

Biofunctionalized carbon nanotubes as a smart nanomaterial immobilized on a tissue culture polystyrene plate for promoting neuronal outgrowth

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Abstract

Carbon nanotubes (CNTs) offer exhibit attractive attributes that are make them useful in as an innovative biomaterial design for neuroscience research. These include their due to their nanoscale features, modifiable chemical functionalities, and tunable electrical properties. In this study, we developed a simple and cost-effective fabrication method for advanced fabricating surface-modified cell culture systems by immobilizing biofunctionalized CNTs onto commercial tissue culture polystyrene plates. This active substrate was then examined to understand the effects of electrical, morphological, and chemical interactions with a CNT-entrapped phosphatase and tensin homolog deleted on chromosome 10 (drug, bpV, as a PTEN inhibitor, namely, bisperoxovanadium (bpV), affect on the neuronal differentiation of PC-12 cells. Compared to with the control, the percentage of neuronal cells stimulating bearing neurites increased by a factor of 4.0, 7.8, and 10.0, respectively, when cultured, respectively, on an immobilized carboxylated CNT substrate, a poly(ethylene glycol) (PEG)ylated CNT substrate, and a bpV-loaded PEGylated CNT substrate, respectively, in the presence of (10 nM bpV), respectively. The bpV-loaded CNT substrates do regulated the expression of PTEN and up-regulated activated the Akt/ERK signaling pathway, thereby providing the a mechanism for the improved neuronal outgrowth. These results highlight the promise of the biofunctionalized CNTs as the an electroactive and drug-releasing smart nanomaterials for promoting neuronal outgrowth and suggest their that they have potential for may be use in useful in potential utility in future neural regeneration applications.

Keywords: carbon nanotubes, biofunctionalization, surface-modified tissue culture plate, drug delivery system, PTEN inhibitor, neuronal outgrowth, neural regeneration

1. Introduction

Parallel advances in nanotechnology and tissue engineering over the past decades have demanded spurred the innovative designs of and development of smart biomaterials through multidisciplinary approaches and promoted development. Numerous convergence studies studies have been attempted to regenerate neural tissue, one of the most difficult areas tasks in tissue engineering and regenerative medicine.

Bioinspired nanocomposites for nerve tissue repair or and neural regeneration require substrates with that exhibit several key properties. These include appropriate topographical surfaces, improved attachment to neuronal cells for proliferation and/or differentiation, and the capacity for the sustained release of biofunctional factors. These, and as well as certain indispensable features, materials should also exhibit including mechanical integrity, controllable biodegradability, and good biocompatibility with the nanoscale reinforcements that are being

Please consider mentioning some of these features explicitly.

Editor
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Define abbreviations at first use in both the abstract and the main text. Please also note the correct expansion of PTEN.

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Please note that you activate or enhance signaling through a pathway; the pathway itself is not up-regulated.

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~~applied for a~~ employed in a broad range of applications [1–8].

Among the various nanomaterials ~~being explored~~, carbon nanotubes (CNTs), which possess unique electrical, mechanical, physical, and chemical properties ~~has are been a~~ popular component choice for smart biomaterials design. CNTs are already being used in a variety of applications in various basic and applied neuroscience research ~~rely on CNT applications~~ [9–14]; however, concerns remain ~~relating to the~~ regarding the cytotoxicity and genotoxicity of CNTs in the context of ~~with respect to both~~ ~~in vitro~~ ~~in vivo~~ and ~~in vivo~~ ~~in vivo~~ applications still remain [15–19]. The toxicity of CNTs may be ~~entered~~ resolved by modifying them ~~CNT nanomaterials~~ with biocompatible moieties and by immobilizing the CNTs ~~on to~~ the surfaces of other materials ~~for suitable for~~ biomedical applications [20].

Thus, the ~~Biofunctionalization~~ biofunctionalization of CNTs ~~may can~~ address their toxicity issue, while also ~~and at the same time it can also~~ expanding their functionality of CNTs by promoting cell attachment, neuronal outgrowth, neuronal differentiation, and nerve tissue regeneration [21]. Interactions between neural cells and CNT substrates, which are used as an alternative ~~to the~~ to directly adding ~~tion of~~ CNTs to the neuronal culture medium, have been explored in an effort to reduce the toxicity of CNTs and improve the utility of their utility CNTs in implantable devices ~~or and~~ cell-guiding scaffolds [14, 22].

Significant efforts have been ~~applied made to toward develop~~ drug delivery systems, in which that allow drugs ~~are to be~~ delivered to the target tissue or cells. Efficient drug capture systems based on CNT substrates require polyethylene glycol (PEG) coatings, that is, PEGylation, to enable allow for the incorporation of both water-insoluble ~~or and water~~-soluble drugs for controlled release into an aqueous medium via nanoscale extraction ~~and to to~~ improve neuronal regeneration [23–25]. The PEGylation of CNTs, which are hydrophobic, improves their ~~solubility~~ of the hydrophobic nanotubes by increasing the dispersibility as well as ~~and~~ increases their hydrodynamic size, and decreases their immunogenicity, thereby reducing their cytotoxicity [18, 26]. This work describes an efficient system for loading and releasing the drug, bisperoxovanadium (bpV), which acts as a ~~potent inhibitor of the protein tyrosine phosphatase (PTPase) activity of potent PTPase inhibitor of phosphatase and phosphatase and~~ tensin homolog deleted ~~from on~~ chromosome 10 (PTEN) as well as an enhancer of neurite outgrowth [27–29].

This ~~present~~ study explores the use of biofunctionalized CNT substrates in enhancing neuronal cell outgrowth. ~~Five Four stages types~~ of CNT substrates were ~~addressed evaluated~~: i) a the commercial culture plate (CP) and pristine CNTs, ii) a CP with functionalized CNTs with ~~subjected to~~ carboxylation and covalent crosslinking onto the CP surface ~~of CP~~ (CP-CNT-COOH), iii) PEGylation of CNTs ~~subjected to PEGylation~~ (CP-CNT-PEG-NH₂), and iv) biofunctionalized CNTs ~~biofunctionalized by loading and releasing the drugs on the a~~ PEGylated CNT substrate (CP-CNT-PEG + drug) for a smart drug delivery system (DDS). ~~and v) V~~ various analyses of the neural neuronal outgrowth ~~analysis were then performed to assess the potential of these biofunctionalized CNT substrates affected by CNTs~~ for nerve tissue regeneration and biomedical applications (Fig. 1). For each substrate, ~~We we assessed screened~~ cell viability, ~~and; various analysis of analyzed~~ neuronal outgrowth, drug-stimulated differentiation, and the underlying pathways activated in the ~~cells cultured cultured cells on each biofunctionalized CNT substrate~~. The neuronal outgrowth ~~from the neuronal cells~~ was promoted by the electrical conductivity of the CNT substrates ~~under the and the controlled effective~~ release of the drugs.

Please note that I have broken up this sentence to improve readability.

Editor
07/21/2026 10:11

Please note that CNTs don't dissolve, they disperse. "Solubility" implies a molecular-level solution; what you have is a colloidal suspension of tubes held apart by surfactant or functionalization.

Editor
07/21/2026 11:21

Please note that the standard expansion of PTEN uses "on," not "from."

Editor
07/21/2026 11:28

I have made extensive changes here to improve readability. Please check and confirm that these changes retain your intended meaning.

Editor
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