1. Record Nr. UNINA9910821361703321

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Titolo	Modified inorganic surfaces as a model for hydroxyapatite growth / / Lilyana Pramatarova, Emilia Pecheva
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Uetikon-Zuerich ; ; Enfield, New Hampshire : , : Trans Tech Publications Ltd, , [2006] ©2006
ISBN	3-03813-105-9
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (132 p.)
Collana	Materials science foundations, , 1422-3597 ; ; volume 26
Disciplina	541.33
Soggetti	Surface chemistry Hydroxyapatite
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references.
Nota di contenuto	Modified Inorganic Surfaces as a Model for Hydroxyapatite Growth; Table of Contents; Preface; Abbreviations; Table of Contents; 1. Introduction to Biomineralization and Biomaterials; 1.1 Biological Mineralization. 1.2. Mechanism of Biomineralization; 1.3. In Vitro Systems for Studying Biomineralization; 1.4. Materials Commonly Used as Biomaterials; 1.5. Review of Methods for the Surface Modification of Biomaterials; 2. Experimental Approach; 2.1. Choice of Materials; 2.2. Crystallization Medium. Hydroxyapatite Growth on Solid Surfaces by Prolonged Soaking in an Aqueous Solution 2.3. Surface Modification of Materials3. Hydroxyapatite Growth on Modified Surfaces by Using the Two Approaches: Results and Discussion; 3.1. Prolonged Soaking in a Supersaturated Calcium Phosphate Aqueous Solution; 3.2. Novel Process for Hydroxyapatite Growth: Simultaneous Laser-Liquid-Solid Interaction; 3.3. Nanostructured Surfaces as a Template for Hydroxyapatite Growth by Applying Prolonged Soaking and Laser-Liquid-Solid Interaction Processes; 3.4. Bioactivation of Porous Silicon by Deposition of Hydroxyapatite Using the Two Approaches 3.5. Influence of Organic Substances on the Process of Biomineralization4. Summary and Conclusions; 5. Acknowledgements; References

Sommario/riassunto

The process by which organisms in Nature create minerals is known as biomineralization - a process that involves complex interactions between inorganic ions, crystals and organic molecules; resulting in a controlled nucleation and growth of minerals from aqueous solutions. During the last few decades, biomineralization has been intensively studied, due to its involvement in a wide range of biological events; starting with the formation of bones, teeth, cartilage, shells, coral (so-called physiological mineralization) and encompassing pathological mineralization, i.e. the formation of kidney st