



EXTRACELLULAR VESICLES FUNCTIONALIZED POROUS PHOSPHATE SCAFFOLD ENHANCES BONE REGENERATION IN SHEEP METAPHYSEAL TIBIAL DEFECT

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SUMMARY

SIGIT DARU CAHAYADI. Extracellular Vesicles Functionalized Porous Phosphate Scaffold Enhances Bone Regeneration In Sheep Methaphyseal Tibial Defect. Supervised by **BERRY JULIANDI, YESSIE WIDYA SARI, ARIEF BOEDIONO, and IFTY AHMED**

A critical bone defect is a loss of bone structure that exceeds the critical size of the bone's ability to regenerate. They are commonly caused by trauma, chronic inflammation, metabolic disorders, or post-tumor resection. Bone defects not only interfere with the bone healing process but also aggravate morbidity for the patient, thus becoming one of the main problems in the field of orthopedics. In principle, bone healing requires mechanical stability, osteoinductive, osteoconductive, and osteogenic cells which are lost in critical bone defect conditions. To overcome this problem, a substitute material is needed as an intermediary between the bone and the regeneration process. Not only as a mechanical bridge, the replacement material must have good bioactivity, biocompatibility and biodegradability. Phosphate-Based Porous Bioactive Glass (P30) has been investigated to have the required characteristics. In addition, the addition of biologically active agents can enhance osteoinductive and osteogenesis. Currently, the focus of biological active agent research is shifting from cell-based to non-cell-based, one of which is Extracellular Vesicle (EV). EVs have stem cell-like characteristics in terms of bone healing efficacy but don't serve as cell itself in terms of structure and differentiation, with low immunogenicity and can be mass produced. In this study, the effectiveness of EVs and various concentration P30 were tested under *in vitro* and *in vivo* conditions.

Phosphate Based Porous Bioactive Glass (P30) as EV-loading biomaterials were fabricated via the spheroidization method. Meanwhile, EVs were obtained from purified human umbilical cord secretome as extraction source. In the *invitro* test, extracellular vesicles (EV) will be loaded on porous bioactive glass microspheres with various concentrations, then the efficacy of EV on microspheres based on osteogenesis, EV uptake, and cell migration will be evaluated. The *in vivo* test used local female sheep (*Ovis Aries*) as the experimental animal. A cylindrical defect measuring 15 mm x 8 mm was made by drilling using a drill, then three treatments will be applied to the bone defect including hydroxyapatite, Phosphate- Based Porous Bioactive Glass (P30) and P30+EV. Radiology, osteogenesis, and angiogenesis measurements were taken on days 28 and 56.

Based on *in vitro* studies, observation of osteogenesis on days 7 and 14 showed that P30 concentrations of 100 μ g were significantly higher than the control group. Similarly, in the EV uptake test results, concentrations of 100 μ g were significantly higher than the control group. While in the cell migration test, P30 500 μ g concentration had a significantly higher value. The findings in the *in vitro* test revealed that the highest effectiveness for osteogenesis and EV uptake was obtained at P30 levels of 100 μ g. Optimal osteogenesis was obtained from balanced P30 levels for



biodegradability and mineralization. Correspondingly, effective EV uptake was obtained with the speed of EV release in accordance with the cell's capability for EV uptake. While at a concentration of 500 μ g, the bioactive signal was strong enough to induce pre-osteoblastic migration.

Based on the *in vivo* study, the defect size in the radiological test group was significantly smaller than the negative control at day 28 and 56. Correspondingly, the highest number of osteoblasts was also found in the P30+EV group. Furthermore, osteogenesis analysis based on RUNX2 expression showed the area with the highest RUNX2 positivity in P30+EV. Similarly, in angiogenesis analysis, the highest CD31 positive area was found in P30+EV. IRS Score analysis also showed similar results. The findings in the *in vivo* test prove that the combination of P30+EV can be applied in sheep animal models with good effectiveness.

Keyword: *Sheep bone defect, Extracellular Vesicle, Phosphate Scaffold, Bone Regeneration*



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PREFACE

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May this scientific work be beneficial to those in need and contribute to the advancement of science and knowledge.

Bogor, December 2025

Sigit Daru Cahayadi

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREFACE.....	xi
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	xiii
LIST OF TABLE.....	xvi
LIST OF FIGURES.....	xvii
GLOSSARY	lxvii
I. INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background.....	1
1.2 Problem Statement	3
1.3 Research Objectives	3
1.4 Research Benefits.....	3
1.5 Novelty	3
1.6 Research Framework.....	4
1.7 Hypothesis	5
II. LITERATURE REVIEW	6
2.1 Bone as an Organ	6
2.2 Bone Defect	7
2.3 Bone Defect Management	8
2.4 P30	9
2.5 Extracellular Vesicle	10
2.6 Reaction of P30 and EV	11
2.7 In Vitro experiment of P30 and Extracellular Vesicle	12

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2.8 In Vivo experiment of P30 and Extracellular Vesicle	12
Material and Methods	13
3.1 In Vitro Methodology	13
3.1.1 Materials	13
3.1.2 Mixing Extracellular Vesicle with P30.....	13
3.1.3 Osteogenic Differentiation Assay	13
3.1.4 Extracellular Vesicle Passage Assay.....	14
3.1.5 Cell Migration Assay	14
3.1.6 Statistical Analysis.....	15
3.2 In Vivo Methodologies.....	15
3.2.1 P30 Phosphate Glass Preparation	15
3.2.2. EV Isolation.....	15
3.2.3. Preparation of Composite Gels	16
3.2.4. Large Animal Model.....	16
3.2.5. Surgery and Implantation	16
3.2.6. Sample Preparation	17
3.2.7. Radiology dan Histology Analysis and Specimens Preparations	17
3.2.8. Osteogenesis and Angiogenesis Differentiation Assay	18
3.2.9. Data Analysis.....	18
RESULTS.....	19
4.1 In Vitro Results	19
4.1.1 Osteogenic Differentiation	19
4.1.2 Extracellular Vesicle Passage.....	21

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4.1.3 Cell Migration Assay.....	23
4.2 In Vivo Results.....	24
4.2.1 P30 and EV Mixture	24
4.2.2 Radiology	25
4.2.3 Histology	27
4.2.4 Osteogenic Differentiation Analysis	29
4.2.5 Endothelial Angiogenic Proliferation Analysis.....	31
V. DISCUSSION.....	35
5.1 In Vitro Discussion	36
5.1.1 Osteogenic Differentiation.....	36
5.1.2 Extracellular Vesicle Passage.....	37
5.1.3 Cell Migration Assay	37
5.2 In Vivo Discussion.....	38
VI. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION.....	41
5.2 Conclusion.....	42
5.3 Recommendation	42