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Surface modification of microporous of polycaprolactone (PCL) microcarrier to improve microcarrier biocompatibility (Article)

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Abstract

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Oil/water emulsion solvent evaporation method was employed to fabricate polycaprolactone (PCL) microcarriers. In order to produce porous microcarrier, the method was slightly modified. The porous network channels were generated inside the microcarrier by introducing camphene that was dissolved in the same solvent used to dissolve raw PCL. The evaporation of solvent and sublimation of camphene during the process of emulsion solvent evaporation method, produce solidified porous microcarrier beads. The surface porous microcarriers beads were further modified to make it competent for cell attachment and proliferation. The surface of these microcarriers were modified with UV/O₃ system to introduce functional group and charge on the surface. The treatment followed with the immobilization of halal gelatin on the surface to improve the biocompatibility of the microcarrier. Porous microcarrier with optimal size distribution was successfully fabricated. The average pore size of 11.74±8.32 μm was obtained with the concentration of 20% (w/v) of camphene. The porous PCL microcarrier was further tailored with gelatin through surface treatment with UV/O₃ system and gelatin immobilization and validation of its compatibility towards mammalian cell was tested with cultivation of green monkey kidney cell (Vero) in the suspension culture. Vero cells attach and proliferate well on the gelatin coated porous PCL microcarrier with maximum cell number of 3.90 × 10⁵ cells/ml as compared to cell proliferation on UV/O₃ treated porous PCL microcarrier (1.83 × 10⁵ cells/ml). The developed microcarrier may be potentially applicable as a cell delivery scaffold for cell tissue culture and tissue engineering application. © 2018, Insight Society.

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