

The Modeling of the Apatite Nanocrystals of Bone, Illustrating its Physicochemical Evolution and Surface Reactivity

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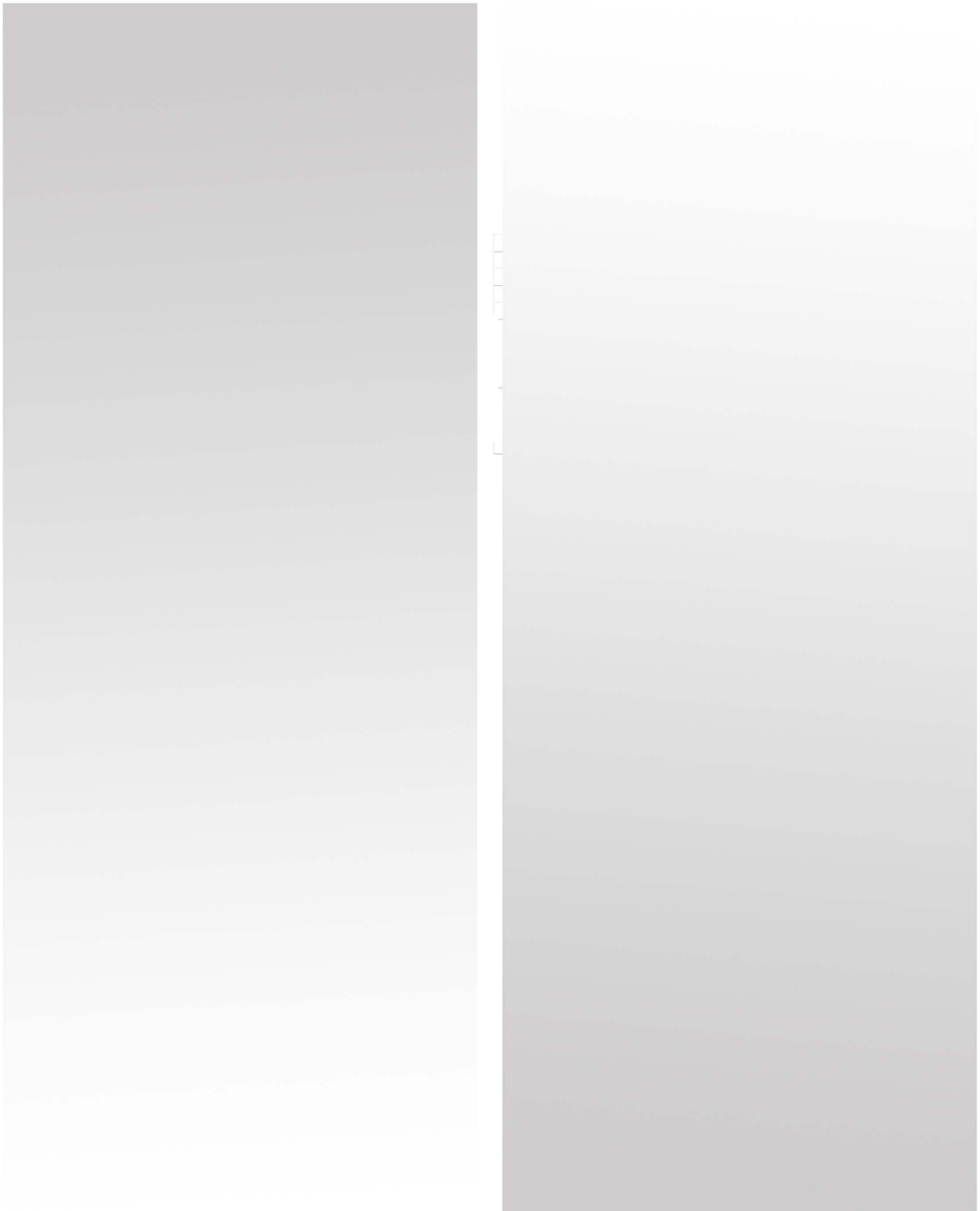
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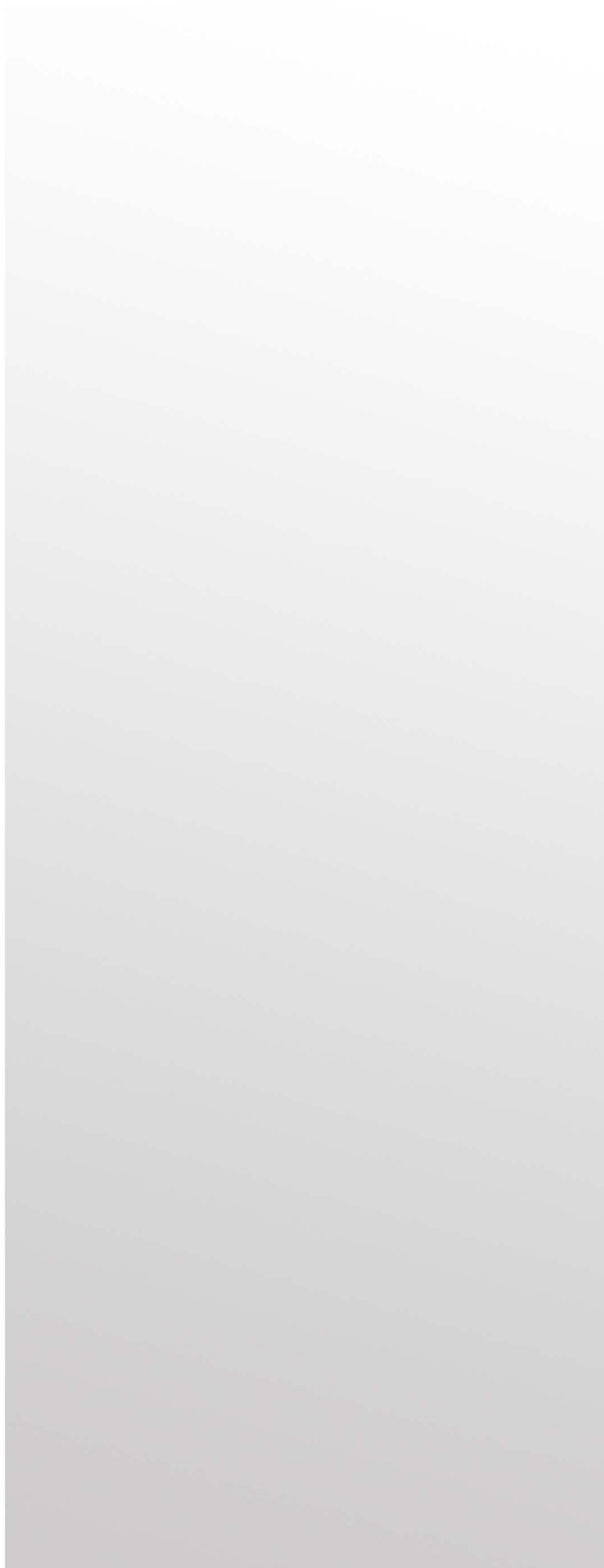
Abstract— This study intends to present a review of the different types of ceramic-polymeric nanocomposites. Nanocomposites have been shown to be ideal bioactive materials due the many biological interfaces and structures operating at the nanoscale. Polymer – ceramic nanocomposite systems are particularly interesting as they can be closer to bone in terms of its constitution which is mostly an intricate combination of two phases at the nano-level: hydroxyapatite and collagen. The present article has as its main goal to analyze the most recent reported studies based on polymer-ceramic nanocomposites produced for bone replacement and regeneration. The present information about the in vivo and in vitro studies that have been performed and their contribution for the development of an ideal nanocomposite material to be used in bone. Structural, morphology, micrograph and chemical composition of this nanocrystalline composites were characterized by XRD, AFM, SEM and FTIR, respectively.

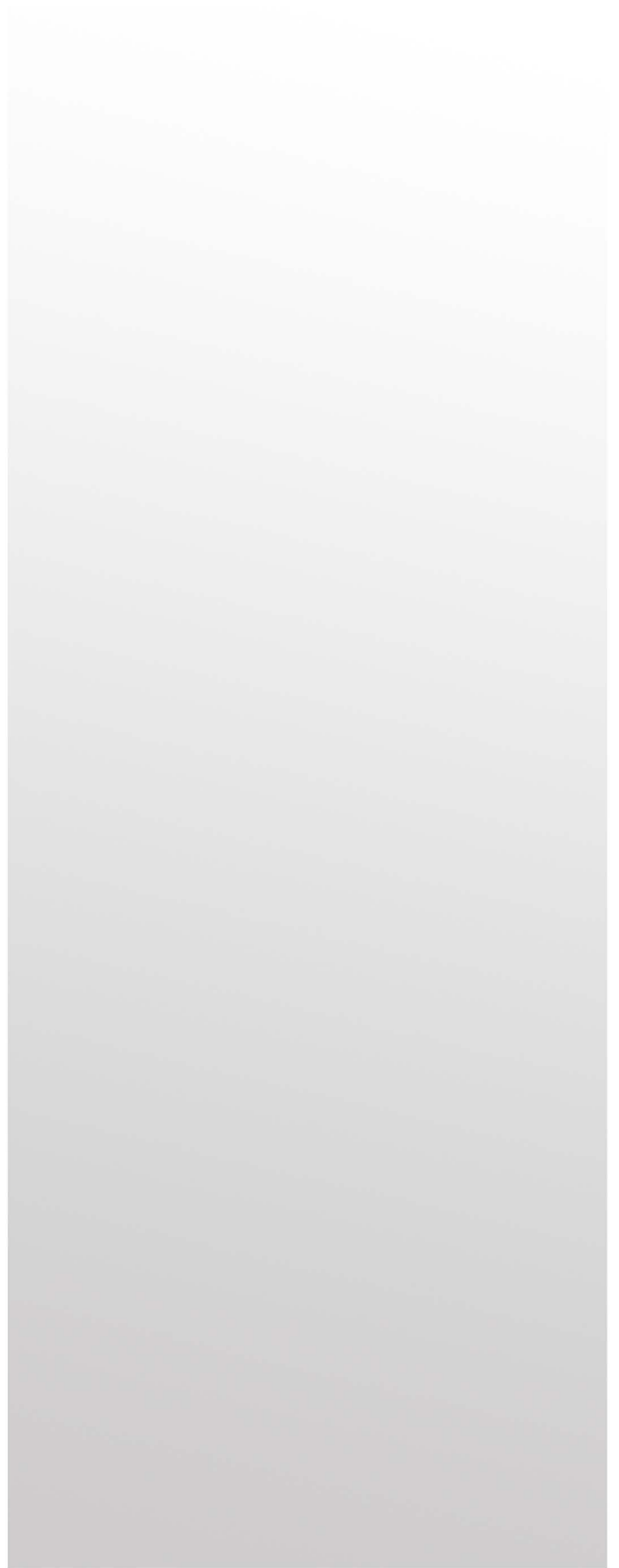
Keywords — bone; hydroxyapatite; nanocomposites; process of biomineralization; chitosan

I. INTRODUCTION

Bone is often defined from a material point of view as a nanocomposite constituted of calcium phosphate apatite nanocrystals embedded in a collagen matrix [1-4]. Bone structure and function are dependent on complex interactions between cells, matrix, cell-derived factors, and systemic factors. Composition of bone and its structure are of considerable interest both from the point of view of fundamental research at the molecular level, and in numerous applications of interactions between different components of the bone. [3, 4]. Despite the structure of bone has been defined, there is not a well-agreed explanation of the mechanism of mineralization [5, 6]. The interactions between the various components of the bone are a system that obeys the principles of self-organization [6]. Here, techniques involving chemical







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