Mussel-Inspired and Bioclickable Peptide Engineered Surface to Combat Thrombosis and Infection

Xiaohui Mou,1,2,3 Hongbo Zhang4, Hua Qiu,3 Wentai Zhang,1,2 Ying Wang,1,2 Kaiqin Xiong,3,5 Nan Huang3, Hélder A. Santos6,7 and Zhilu Yang1,2,3

1Affiliated Dongguan Hospital, Southern Medical University, Dongguan, Guangdong 523059, China
2Guangdong Provincial Key Laboratory of Shock and Microcirculation, Guangzhou, Guangdong 510080, China
3Key Laboratory of Advanced Technologies of Materials, Ministry of Education, School of Materials Science and Engineering, Southwest Jiaotong University, Chengdu 610031, China
4Pharmaceutical Sciences Laboratory, Åbo Akademi University, Turku Biosciences Center, University of Turku and Åbo Akademi University, 20520 Turku, Finland
5State Key Laboratory of Molecular Engineering of Polymers, Fudan University, Shanghai 200438, China
6Department of Biomedical Engineering and W.J. Kolff Institute for Biomedical Engineering and Materials Science, University Medical Center Groningen/University of Groningen, Ant. Deusinglaan 1, 9713 AV Groningen, Netherlands
7Drug Research Program, Division of Pharmaceutical Chemistry and Technology, Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Helsinki, FI-00014 Helsinki, Finland

Correspondence should be addressed to Nan Huang; huangnan1956@163.com, Hélder A. Santos; h.a.santos@umcg.nl, and Zhilu Yang; zhiluyang1029@126.com

Xiaohui Mou, Hongbo Zhang, and Hua Qiu contributed equally to this work.

Received 31 January 2022; Accepted 4 March 2022; Published 14 April 2022

Copyright © 2022 Xiaohui Mou et al. Exclusive Licensee Science and Technology Review Publishing House. Distributed under a Creative Commons Attribution License (CC BY 4.0).

Thrombosis and infections are the two major complications associated with extracorporeal circuits and indwelling medical devices, leading to significant mortality in clinic. To address this issue, here, we report a biomimetic surface engineering strategy by the integration of mussel-inspired adhesive peptide, with bio-orthogonal click chemistry, to tailor the surface functionalities of tubing and catheters. Inspired by mussel adhesive foot protein, a bioclickable peptide mimic (DOPA)4-azide-based structure is designed and grafted on an aminated tubing robustly based on catechol-amine chemistry. Then, the dibenzylcyclooctyne (DBCO) modified nitric oxide generating species of 1,4,7,10-tetraazacyclododecane-1,4,7,10-tetraacetic acid (DOTA) chelated copper ions and the DBCO-modified antimicrobial peptide (DBCO-AMP) are clicked onto the grafted surfaces via bio-orthogonal reaction. The combination of the robustly grafted AMP and Cu-DOTA endows the modified tubing with durable antimicrobial properties and ability in long-term catalytically generating NO from endogenous s-nitrosothiols to resist adhesion/activation of platelets, thus preventing the formation of thrombosis. Overall, this biomimetic surface engineering technology provides a promising solution for multicomponent surface functionalization and the surface bioengineering of biomedical devices with enhanced clinical performance.

1. Introduction

The commonly used indwelling catheters and external circuits in medical scenarios (i.e., ventricular assist devices, pacemakers, artificial hearts, hemodialysis, and cardioverter defibrillators) have been considered as the “lifeline” of patients [1, 2]. However, thrombosis and infections of extracorporeal circuits and indwelling medical devices often cause device failure [3, 4] along with serious complications, including for example catheter-related thrombosis [5], catheter-related bloodstream infection [6], and deep phlebitis [7]. Specifically, the formation of bacterial biofilm and thrombus on the surfaces of such types of blood-contacting devices is the major difficulty in the long-term treatment.
In traditional clinical practices, coadministration of antibiotics and anticoagulant drugs has been widely applied to prevent thrombosis and infection. However, this strategy can lead to various clinical complications, e.g., antibiotic resistance [8], bleeding [9], thrombocytopenia [10], and allergic reaction [11]. Accordingly, endowing the implanted materials or devices with multifunctionalities to combat thrombosis and infection has attracted increasing attentions in recent years [12, 13]. Among these strategies, grafting bioactive molecules, such as anticoagulant molecules [14], antibiotics [15], and peptide [16], which provide localized bioactivity on the surface of device, has been considered as one of the most effective methods for suppressing thrombosis and infections. However, the addressing of the two complications simultaneously is still a formidable challenge as yet. Strategies that “learn from Nature” [17] may be a promising way to solve such problems.

In circulation, the natural blood vessels show remarkable anticoagulant and antibacterial properties, which are associated with the microenvironment of the blood vessels and their biological activities [18]. Antimicrobial peptide (i.e., AMP), being widely distributed in plasma, directly kills bacteria when wound occurs, which is a crucial part of the immune system [19]. Compared with antibiotics, AMP has a wide range of antibacterial mechanisms and does not cause bacterial resistance [20]. In addition, endothelium exhibits a crucial effect in maintaining vascular homeostasis through releasing a kind of factors (e.g., nitric oxide (NO)) [21–23]. Endothelial cells continuously and stably release NO into blood microenvironment, which has a notable suppressive effect on platelet activation adhesion and thrombosis [24]. Specially, the 1,4,7, 10-tetraazacyclododecane-1,4,7, 10-tetraacetic acid chelated copper ion (i.e., Cu-DOTA) is widely used as a stable and effective biologically active catalyst to decompose endogenous S-nitrosothiols (RSNOs) into NO [25, 26]. Therefore, blood contact device with NO-generating function and surface engineered antimicrobial peptides may provide a highly simulated vascular microenvironment to prevent thrombosis and bacterial infection. However, the inevitably consumed active groups (e.g., -COOH, -NH₂, and -SH) of such biomolecules after chemical immobilization would result in a progressive loss of bioactivity as reported [27]. Besides, the current chemical modification methods suffer from tedious reaction processes and complex surface treatment technologies, compromising controllability, maneuverability, and reproducibility of surface bioactivity. Considering these issues, click chemistry, a concept founded in 2001 [28], is considered as an effective tool to address these issues to some extent [29]. In addition, bio-orthogonal click chemistry, a new click chemistry method [30], e.g., the dibenzylcyclooctyne-azide (N₃-DBCO) cycloaddition chemistry, demonstrates advantages in rapidity, thoroughness, and specificity [31, 32]. The high fidelity of these reactions in the face of a wide range of functional groups allows them to better maintain the biological activity of biomolecules.

Herein, we combined mussel-inspired molecule and bioorthogonal click chemistry for synergistically tailoring extracorporeal circuits and indwelling medical devices for antibacterial and anticoagulant multifunctions (Figure 1). Clickable mussel-inspired peptide Ac-(DOPA)-Gly-(DOPA)-(Lys-PEG₃-Azide)-(DOPA)-Gly-(DOPA)-COOH (i.e., (DOPA)₄-Azide) was chemisorbed onto a preaminated surface to impart the surface with sufficient azide groups for subsequently conjugating of DBCO-modified molecules (i.e., Cu-DOTA-DBCO and DBCO-AMP) by bioorthogonal N₃-DBCO click reaction. The Cu-DOTA could catalytically generating NO by which the platelet adhesion/aggregation could be strongly inhibited. Moreover, the grafted AMP possesses high-efficiency capabilities of killing bacteria. Thus, the bio-orthogonally coinmobilization of Cu-DOTA and AMP is probably endowing the modified tubing with favored antimicrobial and antithrombotic dual functions. This design integrates NO-generating and antimicrobial peptide moiety into a tubing coating system by mussel-inspired adhesive peptide mimicking and bio-orthogonal click chemistry while involving only simple, specific, rapid, and reproducible procedures. Importantly, the Cu-DOTA-catalyzed NO generation and AMP might contribute synergistically and successfully to long-term antibacterial and antithrombosis. It is expected that this strategy can provide a facile approach for rational bioengineering of tubing and catheters with optimal multifunctions combating thrombosis and infection.

2. Results

2.1. Molecular Synthesis and Surface Functionalization. The clickable mussel-inspired peptide was prepared through standard Fmoc-mediated solid-phase peptide synthesis, as reported previously [33–36]. Briefly, to simulate the multiple catechol structure in Mfps [37, 38], acetonide-protected fluorenlymethoxyoxycarbonyl-DOPA(acetone)-OH was employed in introducing DOPA into the mussel-inspired peptide sequence. In order to promote the mussel-like molecular adhered to the substrates and leave available clickable groups for the following click reaction, tetravalent DOTA was integrated using an amino acid spacer and a PEG-connected azide to acquire a bioclickable mussel-inspired adhesive peptide (DOPA)₄-azide. In this work, as two key active molecules for anticoagulation and antibiosis, the nitric oxide- (NO-) generating species Cu-DOTA and the AMP were connected to a PEG fragment with the DBCO group, respectively, to acquire the DBCO-capped biofunctional molecules. To obtain high purity of biofunctional molecules, the purity of (DOPA)₄-azide, DBCO-AMP, and DBCO-DOTA were purified (99.06%, 96.02%, and 96.97%, respectively) by high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) (Figure S1). After purification through HPLC, the three chemically-synthesized molecules were then characterized with nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectrometry and electrospray ionization mass spectrometry (ESI-MS). As expected, the monoisotopic mass [M-H]⁻ of (DOPA)₄-azide, [M+3H]⁻ of DBCO-AMP, and [M+2H]⁺ of DBCO-DOTA was detected at 1050.8, 871.7, and 607.2 Da, meeting their theoretical molecular weight 1052.1, 2612.1, and 1212.36, respectively (Figures 2(a)–2(c)). ¹H-NMR analysis also showed all diagnostic peaks of the three synthesized molecules and further confirmed the success of molecular synthesis.
synthesis (Figure S2). The results verified the successful chemical synthesis of the bioclickable adhesive peptide and DBCO-modified biofunctional molecules. To confirm the formation of the Cu-DOTA-DBCO molecule, the measurement of electron paramagnetic resonance (EPR) was carried out. EPR analysis revealed that Cu$^{2+}$ was successfully chelated to the DBCO-DOTA, with the signals showing up at 3490-3430 mT (Figure 2(d)).
Currently, most of the indwelling medical devices and extracorporeal circuits used in clinical are made of polymeric materials. However, there have been limited surface bioengineering strategies for polymeric devices as compared with the metal devices, possibly owing to the chemical inertness of biomedical polymer materials. To facilitate the surface functionalization of polymer materials, in this study, a durable amine-containing coating [39] was performed on the surface of polyvinyl chloride (PVC, a conventional medical material approved for manufacturing blood-contacting device) substrates or tubes. Then, the mussel-inspired adhesive bio-clickable peptide was robustly tethered on the PVC through catechol-amine reaction. Finally, the azide-functionalized PVC surfaces were easily connected with the obtained DBCO-capped NO catalyst (Cu-DOTA-DBCO) and DBCO-modified antimicrobial peptide (DBCO-AMP) by DBCO-N$_3$ bio-orthogonal reaction. The peptide binding and biomolecular grafting were monitored by Quartz Crystal Microbalance Dissipation Method (QCM-D). The results in Figure 2(e) demonstrated that 430.8 ng·cm$^{-2}$ of (DOPA)$_4$-azide was steadily bound onto the aminated chips, implying the high efficiency and robust tethering onto the aminated PVC substrates. Then, the azide-modified chips were incubated with DBCO-AMP or Cu-DOTA-DBCO via bio-orthogonal conjugation. Analysis of QCM-D monitoring revealed that the grafting processes began within minutes, and the maximal grafting amount for DBCO-AMP and Cu-DOTA-DBCO was 696.9 and 594.8 ng·cm$^{-2}$, respectively.
DOPA)4-azide on the aminated coating. Moreover, the change of (DOPA)4-azide. The click-anchoring sites for DBCO-carboxyl groups, probably indicating the successful grafting of phenolic hydroxyl and the group produced by the successful bioorthogonal N3-DBCO click reaction between the -N+ groups provided by azide surfaces and the benzodiazepines groups of (DOPA)4-azide, the introduction of −N = N⁺ = N⁻ peak by (DOPA)4-azide with azide groups in the FTIR spectra was nearly invisible, which may be due to the −N = N⁺ = N⁻ signal was limited by the detection limit of infrared. However, the band at 3100 to 3600 cm⁻¹ was remarkably broadened because of the -OH stretching vibration bands derived from the (DOPA)4-azide containing a moderate amount of phenolic hydroxyl and carboxyl groups, probably indicating the successful grafting of (DOPA)4-azide. The click-anchoring sites for DBCO-modified biofunctional molecules were provided through introducing the azide groups to the aminated surface. After clicking of Cu-DOTA-DBCO or/and DBCO-AMP to azide (marked as Cu-DOTA, AMP, and Cu-DOTA&AMP, respectively), the appearance of the band in the FTIR spectra at 1530, 1440, and 1235 cm⁻¹ confirm the 1,2,3-triazole group produced by the successful bioorthogonal N3-DBCO click reaction between the -N+ groups provided by azide coating and the -DBCO groups of Cu-DOTA-DBCO or DBCO-AMP. Additionally, the appearance of band at 3060 cm⁻¹ (=CH stretching) and the significant shift of the peak from 1633 to 1654 cm⁻¹ further indicated the successful bioconjugation of AMP. Although the band at 3060 cm⁻¹ (=CH stretching) in the FTIR spectrum of Cu-DOTA&AMP nearly disappeared probably due to the successful clickable grafting of both molecules, the presence of similar significant shift of the band from 1633 to 1654 cm⁻¹ also further confirmed the successful bioconjugation of Cu-DOTA-DBCO and DBCO-AMP on azide surface (Figure 2(i)). XPS analysis provided additional confirmation of the successful surface engineering of (DOPA)4-azide, DBCO-AMP, and Cu-DOTA-DBCO, as evidenced through the remarkable changes in the chemical compositions of the aminated PVC before and after each grafting step (Table S1). The changes in the contents of oxygen and nitrogen of the azide confirmed the immobilization of (DOPA)4-azide on the aminated coating. Moreover, the copper element especial to the Cu-DOTA-DBCO was tested in both the Cu-DOTA-containing coatings, and the significant decrease in the contents of the copper of the Cu-DOTA&AMP coatings compared with the Cu-DOTA coatings, which probably confirmed the effective bioconjugation of Cu-DOTA-DBCO and DBCO-AMP on the azide coating. To further investigate the chemical components of the functionalized surfaces, the C 1s and N 1s peaks of XPS were implemented with peak fitting methods (Figure S3). An increase of the peak was found at 286.2 eV in the C 1s high-resolution spectra of the azide surface compared to that of aminated surface, which may be due to the introduction of C-O/C-N₃ peak components by (DOPA)₄-azide with azide groups and C-O structures. Additionally, an obvious decrease or increase of peaks value was found at 284.6 eV and 286.2 eV in the C 1s high-resolution spectra of the AMP and Cu-DOTA surfaces compared to that of azide because of the introduction of C=C/C=C structure of the DBCO-AMP and Cu-DOTA-DBCO, implying the conjugation of AMP and Cu-DOTA on azide surfaces (Figure S3A). Finally, the content of each component in Cu-DOTA&AMP coatings was between the DOTA-Cu and AMP surfaces, which was consistent with the theoretical result of bioconjugation Cu-DOTA-DBCO and DBCO-AMP (Table S2). The N 1s core-level spectrum of the aminated surface after grafting of (DOPA)₄-azide was curve-fitted into five peak components with BEs at 398.07, 399.50, 400.46, 401.13, and 403.90 eV, attributable to the aromatic N, aliphatic N, Azide (N=N), R-N⁺, and Azide (-N⁺) species, respectively (Figure S3B). The azide [(N)-N=] /[−N=N⁺] area ratio of around 2:1 was in good agreement with the characteristics of azide [40], indicating that the mussel-inspired adhesive bioclickable peptide had grafted on the aminated surface. Moreover, the absorption of nonazide protonated R-N⁺ was significantly enhanced, which probably is due to the aniline structure formed by Michael addition between the -NH₂ groups of aminated surface and the benzodiazepines groups of (DOPA)₄-azide was easily protonated. Therefore, the disappearance of azide (-N⁺) and ((N)-N=) species of the AMP, Cu-DOTA, and Cu-DOTA&AMP surfaces further indicated that the Cu-DOTA-DBCO and DBCO-AMP were successfully clicked on the azide-functionalized surface via bioorthogonal N₃-DBCO click reaction (Table S3).

To further investigate the changes of the chemical structure and composition of the aminated PVC before and after each grafting step, reflection absorbance Fourier transform infrared (RA-FTIR) and X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) were carried out. After grafting of (DOPA)₄-azide to the aminated surface (marked as azide), the introduction of −N = N⁺ = N⁻ peak by (DOPA)₄-azide with azide groups in the FTIR spectra was nearly invisible, which may be due to the −N = N⁺ = N⁻ signal was limited by the detection limit of infrared. However, the band at 3100 to 3600 cm⁻¹ was remarkably broadened because of the −OH stretching vibration bands derived from the (DOPA)₄-azide containing a moderate amount of phenolic hydroxyl and carboxyl groups, probably indicating the successful grafting of (DOPA)₄-azide. The click-anchoring sites for DBCO-modified biofunctional molecules were provided through introducing the azide groups to the aminated surface. After clicking of Cu-DOTA-DBCO or/and DBCO-AMP to azide (marked as Cu-DOTA, AMP, and Cu-DOTA&AMP, respectively), the appearance of the band in the FTIR spectra at 1530, 1440, and 1235 cm⁻¹ confirm the 1,2,3-triazole group produced by the successful bioorthogonal N₃-DBCO click reaction between the -N⁺ groups provided by azide coating and the -DBCO groups of Cu-DOTA-DBCO or DBCO-AMP. Additionally, the appearance of band at 3060 cm⁻¹ (=CH stretching) and the significant shift of the peak from 1633 to 1654 cm⁻¹ further indicated the successful bioconjugation of AMP. Although the band at 3060 cm⁻¹ (=CH stretching) in the FTIR spectrum of Cu-DOTA&AMP nearly disappeared probably due to the successful clickable grafting of both molecules, the presence of similar significant shift of the band from 1633 to 1654 cm⁻¹ also further confirmed the successful bioconjugation of Cu-DOTA-DBCO and DBCO-AMP on azide surface (Figure 2(i)). XPS analysis provided additional confirmation of the successful surface engineering of (DOPA)₄-azide, DBCO-AMP, and Cu-DOTA-DBCO, as evidenced through the remarkable changes in the chemical compositions of the aminated PVC before and after each grafting step (Table S1). The changes in the contents of oxygen and nitrogen of the azide confirmed the immobilization of (DOPA)₄-azide on the aminated coating. Moreover, the copper element especial to the Cu-DOTA-DBCO was tested in both the Cu-DOTA-containing coatings, and the significant decrease in the contents of the copper of the Cu-DOTA&AMP coatings compared with the Cu-DOTA coatings, which probably confirmed the effective bioconjugation of Cu-DOTA-DBCO and DBCO-AMP on the azide coating. To further investigate the chemical components of the functionalized surfaces, the C 1s and N 1s peaks of XPS were implemented with peak fitting methods (Figure S3). An increase of the peak was found at 286.2 eV in the C 1s high-resolution spectra of the azide surface compared to that of aminated surface, which may be due to the introduction of C-O/C-N₃ peak components by (DOPA)₄-azide with azide groups and C-O structures. Additionally, an obvious decrease or increase of peaks value was found at 284.6 eV and 286.2 eV in the C 1s high-resolution spectra of the AMP and Cu-DOTA surfaces compared to that of azide because of the introduction of C=C/C=C structure of the DBCO-AMP and Cu-DOTA-DBCO, implying the conjugation of AMP and Cu-DOTA on azide surfaces (Figure S3A). Finally, the content of each component in Cu-DOTA&AMP coatings was between the DOTA-Cu and AMP surfaces, which was consistent with the theoretical result of bioconjugation Cu-DOTA-DBCO and DBCO-AMP (Table S2). The N 1s core-level spectrum of the aminated surface after grafting of (DOPA)₄-azide was curve-fitted into five peak components with BEs at 398.07, 399.50, 400.46, 401.13, and 403.90 eV, attributable to the aromatic N, aliphatic N, Azide (N=N), R-N⁺, and Azide (-N⁺) species, respectively (Figure S3B). The azide [(N)-N=] /[−N=N⁺] area ratio of around 2:1 was in good agreement with the characteristics of azide [40], indicating that the mussel-inspired adhesive bioclickable peptide had grafted on the aminated surface. Moreover, the absorption of nonazide protonated R-N⁺ was significantly enhanced, which probably is due to the aniline structure formed by Michael addition between the -NH₂ groups of aminated surface and the benzodiazepines groups of (DOPA)₄-azide was easily protonated. Therefore, the disappearance of azide (-N⁺) and ((N)-N=) species of the AMP, Cu-DOTA, and Cu-DOTA&AMP surfaces further indicated that the Cu-DOTA-DBCO and DBCO-AMP were successfully clicked on the azide-functionalized surface via bioorthogonal N₃-DBCO click reaction (Table S3).

2.2. Antibacterial Property. Infection is one of the major complications associated with extravascular circuits and indwelling medical devices, which causes significant mortality in clinic [41]. To detect the antibacterial performance of the Cu-DOTA&AMP coating, Escherichia coli (E. coli) and Staphylococci epidermids (S. epidermids) were selected as typical strains causing infections after interventional procedures for antibacterial tests. We found that the surface azidation to the PVC substrates by (DOPA)₄-azide did not result in visible influence on bacterial growth as evidenced by antibacterial rates of 9.2% and 9.0% for E. coli and S. aureus, respectively. However, the Cu-DOTA-grafted on azide-functionalized PVC led to inhibitory effects on bacterial growth, which may be attributed to the bactericidal ability of the leakage copper(II)-ions from Cu-DOTA. Moreover, a significantly growth of the antibacterial rate in AMP-coated PVC compared to the control and azide groups was also observed. In addition, we have noted that the bio-orthogonal of Cu-DOTA&AMP on azide-functionalized PVC proved the excellent synergistic interactions on inhibiting S. epidermids and E. coli with bacterial killing activity nearly to 99% and 100%, respectively (Figures 3(a)–3(c)).
SEM analysis showed that a moderate number of S. epidermids and E. coli adhered on both PVC and azide groups showed a state of rapid proliferation (Figure 3(d)). In contrast, the surfaces functionalized by Cu-DOTA or AMP alone significantly inhibited the adhesion and proliferation of S. epidermids and E. coli. We have not noted that the bacteria membrane ruptured obviously on the Cu-DOTA, which might be owing to the insufficient concentration of free of copper ions from Cu-DOTA. However, it was noteworthy that the bacterial membrane rupture was observed on the AMP and Cu-DOTA&AMP, which demonstrated the well-retained ability of AMP [42] grafted by surface click chemistry to penetrate and destroy the bacterial membrane for killing bacteria. In addition, the excellent synergistic effects on the adhesion and proliferation of S. epidermids and E. coli were exhibited at the bio-orthogonal of Cu-DOTA&AMP on azide-functionalized PVC surface.

Considering the long-term practical applications of the Cu-DOTA&AMP coating on implantable medical blood-contacting devices (e.g., central venous catheter and pacemaker), the long-term efficacy of its antibacterial efficacy for different time period at continuous immersion into PBS was tested (Figure S4). The results revealed that antibacterial rates of Cu-DOTA&AMP-coated PVC for S. epidermids and E. coli after 30 days of soaking, but still suppressed 98% of bacterial growth of both S. epidermids and E. coli, implying the wonderful preservation of Cu-DOTA&AMP in antibacterial properties.

Altogether, the results above shows that the AMP and Cu²⁺ from Cu-DOTA endow the long-term antibacterial properties of Cu-DOTA&AMP surface to prevent biofouling.

2.3. In Vitro NO Catalytic Release and Blood Compatibility Tests. In our design, the DOTA chelated copper ions can decompose nitrosothiols into NO to suppress material-induced thrombosis [25, 26, 43]. The catalytic release of NO as bioactive gas molecule was calculated to detect the NO catalytic ability of the Cu-DOTA&AMP coating. The NO catalytic release activity of Cu-DOTA&AMP surface was evaluated through a real-time chemiluminescent assay. For the in vitro experiments, the NO donor solution (10 μM S-nitrosoglutathione (GSNO) and 10 μM L-glutathione (GSH)) was prepared to mimic the physiological environment. NO real-time monitoring revealed that there is almost

**Figure 3: Antibacterial property.** (a) Typical E. coli and S. epidermids colonies after 24 h incubation on the bare and modified PVC plates. Antibacterial rate of modified PVC that calculated from the number of colonies against (b) E. coli and (c) S. epidermids. (d) SEM images of E. coli and S. epidermids that adhered or colonized on the bare and modified PVC plates. All scale bars from the same raw are 500 or 5000 nm. Data presented as mean ± SD and analyzed using a one-way ANOVA, ***p < 0.01, ****p < 0.001.
no catalytic release of nitric oxide from the AMP-coated PVC (Figure 4(a)). As shown in Figures 4(b) and 4(c), the stable NO release patterns yield by the Cu-DOTA-coated PVC \( (5.7 \times 10^{-10} \text{ mol cm}^{-2} \text{ min}^{-1}) \), suggesting the successful functionalization of in situ release of NO. In contrast, the Cu-DOTA&AMP surface showed slightly lower NO flux \( (2.6 \times 10^{-10} \text{ mol cm}^{-2} \text{ min}^{-1}) \) possibly due to the successful clickable grafting of both molecules. Considering the stable catalytic release of NO is critical to the implanted blood-contacting devices for long-term service in vivo, stability studies were prepared for Cu-DOTA&AMP through immersion into PBS for different time periods, and then their NO catalytic release ability was tested every seven days. The experimental result indicates that the NO catalytic release ability exhibited a minor decrease with the increase of soaking time, but stabilized around \( (0.5 \sim 1) \times 10^{-10} \text{ mol cm}^{-2} \text{ min}^{-1} \) after more than 30 days (Figure S5). Jointly, these results confirmed the possibility of the dual-functional Cu-DOTA&AMP surfaces for long-term service in vivo.
At the early postimplantation stage, thrombosis is a crucial problem associated with blood-contacting material. As a highly potent gaseous signal molecule, NO can activates soluble guanylate cyclase through binding the haem moiety of soluble guanylate cyclase, contributing to cyclic guanosine monophosphate (cGMP) upregulation and eventually inhibiting the activation and aggregation of platelets [44]. To evaluate the ability of NO produced from Cu-DOTA on facilitating the cGMP synthesis of platelets, the cGMP analysis was carried out. Compared to the PVC and azide groups, only the groups (Cu-DOTA and Cu-DOTA&AMP) containing Cu-DOTA both significantly facilitated the cGMP expression of platelets with the NO donor supplement, and the grafted only AMP group had no charge (Figure 4(d)). Moreover, we also noted a slight loss in the cGMP expression due to the loss of NO released by Cu-DOTA&AMP (Figure 4(c)). In contrast, the expression of cGMP of platelets did not change without NO donor supplement (Figure S6A), indicating the highly biological activity of NO generated from Cu-DOTA. Then, we further investigated the adhesion and activation of platelets on the dual-functional Cu-DOTA&AMP surface. Without donor supplement, a moderate number of activated platelets aggregate on all the experiment groups (Figure S6B-D). Upon adding donor to catalytic release NO, most of platelet adhered on both PVC and azide groups with a state of remarkable degree of activation and aggregation was observed. Furthermore, the grafted AMP-only group still had obvious platelet adhesion and activation. By contrast, the grafted Cu-DOTA group substantially reduced platelet adhesion and activation with an inactive spherical state. Though the generation of NO induced by Cu-DOTA&AMP was a slight decrease compared with the grafted Cu-DOTA group, it still remarkably inhibited the adhesion and activation of platelet (Figures 4(e)–4(g)). The result suggested the efficacy of NO gas molecules for the suppression of thrombogenesis in blood microenvironment.

Altogether, these results demonstrate the excellent antithrombogenic properties of the Cu-DOTA&AMP surface in vitro.

2.4. Ex Vivo Antithrombogenic Properties. To be more clinically relevant, an ex vivo blood circuit experiment was further performed [45]. The PVC tubing before and after surface engineering was assembled with clinically usable medical catheter and subsequently linked to a rabbit arteriovenous shunt circuit (Figure 5(a)).

With the NO donor supplement, all the tubings were collected to evaluate the occlusive rates, blood flow rates, and thrombus weights after ex vivo circulation for 2h. We noted that there was only a tiny number of thrombi on the groups with the NO releasing, whereas severe thrombus formation was observed on the NO-free groups (PVC and AMP) (Figures 5(b) and 5(c)). SEM analysis further confirmed that the groups containing Cu-DOTA significantly prevented the formation of thrombus. On the blood-contact surfaces of the bare PVC tubing and AMP-coated tubing, there had severe thrombus with high crosslinking density of polymeric fibrin networks, red blood cells, and activated platelets (Figure 5(d)). Quantitative of these results further revealed a significant reduction in thrombosis formation of the NO releasing groups through evaluating thrombus weight, occlusion rates, and blood flow rates relative to the other groups (Figures 5(e)–5(g)). Total thrombus weight in NO releasing circuits was ten-fold reduced compared to the bare and only AMP-grafted groups (Figure 5(e)).

To conclude the occlusion rates throughout the circuits postexplant, the percent occlusion of lumen areas was calculated using computerized image analysis. Compared to the bare and only AMP-grafted groups, the Cu-DOTA&AMP coated circuit significantly reduced the thrombotic occlusion to 10% (Figure 5(f)). Correspondingly, the blood flow rates revealed a consistent result (Figure 5(g)). These results were also in line with the antithrombogenic property in vitro, described above.

Considering the long-term practical applications of the Cu-DOTA&AMP coating on implantable medical blood-contacting devices (e.g., pacemaker and central venous catheter), the long-term efficacy of its anticoagulant efficacy for different time periods at continuous immersion into PBS was tested (Figure S7). The results showed that the antithrombogenic ability showed an almost no decrease after 30 days of treatment with PBS, suggesting the promising application of Cu-DOTA&AMP coating in implanted/interventional blood-contacting devices for long-term use in vivo.

The above results also confirmed the excellent antithrombogenic property of the Cu-DOTA&AMP surface long-term use in vivo.

2.5. Blood Biochemical Analysis. Antithrombosis is the major property associated with blood-contacting materials in addition to the hemostatic materials. However, for those biomedical devices which undergo long-term or large-area contact with blood, e.g., the central venous catheter or cardiac pacemaker, their effects on blood composition or on liver and kidney functions should be systematically detected to ensure the safety for use in vivo. Considering the difference of total blood volume between rabbit and human (~200 ml for mature white rabbit and ~4000 ml for adult human), a 1.6 m long bare PVC or Cu-DOTA&AMP-coated tube (with inner diameter 3 mm) was selected to simulate the clinical application, and then, respectively, installed into the rabbit arteriovenous shunt circuit (Figure 6(a)). After 0, 5, 30, and 60 min of blood circulation, the blood was collected for biochemical, and physiological parameters were determined, including inflammatory response, blood coagulation, and organ functions.

Coagulation evaluation showed that the control groups had a trend towards a higher blood clotting after prolonged contact with blood, which was characterized by the increased amount of F1+2 (an integral marker for the prothrombin activation) (Figure 6(c)). However, activated partial thromboplastin time (APTT) decreased significantly in all groups, probably because that the catalytic release of NO was insufficient (Figure 6(b)). After circulation, there had been a decrease in the number of platelets of bare PVC tubing, but the number of platelets of the Cu-DOTA&AMP-coated
PVC tubing did not change (Figure 6(d)). A device implanted in vivo can be quickly monitored by the immune system, then causing an inflammatory response. While the proinflammatory parameters of all groups had no obvious changes: the count of C3a (C3 cleavage fragment, indicating the classic or alternative way to activate the complement system, Figure 6(e)), c-reactive protein (a kind of acute-phase proteins in plasma were used as a measurement of acute inflammation, Figure 6(f)), white blood cells (Figure 6(g)), expression of tumor necrosis factor-alpha (TNF-α) (a major acute inflammatory cytokines, Figure 6(i)), and IL-10 (a recognized inflammatory and immunosuppressor, Figure 6(h)). Such results indicate that all groups had no proinflammatory tendency. However, only the expression of TNF-α decreased significantly after cycling, which may be related to the anesthesia [46]. All the proinflammatory indexes of the Cu-DOTA&AMP surface group had a consistent result with the bare PVC group used in clinical, suggesting that the coating did not further promote an inflammatory response of the material. To explore if the material and coating had serious toxicity to organs and tissues, the blood concentrations of the liver enzyme alanine aminotransferase (ALT) and the kidney parameter serum creatinine (Scr) were measured. As shown in Figures 6(j) and 6(k), both the PVC and Cu-DOTA&AMP surface presented no organ and tissue toxicity during circulation, and there was also no significant difference, verifying their biosafety.

3. Discussion

We develop here a biomimetic surface engineering strategy for fabricating multifunctional coating onto blood-contacting surfaces by masterly combining bioorthogonal conjugation chemistry with mussel-inspired adhesive peptide mimicking. To robustly binding clickable mussel-inspired peptide on tubing and catheters surface by catechol-amine chemistry, we functioned the polymeric device with a durable amine-bearing surface. The DBCO-modified functional molecules (e.g., Cu-DOTA-DBCO and DBCO-AMP) were effectively coimmobilized on tubing and catheter surface through the bio-orthogonal conjugation chemistry. The antibacterial function of DBCO-AMP and the signal molecules effect of NO generated from Cu-DOTA-DBCO endowed the coating with the durable synergistic inhibition in growth and adhesion of bacteria and activation of platelets in vitro for one month, as well the capacity to efficiently restrain thrombogenesis ex vivo. Our strategy presented a promising method to tailor a multifunctional...
surface and maintain efficient biological function and may also be suitable for biomimetic surface engineering of many biomedical fields.

4. Materials and Methods

4.1. Materials. Dopamine, polyallylamine, CuCl$_2$·2H$_2$O, GSNO, GSH, cGMP enzyme immunoassay kit, and glutaraldehyde were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich.

4.2. Surface Amination of PVC. Briefly, the PVC substrates (1.0 cm × 1.0 cm for antiplatelet test and 2.5 cm × 2.5 cm for antibacterial assessment) or tubes (inner diameter $\Phi = 3.0 \text{ mm}$) were dipped into or perfused with the dopamine (DA) solution under optimal conditions (10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.5, 1 mg mL$^{-1}$ DA) for 48 h. Then, the polydopamine- (PDA-) modified PVC substrates or tubes were flushed with deionized water and desiccated using N$_2$ gas. To further tailor surface amino functionalization of the PVC, the modified PVC substrates or tubes were subsequently soaked into the polyallylamine alkaline aqueous solution (pH = 12) under ambient temperature for 12 h and finally cleaned with distilled water and desiccated by N$_2$ for future use.

Figure 6: Blood analysis by ex vivo blood circulation. (a) Circulation model on rabbit for blood analysis. Blood parameters including (b) activated partial thromboplastin time (APTT), (c) F1+2 (an integral marker for the prothrombin activation), (d) the number of platelets (PLT), (e) C3a (C3 cleavage fragment, indicating the classic or alternative way to activate the complement system), (f) c-reactive protein (CRP), (g) white blood cells (WBC), (h) IL-10 (a recognized inflammatory and immunosuppressor), (i) tumor necrosis factor-alpha (TNF-$\alpha$), (j) the liver enzyme alanine aminotransferase (ALT), and (k) the kidney parameter serum creatinine (Scr) were detected to reveal the hemocompatibility and liver/kidney safety after exposing the bare and Cu-DOTA&AMP grafted catheters to the circulating blood. Data are presented as mean ± SD ($n = 4$).
(DOPA)_4-Azide, DBCO-AMP, and DBCO-DOTA Synthesis: the (DOPA)_4-azide and the DBCO-capped molecules (DBCO-AMP and DBCO-DOTA) were prepared through the Fmoc-mediated solid-phase synthesis technique [47]. With the help of China Peptides Co. Ltd. (Shanghai, China, purity > 95%), The Cu-DOTA-DBCO was prepared by mixing the CuCl₂·2H₂O with DBCO-DOTA in the aqueous solution by a mol ratio of 1:1.

4.3. Surface Azidation of the PVC and Cografting of the Cu-DOTA-DBCO and DBCO-AMP. The aminated PVC substrates or tubes (termed as aminate) were firstly immersed into (DOPA)_4-Azide (0.1 mg mL⁻¹) dissolved by PBS (pH = 8.0) under ambient temperature for 24 h, and then cleaned by deionized water and desiccated with a stream of N₂, the azide-modified surface was termed as “Azide.” Subsequently, the azide-modified PVC was incubated with 2 mg mL⁻¹ of Cu-DOTA-DBCO and/or 2 mg mL⁻¹ DBCO-AMP under ambient temperature for 24 h to prepare the Cu-DOTA, AMP, and Cu-DOTA&AMP cografted surface. After cografting, the modified substrates or tubes were cleaned thoroughly deionized water and desiccated with a stream of N₂ for subsequent use.

4.4. Characterization. To purify the synthesized molecules, HPLC was performed on an Agilent HPLC system with a Kromasil 100-5C₁₈ column (5 μm, 4.6 × 250 mm, column temperature 25°C). Mobile phases were buffer A (0.1% TFA in water) and buffer B (0.1% TFA in acetonitrile). The flow was graded at a rate of 1 mL min⁻¹. Then, injection volume and running time were 10 μL and 11 min, respectively. The molecular weights of (DOPA)_4-azide, DBCO-AMP, and DBCO-DOTA were determined by ESI-MS (Sciex API 150EX LC/MS with Agilent 1100 HPLC). Buffer: 75%ACN/24.5%H₂O/0.5%HAc; flow rate: 0.2 mL min⁻¹; run time: 1 min. A Nicolet model 5700 instrument was used to take Reflection Absorbance Fourier Transform Infrared (RA-FTIR) spectrum. The surface elemental compositions were detected by X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) (K-alpha, Thermo Fisher, USA), with an excitation source monochromatized Al Kα (1486.6 eV). The synthesized molecules were analyzed by proton nuclear magnetic resonance (¹H-NMR) spectrum (Bruker AVANCE III 400). 10 mg sample was used to measure electron paramagnetic resonance (EPR) spectra on a Bruker EMXPlus (X-band is 9.85 GHz, μ₀: 4π x 10⁻⁷ T m/A, Q-factor: 10⁵, power is 0.2 mW, and samples were loaded in capillary tube).

4.5. QCM-D Analysis. The real-time monitoring of the grafting of the (DOPA)_4-azide and the DBCO-capped molecules (DBCO-AMP or/and Cu-DOTA-DBCO) was used by a Quartz Crystal Microbalance Dissipation Method (QCM-D, Q-sense AB, Sweden). In detail, the Au-coated quartz crystal (diameter of Au film 1 cm) was firstly surface aminated. Then, the piezoelectric quartz crystal sensors were excited at a fundamental frequency (5 MHz), and the change in frequency (Δf) was monitored for the third, fifth, seventh, ninth, eleventh, and thirteenth overtones. When the excitation stopped, recorded the changes of the resonance frequencies (ΔF) and those of the relaxation (ΔD) of the vibration at the five frequencies, and installed the surface aminated quartz crystal in the QCM-D chamber and injected PBS buffer at 50 μL min⁻¹ continuously until the QCM-D traces maintained steady, followed by the buffer pump with the identical speed. After that, (DOPA)_4-azide (0.1 mg mL⁻¹) in PBS was injected into the surveying chamber in touch with the crystal with the identical speed and eventually washed with PBS. Subsequently, 2 mg mL⁻¹ of Cu-DOTA-DBCO and/or 2 mg mL⁻¹ of DBCO-AMP were injected into the surveying chamber in touch with the crystal with the identical speed and eventually washed with PBS. Finally, the amounts of the Cu-DOTA-DBCO or/and the DBCO-AMP grafted on the surfaces were calculated based on the Sauerbrey equation [48].

4.6. Antibacterial Activity. The detailed procedure has been described elsewhere [49]. Briefly, S. aureus and E. coli were precultured in agar solid medium positioned in a 37°C incubator for 24 h and passaged twice to acquire the monoclonal bacterial. Picked the fresh bacterial colonies (1-3 rings) and dissolved with a solution containing 0.2% liquid medium and 99.8% saline. The bacteria concentration was restructured to 5.0 x 10⁵ ~ 10⁶ CFU mL⁻¹ by tenfold increasing sequential diluting. 100 μL of the suitable concentration of bacterial solution was added onto the surface of samples and covered using a soft polyethylene (PE) membrane to maintain a well spread liquid film on the substrate. All samples were positioned in a 37°C incubator for 24 h. Then, the bacteria on the surfaces were flushed and diluted with saline solution (1 mL). 20 μL of the bacterial solution was distributed on the solid medium and incubated in a 37°C incubator. Lastly, the colonies cultured on the surface of solid medium were quantified and observed by SEM after 24 h.

4.7. Catalytic Generation of NO. A chemiluminescence NO analyzer (NOA, Seivers 280i, Boulder, CO) was used to determine the real-time generation rate of NO. In brief, the AMP, Cu-DOTA, and Cu-DOTA&AMP-modified PVC substrates (5 mm x 10 mm) were immersed into PBS with NO donor containing SNAP (10 μM) and GSH (10 μM). Upon the reaction was carried out, the NO-generated was detected by X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) and those of the relaxation (ΔD) were monitored for the third, fifth, seventh, ninth, eleventh, and thirteenth overtones. When the excitation stopped, recorded the changes of the resonance frequencies (ΔF) and those of the relaxation (ΔD) of the vibration at the five frequencies, and installed the surface aminated quartz crystal in the QCM-D chamber and injected PBS buffer at 50 μL min⁻¹ continuously until the QCM-D traces maintained steady, followed by the buffer pump with the identical speed. After that, (DOPA)_4-azide (0.1 mg mL⁻¹) in PBS was injected into the surveying chamber in touch with the crystal with the identical speed and eventually washed with PBS. Subsequently, 2 mg mL⁻¹ of Cu-DOTA-DBCO and/or 2 mg mL⁻¹ of DBCO-AMP were injected into the surveying chamber in touch with the crystal with the identical speed and eventually washed with PBS. Finally, the amounts of the Cu-DOTA-DBCO or/and the DBCO-AMP grafted on the surfaces were calculated based on the Sauerbrey equation [48].

4.8. Platelet Adhesion and Activation. The bare and AMP-, Cu-DOTA, and Cu-DOTA&AMP-modified PVC were cultured by 0.5 mL of platelet-rich plasma (PRP). After culture for 30 min at 37°C, the samples were rinsed 3 times with saline solution and then fixed with 4% paraformaldehyde solution overnight. After further dehydrated and dealcoholized, the adhered platelets on the sample surfaces were evaluated using scanning electron microscope (SEM) (ZEISS EVO 18). Given the low synthesis of endogenous in PRP, the samples were cultured in two groups of PRP supplemented with or without NO donor containing SNAP (10 μM) and GSH (10 μM).
4.9. cGMP Expression of Platelets. Expression level of cGMP of platelets adhered on each sample was measured by the human cGMP ELISA kit. Samples were firstly cultured in 1 mL of PRP at 37°C for 30 min with or without NO donor. Therewith, 100 μL of triton-X solution (10%) was added onto the above sample and followed by sonication. The obtained above fragmented PRP solution was centrifugated for 15 min at 3000 rcf, and the supernatant was collected for ELISA test.

4.10. Ex Vivo Hemocompatibility Test. The animal experiments obey the rules and guidelines of the China Ethical Committee and Laboratory Animal Administration Methods. The detailed experimental process has been described elsewhere [50]. Briefly, the Cu-DOTA-DBCO or/and DBCO-AMP were firstly immobilized on the lumen surface of the PVC tubings. After being anesthetized by 30 mg mL⁻¹ pentobarbital sodium (1 mL per kg), the left external jugular vein and right carotid artery of New Zealand white rabbits (above 2.5 kg) were exposed and cannulated. Then, the catheter was linked to the cannulas, forming a closed loop. The unmodified-, and AMP-, Cu-DOTA, and Cu-DOTA&AMP-modified PVC tubings were taken out after ex vivo circulation for two hours and washed with saline solution. The occlusive rates were calculated by the cross-sections photographs of the tubings. Under the same pressure pump condition, the blood flow rate was calculated after circulation and normalized to that before the circulation. The thrombus formed on the luminal surface of the tubes was weighed, then analyzed by SEM after being fixed with 4% paraformaldehyde solution.

4.11. Blood Analysis after Ex Vivo Blood Circulation. The blood from New Zealand white rabbits was extracted for haematology analysis and blood biochemistry assay after ex vivo blood circulation. In the case of this experiment, each rabbit only received one circuit (e.g., unmodified PVC or Cu-DOTA&AMP-modified tubing). Blood analysis including the APTT [51], F1+2 [52], C3a [53], CRP [54], WBC, PLT, IL-10 [55], TNF-α [56], ALT [57], and CRE [58] was performed by using the blood drawn from the running circulation at different periods of time (0, 5, 30, and 60 min). A portion of the freshly collected whole blood with and without anticoagulants was centrifuged (2500 rcf at 4°C for 15 min) to collect plasma and serum, respectively. To test whether the coated catheter would have side effects on blood composition or on liver and kidney functions, a single prolonged catheter was selected to simulate the clinical application. The total ECC tube for human is several meters long, so we selected a 1.6 meters long PVC tube with inner diameter = 3 mm and coated the lumen surface. The enlarged contact area facilitates us to disclose the different effect between the modified and unmodified (control) catheter.

APTT was measured by manual tilt-tube method [59]. The CRP, TNF-α, C3a, IL-10, and F1+2 were measured by ELISA kit (Rabbit CRP/TNF-α/C3a/IL-10/F1+2 ELISA KIT, ZC-52314/ZC-52984/ZC-52409/ZC-52381/ZC-52601, Shanghai ZCIBIO Technology Co., Ltd.), according to the specifications. WBC and PLT were measured by animal automatic blood cell analyzer (Shenzhen Mindray, BC-2800Vet). ALT and Scr were measured by animal biochemical analyzer (Shenzhen Mindray, BS-240VET).

4.12. Statistical Analysis. All the group data are expressed as mean with standard deviation for every sample unless specified otherwise. All the experiments were repeated independently at least three times, if not otherwise indicated. Student’s t-test and one-way ANOVA in GraphPad Prism 9.0 (GraphPad Software) were performed for statistical analyses from different groups. Significance was denoted as follows: (ns: p > 0.05, *: p ≤ 0.05, **: p ≤ 0.01, ***: p ≤ 0.001, ****).

Data Availability

All data needed to evaluate the conclusions in this paper are present in the paper and/or the Supplementary Materials. Additional data or materials related to this paper are available when requested.

Conflicts of Interest

All authors declare that they have no competing financial or nonfinancial interests.

Authors’ Contributions

Z. Y. and N. H. developed the concept, designed the research, supervised the project, and provided funds to support. H. Q and X. M. constructed and performed the experiment work. W. Z. and Y. W. put forward suggestions on article writing and revision. H. Q., K. X., and X. M. carried out the ex vivo experiment. Z. Y and H. Q. analyzed all experimental data. H. S., H. Z., and X. M. wrote and edited the paper. All authors participated in revising the final version of it. Xiaohui Mou, Hongbo Zhang, and Hua Qiu contributed equally to this work.

Acknowledgments

We gratefully acknowledge Ms. Z. Hu from the Analytical and Testing Center at SWJTU for the help with SEM. This work was supported by grants from the National Natural Science Foundation of China (Project 82072072) (Z.Y), International Cooperation Project by Science and Technology Department of Sichuan Province (2021YFH0056 and 2019YFH0103) (Z.Y), and the Fundamental Research Funds for the Central Universities (2682020ZT82 and 2682020ZT76) (Z.Y).

Supplementary Materials

Figure S1: high-performance liquid chromatography spectrum of (DOPA)4-azide, DBCO-AMP, and DBCO-DOTA. Figure S2: 1H NMR spectrum of (DOPA)4-azide, DBCO-AMP, and DBCO-DOTA. Figure S3: high-resolution spectra of C1s and N1s signals on the different surfaces. Figure S4:
stability of the antibacterial ability of Cu-DOTA&AMP coating. Figure S5: stability of the NO catalytic release ability of Cu-DOTA&AMP coating. Figure S6: in vitro blood compatibility tests without NO donor. Figure S7: stability of the anticoagulation ability of Cu-DOTA&AMP coating. Table S1: the atomic compositions of different surfaces. Table S2: the high-resolution C1s compositions of different surfaces. Table S3: high-resolution N1s compositions of different surfaces. (Supplementary Materials)

References

[1] J. I. Shen, A. A. Mitani, T. I. Chang, and W. C. J. N. Winkelmayer, *Dialysis, transplantation: official publication of the European Dialysis*, Use and safety of heparin-free maintenance hemodialysis in the USA, 1589.

[2] D. C. Leslie, A. Waterhouse, J. B. Berthet et al., “A bioinspired omniphobic surface coating on medical devices prevents thrombosis and biofouling,” *Nature Biotechnology*, vol. 32, pp. 1134–1140, 2014.

[3] L. Song, “Nonthrombogenic approaches to cardiovascular bioengineering,” *Annual Review of Biomedical Engineering*, vol. 13, 2010.

[4] R. C. Moellering Jr., “MRSA: the first half century,” *Journal of antimicrobial chemotherapy*, vol. 67, no. 1, pp. 4–11, 2012.

[5] C. Y. Chen, C. C. Liu, and W. Z. Sun, “Evidence-based review on catheter-related thrombosis of the implantable venous access device,” *Tzu Chi Medical Journal*, vol. 19, no. 4, pp. 207–219, 2007.

[6] P. J. Pronovost, C. A. Goeschel, E. Colantuoni et al., “Sustain- ing reductions in catheter related bloodstream infections in Michigan intensive care units: observational study,” *BMJ*, vol. 340, p. 462, 2010.

[7] J. Badger, “Long peripheral catheters for deep arm vein venous access: a systematic review of complications,” *Heart & Lung*, vol. 48, no. 3, pp. 222–225, 2019.

[8] A. Kumar and H. P. Schweitzer, “Bacterial resistance to antibiotics: active efflux and reduced uptake,” *Advanced drug delivery reviews*, vol. 57, pp. 1486–1513, 2005.

[9] R. E. Cronin and R. F. Reilly, *Seminars in Dialysis*, pp. 510–515, 2010.

[10] P. Prandoni, S. Siragusa, B. Girolami, F. Fabris, and BELZONI Investigators Group, “The incidence of heparin-induced thrombocytopenia in medical patients treated with low-molecular-weight heparin: a prospective cohort study,” *Blood*, vol. 106, no. 9, pp. 3049–3054, 2005.

[11] N. Dalibon, M. Stern, P. Bonnette, G. Dreyfus, and M. Fischler, “Probable allergic reaction to cyclosporin and early formation of thrombi on a pulmonary artery catheter: two unusual complications during bilateral lung transplantation,” *British journal of anaesthesia*, vol. 89, pp. 930–933, 2002.

[12] D. Campoccia, L. Montanaro, and C. Arciola, “A review of the biomaterials technologies for infection-resistant surfaces,” *Biomaterials*, vol. 34, no. 34, pp. 8533–8554, 2013.

[13] H. P. Felgueiras, L. M. Wang, K. F. Ren et al., “Octadecyl chains immobilized onto hyaluronic acid coatings by thiol–ene “Click Chemistry” increase the surface antimicrobial properties and prevent platelet adhesion and activation to polyurethane,” *ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces*, vol. 9, pp. 7979–7989, 2017.

[14] F. Wu, T. Xu, G. Zhao et al., “Mesoporous silica nanoparticles-encapsulated agarose and heparin as anticoagulant and resistant bacterial adhesion coating for biomedical silicone,” *Langmuir*, vol. 33, no. 21, pp. 5245–5252, 2017.

[15] S. K. Hendricks, C. Kwok, M. Shen, T. A. Horbett, B. D. Ratner, and J. D. Bryers, “Plasma-deposited membranes for controlled release of antibiotic to prevent bacterial adhesion and biofilm formation,” *Journal of Biomedical Materials Research: An Official Journal of The Society for Biomaterials, The Japanese Society for Biomaterials, and The Australian Society for Biomaterials and the Korean Society for Biomaterials*, vol. 50, pp. 160–170, 2015.

[16] J. Zhao, L. Bai, X. K. Ren, J. Guo, and Y. Feng, “Co-immobilization of ACH11 antimicrobial peptide and CAG cell-adhesive peptide onto vascular grafts for improved hemocompatibility and endothelialization,” *Acta Biomaterialia*, vol. 97, pp. 344–359, 2019.

[17] P. Fratzl, “Biomimetic materials research: what can we really learn from nature’s structural materials?”, *Journal of the Royal Society Interface*, vol. 4, pp. 637–642, 2007.

[18] E. J. Schiffrin, F. Rochat, H. Linkamster, J. M. Aeschlimann, and A. Donnet-Hughes, “Immunomodulation of human blood cells following the ingestion of lactic acid bacteria,” *Journal of Dairy Science*, vol. 78, pp. 491–497, 1995.

[19] T. Ganz and J. Weiss, “Antimicrobial peptides of phagocytes and epithelia,” *Seminars in hematology*, vol. 34, pp. 343–354, 1997.

[20] Z. Michael, “Antimicrobial peptides of multicellular organisms: my perspective,” *Antimicrobial Peptides*, vol. 1117, pp. 3–6, 2019.

[21] C. Kim, H. E. Choi, H. Jung, S. H. Kang, J. H. Kim, and Y. S. Byun, “Impact of aerobic exercise training on endothelial function in acute coronary syndrome,” *Annals of rehabilitation medicine*, vol. 38, pp. 388–395, 2014.

[22] P. A. Cahill and E. M. Redmond, “Vascular endothelium - gatekeeper of vessel health,” *Atherosclerosis*, vol. 248, pp. 97–109, 2016.

[23] M. W. Radomski, R. M. Palmer, and S. Moncada, “The role of nitric oxide and cGMP in platelet adhesion to vascular endothelium,” *Biochemical and biophysical research communications*, vol. 148, pp. 1482–1489, 1987.

[24] A. Gries, C. Bode, K. Peter et al., “Inhaled nitric oxide inhibits human platelet aggregation, P-selectin expression, and fibrinogen binding in vitro and in vivo,” *Circulation*, vol. 97, pp. 1481–1487, 1998.

[25] Q. Tu, X. Shen, Y. Liu et al., “A facile metal–phenolic–amine strategy for dual-functionalization of blood-contacting devices with antibacterial and anticoagulant properties,” *Materials Chemistry Frontiers*, vol. 3, no. 2, pp. 265–275, 2019.

[26] N. Lyu, Z. Du, H. Qiu et al., “Mimicking the Nitric Oxide-Releasing and Glycocalyx Functions of Endothelium on Vascular Stent Surfaces,” *Advanced Science*, vol. 7, no. 21, p. 2002330, 2020.

[27] T. Tischer, T. K. Claus, M. Bruns et al., “Spatially controlled photochemical peptide and polymer conjugation on biosurfaces,” *Biomacromolecules*, vol. 14, pp. 4340–4350, 2013.

[28] H. C. Kolb, M. G. Finn, and K. Barry Sharpless, “Click chemistry: diverse chemical function from a few good reactions,” *Angewandte Chemie*, vol. 40, no. 11, pp. 2004–2021, 2001.

[29] J. M. Baskin, J. A. Prescher, S. T. Laughlin et al., “Copper-free click chemistry for dynamic in vivo imaging,” *Proceedings of...*
the National Academy of Sciences, vol. 104, pp. 16793–16797, 2007.

30. X. Deng, C. Friedmann, and J. Lahann, “Bio-orthogonal Double-Click” chemistry based on multifunctional coatings,” Angewandte Chemie, vol. 123, no. 29, pp. 6652–6656, 2011.

31. D. M. Patterson and J. A. Prescher, “Orthogonal bioorthogonal chemistries,” Current opinion in chemical biology, vol. 28, pp. 141–149, 2015.

32. M. F. Debets, S. S. Van Berkel, J. Dommerholt, A. T. Dirks, F. P. Rutjes, and F. L. Van Delft, “Bioconjugation with strained alkenes and alkynes,” Accounts of chemical research, vol. 44, no. 9, pp. 805–815, 2011.

33. G. Pan, S. Sun, W. Zhang et al., “Biomimetic design of mussel-derived bioactive peptides for dual-functionalization of titanium-based biomaterials,” Journal of the American Chemical Society, vol. 138, article 15078, 2016.

34. L. Liu, X. Tian, Y. Ma, Y. Duan, and G. Pan, “A Versatile Dynamic Mussel-Inspired Biointerface: From Specific Cell Behavior Modulation to Selective Cell Isolation,” Angewandte Chemie, vol. 130, no. 26, pp. 8004–8008, 2018.

35. Z. Yang, X. Zhao, R. Hao et al., “Bioclickable and mussel adhesive peptide mimics for engineering vascular stent surfaces,” Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, vol. 117, no. 28, pp. 16127–16137, 2020.

36. Y. Xiao, W. Wang, X. Tian et al., “A versatile surface bioengineering strategy based on mussel-inspired and bioclickable peptide mimic,” Research, vol. 2020, pp. 1–12, 2020.

37. Q. Lin, D. Gourdon, C. Sun et al., “Adhesion mechanisms of the mussel foot proteins mfp-1 and mfp-3,” Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, vol. 104, pp. 3782–3786, 2007.

38. H. Lee, N. F. Scherer, and P. B. Messersmith, “Single-molecule mechanics of mussel adhesion,” Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, vol. 103, pp. 12999–13003, 2006.

39. Q. Ma, X. Shu, X. Tan et al., “Durable endothelium-mimicking coating for surface bioengineering cardiovascular stents,” Bioactive materials, vol. 6, pp. 4786–4800, 2021.

40. V. V. Rostovtsev, L. G. Green, V. V. Fokin, and K. B. Sharpless, “A stepwise Huisgen cycloaddition process: copper(I)-catalyzed regioselective ‘Ligation’ of azides and terminal alkynes,” Angewandte Chemie, vol. 41, no. 14, pp. 2596–2599, 2002.

41. C. Li and Y. M. Wen, “The role of bacterial biofilm in persistent infections and control strategies,” International journal of oral science, vol. 3, pp. 66–73, 2011.

42. K. A. Brogdlen, “Antimicrobial peptides: pore formers or metabolic inhibitors in bacteria?,” Nature reviews microbiology, vol. 3, no. 3, pp. 238–250, 2005.

43. P. Gao, H. Qiu, K. Xiong, X. Li, and Z. Yang, “Metal-catechol-(amine)-networks for surface synergistic catalytic modification: therapeutic gas generation and biomolecule grafting,” Biomaterials, vol. 248, article 119981, 2020.

44. K. S. Bohl and J. West, “Nitric oxide-generating polymers reduce platelet adhesion and smooth muscle cell proliferation,” Biomaterials, vol. 21, pp. 2273–2278, 2000.

45. T. Yang, Z. Du, H. Qiu et al., “From surface to bulk modification: Plasma polymerization of amine-bearing coating by synergic strategy of biomolecule grafting and nitric oxide loading,” Bioactive materials, vol. 5, pp. 17–25, 2020.

46. M. P. Rodriguez, L. S. Gonzalo, F. V. Alvarez, C. V. Crespo, I. M. Limon, and A. C. Jimenez, “Thoracic epidural anesthesia decreases C-reactive protein levels in patients undergoing elective coronary artery bypass graft surgery with cardiopulmonary bypass,” Minerva Anestesiologica, vol. 74, pp. 619–626, 2008.

47. W. C. Chan and P. White, Fmoc Solid-Phase Peptide Synthesis: A Practical Approach (Fmoc Solid-Phase Peptide Synthesis: A Practical Approach, 1999), 1999.

48. Z. Yang, Q. Tu, M. F. Maitz, S. Zhou, J. Wang, and N. Huang, “Direct thrombin inhibitor-hyalurudin functionalized plasma polymerized allylamine coating for improved biocompatibility of vascular devices,” Biomaterials, vol. 33, no. 32, pp. 7959–7971, 2012.

49. H. Yu, H. Qiu, W. Ma et al., “Endothelium-mimicking surface combats thrombosis and biofoiling via synergistic long- and short-distance defense strategy,” Small, vol. 17, article 2100729, 2021.

50. Z. Yang, Y. Yang, K. Xiong et al., “Nitric oxide producing coating mimicking endothelium function for multifunctional vascular stents,” Biomaterials, vol. 63, pp. 80–92, 2015.

51. P. Eichler, H. J. Friesen, N. Lubenow, B. Jaeger, and A. Greinacher, “Antihirudin antibodies in patients with heparin-induced thrombocytopenia treated with lepirudin: incidence, effects on aPTT, and clinical relevance,” Blood, The Journal of the American Society of Hematology, vol. 96, pp. 2373–2378, 2000.

52. T. Abache, A. Fontayne, D. Grenier et al., “A Mutated Factor X Activatable by Thrombin Corrects Bleedings In Vivo in a Rabbit Model of Antibody-Induced Hemophilia A,” Haematologica, vol. 105, 2019.

53. M. G. Strainic, J. Liu, D. Huang et al., “Locally produced complement fragments C5a and C3a provide both costimulatory and survival signals to naïve CD4+ T cells,” Immunity, vol. 28, pp. 425–435, 2008.

54. E. Oohashi, Y. Kimura, and K. Matsumoto, “Pilot study on serum C-reactive protein in pet rabbits: clinical usefulness,” Veterinary Record Open, vol. 6, 2019.

55. N. Dronadula, B. K. Wacker, V. Reginald, J. Zhang, and D. A. Dichek, “Stable in vivo transgene expression in endothelial cells with helper-dependent adeno virus: roles of promoter and interleukin-10,” Human gene therapy, vol. 28, pp. 255–270, 2016.

56. N. Clausell, S. Molossi, S. Sett, and M. Rabinovitch, “In vivo blockade of tumor necrosis factor-alpha in cholesterol-fed rabbits after cardiac transplant inhibits acute coronary artery neointimal formation,” Circulation, vol. 89, no. 6, pp. 2768–2779, 1994.

57. M. Rafieian-Kopaei, S. Asgary, A. Adelina, M. Setorki, and F. Shamsi, “The effects of cornelian cherry on atherosclerosis and atherogenic factors in hypercholesterolemic rabbits,” Journal of Medicinal Plants Research, vol. 2100729, 2021.

58. M. I. Yousef, F. M. El-Demerdash, K. I. Kamel, and K. S. Al-Salhen, “Changes in some hematological and biochemical indices of rabbits induced by isoflavones and cypermethrin,” Toxicology, vol. 189, pp. 223–234, 2003.

59. A. D’Angelo, M. P. Seveso, S. V. D’Angelo, F. Gilardoni, A. G. Dettori, and P. Bonini, “Effect of clot-detection methods and reagents on activated partial thromboplastin time (APTT). Implications in heparin monitoring by APTT,” American Journal of Clinical Pathology, vol. 94, no. 3, pp. 297–306, 1990.