

Bio materials

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Bio materials

- Biomaterials play an integral role in biomedical field today - restoring function and facilitating healing for people after injury or disease.
- Biomaterials may be natural or synthetic and are used in medical applications to support, enhance, or replace damaged tissue or a biological function.
- The first historical use of biomaterials dates to antiquity, when ancient Egyptians used sutures made from animal sinew.

- Metals, ceramics, plastic, glass, and even living cells and tissue all can be used in creating a biomaterial.
- They can be re-engineered into molded or machined parts, coatings, fibers, films, foams, and fabrics for use in biomedical products and devices like heart valves, hip joint replacements, dental implants, or contact lenses.
- They often are biodegradable, and some are bio-absorbable, meaning they are eliminated gradually from the body after fulfilling a function.

Metals and alloys for biomedical applications

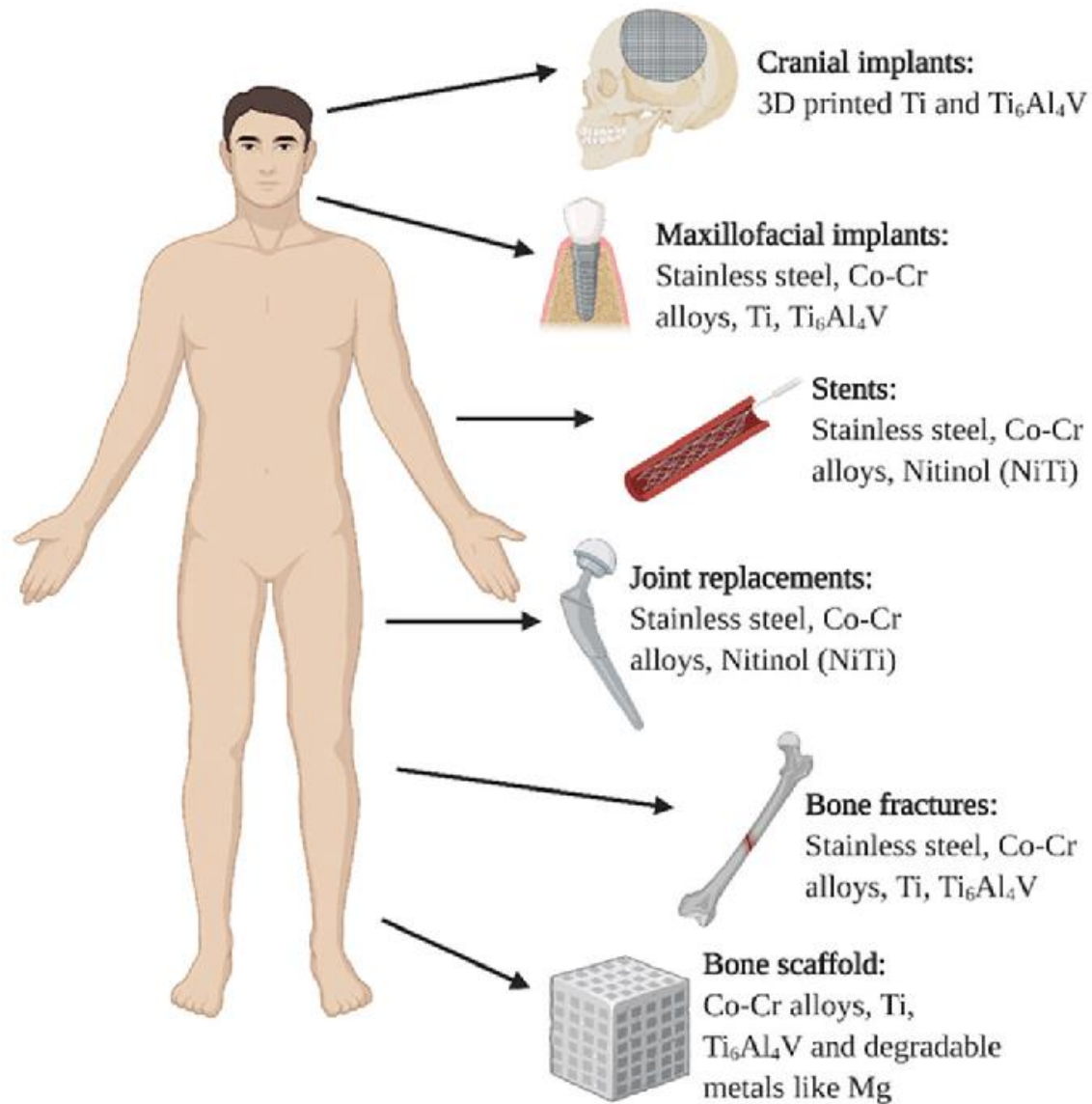
- METALS AND ALLOY are extensively used as biomaterial for their excellent strength and biocompatibility.
- We will discuss about types of metal alloys used as surgical implants.
- Research is still continue to develop metallic biomaterials with the highest biocompatibility and least toxicity.

STAINLESS STEEL

- ALLOY of Fe, Cr, Ni and C.
- It has good corrosion resistance due to formation of passive layer on these material (due to Cr).
- Used as permanent surgical implant for decades. Eg. 316 L (316 LOW CARBON STEEL)
- The biocompatibility in this implants due to protective layer of Chromium oxide.
- The advantages of SS are that it is cheap, easily available and has excellent fabrication properties, is biocompatible and has great strength.
- Most of internal fixation devices like wires, pin, screws, plates, and intramedullary nails or rods are made up of SS.

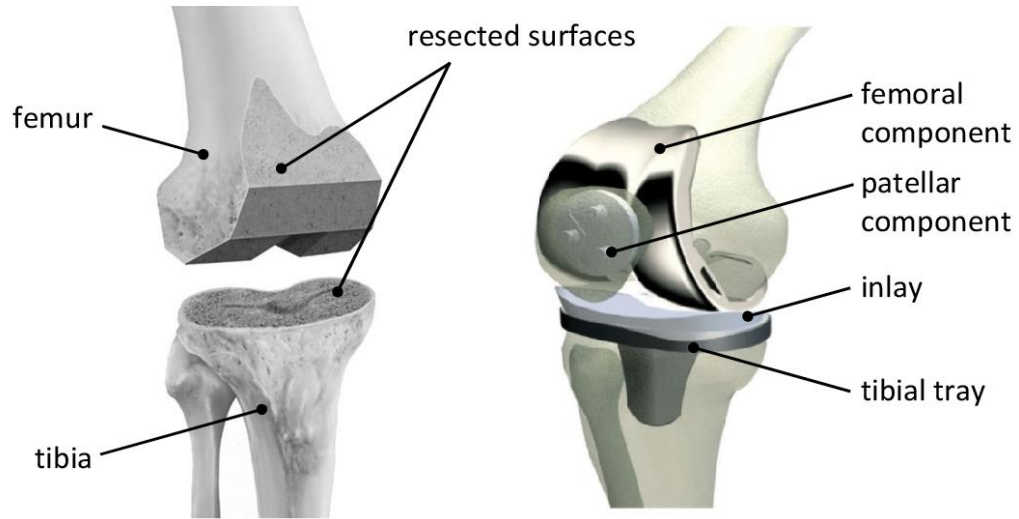
Limitations:

1. Within the body, the SS implants are exposed to rather complex body fluids, which contain chloride ions, reduced sulfur, etc. and when SS reacts with these ions, toxic elements like nickel and chromium are released. (to overcome this limitation alloy can be coated with transition metal nitrides eg. TiN, VN, TiAlN).
2. Another major concern in using SS as a biomedical implant is the presence of nickel, which is toxic, and many patients are nickel sensitive. Research is also going on in developing nickel-free SS. Nitrogen, which is also an austenite stabilizer (gamma phase iron stabilizer) like nickel, is being used instead of nickel.

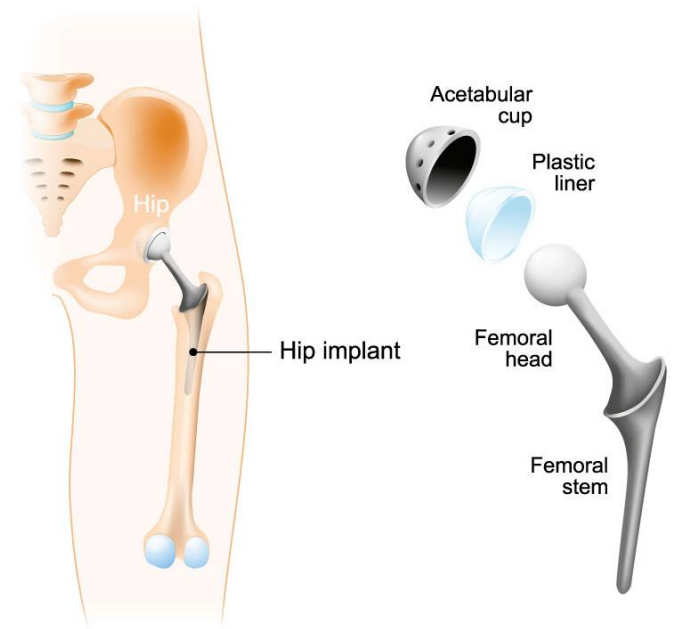


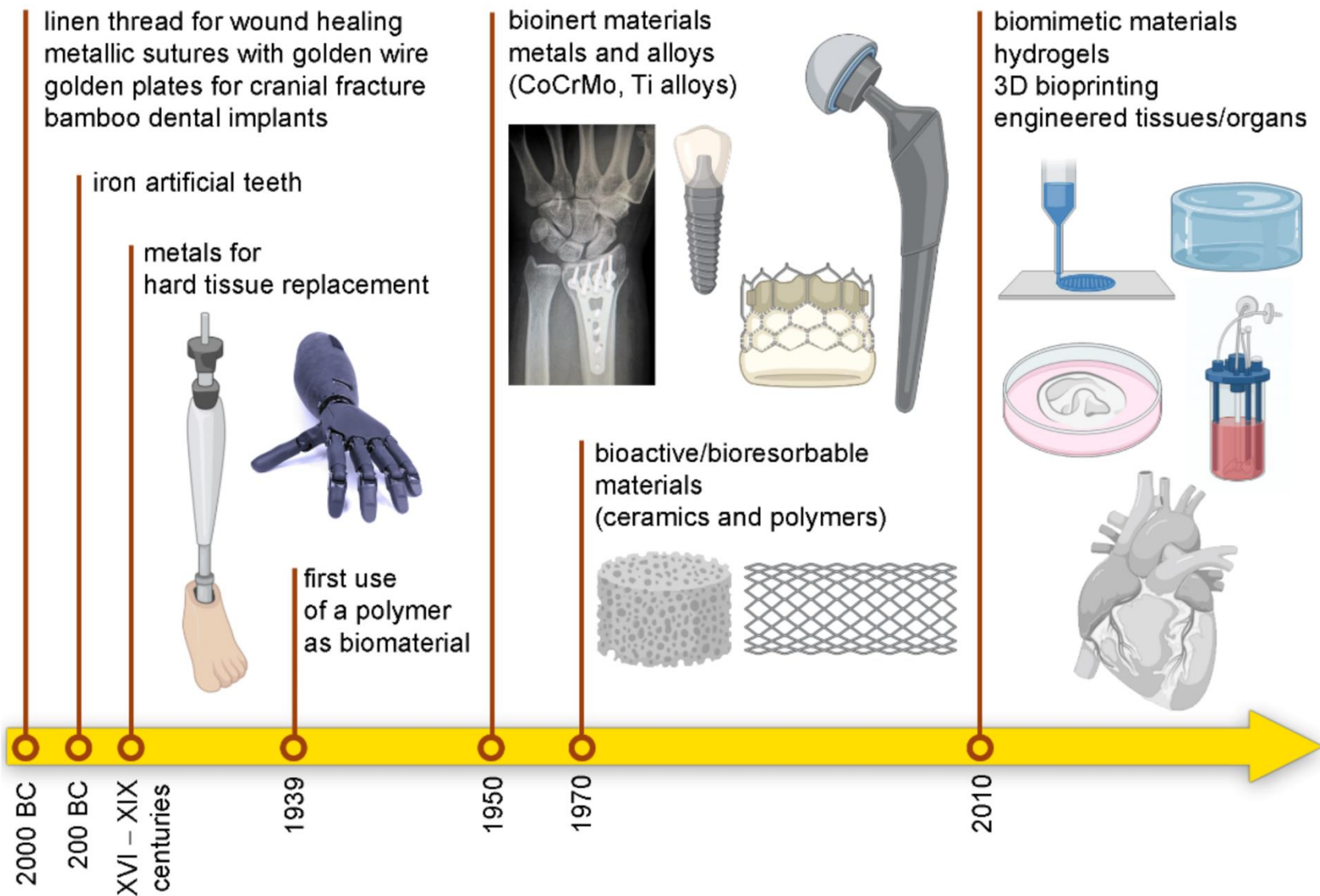
Cobalt- chromium alloys

- The alloys are generally combination of cobalt, chromium, and molybdenum, or cobalt, nickel, chromium, and molybdenum.
- They are often used as components in modular prosthetic devices such as hip or knee joints, particularly in the ball and socket joint where movement occurs.
- Other applications of this alloy include implants like **tibial trays, acetabular cups**, dental parts, pacemaker lead casings, as well as cardiovascular stents.



TOTAL HIP REPLACEMENT (arthroplasty)





Bio-Ceramics

What are Bio-ceramics?

Ceramics are refractory polycrystalline compounds

- ✓ Inorganic
- ✓ Hard and brittle
- ✓ High compressive strength

Applications

- Orthopaedic load-bearing coatings
- Dental implants
- Bone graft substitutes
- Bone cements

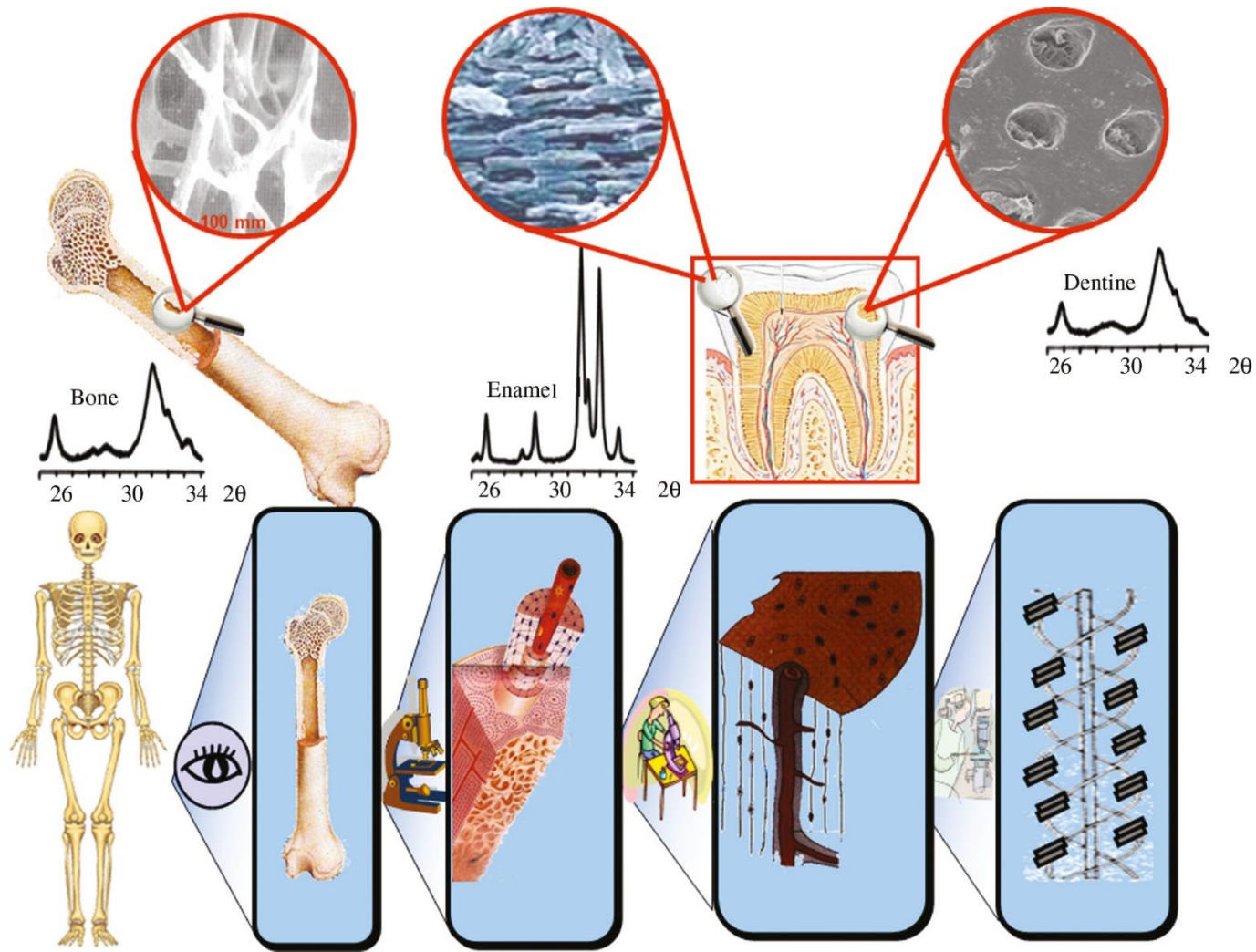
Classification of Bio-ceramics

The development of bio-ceramics can be classified into three generations.

- The **first generation** would correspond to bio-inert bio-ceramics, such as alumina and zirconia, which are mostly used for inert orthopedic and dental implants.
- The **second generation** comprises bioactive and bio-absorbable ceramics, such as calcium phosphates or bio-glasses.
- The **third generation** is scaffolds for tissue engineering which aim to drive the regeneration of living tissues.

- Many studies have demonstrated that better and unusual material properties can be achieved by manipulating **ceramic length scales in the nano range**. From the last two decades, nanostructured materials have been widely studied and significant steps forward have been made in their understanding in recent years.
- Ceramics are broadly used in a large variety of technological applications requiring both structural and functional properties.
- They have received significant attention as candidate materials for use as structural materials under conditions of high loading rates, high temperature, wear and chemical etching too severe for metals.
- In this sense, bone-related biomedical applications are the most demanding of bioceramics.
- However, their inherent brittleness derived from their low fracture toughness has prevented their use in some applications.

- Moreover, the presence of flaws or defects in the material can lead to catastrophic failure during mechanical loading. Therefore, new kinds of materials have been studied for increasing the performance of ceramic matrix materials.
- For ceramics used in biomedical applications, which are extensively called bioceramics, this problem still remains.
- Nanophased ceramics are being investigated as a way of solving some of the structural and bio-related problems.
- For example, nanometric features in the surface of a prosthesis seem to reduce the risk of rejection and enhance the proliferation of osteoblasts (bone-forming cells).
- Nanophased or nanostructured ceramics can be obtained either by nanocrystalline materials or with nanocomposites.



Bioceramics: from bone substitutes to nanoparticles for drug delivery

Properties and Applications of nano-crystalline ceramics

- In the case of nanocrystalline ceramics, as the grain size is reduced, the grain volume at grain boundaries is increased.
- Thus, due to the high density of interfaces, an important fraction of atoms will be at the interface.
- This fact allows nanocrystalline materials to offer unusual and improved properties when compared to microscale materials, nanophase ceramics could promote osseointegration, which is critical for the clinical success of orthopaedic/dental implants.
- Dense nanophase alumina (Al_2O_3) materials and showed a significant increase in protein absorption and osteoblast adhesion on the nano-sized ceramic materials compared to traditional micron-sized ceramic materials.
- Better osteo-conductivity would be achieved if synthetic Hydroxyapatite (Hap) could more resemble bone minerals in composition, size and morphology.

Advantages

The use of nanocrystalline materials can thus offer advantages for use in biomedical applications, such as:

- a. increased resistance/hardness
- b. improved toughness
- c. lower elastic modulus and lower ductility
- d. reduced risk of rejection
- e. enhanced proliferation of osteoblasts
- f. promotion of osseointegration

With ceramic nanocomposites, even greater improvements can be achieved and the use of new ceramic matrix nanocomposites has been suggested.

Nano-Composites

Ceramic nanocomposites

- Nanocomposites based on ceramic materials have been studied in order to improve mechanical properties and alter functional properties.
- The ceramic nanocomposites reported until now are either a ceramic nanophase in a ceramic matrix, a carbonaceous nanophase in a ceramic matrix or a ceramic nanophase in a polymer matrix.
- Enhancements in stability, hardness, strength, toughness and creep resistance compared to the unreinforced matrix material have been reported in nanocomposites .
- Moreover, the combination of properties can lead to a new generation of medical devices and implants combining mechanical properties with bioactive properties.

Some examples of ceramic based nanocomposite materials are as follows:

- Alumina-based nanocomposites: with the addition of several nano-reinforcements, alumina matrix materials with improved mechanical properties (higher resistance, hardness, wear resistance and fracture toughness) have been obtained.
- Alumina/silicon carbide nanocomposites: the incorporation of SiC nanoparticles to an alumina matrix increases wear resistance.
- Alumina/zirconia nanocomposites: also known as zirconia-toughened alumina (ZTA) nanocomposites, they consist of a fine-grained alumina matrix reinforced with zirconia particles. The addition of the zirconia nanoparticles is intended to increase the toughness of the alumina matrix.
- Alumina/titania nanocomposites: increased hardness, fracture toughness and fracture resistance have been achieved.

- Zirconia/alumina nanocomposites: also known as alumina-toughened zirconia (ATZ), they consist of a zirconia matrix reinforced with alumina nanoparticles. They show exceptional resistance and extraordinary toughness.
- Silicon nitride/silicon carbide nanocomposites: the obtained results are controversial.
- Ceramic/carbon nanofibre composites: widely used, there is an improvement in properties.
- Ceramic/carbon nanotube (CNT) composites: mechanical and electrical properties are enhanced, but biocompatibility issues are still controversial.
- Ceramic in polymer composites: especially relevant for tissue engineering applications.