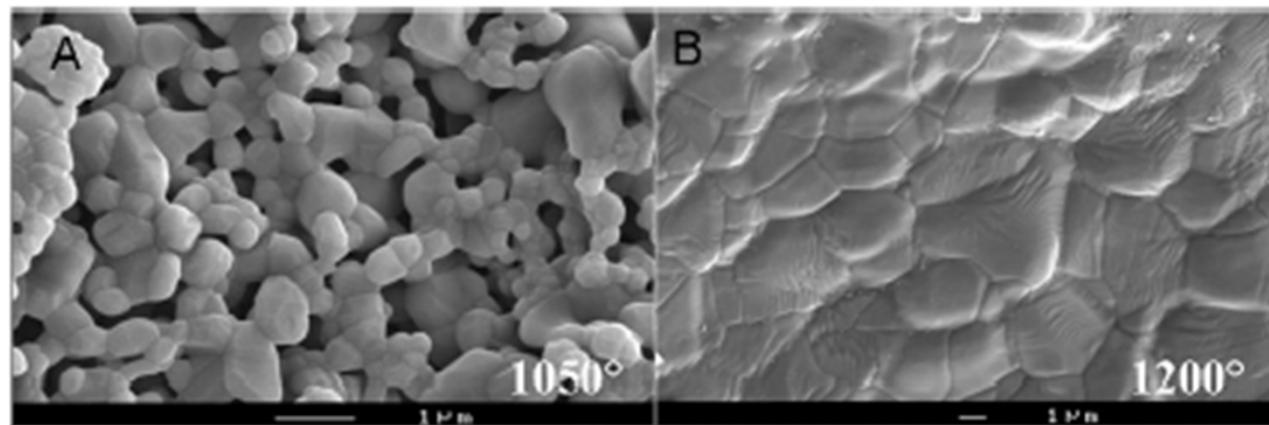
## High Temperature CaPs: Sintered ceramics



## High Temperature CaPs: Sintered ceramics



## High Temperature CaPs: Sintered ceramics



*LeGeros, R.Z. Chem. Rev. 2008, 108, 4742–4753*

## High T CaP ceramics vs low T biomimetic CaP

### High Temperature

Sintered ceramics

Coatings (plasma spray)

### Low Temperature: Biomimetic CaPs

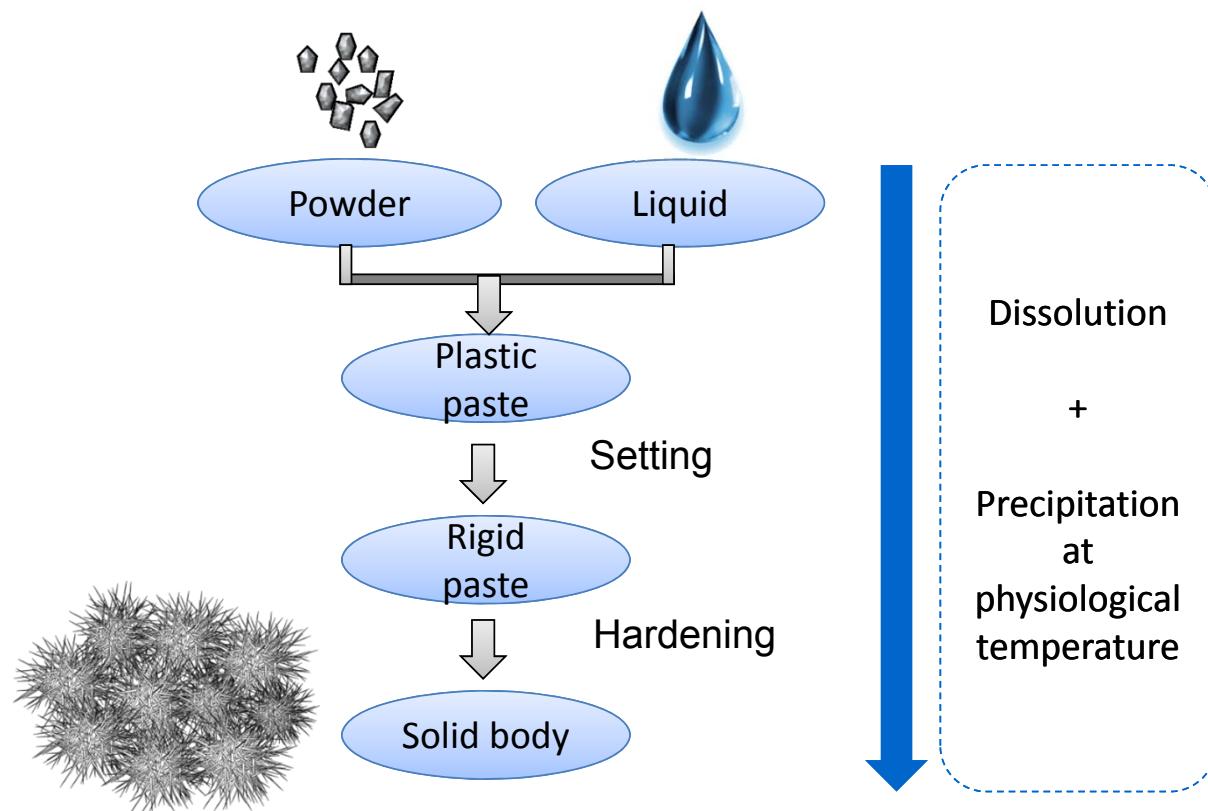
Calcium phosphate cements

Biomimetic coatings

CaP Nanoparticles

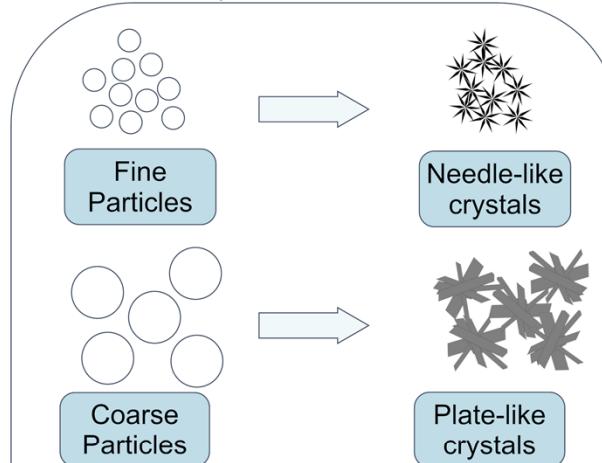


## Low T setting reaction

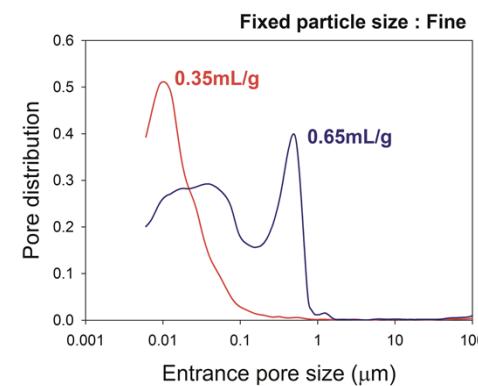
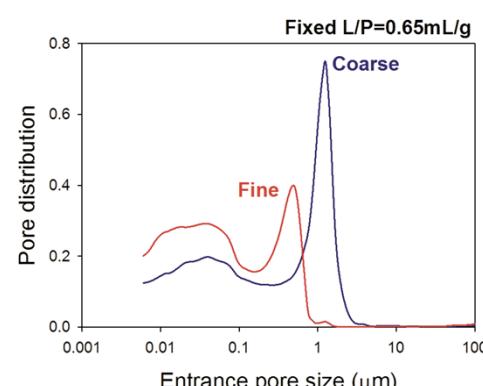
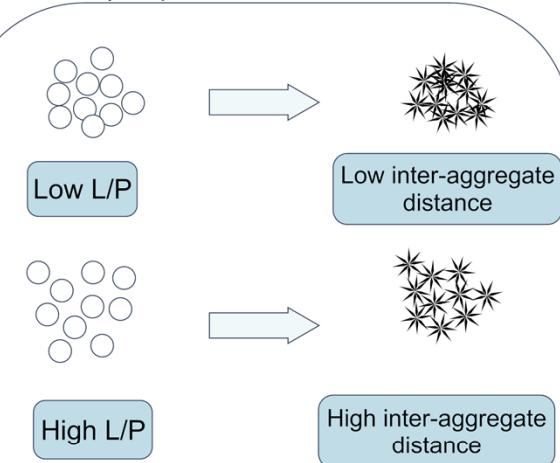


## Micro & nanoporosity

a) Particle Size

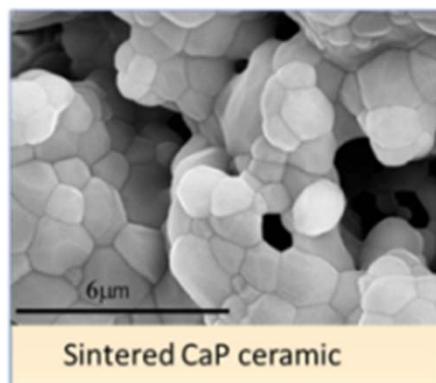


b) Liquid to Powder ratio

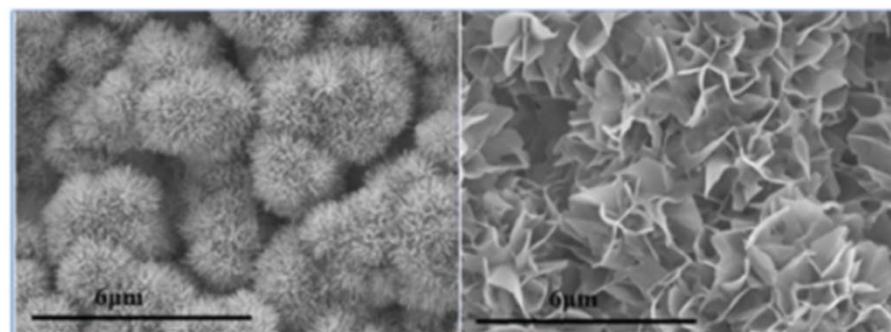


M.P. Ginebra et al., *Adv Drug Del Rev* (2012)

## High T CaP ceramics vs low T biomimetic CaP



Sintered CaP ceramic



CaPs obtained by a low-temperature self-setting reaction

## The role of porosity

### Micro/nanoporosity:

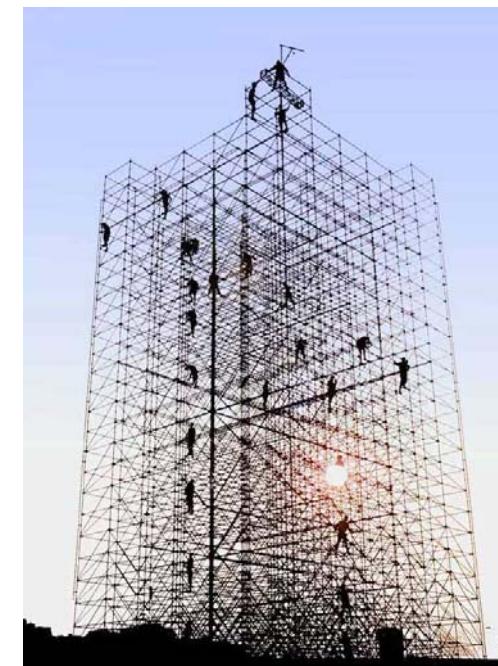
- Increased bioactivity
- Effect on protein adsorption, and cell adhesion/proliferation
- Permeability: nutrient and cell metabolic waste substances diffusion.

### Macroporosity: cell/tissue colonisation.

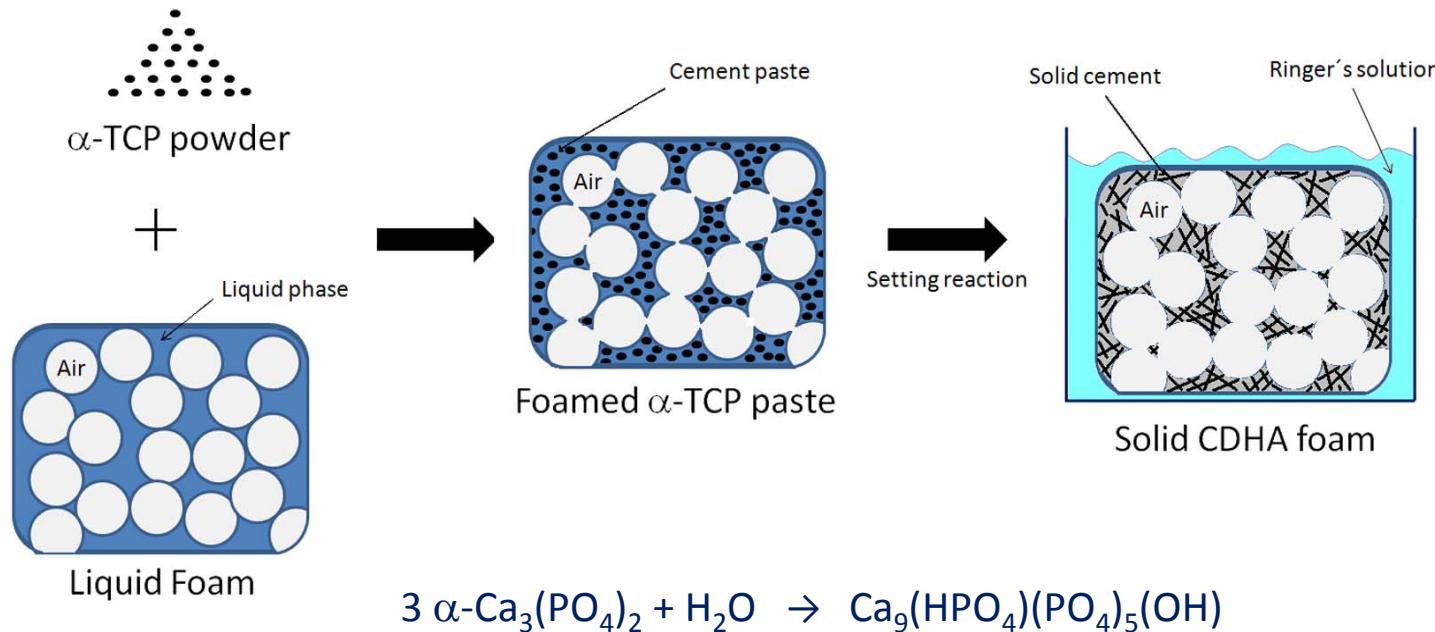
- migration, proliferation and differentiation of osteoblast progenitor cells.
- angiogenesis.

Size > **decens/hundreds  $\mu\text{m}$**

### Need of interconnected porosity



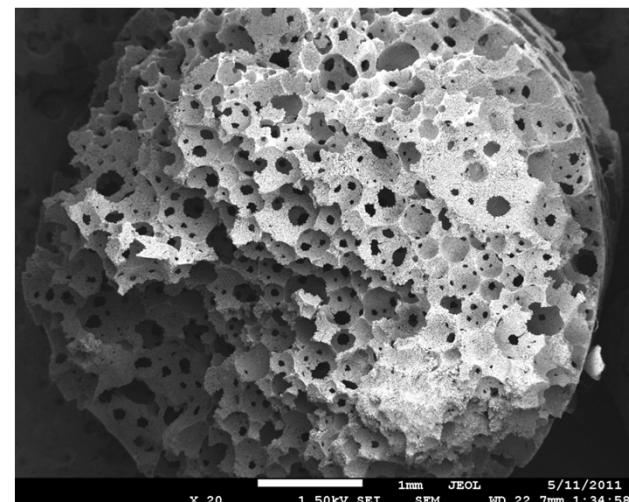
## Macroporous CaPs: Injectable Calcium phosphate foams



Montufar et al. *Acta Biomater* 6 (2010) 876–885

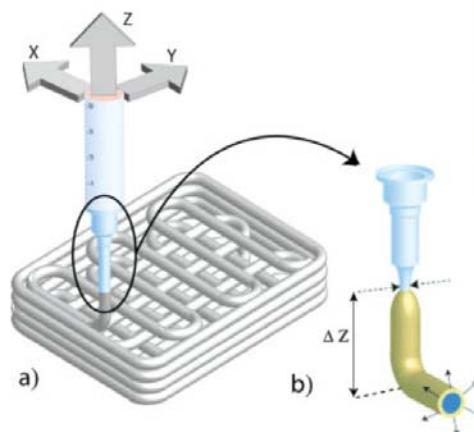


## Macroporous CaPs: Injectable Calcium phosphate foams

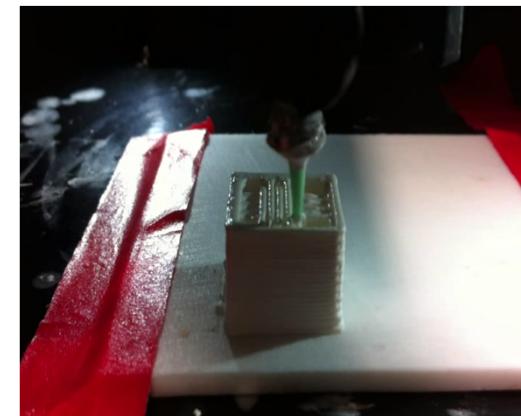


Montufar et al. *Acta Biomater* 6 (2010) 876–885

## Macroporous CaPs: 3D printing strategies



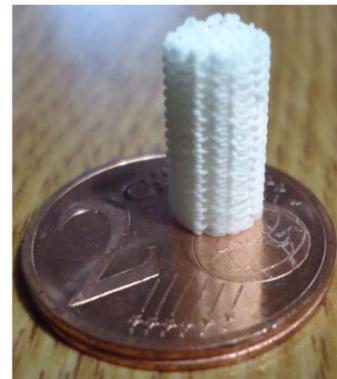
Tomsia et al (2007)



### Ceramic ink

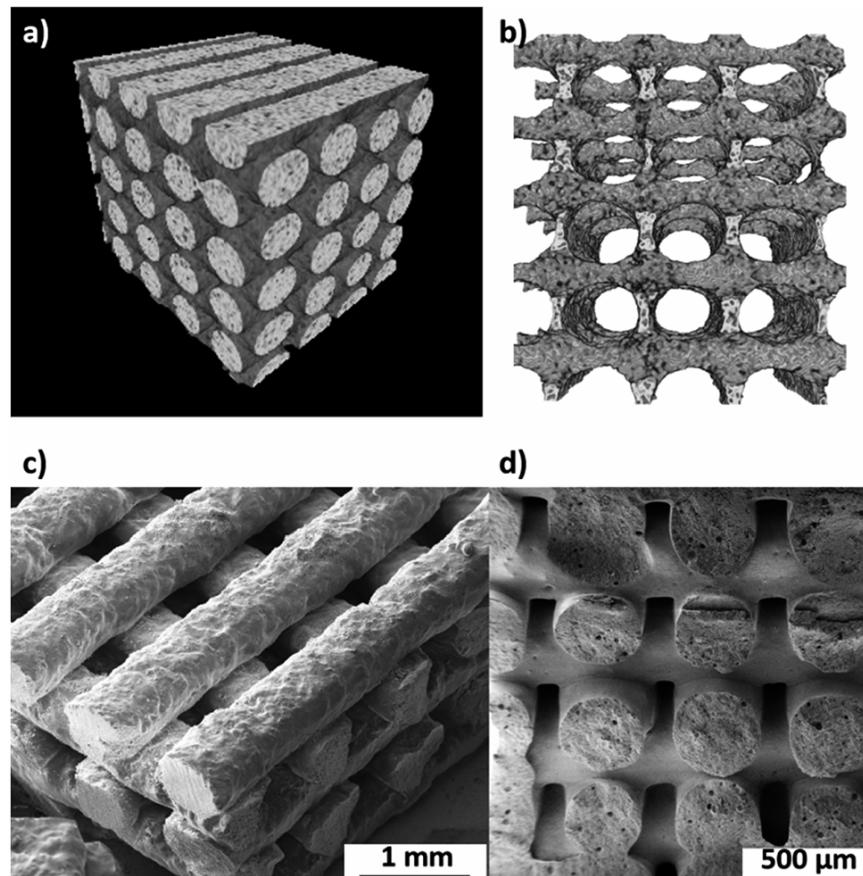
- Non-reactive suspension: Printing + Sintering
- Suspension of reactive ceramic particles → Self-setting scaffolds

## Macroporous CaPs: 3D printing strategies



Self-setting Ceramic Ink:  
Gelatin- $\alpha$ TCP

- Gelatine gellation: initial consolidation of the scaffold
- Subsequently:  $\alpha$ TCP hydrolysis to Hydroxyapatite



*Y. Maazouz, E. B. Montufar, J. Guillem-Martí, I. Fleps, C. Ohman, C. Persson, M. P. GinebraJ. Mater. Chem. B, 2014, 2, 5378–5386*

## Biological performance of CaP

- **Resorption**
- **Bioactivity / Osteoconduction**
- **Osteoinduction**

## Biological performance of CaP: Resorption

| Ca/P ionic ratio | Compound   | Chemical formula  | Solubility at 25 °C, -log(K <sub>s</sub> ) | Solubility at 25 °C, g/L | pH stability range in aqueous solutions at 25°C |
|------------------|--|---|--|--------------------------|---|
| 0.5              | Monocalcium phosphate monohydrate (MCPM)               | Ca(H <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ·H <sub>2</sub> O  | 1.14                                       | ~ 18                     | 0.0 – 2.0                                       |
| 0.5              | Monocalcium phosphate anhydrous (MCPA)                 | Ca(H <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>  | 1.14                                       | ~ 17                     | [c]   |
| 1.0              | Dicalcium phosphate dihydrate (DCPD), mineral brushite | CaHPO <sub>4</sub> ·2H <sub>2</sub> O   | 6.59                                       | ~ 0.088                  | 2.0 – 6.0                                       |
| 1.0              | Dicalcium phosphate anhydrous (DCPA), mineral monetite | CaHPO <sub>4</sub>  | 6.90                                       | ~ 0.048                  | [c]   |
| 1.33             | Octacalcium phosphate (OCP)                            | Ca <sub>8</sub> (HPO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (PO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> ·5H <sub>2</sub> O   | 96.6                                       | ~ 0.0081                 | 5.5 – 7.0                                       |
| 1.5              | $\alpha$ -Tricalcium phosphate ( $\alpha$ -TCP)        | $\alpha$ -Ca <sub>3</sub> (PO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>   | 25.5                                       | ~ 0.0025                 | [a]   |
| 1.5              | $\beta$ -Tricalcium phosphate ( $\beta$ -TCP)          | $\beta$ -Ca <sub>3</sub> (PO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>  | 28.9                                       | ~ 0.0005                 | [a]   |
| 1.2 – 2.2        | Amorphous calcium phosphate (ACP)                      | Ca <sub>x</sub> H <sub>y</sub> (PO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>z</sub> ·nH <sub>2</sub> O, n = 3 – 4.5; 15 – 20% H <sub>2</sub> O                       | [b]  | [b]                      | ~ 5 – 12 [d]                                    |
| 1.5 – 1.67       | Calcium-deficient hydroxyapatite (CDHA) <sup>[e]</sup> | Ca <sub>10-x</sub> (HPO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>x</sub> (PO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>6-x</sub> (OH) <sub>2</sub> <sub>x</sub> <sup>[f]</sup> (0 < x < 1) | ~ 85.1                                     | ~ 0.0094                 | 6.5 – 9.5                                       |
| 1.67             | Hydroxyapatite (HA)                                    | Ca <sub>10</sub> (PO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>6</sub> (OH) <sub>2</sub>  | 116.8                                      | ~ 0.0003                 | 9.5 – 12  |
| 1.67             | Fluorapatite (FA)                                      | Ca <sub>10</sub> (PO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>6</sub> F <sub>2</sub>   | 120.0                                      | ~ 0.0002                 | 7 – 12  |
| 2.0              | Tetracalcium phosphate (TTCP), mineral hilgenstockite  | Ca <sub>4</sub> (PO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> O   | 38 – 44                                    | ~ 0.0007                 | [a]   |

## Biological performance of CaP: Resorption

### Passive resorption

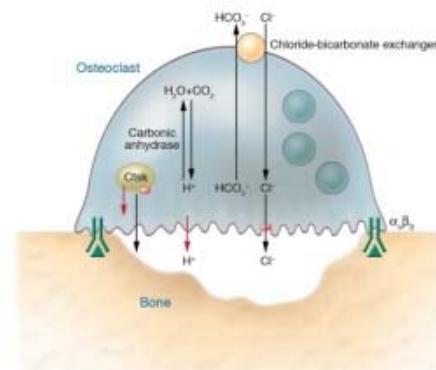
#### Chemical dissolution

Plaster of Paris (CSH),  
Gypsum (CSD),  
Dicalcium phosphate dihydrate (DCPD)

### Active resorption

Cell-mediated  
osteoclasts, macrophages...

Precipitated Hydroxyapatite \*  
 $\beta$ -Tricalcium phosphate  
Biphasic calcium phosphates



## Biological performance of CaP: Resorption

### Passive resorption

#### Chemical dissolution

Plaster of Paris (CSH),  
Gypsum (CSD),  
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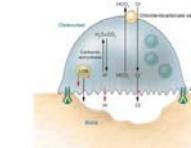
**Precipitated Hydroxyapatite \***  
 $\beta$ -Tricalcium phosphate  
Biphasic calcium phosphates

#### Reactivity:

- ✓ Stoichiometry
- ✓ Cristallinity
- ✓ Specific surface area
- ✓ Porosity

Sintered HA

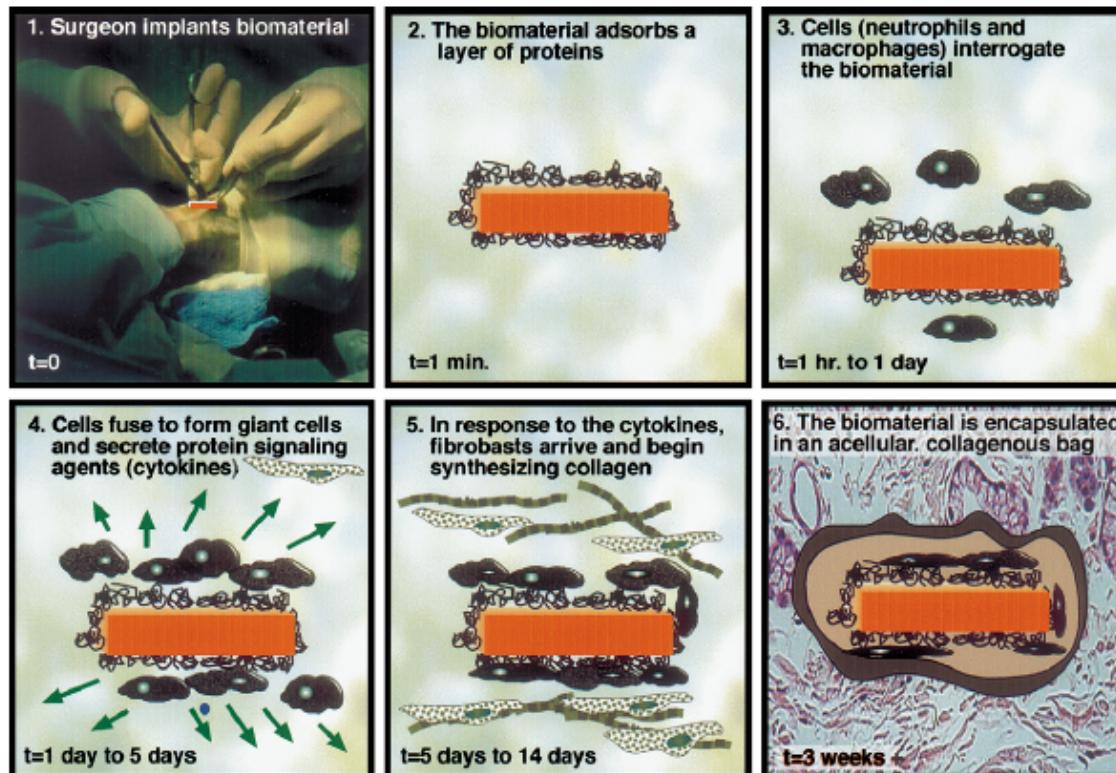
**Non resorbable**



HA Biological HA

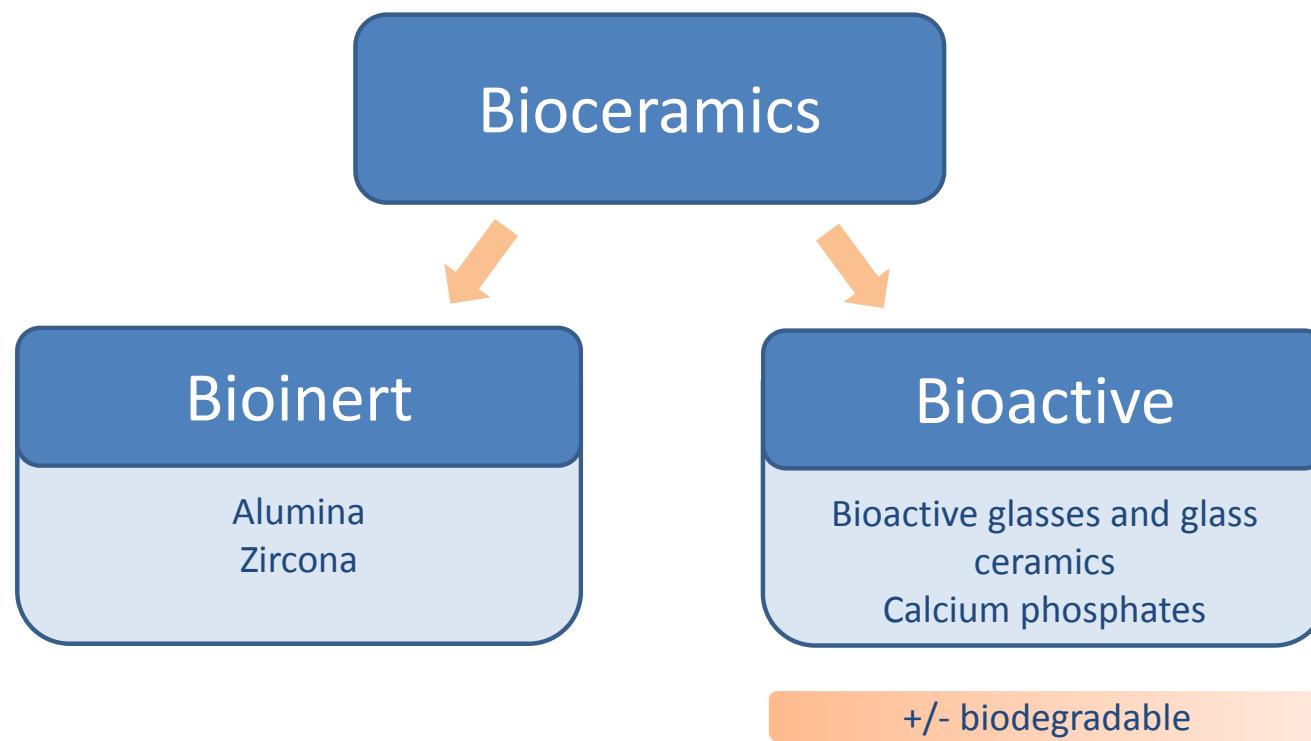
**Resorbable**

## Biological performance of CaP: Bioactivity

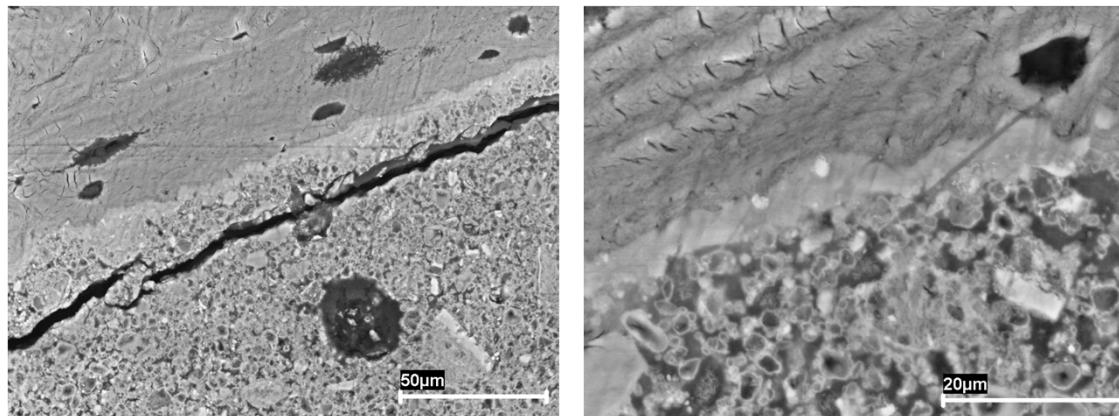


D.G. Castner, B.D. Ratner / Surface Science 500 (2002) 28–60

## Biological performance of CaP: Bioactivity



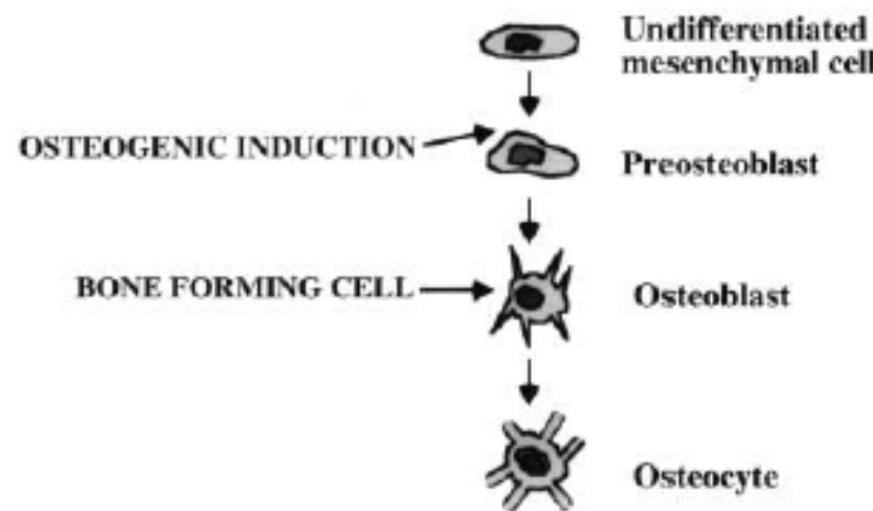
## Biological performance of CaP: Bioactivity



S. del Valle, M.P. Ginebra et al. J Mater Sci: Mater Med (2007) 18:353–361

## Biological performance of CaP: Osteoinduction

La osteoinduction: differentiation of mesenchymal stem cells (pluripotent) to the osteoblastic phenotype.



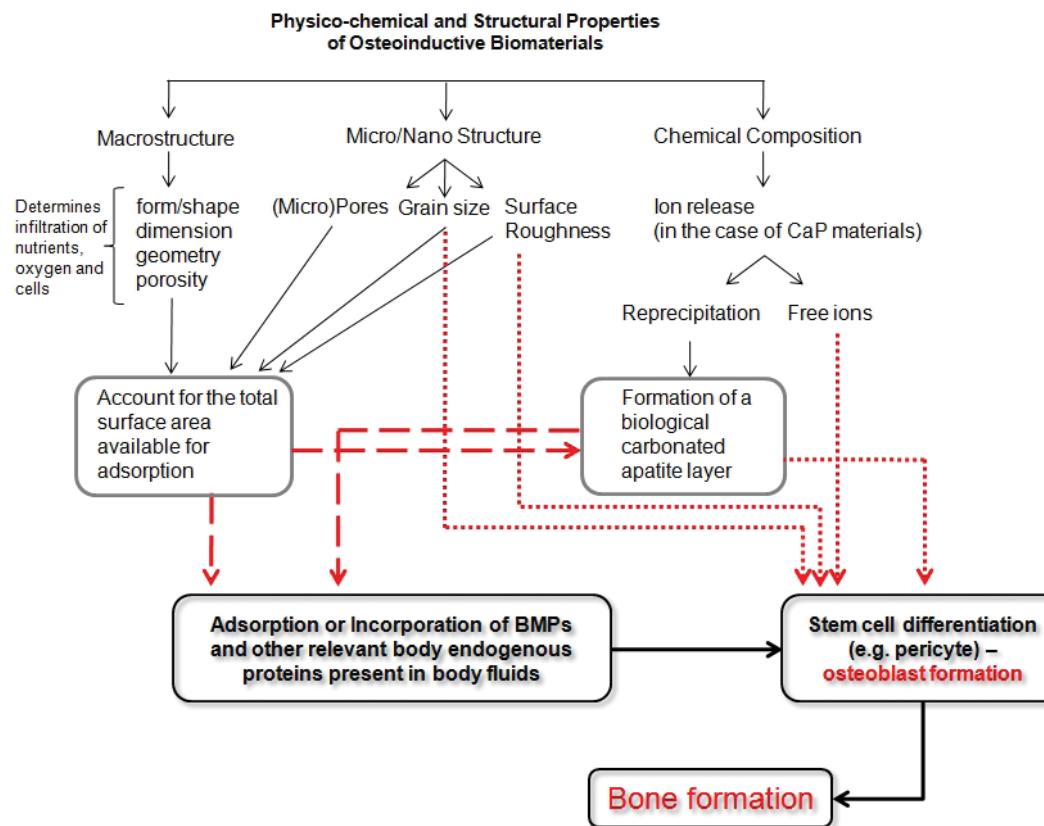
## Biological performance of CaP: Osteoinduction

**Two strategies to trigger osteoinduction:**

1. Incorporation of bone morphogenetic proteins (BMPs) in the biomaterials.
2. Designing intrinsically osteoinductive biomaterials



## Biological performance of CaP: Osteoinduction



M. C. Barradas, H. Yuan, C. A. Van Blitterswijk, P. Habibovic,  
*Eur. Cells Mater.* 21 (2011), 407–29



## Summary

- CaP have unique properties as synthetic bone grafts
- CaP can be obtained either from natural sources or by synthetic processes either at high-T or low-T
- The biological performance of CaP (resorption, bioactivity and osteoinduction) depends not only on their composition but also on their porosity and textural properties. Their control can allow actively directing the material-cell/tissue interaction.
- CaP processing is compatible with promising strategies for the fabrication of macroporous CaP scaffolds for tissue engineering and bone regeneration.



## Acknowledgements

### PostDoc fellows

Montserrat Espanol  
Cristina Canal  
Giuseppe Scionti

### PhD students

Yassine Maazouz  
David Pastorino  
Anna Diez  
Zhitong Zhao  
Kanupriya Khurana  
Albert Barba

### Funding bodies



Agència  
de Gestió d'Ajuts  
Universitaris  
i de Recerca



# Thank you!

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