



Abstract Mesoporous Silica Systems Loaded with Polyphenols⁺

Gabriela Petrisor ^{1,2,*}, Ludmila Motelica ^{1,2,3,4}, Roxana Trusca ^{2,4}, Vladimir Lucian Ene ^{1,2,4}, Denisa Ficai ^{1,2,3,4}, Ovidiu Cristian Oprea ^{2,3,4}, Georgeta Voicu ^{1,4} and Anton Ficai ^{1,2,3,4,5}

- Science and Engineering of Oxide Materials and Nanomaterials, Faculty of Applied Chemistry and Materials Science, University POLITEHNICA of Bucharest, Gh. Polizu 1-7, 011061 Bucharest, Romania; ludmila.motelica@upb.ro (L.M.); vladimir.ene@upb.ro (V.L.E.); denisaficai@yahoo.ro (D.F.); georgeta.voicu@upb.ro (G.V.); anton.ficai@upb.ro (A.F.)
- ² National Research Center for Food Safety, University POLITEHNICA of Bucharest, Splaiul Independentei 313, 060042 Bucharest, Romania; roxana.trusca@upb.ro (R.T.); ovidiu.oprea@upb.ro (O.C.O.)
- ³ Department of Inorganic Chemistry, Physical Chemistry and Electrochemistry Faculty of Applied Chemistry and Materials Science, University POLITEHNICA of Bucharest, Gh. Polizu 1-7, 011061 Bucharest, Romania
 ⁴ National Center for Micro and Nanomaterials, University POLITEHNICA of Bucharest,
- Splaiul Independentei 313, 060042 Bucharest, Romania
- ⁵ Academy of Romanian Scientists, Ilfov Street 3, 050044 Bucharest, Romania
- Correspondence: gabriela.petrisor06@yahoo.com
- + Presented at the 17th International Symposium "Priorities of Chemistry for a Sustainable Development" PRIOCHEM, Bucharest, Romania, 27–29 October 2021.

Abstract: In this work, we obtain mesoporous silica systems loaded with polyphenolic compounds (p-coumaric acid, trans-ferulic acid, epicatechin, and catechin). Polyphenolic compounds are used as biologically active agents for the treatment of various diseases. These compounds have high antioxidant activity. As a carrier, two types of mesoporous silica have been proposed and obtained according to the classical templating method with cetyltrimethylammonium bromide, CTAB, under alkaline conditions. Polyphenols (p-coumaric acid, trans-ferulic acid, epicatechin, and catechin) were loaded under vacuum into the mesoporous silica. The materials obtained were characterized by Scanning Electron Microscopy, X-ray Diffraction, the Brunauer–Emmett–Teller Method, Complex Thermal Analysis–DTA-TG and Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy. In this study, mesoporous silica systems were obtained and further loaded with p-coumaric acid, trans-ferulic acid, epicatechin and catechin. The results highlight that the materials can be used as drug delivery systems, with the results being promising (simulated gastric fluid, SGF, and simulated intestinal fluid, SIF) for various environments. The proposed loading methodology is suitable for loading these natural agents, mostly, inside the pores.

Keywords: mesoporous silica; p-coumaric acid; trans-ferulic acid; epicatechin; catechin

Funding: This research was funded by Ministry of Education and Research, CNCS UEFISCDI, grant number PN-III-P2-2.1-PED-2019 project: "Evaluarea potentialului de exploatare a materialelor poroase in tratarea disbiozelor microbiotei" no. 524PED/2020.

Institutional Review Board Statement: Not applicable.

Informed Consent Statement: Not applicable.

Data Availability Statement: Available on demand.

Conflicts of Interest: The authors declare no conflict of interest.



Citation: Petrisor, G.; Motelica, L.; Trusca, R.; Ene, V.L.; Ficai, D.; Oprea, O.C.; Voicu, G.; Ficai, A. Mesoporous Silica Systems Loaded with Polyphenols. *Chem. Proc.* 2022, 7, 15. https://doi.org/10.3390/ chemproc2022007015

Academic Editors: Mihaela Doni, Florin Oancea, Zina Vuluga and Radu Claudiu Fierăscu

Published: 1 March 2022

Publisher's Note: MDPI stays neutral with regard to jurisdictional claims in published maps and institutional affiliations.



Copyright: © 2022 by the authors. Licensee MDPI, Basel, Switzerland. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (https:// creativecommons.org/licenses/by/ 4.0/).