Preclinic Evaluation and Characteristics of a Novel Nasal Medical Matrix Derived from Polyvinyl Alcohol Foam for Protecting Respiratory Tract Via A Designed Microparticle-Detecting System Combining Laser Resources of 532 Nm with Low Light Sensors

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Abstract

A novel nasal medical matrix derived from polyvinyl alcohol foam for protecting respiratory tract was designed and prepared. Further, evaluation and characteristics of the nasal medical matrix for protecting respiratory tract was carried out by using a designed microparticle-detecting system, which combined laser resources with low light sensors. A series of microparticle-detecting images with high picture quality could be obtained even in a low light environment, which provide preclinic evidences for assistance of protecting respiratory tract.

Keywords: Polyvinyl Alcohol Foam; Laser; Respiratory Tract; Nasal

Abbreviations: PVA: Polyvinyl Alcohol; PU: Polyurethane; PNB: Polynorbornene; PMMA: Polyester Polymethacrylate Polyvinyl Alcohol Foam FTIR: Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy

Introduction

The design of medical devices could be applied and developed for new treatment procedures instead of the traditional therapy procedures. For the demand of new clinic applications, selections of suitable materials for biomedical and clinic applications such as polyvinyl alcohol (PVA), polyurethane (PU), polynorbornene (PNB), polyester, polymethacrylate (PMMA), natural polymer, and polymeric resins could be substantially considered and further employed [1-6]. The surface modification could be considered to change the surface characteristic and microenvironment of materials for specific clinic demand [7,8]. High permeability of protecting medical matrix such as polyurethane (PU) matrix or non-woven matrix could be employed for the clinic application of masks. However, polyurethane or non-woven medical matrix showed poor tissue anti-adhesion property, which would be a clinic risk for wound managements. Polyvinyl alcohol showed well clinic applications because of good cell or tissue anti-adhesion property and high permeability no whether the matrix in the dried state or in the wet state [9].

A design of novel nasal medical matrix derived from polyvinyl alcohol foam for protecting respiratory tract was studied. Further, evaluation and characteristics of the nasal medical matrix was carried out by using a designed microparticle-detecting system, which combined laser resources with low light sensors. A series of microparticle-detecting images with high picture quality would be obtained to provide preclinic evidences of assistance for protecting respiratory tract. In usual, the filtration film or filter membrane was employed in the medical device or mask for protecting respiratory tract. The filtration film or filter membrane could be a filtration
layer or an absorption layer in the medical device or the mask or the matrix. In this report, we propose a series of novel techniques and medical devices for protecting respiratory tract. For the design of new medical devices for protecting respiratory tract, selections of suitable materials for clinical applications of protecting respiratory tract such as polyvinyl alcohol foam or polyurethane foam were substantially considered and employed [9]. Furthermore, the biological and clinical evaluations of materials and medical devices by using polyvinyl alcohol foam (PVAF) must be considered for the application and design [9]. Preclinical evaluation of new polyvinyl alcohol foam (PVAF) nasal matrix could be established by determining penetrating microparticles, water permeability, and macroporosity property of resulting samples.

**Methods**

A novel nasal medical matrix with fully open cells and channels for protecting respiratory tract was designed by using a super clean air-foaming process. Polyvinyl alcohol (PVA) foam dressing could be considered as a good anti-adhesion material for protecting respiratory tract. An anti-adhesion foam nasal matrix with good mechanical and adsorption properties would be a potential medical matrix for protecting respiratory tract. Morphology and characteristics of the resulting polyvinyl alcohol foam (PVAF) matrix could be determined by using Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FTIR, Spectrum GX, USA) and Scanning electron microscopy (SEM, JSM 6700F, Japan).

A new microparticle-detecting system was designed by using some key modules such as a laser resource of 532 nm, an optical sensor photomultiplier, an image processing system, an optical scattering wall, a limiting module, and a microparticles supply system to build up a new way for prescientific evaluation of protecting respiratory tract. Also, preclinical evaluation of the medical matrix by using the designed microparticle-detecting system, which combined laser resources with low light sensors.

**Result and Discussion**

In this study, a novel nasal medical matrix derived from polyvinyl alcohol foam for protecting respiratory tract was designed. The Morphology of designed cross-linked polyvinyl alcohol complex foam dressings with fully open-cell and open-channel microstructures was observed in the results of scanning electron microscopy as shown in Figure 1. The FTIR spectrum of novel nasal medical matrix derived from PVA foam can be observed a broad peak at 3302 cm\(^{-1}\) indicating stretching of hydroxyl groups (–OH) and peaks at 2982 cm\(^{-1}\) 2881 cm\(^{-1}\) are due to –C-H stretching vibration. The peak at 1131 cm\(^{-1}\) suggested the presence of hydroxymethyl group (–CHOH). The peaks at 104 cm\(^{-1}\) and 919 cm\(^{-1}\) showed C-O stretching vibration of secondary alcohol and O-H bend respectively. The peak at 1487 cm\(^{-1}\) was contributed to –CH\(_2\) scissoring and the peak at 1341 cm\(^{-1}\) was contributed to –OH bending vibration.

The nasal medical matrix derived from polyvinyl alcohol foam could be employed for protecting respiratory tract because of surface adsorption of water films on the microchannel ‘s and microcell’s surfaces as illustrated in Figure 2. When the air supply (Figure 2A-C) provides an air flow (Figure 2D-G) through a microparticles storage (Figure 2B), the air flow with microparticles (Figure 2D) could be formed. The resulting air flow with microparticles pass through the designed nasal medical matrix (Figure 2A), the microparticles would be trapped in the water films (Figure 2F) covered on the surface of microcells (Figure 2H) and
microchannels (Figure 2 E). However, the evolution of protecting respiratory tract is difficult to be carried out because the water micro drops and solid microparticles would be detected together by the traditional system. For this reason, a new detecting system which catch the solid particles only must be designed. So, a novel microparticle-detecting system were designed and employed to provide a high microparticle-detecting picture quality even in a low light environment. The highly sensitive image of the penetrating water micro drops, and nasal medical matrix derived from polyvinyl alcohol foam for protecting respiratory tract was showed in Figure 3. There is no image of microparticles and micro drops in the Figure 3, which imply that water micro drops could not be observed in the new microparticle-detecting system.

**Figure 2:** The nasal medical matrix derived from polyvinyl alcohol foam for protecting respiratory tract via surface adsorption of water films on the microchannel’s and microcell’s surfaces.

A. Nasal medical matrix.
B. A microparticles storage.
C. Air supply.
D. Microparticles.
E. Microchannels.
F. A water films.
G. Air flow.
H. Microcells.

**Figure 3:** The highly sensitive image of the penetrating water micro drops, and nasal medical matrix derived from polyvinyl alcohol foam for protecting respiratory tract.
Figure 4 showed an image resulted from the penetrating microparticles (Figure 4A-E) and a nasal matrix medical device for protecting respiratory tract. The nasal matrix medical devices for protecting respiratory tract was fixed in a limiting module (Figure 4H) in the system. At the same time, microparticles supply system (Figure 4F) was setup to provide an air flow with microparticles (2~10µm) under pressure. The microparticle-detecting system further contains a laser resource of 532 nm (Figure 4A), an optical sensor photomultiplier (Figure 4B), and an image processing system (Figure 4C) to build up an image forming and processing environment. In particular, an optical scattering wall (Figure 4D) derived from a laser source (Figure 4A) was designed to catch the image of penetrating microparticles (Figure 4E), which pass through the nasal matrix medical devices fixed in the limiting module (Figure 4H). The direction of airflow is perpendicular to the optical scattering wall (Figure 4D). In usual, large amounts of penetrating microparticles were detected through a surgical mask fixed in the limiting module (Figure 4H). No penetrating microparticle was observed by using a designed nasal medical matrix derived from polyvinyl alcohol foam via the new microparticle-detecting system. The nasal medical matrix derived from polyvinyl alcohol foam for protecting respiratory tract was designed with a microstructure of fully open cells and channels, which could provide a long-besieged route route for penetrating microparticles.

Figure 4: A new microparticle-detecting system combining a laser resource of 532 nm with low light sensors for evaluations of novel nasal medical device for protecting respiratory tract.

Figure 5: The high sensitive images of the penetrating microparticles.
A. Two bound surgical masks.
B. Three bound surgical masks.
C. N95 masks.
D. Nasal medical matrix derived from polyvinyl alcohol foam for protecting respiratory tract.
Novel nasal medical matrix derived from polyvinyl alcohol foam for protecting respiratory tract was designed. There are several fully open cells and channels in the microstructure of the nasal medical matrix. The fully open cells and channels could provide a long route for penetrating microparticles when they pass through the nasal medical matrix for nasal medical matrix. Particularly, humidified nasal medical matrix could further provide hydroabsorption behaviors to construct a besieged microparticles route. Also, a new microparticle-detecting system was employed to provide a high microparticle-detecting picture quality even in a low light environment. The images with a high picture quality were showed in the (Figures 5A-D). Figure 5A showed an image resulted from the penetrating microparticles and two bound surgical masks. Large amounts of penetrating microparticles could be detected. Figure 5B showed an image resulted from the penetrating microparticles and three bound surgical masks. Small amounts of penetrating microparticles could be detected with the microparticle-determining system. If N95 mask was employed in the study, few penetrating microparticles would still be observed. There is not any penetrating microparticle was found through novel nasal medical matrix derived from polyvinyl alcohol foam (Figure 5D). The results provide good preclinical evidences for assistance of protecting respiratory tract via the designed microparticle-determining system.

Conclusion

A novel nasal medical matrix derived from polyvinyl alcohol foam for protecting respiratory tract was designed. Further, evaluation and characteristics of the nasal medical matrix for protecting respiratory tract was successfully carried out by using a designed microparticle-detecting system, which combined laser resources (532 nm) with low light sensors. A series of microparticle-detecting images with high picture quality could be obtained even in a low light environment, which provide preclinical evidences for assistance of protecting respiratory tract.

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