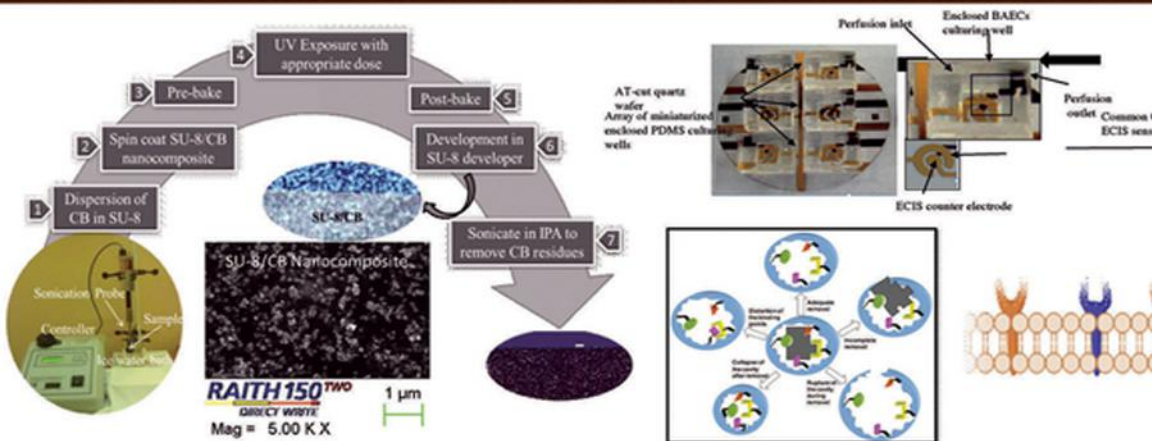


ADVANCED BIOMATERIALS AND BIODEVICES



Edited By
Ashutosh Tiwari and Anis N. Nordin

Advanced Biomaterials and Biodevices

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Contents

Preface	xv
Part 1: Cutting-edge Biomaterials	1
1 Frontiers for Bulk Nanostructured Metals in Biomedical Applications	3
<i>T.C. Lowe and R.Z. Valiev</i>	
1.1 Introduction to Nanostructured Metals	3
1.1.1 Importance of Nanostructured Biomedical Metals	3
1.1.2 Brief Overview of the Evolution of Bulk Nanostructured Metals	5
1.1.3 Desirable Characteristics of Nanostructured Metals for Medical Applications	6
1.2 Nanostructured Metals as Biomaterials for Medical Applications	10
1.2.1 Nanostructured Titanium and its Alloys	11
1.2.2 Stainless Steels	22
1.2.3 Cobalt-Chromium Alloys	23
1.2.4 Magnesium Alloys	25
1.3 Summary and Conclusions	29
Acknowledgment	30
References	30
2 Stimuli-responsive Materials Used as Medical Devices in Loading and Releasing of Drugs	53
<i>H. Iván Meléndez-Ortiz and Emilio Bucio</i>	
2.1 Introduction	54
2.2 Classification of Materials for Bioapplications	55
2.2.1 Polymers	55
2.2.2 Ceramics	55
2.2.3 Composites	56
2.2.4 Metals	56

2.3	Responsive Polymers in Controlled Drug Delivery	56
2.3.1	Temperature-responsive Polymers	57
2.3.2	pH-responsive Polymers	58
2.3.3	Electric-responsive Polymers	58
2.3.4	Magneto-responsive Polymers	59
2.3.5	Photo-responsive Polymers	59
2.4	Types of Medical Devices	60
2.4.1	Stents	60
2.4.2	Cannulas	60
2.4.3	Catheters	61
2.4.4	Cardiac Pumps	61
2.4.5	Prostheses	62
2.4.6	Sutures	62
2.5	Materials Used in Medical Devices	62
2.5.1	Elastomers for Biomedical Devices	63
2.5.2	Shape-memory Polymer Systems Intended for Biomedical Devices	63
2.5.3	Metallic Materials for Biomedical Devices	63
2.5.4	Ceramic Materials for Biomedical Devices	64
2.5.5	Sol-gel Materials for Biomaterials Devices	64
2.6	Stimuli-responsive Polymers Used in Medical Devices	65
2.6.1	Advancements in Design of Medical Device	66
2.6.2	Drug Delivery Improved by Devices	67
2.7	Infections Associated with Medical Devices	68
2.7.1	Antibiotic-loaded Medical Devices	69
2.7.2	Biofilm Formation	70
2.7.3	Approaches for the Prevention of Device-related Infections	72
	Acknowledgements	72
	References	72
3	Recent Advances with Liposomes as Drug Carriers	79
	<i>Shravan Kumar Sriraman and Vladimir P. Torchilin</i>	
3.1	Introduction	80
3.2	Passive Targeting of Liposomes	83
3.2.1	Plain and Cationic Liposomes	83
3.2.2	Polymer-Coated Long-Circulating Liposomes	84
3.2.3	Stimuli-Sensitive and Triggered Release Liposomes	86

3.3	Actively Targeted Liposomes	88
3.3.1	Antibody-Targeted Liposomes	90
3.3.2	Single Ligand-Targeted Liposomes	91
3.3.3	Dual-Targeted Liposomes	94
3.4	Multifunctional Liposomes	95
3.5	Conclusions and Future Directions	98
	References	101
4	Fabrication, Properties of Nanoshells with Controllable Surface Charge and its Applications	121
	<i>Parul Khurana, Sheenam Thatai and Dinesh Kumar</i>	
4.1	What is Nanotechnology?	122
4.2	Nanomaterials and Their Uses	122
4.3	Classification of Nanomaterials	124
4.4	Nanoparticles	126
4.5	Nanocomposites Material	128
4.6	Spherical Silica Particles	129
4.7	Silver Nanoparticles	132
4.8	Gold Nanoparticles	134
4.9	SiO ₂ @Ag and SiO ₂ @Au Core-shell Nanocomposites	137
4.10	Surface Enhanced Raman Scattering	139
4.11	Conclusions	141
	Acknowledgements	141
	References	141
5	Chitosan as an Advanced Healthcare Material	147
	<i>M.A. Jardine and S. Sayed</i>	147
5.1	Introduction	147
5.1.1	Chitosan	148
5.1.2	General Applications	149
5.2	Chemical Modification and Analysis	150
5.2.1	Characterization	151
5.3	Chitosan Co-polymers	154
5.4	Nanoparticles	156
5.5	Nanofibres (Electrospinning)	158
5.6	Visualising Nanostructures	160
5.7	Biomedical Applications of Chitosan	163
5.7.1	Current Technology Status	164
5.7.2	Wound Healing/Tissue Regeneration	166

5.7.3	Targeted Delivery Agents	168
5.7.4	Antimicrobial Studies	171
5.8	Conclusion	175
	References	175
6	Chitosan and Low Molecular Weight Chitosan: Biological and Biomedical Applications	183
	<i>Nazma N. Inamdar and Vishnukant Mourya</i>	
6.1	Introduction	184
6.2	Biodegradability of Chitin and Chitosan	184
6.3	Biocompatibility and Toxicology of Chitin and Chitosan	186
6.4	Chitosan as Antimicrobial Agent	187
6.4.1	Mode of Action of Antimicrobial Action	188
6.4.2	Factors Affecting Antimicrobial Activity	191
6.5	Chitosan as Haemostatic Agent	196
6.6	Chitosan as Immunity Modulator	198
6.7	Chitosan as Adjuvant	202
6.8	Chitosan as Wound Healing Accelerator	203
6.9	Chitosan as Lipid Lowering Agent & Dietary Supplement in Aid of Weight Loss	211
6.10	Chitosan as Antioxidant	214
6.11	Conclusion	220
	References	221
7	Anticipating Behaviour of Advanced Materials in Healthcare	243
	<i>Tanvir Arfin and Simin Fatma</i>	
7.1	Introduction	244
7.2	The Evolution of the Bio-advance Materials Fields	246
7.2.1	First Generation	247
7.2.2	Second Generation	247
7.2.3	Third Generation	247
7.3	Evaluation in Humans	247
7.4	The Natural History of Diseases	248
7.4.1	Risk Factors	248
7.4.2	Subject and Observer Bias	248
7.4.3	Basic Process in Drug	249
7.5	Enzyme	249
7.5.1	Enzyme Units and Concentrations	252

7.5.2	Assay of Enzyme Activity	254
7.5.3	Enzymes in Health Sciences	258
7.6	Biosensor	259
7.7	Platinum Material Used in Medicine	267
7.8	Antibody	268
7.8.1	Antibodies-Production and Properties	268
7.9	Antibody microarrays	275
7.10	Conclusion	278
	References	279
Part 2:	Innovative Biodevices	289
8	Label-Free Biochips	291
	<i>Anis N. Nordin</i>	
8.1	Introduction	291
8.2	Label-Free Analysis	292
8.3	Electrochemical Biosensors	293
8.4	Acoustic Wave-based Mass Sensors	297
8.5	Bulk Acoustic Wave Sensors	297
8.6	Surface Acoustic Wave Mass Sensors	300
8.7	Conclusion and Future Prospects	302
	References	303
9	Polymer MEMS Sensors	305
	<i>V.Seena, Prasenjith Ray, Prashanthi Kovur, Manoj Kandpal and V. Ramgopal Rao</i>	
9.1	Introduction	306
9.2	Polymer Nanocomposite Piezoresistive Microcantilever Sensors	309
9.2.1	Preparation and Characterization of SU-8/CB Nanocomposite	310
9.2.2	Design and Fabrication of Polymer Nanocomposite Cantilevers	314
9.2.3	Characterization of Polymer Nanocomposite Cantilevers	316
9.3	Organic CantiFET	318
9.3.1	Process Integration of Organic CantiFET	320
9.3.2	Characterization of Organic CantiFET	322
9.4	Polymer Microcantilever Sensors with Embedded Al-doped ZnO Transistor	324

9.5	Piezoelectric Nanocomposite (SU-8/ZNO) Thin Films Studies and Their Integration with Piezoelectric MEMS Devices	327
9.5.1	Fabrication and Mechanical Characterization	328
9.5.2	Fabrication of Polymer (SU-8) Piezoelectric (ZnO) Composite MEMS Cantilevers	331
9.5.3	Characterization of SU-8/ZnO Cantilevers as Vibration Sensors:	332
9.6	Polymer Nanomechanical Cantilever Sensors for Detection of Explosives	334
	References	337
10	Assembly of Polymers/Metal Nanoparticles and their Applications as Medical Devices	343
	<i>Magdalena Stevanović</i>	
10.1	Introduction	344
10.2	Platinum Nanoparticles	346
10.3	Gold Nanoparticles	347
10.4	Silver Nanoparticles	350
10.5	Assembly of Polymers/Silver Nanoparticles	351
10.6	Conclusion	357
	Acknowledgements	357
	References	357
11	Combination of Molecular Imprinting and Nanotechnology: Beginning of a New Horizon	367
	<i>Rashmi Madhuri, Ekta Roy, Kritika Gupta and Prashant K. Sharma</i>	
11.1	Introduction	368
11.1.1	What is “Imprinting”?	368
11.1.2	The MIP ‘Rule of Six’	372
11.1.3	Downsides of “The Imprinted Materials”	372
11.1.4	How to Overcome the Problems	373
11.2	Classification of Imprinted Nanomaterials	374
11.2.1	Imprinting Onto the Nanostructure Surfaces	375
11.2.2	Thin Film Imprinting	410
11.3	Imprinted Materials at Nanoscale	412
11.3.1	Imprinted Nanoparticle	412
11.3.2	Nanosphere	415

11.3.3	Comparative Study Between Micro- and Nano-imprinted Materials	416
11.3.4	Imprinted Nanogel	417
11.3.5	Nano Imprint Lithography	418
11.4	Conclusions & Future Outlook	418
	Acknowledgements	419
	References	419
12	Prussian Blue and Analogues: Biosensing Applications in Health Care	423
	<i>Salazar P, Martín M, O'Neill RD, Lorenzo-Luis P, Roche R and González-Mora JL</i>	
12.1	Introduction	424
12.2	General Aspects of Prussian Blue and Other Hexacyanoferrates	426
12.2.1	Overview	426
12.2.2	Chemical and Structure of Prussian Blue and Its Analogues	426
12.2.3	pH Stability and Deposition Method	427
12.3	Prussian Blue: Hydrogen Peroxide Electrocatalysis	428
12.4	Prussian Blue: Biosensor Applications	430
12.4.1	Prussian Blue and Analogues Enzyme System	432
12.5	Prussian Blue: Immunosensor Applications	439
12.5.1	α -fetoprotein Antigen	440
12.5.2	Carcinoembryonic Antigen	441
12.5.3	Carbohydrate Antigen 19-9	442
12.5.4	Neuron-specific Enolase Antigen	443
12.5.5	Carcinoma Antigen 125	443
12.5.6	Human Chorionic Gonadotropin Antigen	444
12.5.7	Prostate Specific Antigen	445
12.5.8	Hepatitis B Antigen	445
12.6	Conclusions	446
	Acknowledgment	446
	References	447
13	Efficiency of Biosensors as New Generation of Analytical Approaches at the Biochemical Diagnostics of Diseases	451
	<i>N.F. Starodub and M. D. Melnychuk</i>	
13.1	Introduction	452
13.2	General Approaches for the Development of Optical Immune Biosensors	452

13.2.1	Fiber Optic Immune Biosensors for Diagnostics	452
13.2.2	Fiber Pptic Immune Biosensor Based on the Principle of the “Evanescent” Wave	456
13.2.3	Immune Biosensor Based on the Effect of the Enhanced Chemiluminescence (ChL) [6]	458
13.2.4	Immune Biosensor Based on the Photoluminescence (PhL) of Porous Silicon (PS) [9–17]	462
13.2.5	Direct Electrometric Approach to Register Interaction Between Biological Molecules [18, 19]	466
13.2.6	Immune Biosensor Based on the Surface Plasmon Resonance (SPR)	467
13.3	Electrochemical Enzymatic Biosensors Based on the Ion-sensitive Field Effect Transistors (ISFETs)	471
13.3.1	Analysis of the Urea Level in Blood [46]	472
13.3.2	Determination of the Glucose Level in Blood [47]	473
13.4	Multi-parametrical Biosensors [49–51]	475
13.5	Modeling Selective Sites and their Application in the Sensory Technology	478
13.5.1	Template Sensor: Principle of Creation and Characteristics of Work and Determination of Some Biochemical Substances [52]	478
13.5.2	Artificial Selective Sites in the Sensors Intended for the Control of Some Biochemical Indexes [54]	480
13.6	Conclusion	481
	References	482
14	Nanoparticles: Scope in Drug Delivery	487
	<i>Megha Tanwar, Jaishree Meena and Laxman S. Meena</i>	
14.1	Introduction	488
14.2	Different Forms of Nanoparticles as Drug Delivery	489
14.3	Tuberculosis Targeting Nanoparticles	493
14.3.1	Action of anti-TB drugs	495
14.4	Cancer & Tumor Targeting Nanoparticles	505
14.5	Conclusion	511
	References	512

15 Smart Polypeptide Nanocarriers for Malignancy Therapeutics	523
<i>Jianxun Ding, Di Li, Xiuli Zhuang and Xuesi Chen</i>	
15.1 Introduction	523
15.2 Smart Polypeptide Nanovehicles for Antitumor Drug Delivery	525
15.2.1 Polypeptide Micelles	525
15.2.2 Polypeptide Vesicles	529
15.2.3 Polypeptide Nanogels	530
15.2.4 Other Smart Polypeptide Nanovehicles	538
15.3 Conclusions and Perspectives	539
References	539
Index	547

Preface

Biomaterials are the most rapidly emerging field of biodevices. The design and development of biomaterials play a significant role in the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of diseases. Recently a variety of scaffolds/carriers have been evaluated for tissue regeneration, drug delivery, sensing and imaging. Liposomes and microspheres have been developed for sustained delivery and several anti-cancer drugs have been successfully formulated using biomaterials. Targeting of drugs to certain physiological sites has emerged as a promising tool for treatment, as it improves drug efficiency and requires reduced drug dosage. Using biodevices to target drugs may improve therapeutic success through limiting adverse drug effects, which results in better patient compliance and medication adherence. When used with highly selective and sensitive biomaterials, cutting-edge biodevices can allow the rapid and accurate diagnosis of diseases; creating a platform for research and development, especially in the field of treatment for prognosis and detection of diseases in the early stage. The emphasis of this book is the emerging area of biomaterials and biodevices that incorporate therapeutic agents, molecular targeting and diagnostic imaging capabilities.

The book is comprised of 15 chapters in total and has been divided into two major categories: "Cutting-edge Biomaterials" and "Innovative Biodevices." The first section, "Cutting-edge Biomaterials," focuses on state-of-the-art biomaterials such as nanostructures, smart polymers and nanoshells which can be used for medical applications. The first chapter, "Frontiers for Bulk Nanostructured Metals in Biomedical Applications," illustrates the use of severe plastic deformation technique (SPD) to enhance the properties of nanostructured metals. This technique has been highly successful in augmenting the biomedical and mechanical properties of metals such as titanium, magnesium, cobalt and stainless steel. The second chapter, "Stimuli-responsive Materials Used as Medical Devices in Loading and Releasing of Drugs," describes the potential of different polymers for use in controlled drug release. The main objective of using stimuli-responsive materials is to improve the performance of medical devices.

However, the use of these materials is still in its infancy, as they are still prone to infections, inflammation and biofilm formation on their surface. Chapter three, “Recent Advances with Liposomes as Drug Carriers,” is a very interesting and comprehensive chapter which explains the use of artificially prepared bilayered phospholipid vesicles as a tool for drug delivery. Significant advancements in the last couple of decades have improved the efficiency of liposomes as a drug carrier and solved numerous problems related to their use. Among these are improvements in terms of the selectivity of drug carriers using engineered peptides, the use of dual-ligand combinations to reduce non-specific interactions with healthy tissues and also lowering ligand concentration using high-affinity ligands.

The chapter on “Fabrication, Properties of Nanoshells with Controllable Surface Charge and Its Applications,” describes the methods used to synthesize and assemble monodispersed core-shell nanoparticles. These methods are useful for improving adsorption of CNT for ultrasensitive detection using surface-enhanced Raman scattering. The chapter, “Advanced Healthcare Materials: Chitosan,” provides a review of chitin and chitosan as renewable healthcare biopolymers for biomedical applications such as wound healing or tissue regeneration, drug delivery and antimicrobial studies. The next chapter, “Chitosan and Low Molecular Weight Chitosan: Biological and Biomedical Applications,” also describes chitosan’s immunological and antioxidant properties, as well as its use for the treatment of tumors and viruses. The chapter, “Anticipating Behavior of Advanced Materials in Healthcare,” provides a general overview on the key aspects which need to be considered when developing advanced materials for healthcare applications.

Having advanced biomaterials is pointless if they cannot be used efficiently to reach targeted users. The reader is presented with a different point of view in the next section of the book, “Innovative Biodevices,” which explains how biodevices operate and how they can be used for biomedical applications. The first chapter in this section, “Label-Free Biochips,” illustrates a variety of miniature biodevices which can be used to measure different biomarkers for diseases. Unlike traditional optical imaging, the use of mini, dye-free sensors has the advantage of requiring less medical samples and providing noise-free measurement results. The next chapter, “Polymer MEMS Sensors,” illustrates another set of microelectromechanical systems (MEMS) sensors that are based on cantilevers. These miniature cantilevers can convert biological signals into different electrical signals (current, resistance and voltage).

The next chapters move away from describing devices to illustrating state-of-the-art techniques to improve them. “Assembly of Polymers/Metal Nanoparticles and Their Applications as Medical Devices,” demonstrates

the use of polymer-coated metal nanoparticles in medical devices. Polymer-metal nanoparticles are favored due to their low toxicity and antibacterial and antiviral properties. The MEMS technologies often employ the top-down approach to build their devices. An emerging bottom-up technique uses nanostructures to form building blocks for the devices. The chapter, "Combination of Molecular Imprinting and Nanotechnology: Beginning of a New Horizon," explains this new concept and its advantages such as enzyme-like and antibody-like properties, small physical size, solubility, flexibility and recognition site accessibility. The next chapter, "Prussian Blue and Analogues: Biosensing Applications in Health Care," educates the readers on why Prussian blue, a transitional metal, has recently become very popular in biosensing applications. The chapter, "Efficiency of Biosensors as New Generation of Analytical Approaches for the Biochemical Diagnostics of Diseases," evaluates different types of biosensors (electrochemical, optical) in terms of their cost effectiveness, selectivity and sensitivity. "Nanoparticles: Scope in Drug Delivery," illustrates the use of nanoparticles (solid lipid, polymeric, liposomes, mesoporous silica) for drug-targeting to improve the efficiency of drug delivery in humans. Better drug efficacy is especially important in hazardous diseases such as cancer, which still uses toxic drugs for treatment. While having numerous advantages such as reduced dosage frequencies, versatile administration methods and better disease management, it is still too soon to know the long-term effects of these nanoparticles on humans and the environment. The final chapter, "Smart Polypeptide Nanocarriers for Malignancy Therapeutics," reviews the recent advances in stimuli-responsive polypeptide nanocarriers for malignancy therapeutics.

Given the diversity of topics covered in this book, it can be read both by university students and researchers from various backgrounds such as chemistry, materials science, physics, pharmacy, medical science and biomedical engineering. The interdisciplinary nature of its chapters and simple tutorial nature make it suitable as a textbook for both undergraduate and graduate students, and as a reference book for researchers seeking an overview of state-of-the-art biomaterials and devices used in biomedical applications. We hope that the chapters of this book will give its readers' valuable insight into alternative mechanisms in the field of advanced materials and innovative biodevices.

Editors

Ashutosh Tiwari, PhD, DSc
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Part 1

CUTTING-EDGE BIOMATERIALS

Frontiers for Bulk Nanostructured Metals in Biomedical Applications

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Abstract

In recent decades, the nanostructuring of metals by severe plastic deformation (SPD), aimed at enhancing their properties, has become a promising area of modern materials science and engineering. With regard to medical applications, the creation of nanostructures in metals and alloys by SPD processing can improve both mechanical and biomedical properties. This chapter describes in detail the results of the investigations relating to titanium and its alloys, cobalt-based alloys, magnesium alloys, and stainless steels, which are the most extensively used to fabricate medical implants and other articles. The examples demonstrate that nanostructured metals with advanced properties pave the way to the development of a new generation of medical devices with improved design and functionality.

Keywords: Nanostructured metals, ultrafine grains, severe plastic deformation, mechanical and biomedical properties, orthopedic implants, biomaterial, biocompatibility, titanium, Co-Cr alloys, magnesium, stainless steel

1.1 Introduction to Nanostructured Metals

1.1.1 Importance of Nanostructured Biomedical Metals

The development of advanced materials for biomedical applications continues to enable superior solutions to improve human health. While new

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engineered materials impact most product sectors, their development for biomedical applications in particular has been rapidly expanding. This is partly a result of the convergence of nanoscale science and biological science over the past decade. Nanoscience, as applied to materials, addresses the same size scales of physical phenomena that are critical in living tissues. Consequently, *Nanostructured Materials* are now being engineered at a scale that matches the size range of attributes and physiological processes associated with human cells. New nanostructured soft and hard materials are being introduced every year. As of May 2013, 1,164 patents have been issued worldwide that reference nanomaterials.

Soft material structures, such as polymers and polymer-based composites, are the most prominent class of biomedical materials. This is partly because they are similar to soft tissues that predominate in human physiology. They are readily tailored to physiological applications since their nano/micro/macro-scale internal structures and surfaces can be functionalized for specific biomedical environments. They can be made biodurable for long-time use through surgical implantation, or biodegradable for temporary functions such as aiding drug delivery.

Aside from wood and other nature-made substances, metal is the oldest class of engineered biomaterial. Gold was used by the Greeks for fractures around 200 B.C. and iron and bronzes were used in sutures as early as the 17th century [1]. Silver, gold, and platinum were used as pins and wires for fractures in the 19th century. Steel was introduced for use in bone plates and screws at the beginning of the early 20th century, and in an ever growing number of orthopedic devices in the latter half of the 20th century [1]. The metals that are most prominently used in biomedical applications today are stainless steel, titanium, and cobalt-chromium (Co-Cr) alloys. Stainless steel, invented and produced first between 1908 and 1919, was used in bone plates by 1926. Co-Cr first appeared in bone plates 10 years later. Tantalum, a refractory metal, appeared in prostheses by 1939 and has since been used as radiographic markers, vascular clips, stents, and in repair of cranial defects [2]. Titanium and its alloys appeared in bone plates and hip joints by 1947. The well-known NiTi alloy Nitinol, discovered in 1958 found its way into orthodontic applications in the 1970s and cardiovascular stents in 1991 [1, 3].

Biomedical applications have traditionally required only small volumes of metal relative to the high tonnage production volumes that are most common in the metals manufacturing industry. Consequently, the alloys used in medical applications have typically been selected from those available for high volume non-medical applications, such as aerospace. However, during the past 20 years the attention to biomedical applications of metals has continued to grow, driven in part by increasing attention to quality of life,

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