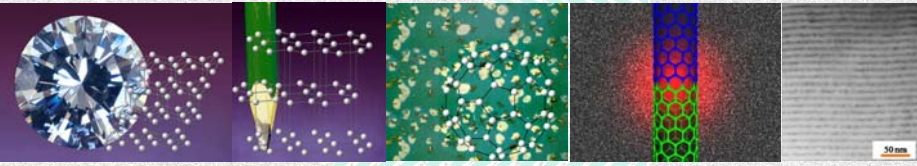


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# Biomaterial



# CARBON

J.M. Lackner, W. Waldhauser

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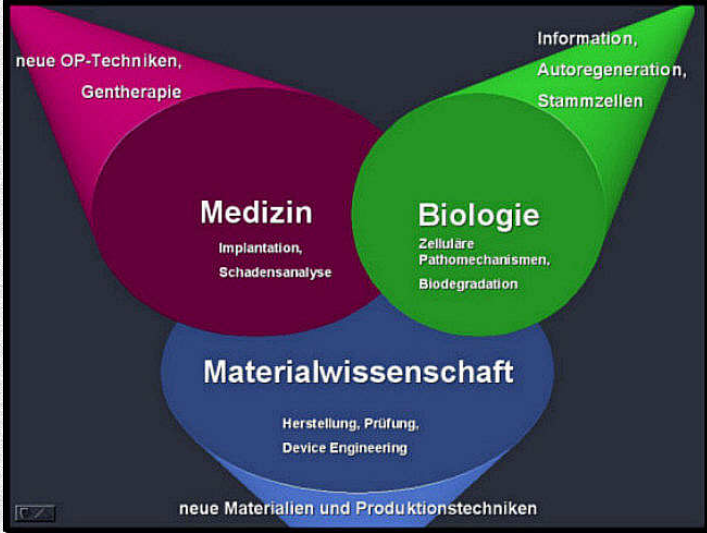
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## Preamble – Biomaterial research

**INTERDISCIPLINARITY**



neue OP-Techniken, Gentherapie

Information, Autoregeneration, Stammzellen

**Medizin**  
Implantation, Schadensanalyse


**Biologie**  
Zelluläre Pathomechanismen, Biodegradation

**Materialwissenschaft**  
Herstellung, Prüfung, Device Engineering

neue Materialien und Produktionstechniken

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# Contents

1. Biocompatibility – Aspects of biomaterial-tissue interaction
2. Bulk biomaterial „carbon“
3. Surface coating biomaterial „carbon“
4. Conclusions

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## Biocompatibility – Aspects

- Primary aspects and definitions
- Biofunctionality – Implant design
- Biomaterial – tissue interaction
- Host response

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## Biomaterials



= artificial / synthetic materials with biocompatibility for the contact duration to the biosystem (tissue, body fluids)

≠ materials of biological origin

=> Medical equipment and devices (syringes, catheters, etc.), Implants

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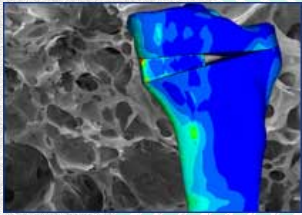
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## Biocompatibility

= compatibility between a technical and biological system

(1) **Structural compatibility:**  
Adapting the implant structure to the (geometrical, mechanical, etc.) behavior of the donee tissue



(2) **Surface compatibility:**  
Adapting chemical, physical, biological and morphological surface properties to the donee tissue

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## Development in Biomaterials

Generation	Materials	Body reaction
1	Industrial materials	Distinct foreign body reaction (inflammation)
2	Inert materials	No reaction
3	Bioactive and metabolic inductive	Triggering of natural tissue growth
4	Cell-material compounds (vital-avital)	Scaffolds with cultivated cells


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## Biocompatible materials features



1. Absence of **carcinogenicity** (the ability or tendency to produce cancer)
2. Absence of **immunogenicity** (absence of a recognition of an external factor which could create rejection)
3. Absence of **teratogenicity** (ability to cause birth defects)
4. Absence of **toxicity**



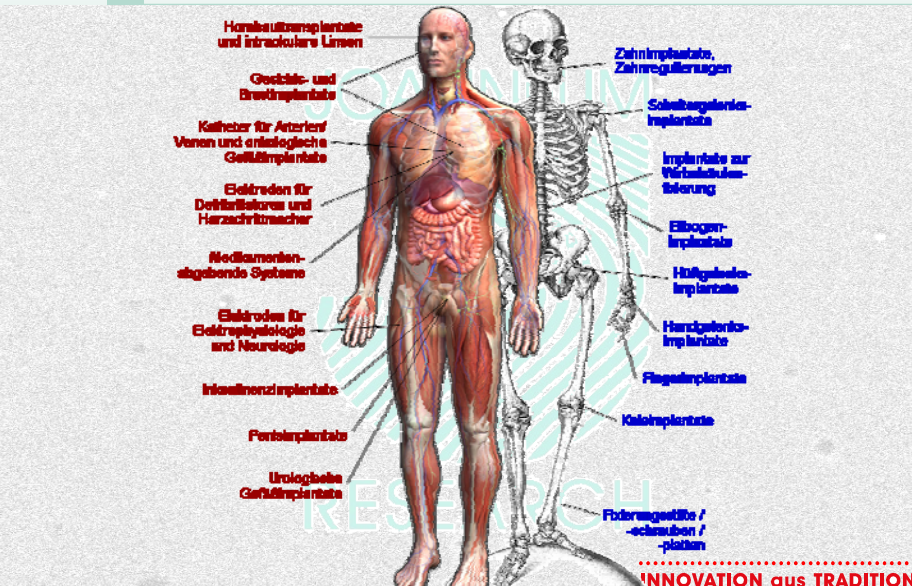
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## Implants – Overview



Labels for implants:

- Hörkathodenimplantate und intrakokleäre Linsen
- Gesichts- und Brustimplantate
- Katheter für Arterien, Venen und entzündliche Gefäßimplantate
- Elektroden für Defibrillatoren und Herzschrittmacher
- Medikamenten-abgebende Systeme
- Elektroden für Elektrostimulierung und Neurologie
- Inkubationsimplantate
- Perikardimplantate
- Urologische Gefäßimplantate
- Zahnimplantate, Zahnregulierung
- Schleimhäutimplantate
- Implantate zur Wundheilungsförderung
- Ellbogenimplantate
- Hüftgelenkimplantate
- Handgelenkimplantate
- Flügelimplantate
- Knieimplantate
- Federungselemente / -schrauben / -platten

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## Biofunctionality - Aspects

- Load transmission (e.g. bone healing – screws, nails, etc.)
- Joint replacement (tribology, friction – lubrication – wear, hip, knee, elbow, shoulder, finger)
- Fluid transport (catheters, bypasses, stents, etc.)
- Optical and acoustic transmission (lenses, cochlea implants, etc.)
- Control of drug-delivery (drug-eluting stents, wound care, etc.)

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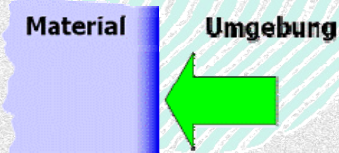
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## Biomaterial – tissue interaction

Proteins, cells and tissue sense:

- Surface physical properties (roughness, porosity, etc.)
- Surface chemistry (hydrophilicity, dissolution – corrosion, etc.)
- Bulk mechanical properties (elasticity, compliance, etc.)
- Bulk geometry (edges, etc.)



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## Where's interaction in/on the cell?

The diagram shows a cell with various organelles numbered 1 through 13. A detailed view of a transmembrane protein is shown on the right, with labels for its different parts: protein ligand, binding site, extracellular domain, stalk, transmembrane domain, and cytoplasmic domain (tail).

1. Nukleolus
2. Zellkern (Nukleus)
3. Ribosomen
4. Vesikel
5. Raues Endoplasmatisches Reticulum (ER)
6. Golgi-Apparat
7. Mikrotubuli
8. Glattes ER
9. Mitochondrien
10. Lysosom
11. Zytoplasma
12. Mikrobodies
13. Zentriolen

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## Cell adhesion to their surrounding

The diagram illustrates cell adhesion mechanisms. It shows actin filaments of the cytoskeleton connected to focal contacts. Extracellular matrix (collagen and fibronectin) is shown binding to integrins. Cadherins are shown as receptors that adhere cells to other cells, with Ca<sup>2+</sup>-dependent binding and attachment via His-Ala-Val (HAV).

**Cadherins:** receptors that adhere cells to other cells  
 ➤ Ca<sup>2+</sup>-dependent binding  
 ➤ attach via His-Ala-Val (HAV)

**Integrins:** bind cells to adhesion proteins in ECM

**Integrin Structure**

α subunit 120-180kDa  
 β subunit 90-210 kDa

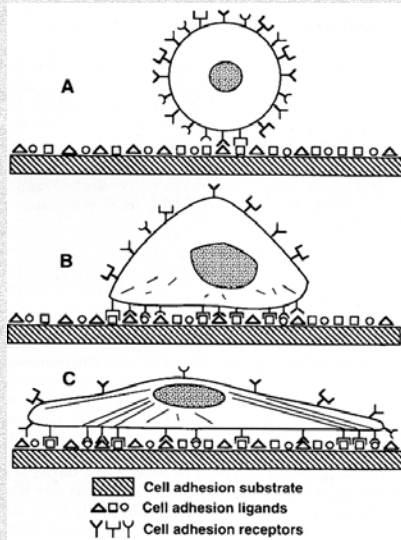
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## Steps in cell adhesion



( A ) Initial contact of cell with solid substrate .

( B ) Formation of bonds between cell surface receptors and cell adhesion ligands .

( C ) Cytoskeletal reorganization with progressive spreading of the cell on the substrate for increased attachment strength .

6

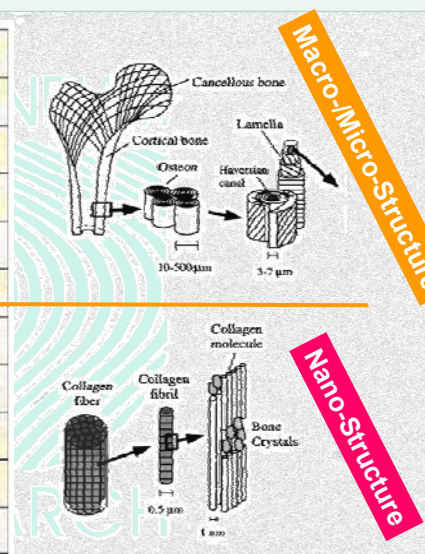
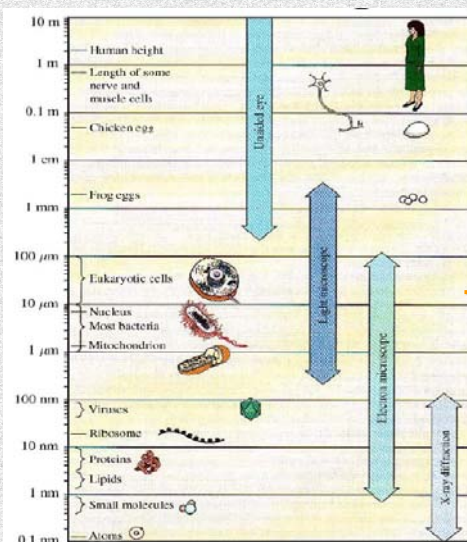
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## Scale of Interactions



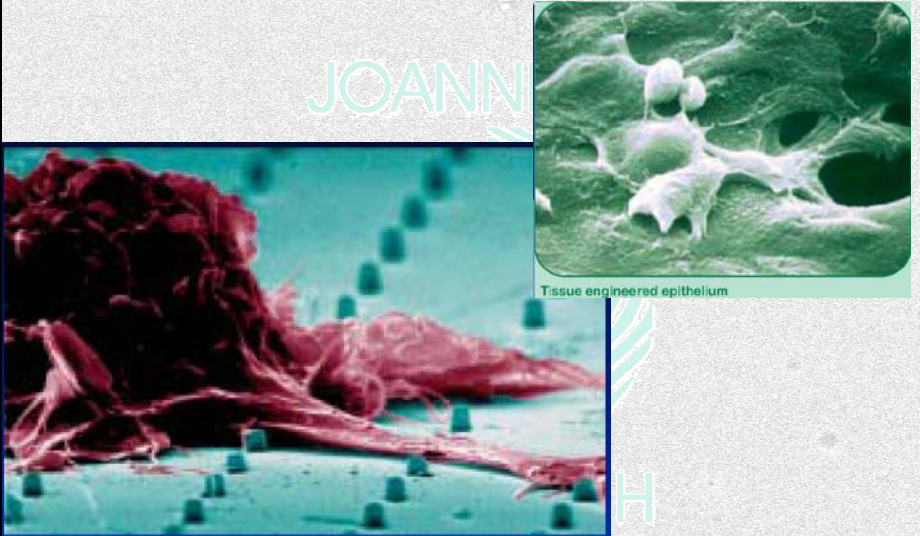
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## Scale of interaction



Fibroblast cell on a nanostructured surface

Tissue engineered epithelium

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## Implantation – Host response

„Body“ recognices and eradicates any foreign substance entering the body (implant, drugs, organ transplant, etc.)

„body“ = tissue (lymphoid), cells (leucocytes) and biomolecules (antibodies)

Any substance, not seen to have body origin, = potential threat

=> eliminated („walled off“) to prevent interaction with normal tissue function

Cell indicators for host response:  
=> Biomolecules (proteins, etc.)

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## Host response – Micron scale

**0**

**1 min**

**1-24 hrs.**

**1 Surface + water**  
Different bonding orientations and bonding strengths

**2 Surface + water + proteins**  
Native or denatured confirmation

**2 Surface + water + proteins + cells**

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## Host response – macro scale

**1. Surgeon implants biomaterial**  
t=0

**2. The biomaterial adsorbs a layer of proteins**  
t=1 min.

**3. Cells (neutrophils and macrophages) interrogate the biomaterial**  
t=1 hr. to 1 day

**4. Cells fuse to form giant cells and secrete protein signaling agents (cytokines)**  
t=1 day to 5 days

**5. In response to the cytokines, fibroblasts arrive and begin synthesizing collagen**  
t=5 days to 14 days

**6. The biomaterial is encapsulated in an acellular, collagenous bag**  
t=3 weeks

0 1 min 1-24 hrs. 1-5 days 5-14 days 21 days

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## Host response - regeneration

Regenerative capacity of cells following injury:

Category	Normal rate of replication	Response to stimulus / injury	Examples
Renewing / labile	high	Modest increase	Skin, intestinal mucosa, bone marrow, bone
Expanding / stable	low	Marked increase	Endothelium, fibroblasts, liver cells
Static / permanent	none	No replication, replacement by scar	Heart muscle cells, nerves

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## Host response - effects

- Acute inflammation
- Chronic inflammation
- Scarring

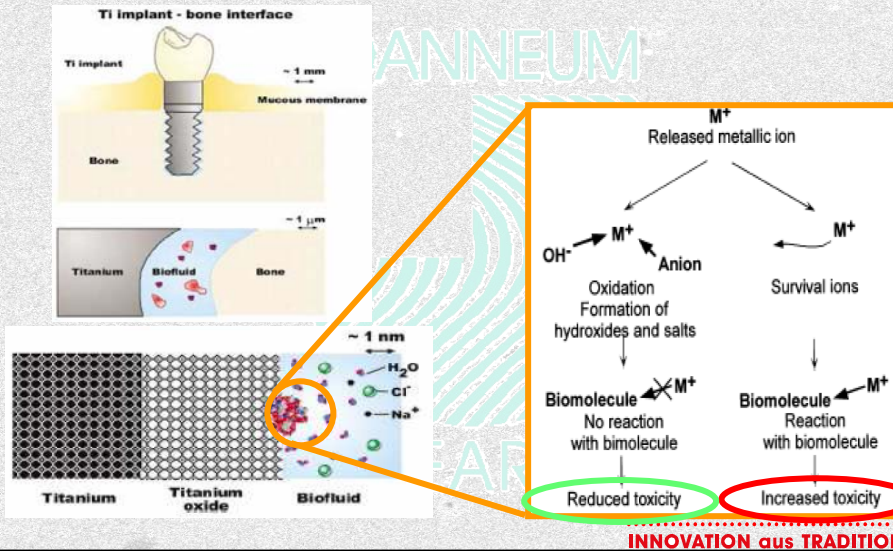
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## Host response – Bone

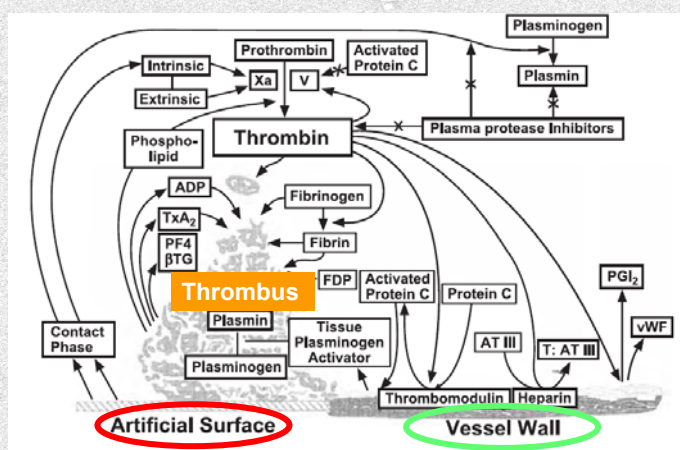


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## Host response - blood




Integrated hemostatic reactions between a foreign surface and platelets, coagulation factors, the vessel endothelium and the fibrinolytic system

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## Bulk carbon biomaterials

- Pyrolytic carbon
- Carbon fibres (composite materials)

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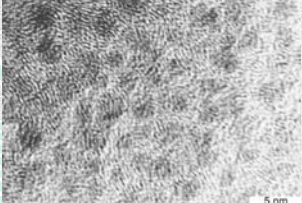
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## Pyrolytic Carbon (PyC)

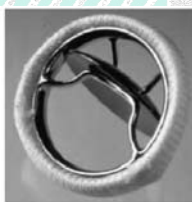
**Manufacturing:**  
High temperature pyrolysis / thermal decomposition of hydrocarbons and subsequent recrystallization of elemental carbon

=> High mechanical strength (fatigue) and chemical resistance

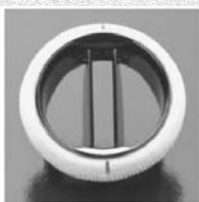
**Applications:**  
Artificial joints (rarely used)  
Heart valves (main use)



TEM image of unalloyed PyC with turbostratic carbon crystals




Bjork Shiley - Tilting Disk



On-X Bileaflet

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## PyC - Biocompatibility

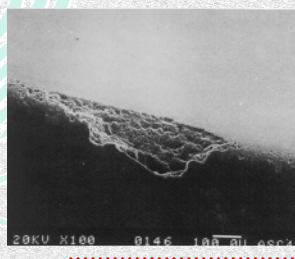
Generally high:

Test description	Protocol	Results
Klingman maximization	ISO/CD 10993-10	Grade 1; not significant
Rabbit pyrogen	ISO/ DIS 10993-11	Nonpyrogenic
Intracutaneous injection	ISO 10993-10	Negligible irritant
Systemic injection	ANSI/AAMI/ISO 10993-11	Negative—same as controls
Salmonella typhimurium reverse mutation assay	ISO 10993-3	Nonmutagenic
Physicochemical	USP XXIII, 1995	Exceeds standards
Hemolysis—rabbit blood	ISO 10993-4/NIH 77-1294	Nonhemolytic
Elution test (L929 mammalian cell culture)	ISO 10993-5, USP XXIII, 1995	Noncytotoxic

**Biocompatibility problems**



Cavitation




Pitting

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## Carbon fibre composites (CFC)


**Carbon fibre manufacturing:**  
Carbonizing or graphitizing of poly(acrylnitrile) fibres under tension at high temperatures and pressures

**Applications:**  
Carbon fibre embedded in polymeric matrix (e.g. epoxy based)  
=> Joint replacement (hip)

Carbon fibre embedded in bone cement  
=> fracture healing



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## Surface coating biomaterial carbon

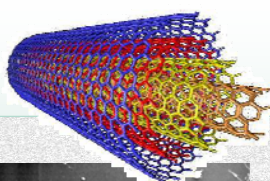
- **Three-dimensional surface structures**
  - Carbon nanotubes
- **Two-dimensional surface structures**
  - Plasma polymers and DLC coatings

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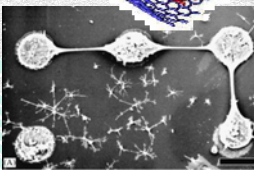
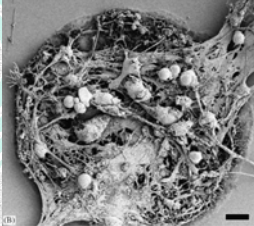
## Carbon nanotubes



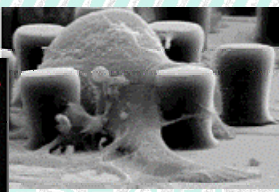
**Manufacturing:**  
e.g. PVD / CVD growth

**Applications:**

- Cell tracking and labeling
- Sensing cellular behavior -->
- Cytotoxicity

neuron bridging an array of carbon nanotubes thereby creating neural networks.




Cell chips

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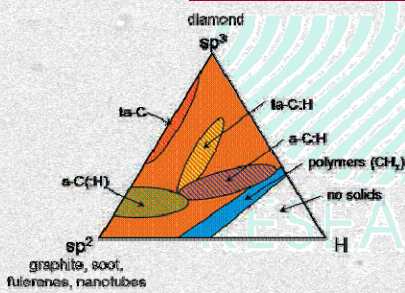
## Surface coatings

### Demands

**Film thickness:** as thick as necessary – as thin as possible

**Stability:** no delamination, no cracking  
(otherwise: irreversible change of surface chemistry)


### Carbon-based coatings



- Plasma polymers
- „DLC“

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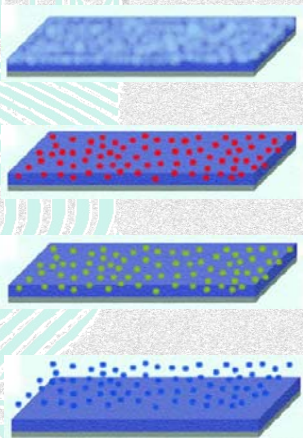


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## Plasma deposition

**Effects of plasma on surfaces:**



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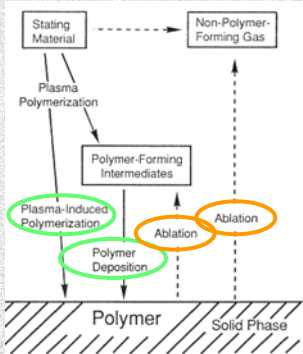
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## Plasma polymers

**Deposition of polymerizable gases in glow discharge plasma:**  
 e.g.: methane – ethylene - acetylene

**Properties:**  
 +: homogenous films  
 high variety of polymers, even from one monomer  
 -: complex mechanisms (control?)  
 mixture of structures

**Applications:**  
 - stents  
 - contact lenses



The diagram illustrates the plasma polymerization process. It shows a 'Starting Material' and a 'Non-Polymer-Forming Gas' entering a system. 'Plasma Polymerization' leads to 'Polymer-Forming Intermediates'. From these intermediates, 'Plasma-Induced Polymerization' results in 'Polymer Deposition' on a 'Solid Phase', forming a 'Polymer' layer. 'Ablation' processes are also shown, which can remove the polymer layer or the intermediates, returning them to the gas phase.

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## Bone contact – Artificial joints

**Polyethylene wear debris is the main factor limiting the lifetime of the implants**

Aseptic loosening, wear debris initiates inflammatory response  
 => osteoclast cells activation  
 => bone resorption




The image shows a 3D model of a hip joint and an X-ray of a hip joint. A green arrow points from the X-ray to the 3D model. An inset SEM image shows 'Polyethylene wear debris' with a 5 µm scale bar.

V. Saikko et al., Biomaterials 22 (2001) 1507

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## DLC – Improvements & Problems

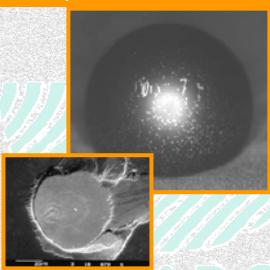
To be clinically relevant, tribological investigations on DLC/UHMWPE require:

- Adequate tribological setup
- Adequate lubricant (phospholipids, adsorbed on surfaces, strongly influences tribology)

**Pin on Disk**  
Lubrication:  
- air  
- dest. water  
- 1wt% NaCl in water  
**reduction of UHMWPE wear**



**Wear problems with DLC**



**Hip joint simulator**  
Lubrication:  
- diluted calf serum  
- synovial fluid  
**no change in UHMWPE wear**

**Hip joint simulator (Lappalainen, Finland)**



© Tiedje et al., Matwiss. u. Werkstofftech. 34 (2003) 1094

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## DLC – Problems



Shoulder-joint, the Ti-alloy ball coated with DLC (carbiceram™)



ankle-joint, AISI Z5 CNMD 21 steel coated with DLC (carbiceram™)



knee-joints coated with DLC (carbiceram™)  
**=> USE NOW FORBIDDEN**

No medical follow-up on these products found

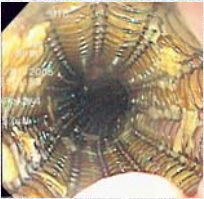
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## DLC in Blood contact

Surface has to prevent thrombus formation and restenosis



**Steps for Thrombus formation**

- Adsorption of proteins → albumin/fibrinogen ratio
- Increased platelet adhesion
- Platelet activation and aggregation
- Formation of a thrombus



Thrombus on a mechanical heart valve (courtesy of RWTH-Aachen)

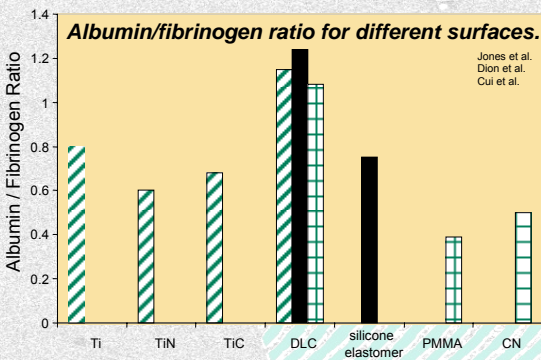
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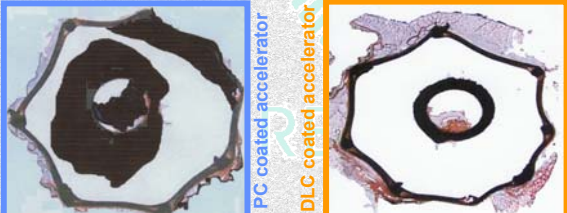
## DLC – Improvements

**Albumin/fibrinogen ratio for different surfaces.**

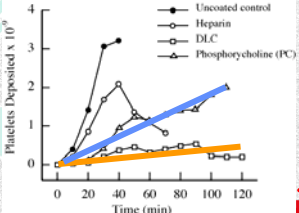


Material	Albumin / Fibrinogen Ratio
Ti	~0.8
TiN	~0.6
TiC	~0.7
DLC	~1.2
silicone elastomer	~0.75
PMMA	~0.4
CN	~0.5

high ratio of albumin/fibrinogen  
↓  
low number of adhering platelets  
↓  
low tendency of thrombus formation



PC coated accelerator  
DLC coated accelerator



Time (min)	Uncoated control	Heparin	DLC	Phosphorycholine (PC)
0	0	0	0	0
20	~1.5	~0.5	~0.2	~0.1
40	~3.0	~1.0	~0.3	~0.2
60	~3.5	~1.5	~0.4	~0.3
80	~4.0	~2.0	~0.5	~0.4
100	~4.5	~2.5	~0.6	~0.5
120	~5.0	~3.0	~0.7	~0.6

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## DLC - Improvements

**Tunable protein adsorption**  
between Ti and DLC by Ti concentration in Ti-DLC.

Molecular weight  
184 kD  
115 kD  
86.3 kD  
61.5 kD  
50.8 kD  
37.6 kD  
25.4 kD

Plasma Glas Ti 23 13 7 0  
a-C:H, at% Ti

**Adsorption of human plasma proteins on a-C:H/Ti**  
Chromatographic analysis of the proteins. Molecular weight marker is indicated on the left side.

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## Diamond-like Carbon Coatings

**Tunable poisoning:**  
Poisoning of the BMC cells due to vanadium dissolution out of the V-DLC film

a-C:H/3% V a-C:H  
a-C:H/7.4% V a-C:H/15% V


after 10 days in vitro

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## Diamond-like Carbon Coatings

**Problems: Wear in hinges, Hemocompatibility**



**Chrome-cobalt alloy cage, coated with CARBOFILM™**

**Titanium alloy coated with DLC**  
Products under development by **Cardio Carbon Company Ltd.**

**CARBOFILM™** made by PVD using a pyrolytic turbostratic carbon target. Probably it is a-C.

**Catheter**

**Carbofilm™ by Sorin Biomedica, Inc.**

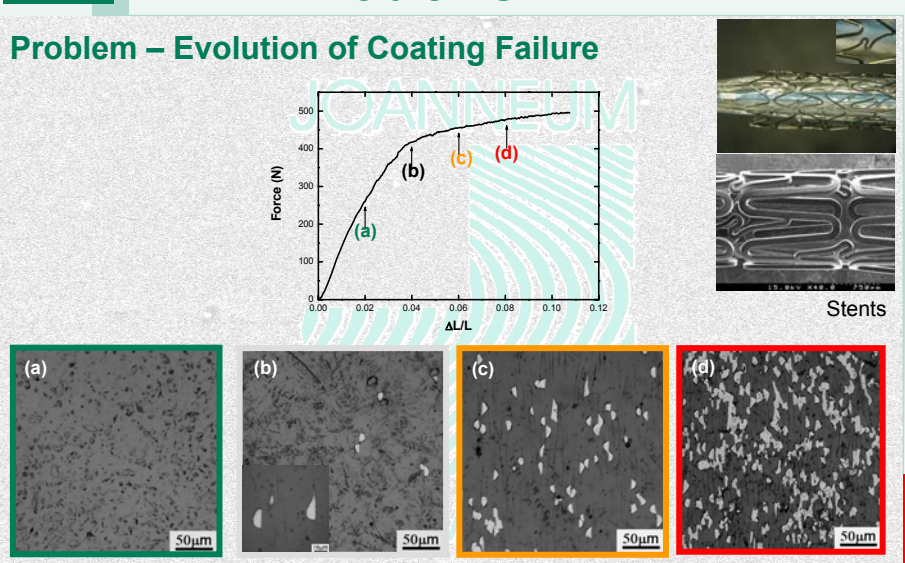
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## DLC – Problems

### Problem – Evolution of Coating Failure



Force (N)

$\Delta L/L$

(a) (b) (c) (d)

Stents

50 $\mu$ m

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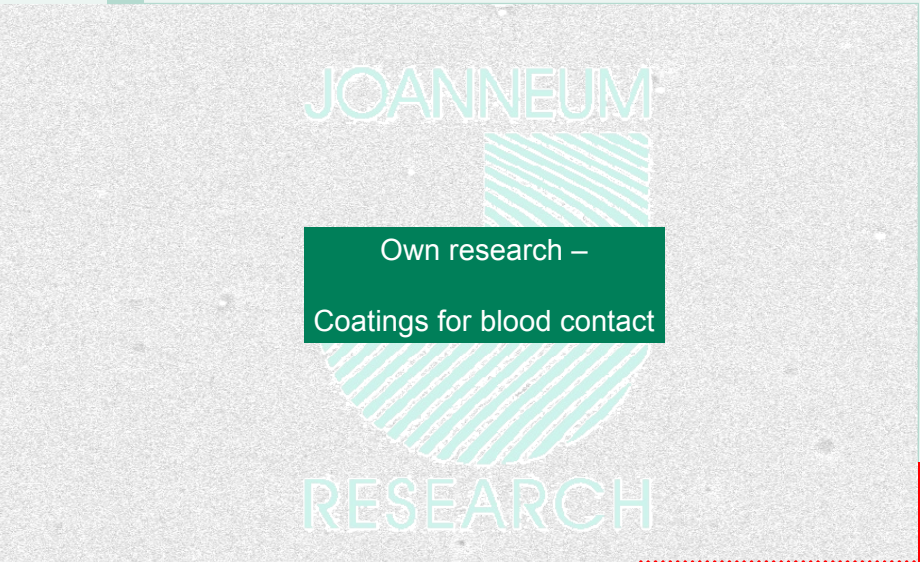
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## Example



Own research –  
Coatings for blood contact

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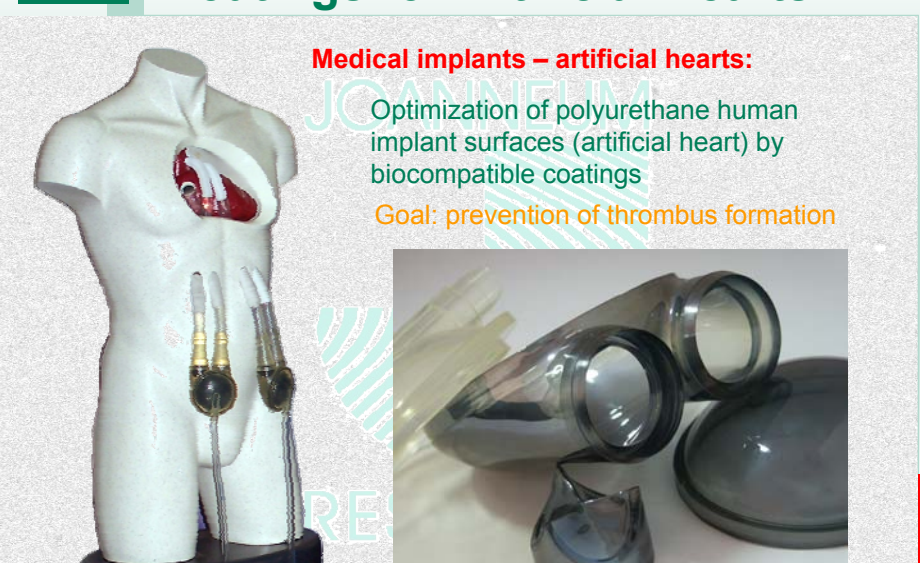
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## Coatings for Artificial Hearts

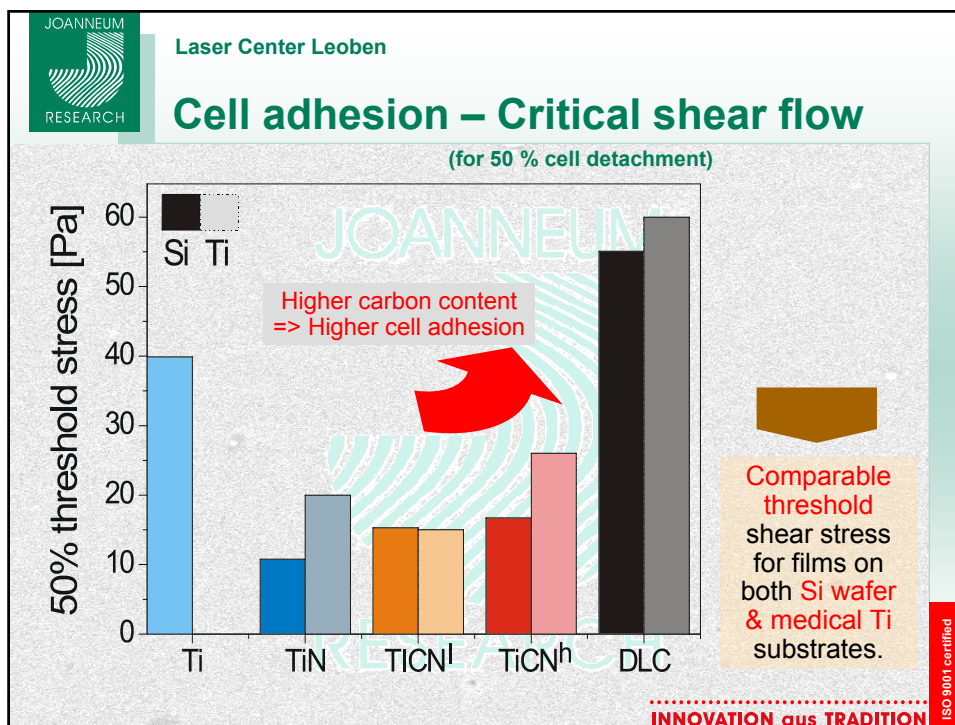
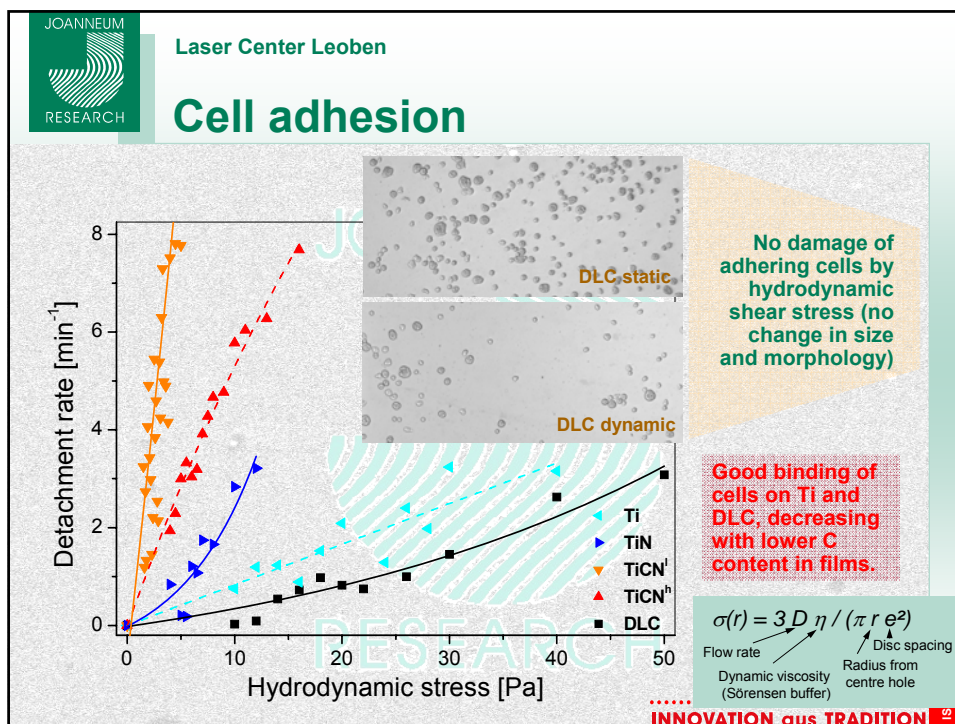


**Medical implants – artificial hearts:**  
Optimization of polyurethane human implant surfaces (artificial heart) by biocompatible coatings  
Goal: prevention of thrombus formation

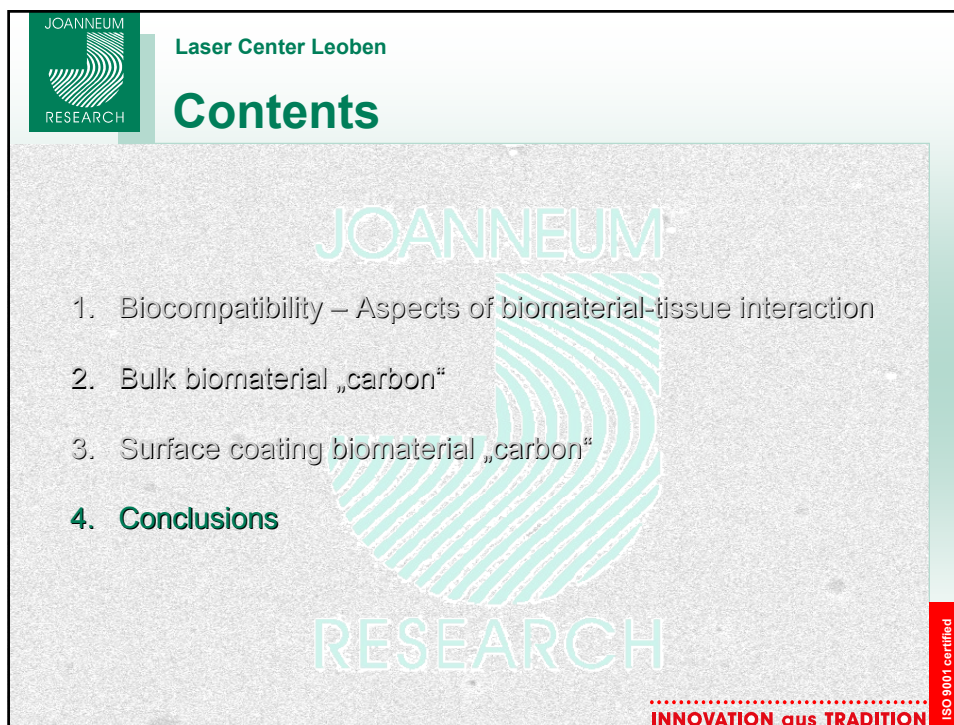
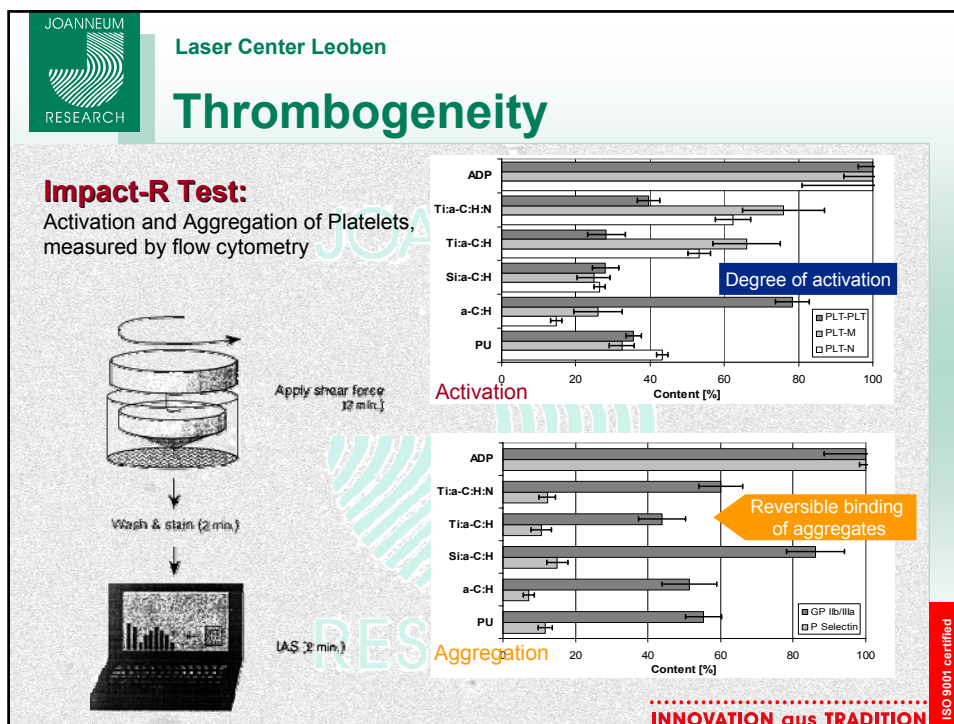
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## Conclusions

**CARBON = applied BIOMATERIAL**

- Artificial heart valves
- Stent surfaces

**PROBLEMS of CARBON**

- Adhesion of coatings
- Hemocompatibility (?)

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