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Oxygen plasma surface modification enhances immobilization of simvastatin acid

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ABSTRACT

Simvastatin acid (SVA) has been reported to stimulate bone formation with increased expression of BMP-2. Therefore, immobilization of SVA onto dental implants is expected to promote osteogenesis at the bone tissue/implant interface. The aim of this study was to evaluate the immobilization behavior of SVA onto titanium (Ti), O₂-plasma treated titanium (Ti + O₂), thin-film coatings of hexamethyldisiloxane (HMDSO), and O₂-plasma treated HMDSO (HMDSO + O₂) by using the quartz crystal microbalance-dissipation (QCM-D) technique. HMDSO surfaces were activated by the introduction of an OH group and/or O₂-functional groups by O₂-plasma treatment. In contrast, titanium surfaces showed no appreciable compositional changes by O₂-plasma treatment. The QCM-D technique enabled evaluation even at the adsorption behavior of a substance with a low molecular weight such as simvastatin. The largest amount of SVA was adsorbed on O₂-plasma

treated HMDSO surfaces compared to untreated titanium, HMDSO-coated titanium, and O₂-plasma treated titanium. These findings suggested that the adsorption of SVA was enhanced on more hydrophilic surfaces concomitant with the presence of an OH group and/or O₂-functional group resulting from the O₂-plasma treatment, and that an organic film of HMDSO followed by O₂-plasma treatment is a promising method for the adsorption of SVA in dental implant systems.

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