Research paper

Mechanical testing and osteointegration of titanium implant with calcium phosphate bone cement and autograft alternatives

Lin Dan-Jae, Ju Chien-Ping, Huang Shu-Huei, Tien Yin-Chun, Yin Hsiang-Shu, Chen Wen-Cheng, Chern Lin Jiin-Huey

Department of Dental Hygiene, China Medical University, Taichung 40402, Taiwan, ROC
Department of Materials Science and Engineering, National Cheng-Kung University, Tainan, 701, Taiwan, ROC
Department of Orthopaedics, Kaohsiung Medical University Hospital, Kaohsiung, 807, Taiwan, ROC
Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology, College of Medicine, National Taiwan University, Taipei, 100, Taiwan, ROC
Department of Fiber and Composite Materials, Feng Chia University, 100, Wenhwa Rd., Seatwen, Taichung, 40724, Taiwan, ROC

ARTICLE INFO

Article history:
Received 3 February 2011
Received in revised form 30 March 2011
Accepted 3 April 2011
Published online 12 April 2011

Keywords:
Autograft
Calcium phosphate bone cement
Titanium implant
Pull-out test
Osteointegration

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to evaluate the osteointegration of a titanium (Ti) implant with the calcium phosphate cement (CPC) and autograft prostheses by pull-out test and histological examination. Stems of sixty Ti cylinders were bilaterally inserted into femoral medullary canals in 30 rabbits at the 1st, 4th, 12th, 26th and 70th postoperative weeks. The bone autograft and CPC were filled into the pre-trimmed bone marrow cavity with a polymethyl methacrylate retarder in the distal end, and then a Ti cylinder was inserted into femurs. The CPC group was significantly (p < 0.05) associated with a larger pull-out force at 4th (37%) and 12th (62%) weeks compared to the autograft group. The bone area and the bone-to-implant contact ratios of the CPC groups were significantly higher than that of the autograft groups at early healing stage. The histological exams suggest that the CPC enhanced the earlier bone formation around the implant at a period not longer than 12 weeks postoperation. We conclude that CPC graft has the higher ability to facilitate the osteointegration and stabilize the Ti implant at a relatively early stage than the autograft in vivo.

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1. Introduction

Bone or bone-like materials used in bone grafts may come from patent-self (bone autograft), from a donor (allograft) or from a man-made and synthetic source such as the demineralized bone matrix, ceramics, polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA), calcium phosphate bone cements (CPC) and so on.

Osteointegration is an important point of assessment for the success of hard tissue replacement prostheses and