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# **BIOACTIVITY ASSESSMENT OF BIOACTIVE GLASSES FOR DENTAL APPLICATIONS: A critical review**

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# **BIOACTIVITY ASSESSMENT OF BIOACTIVE GLASSES FOR DENTAL APPLICATIONS: A critical review**

# **1.Introduction**

Minerals ions can be removed from hydroxyapatite (HA) crystals of dental hard tissues, enamel and dentin, in case of erosive attack or carious lesions, this process is demineralization. Restoring these mineral ions to the HA crystals is called remineralization [1]. The contemporary approach to caries management has drastically changed: operative strategies are abandoned in favor of biologic approaches based on individual caries risk, preventive dentistry, and non-invasive or minimal options [2-3]. Remineralization is a non-invasive treatment to preserve dental tissues after an acidic attack. *In situ* remineralization could occur with a dissolution reprecipitation process in enamel or in dentin, but new tertiary dentin could also be produced by stimulation of pulp cells [4]. BAG are involved in both processes, but some studies have focused only on the first mechanism because others have focused on the second mechanism; thus, the term bioactivity for BAG remains unclear.

BAG were introduced in 1969 by professor Larry Hench (BAG 45S5), the composition was 45% silica  $(SiO_2) - 24.5\%$  calcium oxide (CaO) - 24.5% sodium oxide (Na<sub>2</sub>O) - 6% phosphate (P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>). Initially, BAG were used for medical application for their ability to form a bond with bone [5]. Nowadays, the original composition (45S5) and manufacturing method of BAG are modified to create mesoporous BAG, to change particle size (nano or micro-scale) or to add additives [6]. BAG are considered bioactive materials; however, a better definition of the bioactive effect is required to improve formulations or incorporation of particles in scaffolds [7-8].

It is generally accepted that a bioactive material is a material able to induce specific biological activity and stimulate a beneficial response from the body bonding to the host tissue [5;9]. Regarding BAG, Lebecq et al. defined bioactivity by following the crystalline hydroxy-carbonate apatite (HCA) layer growth on the surface of glass particles [10]. According to other definitions, the bioactivity is the ability to form mineral deposits in biological conditions [11].

In the dental field, the definition of bioactivity depends on the clinical use from the ability to induce reprecipitation of HA on the surface of enamel and dentin to cellular effects induced by the release of biologically active substances and ions. There is no consensus on bioactivity's definition. Vallittu et al. suggested limiting the terms 'bioactive' with respect to dental materials only to scientifically

proven materials and material combinations that release substantial quantities of ions for specific biomineralization in the clinical environment of the material [12].

The main objective of this review was to identify and classify the different methodologies used for the BAG bioactivity quantification regarding dental hard tissues, to determine the key parameters considered for these studies and therefore, to influence dental research and clinical practice on an international basis.

# 2.Materials and methods

The website COVIDENCE was used to import references and view duplicates, titles, abstracts, and full texts.

## 2.1 Inclusion and exclusion criteria

To identify relevant studies, the following inclusion and exclusion criteria were defined.

The search strategy was conducted to include research articles that have evaluated the bioactivity of BAG (without additives, scaffolds, or other constituents other than SiO<sub>2</sub>, CaO, Na<sub>2</sub>O, or P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>) with the perspective of dental applications. BAG with phosphoric acid (PPA) or polyacrylic acid (PAA) were included because these adjunctions were used to modify the consistency of BAG (from powder to paste) and not the composition.

The search strategy was conducted to exclude case reports, abstracts, literature review articles, retrospective studies, editorials, opinions, surveys, guidelines, conferences and commentary articles, and publications in a language different from English or French.

The series of inclusion and exclusion criteria were established by a consensus of all authors after discussions and while considering the research question—How to evaluate the bioactivity of bioactive glasses for dental applications?—and the objectives of the study.

## 2.2Search strategy

Four databases were screened: PubMed, Embase, Cochrane Library, and Scopus. The references cited in the articles included were also checked. The published scientific articles from May 1999 to January 2020 were systematically assessed for this review.

Search strategies were developed and performed in the four electronic databases. The search terms were divided in three parts:

- Teeth, for example, dental, enamel, dentin, dental, dentistry, teeth, and tooth.
- Bioactive glasses, for example, bioactive glass, bioglass, 45S5, and nanobioactive glass.
- Bioactivity, for example, remineralization, bioactivity, bioactive, and biomineralization.

## **2.3Paper selection**

The titles and abstracts of all articles identified by the electronic search were read and assessed by two authors (CM and BG) until January 2020. All titles and abstracts were examined and selected in accordance with the eligibility criteria. Those that appeared to fulfil the inclusion criteria, or with insufficient data in the title and the abstract, were selected for full analysis. The two authors were also the two reviewers and assessed the full text articles independently. Any disagreement on the eligibility of studies included was resolved through discussion and consensus.

### 2.4Data extraction

One author (CM) extracted the data using a prepiloted data collection form, and a second author (BG) verified data extraction independently for completeness and accuracy. Data obtained were as follows: general study details (first author, date of publication); population: BAG investigated (e.g. glass label, size of particles if mentioned, technique used to elaborate BAG, BAG's composition, comparison with); and the objectives, criteria, methods (solutions, time of storage, and analysis), and outcomes of studies. Any potential conflict was resolved by a joint discussion between the two authors.

# **3.Results**

## 3.1Study selection

The initial electronic search using the keyword combination returned 1078 articles. After the removal of duplicates, 708 records were examined. The title and abstracts of the remaining 708 papers were screened, and 563 papers were excluded because they were irrelevant to the inclusion

criteria. Finally, 145 relevant papers were scrutinized by downloading the papers and reading the full text. A consensus between the two authors was reached to determine which studies fully fulfilled the selection criteria. Ninety-eight papers were excluded after reading the full text. Thirteen papers were found from the references of the selected papers, and these were also assessed in a similar manner. Finally, 60 studies were included in this review (Fig. 1).

## 3.2Main characteristics of selected articles

A wide range of analysis of bioactivity was presented from the included studies. The most common analysis was the formation of apatite by *in vitro* evaluation in solutions. Other analysis corresponded to enamel and/or dentin remineralization *in vitro*, mineralization ability of cells *in vitro*, and pulp capping or pulpotomy *in vivo*. Data obtained were as follows: BAG investigated, criteria, methods, and main results.

### BAG investigated

The majority of BAG were made by melt-quench (n=20) and sol-gel techniques (n=15). There were 5 BAG made by the EISA (Evaporation Induced Self-Assembly) process and 3 by flame spray synthesis.

The size of particles was not systematically specified. Eighteen studies stipulated that BAG had a micrometric size, especially 38 or 45  $\mu$ m. Eight BAG had nanometric size (BGn/nBG/BGNR/NBG), from 10 to 590 nm and included 34, 20-60, 100, 510 nm. Some BAG were mesoporous (MBG/MBGs).

The composition of BAG was mainly traditional BAG 45S5 (n=29 studies). Other studies changed the concentration of SiO, CaO, Na<sub>2</sub>O, or P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> to modify the characteristics and bioactivity of BAG. Five BAG were made only with SiO<sub>2</sub> and CaO: 90 or 85 or 70 (%) – 10 or 15 or 30 (%), respectively. Nineteen BAG were made without Na<sub>2</sub>O.

#### Comparison with:

The BAG without adjuvants were compared with the following:

- 1: Control group (artificial saliva, demineralized water...).
- 2: BAG with adjuvants (fluoride (n=9), potassium (n=2), strontium (n=2), magnesium (n=1), zinc (n=1), bismuth oxide (n=1), ampicilline (n=1), siRNA (Small Interfering

Ribonucleic Acid) (n=1), barium (n=1)....), or scaffolds (chitosan [CS] or polycarbolactone [PCL]).

- 3: Oxide alone (ZnO), antiseptic (chlorhexidine [CHX]), desenziting agents (with oxalate) or bioactive products (caseinphosphopeptide-amophouscalciumphosphate [CPP-ACP], stannous fluoride, mineral trioxide aggregate (MTA), formocresol, ferric sulfate, Biodentine<sup>TM</sup>, biosilicate, calcium phosphate cement, calcium hydroxide [CH], BAG modified with soda lime spherical glass or laser irradiation, coating glasses... ) or restorative materials: dental adhesive, glass porcelain system, glass ionomer cement/resin-modified glass ionomer cement (GIC/RMGIC).
- 4: Laser irradiation.

#### Objectives, Criteria, and Methods – Results in terms of objectives

### Mechanism of apatite formation on BAG surface in vitro in solutions:

The majority of articles evaluated the bioactivity of BAG in solutions *in vitro* (Table 1). Simulated body fluid (SBF) (n=23) was the main solution used; however, a large part of the research used Tris buffer solution (TBS) (n=7) and one study used Hank's solution. Two studies used SBF and TBS. The objectives and criteria of these studies were to evaluate the formation of apatite *in vitro*. There

was no consensus on contact time: 15, 20, or 30 minutes; 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, or 12 hours; 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 9, 17, or 30 days; and 2, 3 or 4 weeks. Studies used the following analysis techniques:

- *Microscopic observations:* Scanning electron microscopy (SEM), field emission-SEM (FESEM), and transmission electron microscopy (TEM).
- Chemical or structural analysis: Energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDX), Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FTIR), X-ray diffraction (XRD), solid state nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR), Raman spectroscopy, inductively coupled plasma (ICP), and UV-VIS spectrophotometer.
- Association between microscopy and chemical or structural analysis: SEM-EDX.

The main analysis techniques were SEM, FTIR, XRD, and solid state NMR (Fig. 2).

Results lead to the following conclusion: apatite formation occurs by contact with BAG and solutions.

#### BAG capacity to remineralize enamel and/or dentin in vitro:

To evaluate the ability of BAG to remineralize dental tissues, 16 studies used human dentin, 9 studies used human enamel, and 2 studies bovine enamel *in vitro* (Table 2).

The objectives were to assess BAG capacity to remineralize enamel and/or dentin *in vitro*. Many criteria were used, for example, mineral changes (Ca/P ratio, presence of Ca, P, Si, O, or Na), surface and subsurface microhardness, roughness, formation of the pellicle layer or globular HA, improvement of mechanical properties, surface morphologies, tubular obstruction for dentin, tubular fluid. No consensus was reached on contact time: 10 or 30 seconds; 5 or 10 minutes; 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 10, 14, 21, 24, or 30 days; and 3 or 6 weeks. To evaluate the ability of BAG to remineralize enamel or dentin *in vitro*, studies used the following analysis techniques:

- *Microscopic observations: SEM*, SEM/three-dimensional stereophotographs, FESEM, TEM, and confocal laser scanning microscopy (CLSM).
- Chemical or structural analysis: EDX, FTIR, XRD, Solid State-NMR, ICP-atomic emission spectroscopy, attenuated total reflectance-FTIR (ATR-FTIR), electron microprobe analysis (EMPA), micro-computed tomography (CT), atomic force microscope (AFM), thermogravimetric analysis (TG), fluid filtration/transport system, optical coherence tomography (OCT), focused ion beam, profilometry analysis, X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS), and Raman spectroscopy.
- Association between microscopy and chemical or structural analysis: SEM-EDX and FESEM-EDX.
- *Evaluation of mechanical properties:* Nanoindentation, ultramicroindentation analysis (UMIS), microhardness, and cryofracture examination.

Fig. 3 shows the repartition of different analysis techniques.

According to the studies, BAG were bioactive materials for therapeutic remineralization of dental hard tissues.

### In vitro effect of BAG on the mineralization capacity of cells:

Five studies evaluated the bioactivity of BAG in contact with cells in vitro (Table 3).

The objectives were to investigate the *in vitro* effects of BAG on the mineralization capacity of cells. The calcium precipitation and the matrix mineralization of cells were the criteria. Four studies used human dental pulp cells (hDPCs) [13-16] and one study used stem cells derived from deciduous teeth (SHEDs) [17]. The contact time was 21 days to 4 weeks. Alizarin red S was used for technical analysis. For all studies, BAG increased mineralized nodule formation.

### In vivo evaluation of dentin mineralization and/or dental pulp response:

Three studies evaluated the dental pulp response with BAG by using pulp capping or pulpotomy in human or rat pulp *in vivo* (Table 4). The objectives were *in vivo* evaluation of dentin mineralization and/or dental pulp response. The criteria were the presence or absence of a dentin bridge associated with the pulp status (no or mild, moderate, or severe inflammation, necrosis, abscess, resorption). BAG were compared with Calcium Hydroxide (CH) and MTA. The contact time extended from 2 weeks to 2 months. Histological analysis, hematoxylin and eosin staining or Masson's trichrome were for the technical analysis. BAG was used in Wang et al., especially the nanoscale version, and greater induction of pulp cell migration, surface attachment, proliferation, and odontogenic differentiation were demonstrated [15]. In Salako et al., BAG induced an inflammatory response at 2 weeks with the resolution of inflammation at 4 weeks in molars rats [18]. Moreover, MTA performs as an ideal pulpotomy agent and causes dentin bridge formation while maintaining normal pulpal histology, compared with BAG. According to Haghgoo et al., pulp inflammation was observed in BAG samples with dentin bridge formation but not internal resorption or abscess [19-20]. Unlike the literature, Haghgoo et al. demonstrated MTA and BAG could be used for vital pulp therapy (direct capping) of primary teeth.

Three articles combined two methodologies to assess the bioactivity of BAG:

- Haghgoo et al. used TBS and human dentin: both in vitro [19].
- Wang et al. (2014) used hDPCs cells in vitro and molar pulp rats in vivo [13].
- Wang et al. (2016) used SBF and hDPCs: both in vitro [15].

# **4.Discussion**

## **4.1Study selection**

For study selection, especially search terms, the term 'glass' was observed in many studies of tricalcium silicates and bioceramics but not for those of BAG. Additionally, many studies were excluded after the title or abstract screening. Thirteen studies were observed in the references of other articles, and many of them were in chemistry and physics reviews; therefore, they were not mentioned in the study selection with medical electronic databases.

## 4.2Methodologies linked to biomaterial chemistry

4.2.1 Particles sizes and morphology in relation to the manufacturing method

The melt-quench and sol-gel processes are the most common manufacturing techniques for BAG. According to Lee et al. melted glass exhibited a greater size (30–60 µm) without pore formation. The average particle size of sol-gel bioglass was still smaller. Moreover, sol-gel bioglass exhibited a porous structure with a large surface area [21-22]. These results were in accordance with Curtis et al.: melt-derived possessed an irregular particle morphology and had a mean size of 3.30±0.42 µm. The sol-gel bioglass particles were spherical, with a mean size of  $0.65\pm0.19 \,\mu\text{m}$  [23]. Dentin treated with melt-derived bioglass exhibited a tightly adherent continuous apatite layer. Treatment with nBAG resulted in particle deposition within tubules and formation of apatite rods, which were tightly adherent to tubule walls and continuous to a measured depth of 270 µm [23]. Other techniques have been used, specially to create MBG or nBG. For example, EISA (Evaporation Induced Self-Assembly) combines the sol-gel technique and supramolecular chemistry to obtain MBG [24]. Using flame spray synthesis, BAG synthesis occurred by combining and mixing the corresponding liquid metal precursors and feeding the mixture into a flame reactor [25]. According to MačKović et al., nBAG (flame spray synthesis) have a higher surface area and, thus, higher reactivity compared with conventional µBAG (melt-quench): coprecipitation of nanocrystalline and large calcite was observed by TEM [25]. In contact with hDPCs, nBAG can induce the mineralization of cells more efficiently compared with regular BAG. Because of the higher specific area, n58S released more Si and Ca ions into the medium compared with 58S and 45S5 in a short time [14]. These results were confirmed by Wang et al.: in contact with pulp cells, nBAG increased mineralized nodules formation [13]. nBAG were promising particles for dental applications and might be a better potential candidate for dentin-pulp complex regeneration. In cases of direct pulp capping, a continuous layer of dentin-like tissue was observed.

#### 4.2.2 Glass composition - SiO<sub>2</sub>/Na<sub>2</sub>O/CaO ratio

BAG 45S5 were used in most studies because of the original composition of BAG made by Larry Hench in 1969. BAG 45S5 were able to form carbonated HA in solution and to precipitate a layer of apatite at the enamel and dentin interfaces. According to Plewinski et al., calcium silica and

calcium carbonate layers were found on amorphous bioglass 45S5 after 7 and 14 d (stored in SBF). However, apatite formation after storage was observed only on the crystallized 45S5 samples [26]. Dong et al. compared 45SiO<sub>2</sub> with 58SiO<sub>2</sub> and 77SiO<sub>2</sub> (both without sodium oxide). They found that an enamel surface formed a homogenous and dense mineralized layer with the treatment of 45SiO<sub>2</sub> and 58SiO<sub>2</sub> samples. The average thickness was 4 and 2.5 µm, respectively. The surface roughness decreased with the increase of silicon content, and the mechanical strength of the enamel samples decreased gradually. BAG with 77SiO<sub>2</sub> showed a loose, uneven remineralized layer, whereas 45SiO<sub>2</sub> and 58SiO<sub>2</sub> formed a homogenous, dense mineralized layer on surface enamel [27]. 45SiO<sub>2</sub> paste had the best mineralization ability, best mechanical strength, and satisfactory surface roughness [27]. In the included articles, they were BAG with only SiO<sub>2</sub> and CaO; notably, CaO was fundamental in the first step of HA formation because of an exchange with H<sup>+</sup> ions [28]. According to Curtis et al. and El-Fiqi et al., it was possible to create nBAG with SiO<sub>2</sub> and CaO [23;29]. These SiO<sub>2</sub>-CaO BAG formed apatite rods emanated from within the tubules [23]. According to Gunawidjaja et al., 90SiO<sub>2</sub>-10CaO BAG and 85SiO<sub>2</sub>-15CaO BAG displayed similar in vitro behavior [30]. In other studies, BAG was made without Na<sub>2</sub>O, and indeed, high sodium content was unnecessary for bioactivity [30-33]. The porosity increased when calcium oxide increased, compared with sodium oxide. Indeed, the enhanced fluxing in compositions with high sodium interfered with the textural features by reducing the porosity because of fusion of pores [34]. Porosity was a critical parameter to increase surface area and hence bioactivity. Moreover, molecules, drugs, or growth factors could be included in the pores.

#### 4.2.3 Glass composition: adjuvants

Some studies used BAG with adjuvants to conduct comparisons with traditional BAG. Three methodologies were used for these assessments: in solution *in vitro*, remineralization of enamel and/or dentin *in vitro*, and mineralization of cell *in vitro*.

Fluoride was often added to BAG. According to Moawad et al., the formation of HA and hence bioactivity was significantly influenced by the mol% of CaF<sub>2</sub> in the initial glass composition [35]. Addition of fluoride ions to the glass, by maintaining the ratio of all other components constant, maintains the polymerization of the silicate network, network connectivity, and bioactivity of BAG [36-37]. By contrast, substituting CaO (or Na<sub>2</sub>O) for CaF<sub>2</sub> increases the polymerization of the SiO<sub>2</sub> network, resulting in decreased solubility, bioactivity, and even cell compatibility [36]. Incorporation of fluoride resulted in the formation of fluoroapatite (FAp) compared with fluoride-free glasses [35;38]. This parameter was notable for dental application because FAp was more

resistant to acidic attack than fluoride, had lower solubility compared with HA, and was more chemically stable than HA or carbonated HA [39-40]. For the oxide addition or substitution, in Nommeots-Nomm et al., phosphorous reduction and CaP layer formation were much faster in SBF containing BAG with K<sub>2</sub>O compared with BAG containing K<sub>2</sub>O-MgO or K<sub>2</sub>O-MgO-SrO [41]. In other studies, BAG with Sr formed apatite to increase dissolution resistance and tubules' obliteration [42-43]. For magnesium, according to Souza et al., partial replacement of CaO by MgO in the BAG did not influence the rate of precipitation of the initial ACP layer when the glass was exposed to SBF [44].

#### 4.2.4 Bag versus other materials

BAG have been compared with RMGIC as liner materials for dentin remineralization in vitro. According to Schmidlin et al., the dentin exposed resulted in significantly higher hardness and elastic modulus values with BAG compared with corresponding dentin RMGIC-interfaces [45]. GIC have been used for comparison with BAG. According to Gjorgievska et al. bioactivity of BAG and GIC were confirmed by ion exchange with the surrounding tooth tissue [46]. In 2003, bioactivity of BAG was compared with MTA, formocresol (FC), and ferric sulfate (FS) [18]. FC and FS are pulpotomy agents; however, their use today is uncommon. According to Salako et al. and Haghgoo et al., MTA induced less inflammation than BAG in contact with dental pulp and formed more dentin bridge [18;47]. MTA was progressively replaced by Biodentine<sup>TM</sup> in restorative procedures. Based on this review, 1 study compared BAG and Biodentine<sup>TM</sup> as dentin substitutes [46]. In this study, Biodentine<sup>TM</sup> performed well as a dentin substitute. The use of BAG was limited to the size of particles (< 700 µm) to allow for a better adaptation to cavity walls. Notably, BAG may also be considered for use as dentin substitute [46]. According to Ubaldini et al., BAG and biosilicate promoted increased mineral matrix ratios on the bleached and control dentin samples using MicroRaman Spectroscopy. Microtensile bond strength of dentin resin bonding interfaces was significantly improved when the bleached or control dentin surfaces had been covered by BAG and/or biosilicate [48].

### 4.3Methodologies to assess bioactivity

4.3.1 In vitro solution - mechanism of apatite formation on bag surface

Studies used mainly SBF (n=24) and TBS (n=7) to assess the mechanism of apatite formation on

BAG surface *in vitro*. Microscopic observations and chemical or structural analysis allowed for the following conclusion: BAG formed apatite *in vitro*.

According to Mathew et al., results obtained from BAG after being soaked in SBF or TBS revealed a biomimetically grown surface layer of calcium phosphate comprising domains of nanocrystalline HCA [49]. Gunawidjaja et al. observed ACP and HCA growth at the surface of BAG in SBF and TBS. When the authors examined the ion release, the TBS grains displayed a 60  $\mu$ m thick domain of almost pure silica, and their SBF counterparts were verified as small but had significant amounts of Ca and P. This finding is attributed to more extensive local deposits of ACP at BAG when they are subjected to SBF, because the latter medium is already supersatured with respect to apatite [33]. These results were in accordance with the literature.

For other authors, the choice of SBF solution for testing the bone bonding ability of materials was arbitrary, and there was no correlation between bioactivity in SBF solution and *in vivo*. The supersaturation of SBF in calcium and phosphate can induce false-positive results [50]. Mneimne and al. recommended the use of TBS without  $Ca^{2+}$  and  $PO_4^{3-}$  because saliva in the mouth is diluted after liquid uptake and no longer saturated with these ions [40]. TBS was used to avoid the possible interference of phosphate ions during measurement [51]. However, according to Cerruti and al., TBS solutions and SBF were comparable to evaluate the dissolution of BAG [52]. For Kokubo and al., SBF was useful to predict the bioactivity of a material [53]. One study used Hank's balanced salt solution [54]. According to Gandolfi et al., Hank's solution can be used for cells' culture; however, it is a solution with a low concentration of phosphate and reduced the rate of apatite precipitation and increased the time required for superficial apatite formation [55].

Bioactivity evaluation in solution provides the best incomplete information because it is irrespective of biological processes and context. However, for Zadpoor, three quarters of the *in vitro* studies of ability successfully predicted *in vivo* performance of the same materials [56]. The ability to form apatite in solution could be a bioactive parameter [57]. According to some definitions of bioactivity and the description of protocol in articles, the answer is *yes*. However, because bioactive required a biological reaction induced by BAG, apatite formation in a solution is the reactivity of BAG and not bioactivity [52].

#### 4.3.2 In vitro remineralization of enamel and/or dentin

To assess the BAG capacity to remineralize enamel and/or dentin *in vitro*, the literature used a combination of microscopic observations, chemical or structural analysis, and evaluation of mechanical properties. One or 2 studies used AFM, CLSM, CT, EMPA, fluid filtration of dentin,

focused ion beam, nanoindentation, TG, UMIS, or XPS (fig. 3). According to the studies included, BAG remineralized demineralized enamel:

- Improved mechanical properties (mechanical strength, surface roughness, microhardness).
- Increased mineral content.
- High mineral volume recovery.
- Coverage with a layer of brushite crystals.
- Ultrastructural changes.

For the dentin, BAG formed apatite at the interface and

- Decreased the degree of decalcification of dentin during the mineralization process in one study [51].
- Promoted the increase of mineral matrix ratios and the appearance of new interface peaks, indicating a chemical interaction.
- Remineralized artificially carious dentin.
- Allowed deposition in the tubules with obliteration by precipitation of apatite (increase of the % of tubular occlusion reduce dentin permeability).
- Increased hardness and elastic modulus values of the dentin.

Precipitations of deposits inside the tubules were a barrier against bacterial penetration and therefore prevented pulp inflammation. Dentin remineralization is more complex than enamel remineralization because dentin has a heterogenous structure. Electronic microscopy could evaluate the inter- or intrafibrillar remineralization, and mineral formation must be assessed by measurements of mechanical properties [58]. According to the 27 articles in this review, standard BAG appears to be promising agents of remineralization.

To use BAG in contact with dental hard tissues, the bioactivity of BAG in contact with pulp cells must be assessed. Notably, carious lesions increase the permeability of dentin. Permeability involves the passage of fluids, ions, molecules, particulate matter, and bacteria into and through a substance or tissue under different and variable conditions. The permeability of dentin is essential to support the physiology and reaction patterns of the pulp–dentin organ [59]. Enamel carious lesions can also lead to a pulp–dentin complex reaction. Notably, the examination of enamel lesions and pulp–dentin organs confirmed not early odontoblast cell reactions and a difference in tertiary dentin formation as a response to slow and active lesion activity [60]. Enamel is a microporous solid, the carious process and response of the dentin–pulp complex can frequently start before it is breached [61].

### 4.3.3 In vitro effect of bag on the mineralization capacity of cells

All the studies that assessed the bioactivity of BAG in contact with cells used Alizarin red staining to evaluate matrix mineralization.

According to these studies, cells in contact with BAG led to increases in relative calcium concentration and precipitation and increases in mineralized nodules formation.

Five studies used hDPCs. These cells may represent a different population of differentiated and undifferentiated cells with great potential for dental pulp repair and dentin regeneration. They can be successfully used to evaluate new biomaterials for dental applications [62].

SHEDs were identified as a population of highly proliferative, clonogenic cells capable of differentiating into a variety of cell types, for example, neural cells, adipocytes, and odontoblasts [59].

The other factors used to assess biocompatibility could be studied to evaluate bioactivity: collagen production, protein expression (DSPP, DMP-1), expression of several mineralization-related genes (osteocalcin, osteonectin, osteopontin, and bone sialoprotein) and promotion of alkaline phosphatase. These factors could be responsible for the initiation and modulation of dentin mineralization [13]. Moreover, a bioactive product can be toxic. Therefore, Alizarin red staining is insufficient to predict the behavior of BAG in contact with cells. The *in vivo* studies were reported as the best means to evaluate the bioactivity of bioactive products [64].

### 4.3.4 In vivo remineralization of enamel and/or dentin

No study of the *in vivo* remineralization of enamel and/or dentin using BAG was observed. A likely explanation for this result is the difficulties of evaluating *in vivo* remineralization. The International Caries Detection and Assessment System (ICDAS) criteria, optical boundary depth by OCT system, enamel decalcification index, quantitative light-induced fluorescence, and digital photography were mainly used for visual characterization of *in vivo* remineralization of white spot lesions (WSLs) [65-66]. These methods were used as quantitative methodologies for CPP-ACP but not for pure BAG [67-70].

The gold standard technique to quantify changes in the mineral content of early carious lesions was transverse microradiography (TMR). However, TMR requires preparation of thin sections and therefore cannot be used to monitor a WSL undergoing *in vivo* treatment [60]. This technique can be used *in situ* with removable mid-palatal appliances [67].

Thus, no study investigated the *in vivo* remineralization capacity of dental tissues by using pure BAG.

### 4.3.5 In vivo evaluation of dentin mineralization and/or dental pulp response

Histological analyses are required to characterize the bioactivity of BAG in direct or indirect contact with pulp cells. Pulp inflammation, presence of resorption, dentin bridge formation, and organization of odontoblast-like cells were commonly reported.

According to Salako et al. and Haghgoo et al., BAG induced an inflammatory response from the dental pulp [18-20]. Fluctuations in pH can lead to an unfavorable microenvironment for dental pulp tissues and cause inflammation and pulp tissue necrosis [71]. Haghgoo et al. demonstrated formation of a dentin bridge but did not observe internal resorption and abscess [19-20]. According to Wang et al., a continuous layer of dentin-like tissue with uniform thickness, a well-organized dentinal tubule structure, and polarizing odontoblast-like cells aligned along were generated on the nano-BAG layer [13]. These results are in accordance with Salako et al.: BAG can interact with pre-existing odontoblasts and underlying dental pulp cells [18].

### 4.3.6 Association of two categories of methodologies

Three articles combined two categories of methodologies to assess the bioactivity of BAG:

- Forsback et al. used *in vitro* solution and *in vitro* dentin remineralization [51]. According to these assessments of bioactivity, bioactive glass S53P4 can be used as a therapeutic material for mineralization of dentin and its tubules in a physiological environment.
- Wang et al. (2014) used *in vitro* capacity mineralization of cells and *in vivo* evaluation of dentin mineralization and/or dental pulp response [13]. According to these methodologies, BAG, especially nano-BAG, induced the odontogenic differentiation and dentin formation of dental pulp cells and is a potential material for pulp repair and dentin regeneration.
- Wang et al. (2016) used *in vitro* solution and *in vitro* capacity mineralization of cells [15].
   After incubation in SBF, a crystalline structure precipitated on the surfaces of BAG and in contact with cells, and mineralized nodules were generated in the BAG group. Both methodologies confirmed the bioactivity of BAG.

## **4.4Prospects**

Based on this review, we suggested a classification of methodologies to improve the understanding of the bioactive properties investigated (fig. 4).

The assessment of the bioactivity of BAG was specific because two types of mineralization processes occurred: *in situ* reprecipitation, as fluoride, CPP-ACP or GIC, and stimulation of pulp cells, as tricalcium silicate materials. This specificity complicates the evaluation of bioactivity *in vivo* and *in vitro*; however, it is a fundamental notion that offers many clinical perspectives.

Regarding the types of clinical indications from enamel lesion remineralization to pulp capping, different aspects of BAG bioactivity were explored. Nevertheless, no study investigated the combination of reactivity of particles and cell stimulation effects in the dentin–BAG interface; thus, further research through in vivo and clinical studies could fill that gap in the literature.

Careddu and Duncan proposed a literature review topic: a comparison of pulpal response to tricalcium silicate materials in the laboratory and clinic [72]. To complete the evaluation of pulp cell behavior in contact with BAG, other markers should be assessed: the expression of inflammatory and odontoblast differentiation markers, percentage of inflammatory cells, and vascular density in the pulp tissue after pulpotomy [72-73]. Notably, the interrelations between inflammation and regeneration are of particular significance within the dental pulp tissue inextensible environment [74].

# **5.**Conclusions

According to all the *in vitro* studies included, BAG is a bioactive material. Bioactivity ranged from reactivity and apatite reprecipitation to pulp cell stimulation. However, the literature provides no consensus on the results of *in vivo* studies and no comparison between protocols to assess their bioactivity compared with other bioactive products.

A clear classification of the methods used to assess the bioactivity of BAG could improve the elaboration of protocols and rank the impact of different studies and the bioactive effects.

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SCREENING

INCLUDED







## Table 1. Selected articles: In vitro mechanism of apatite formation on BAG surface in solutions

<u>BAG compared with</u> 1 Control group; 2 BAG with adjuvants; 3 oxide alone, Antibacterial, desensitizing agents, bioactive, or restorative materials; 4 Laser. <u>Analysis:</u> 1 Microscopic observations; 2 Chemical or structural analysis; 3 Mechanical properties evaluation; 4 Histological

1 • /		. 1 /	• , 1	1 1	1	1 (1)
analysis I = n	not snecitied in the	article / m =	minutes h =	= hours d	$= days: w = w \rho \rho$	ks m = months
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REFER		BAG INVI	ESTIGA	TED			CC	OMP.	ARE	CRITERIA		METHOD	S			MAIN RESULTS
ENCES							D	WI	ГН							
Authors	Glass	Manufac	Glass	Comp	oositio	n by					Interface	Contact	A	naly	sis	
Date	Label –	turing		mol	1%							time				
	size	methods	SiO <sub>2</sub>	Ca	Na	<b>P</b> <sub>2</sub>	1	2	3 4				1	2	3 4	
				0	2	<b>O</b> 5										
					0											
ТАКА	Glass	MELT-	80	0	20	0				Apatite formation	SBF	12 h – 1,	Х	Х		Na2O-SiO2 glass induced mineralization of apatite on its
DAMA	specime	QUENC								-		5, 10,				surface in the SBF.
- 2001	n	Н										17, 28 d				
[75]																
FORSB	S53P4		53	20	23	4	X			Silica	TBS	Time up		Х		After a short period of immersion, silica is dissolved
ACK –	(<45 µm									concentration		to 24 h				from both types of glasses, but the amount of silica
2004																released is much higher from S53P4 than from CG.
[51]	, Control															e
	control	-	-	-	-	-										
	grass															
	(CG)															
	(<45 μm															
	)			20	0	0					ODE	20 1	37	37		
LIN –	GEL-	SOL-	70	30	0	0				Apatite formation	SBF	20 m - 1,	Х	Х		After 1 h of SBF soaking, there was a significant increase
2005	SILICA	GEL										3, 6, 12,				in the phosphorus density of the phosphorus species on
[76]	Glasses											21.5 h				the glass surface. Presumably, an amorphous layer with
																constituents similar to HA had formed on the glass
																surface.

GOUD	BG	SOL-	60	36	0	4		Х	Formation of	SBF	6, 12,	Х	Х	Apatite formation from pure BAG is compared with
OURI –		GEL							apatite		24, 48 h			dental glass ceramic composites products in SBF
2009														solutions.
[77]														Level of bioactivity is evaluated through the kinetic of
														apatite formation. Porous particles improved the level of
														bioactivity.
MOAW	48S	MELT-	48	yCa	aO –	2.	Х		Formation of HA	SBF	7 d		Х	Diffraction peaks for the surface layer on 48S4F
AD –		QUENC		zNa	a2O	7			layer					$(4\%CaF_2)$ glass are stronger than those for the layer on
2009		Н		: y-	⊦z =									48S glass. This simple comparison suggests that the
[35]				49	9.3									presence of fluoride ions likely enhanced the bioactivity
														of BAG.
BRAUE	GLASS	MELT-	49.4	23	26	1.	Х		Apatite deposition	SBF	3 d – 1,		Х	Incorporation of fluoride that resulted in the formation of
R –	A – 38	QUENC	7	.0	.8	07					2 w			FAp compared with fluoride-free glasses.
2010	μm	Н		8	9									
[38]														
GUNA	MBG –	MELT-	85	10	0	5			Formation of	SBF	30 m –		Х	The phosphorus content increased only marginally over
WIDJA	S85	QUENC							amorphous		1, 4 h -			the first 4 h of SBF exposure relative to the initial value
JA –		Н							calcium phosphate		1, 3, 7 d			of \$85. The 2 formations of ACP and HCA partially
2010									layer and					occurred simultaneously, and the former was most active
[32]									crystallization into					over the initial 24 h of SBF immersion and the latter
									HCA					dominating between 3 and 7 days (d).
MOHN	4585 –	FLAME	45	24	24	6	Х		Formation of	SBF	7 d	Х	Х	Radiopaque BAG with bismuth oxide had higher in vitro
- 2010	34 nm	SPRAY		.5	.5				carbonated					bioactivity regarding the formation of carbonated HA.
[78]		SYNTH							hydroxyapatite					
		ESIS												
BRAUE	GLASS	MELT-	48.4	23	26	1.	X		Apatite formation	TBS	1, 3, 7,		Х	Glasses formed apatite in TBS. However, Glass A.1
R –	А	QUENC	7	.0	.3	07					14 d			$(0.94\%\ CaF_2)$ showed more clearly pronounced peaks
2011		Н		8	8									and higher peak intensities in XRD compared with
[36]														fluoride-free glass A.

GOUD	BG	SOL-	60	36	0	4	χ	C C	Apatite formation	SBF	6, 12 h -	Х	Х	The lower rate of bioactivity of the dental ceramic with
OURI –		GEL									1, 2, 3,			BG in comparison with the powdered BG samples was a
2011											6, 9 d -			result of the lower surface area of the specimens
[31]											2, 4, 8,			compared with powdered BG samples.
											12, 18 d			
MATH	MBG	EISA	85	10	0	5			Apatite formation	SBF –	16 h	Х	X	HA, and the CaP clusters, were present in the pristine
EW –		process								TBS				MBG pore walls.
2011														
[49]														
MNEI	A –	MELT-	49.4	23	26	1.			Apatite deposition	TBS	3, 6, 9 h		Х	An increase in phosphate or fluoride content allowed for
MNE –	(<38	QUENC	7	.0	.3	07					- 1, 3, 7			apatite formation at lower pH.
2011	μm)	Н		8	8						d			
[40]	A2 - (38		38.1	25	29	6.								
	μm)		4	.9	.6	33								
				1	2									
EL-	BGn	SOL-	85	15	0	0	 Х		Apatite formation	SBF	Differen	X	X	A SBF test of the mesoporous BGn confirmed their
FIQI –		GEL									t times			excellent apatite-forming ability.
2012											up to 28			
[29]											d			
GUNA	S90	EISA	90	10	0	0			Formation of HCA	SBF	Variable		X	The S90 and S85 MBGs displayed similar in vitro
WIDJA		process									intervals			behavior, whereas the Ca-richer S58 specimen reacted
JA –	S85		85	10	0	5					between			more similarly to melt-prepared bioactive glasses.
2012	S58		58	37	0	5					0.5 h			
[30]											and 7 d			
GUNA	S85	/	85	10	0	5			Growth of CaHA	SBF –	Between	Χ	Х	Whereas the TBS grains displayed a 60 µm thick domain
WIDJA									- Amounts of	TBS	1 h and			of almost pure silica, their SBF counterparts verified
JA –									amorphous CaP		7 d			small but significant amounts of Ca and P throughout all
2012									and HA					particles of diameter >20 $\mu$ m. This finding is attributed

[33] MAČK OVIĆ - 2012 [25]	45S5 μBG – (10μm) 45S5 nBG – (20 – 60 nm)	MELT- QUENH FLAME SPRAY SYNTH ESIS	44.9 7 47.8	24 .5 5 25 .1	24 .5 5 22 .6	5. 99 4. 6	-		x	Apatite formation	SBF	4, 8 h – 1, 3, 7 d	X	X	<ul> <li>to the more extensive local deposits of ACP at the MBG porewalls when they are subjected to SBF, because the latter medium is already supersaturated with respect to apatite.</li> <li>A higher surface area and, thus, higher reactivity of the nBG particles in comparison to μBG was observed. Investigations revealed a very rapid formation of carbonated nanocrystalline hydroxyapatite after 1 d of immersion in SBF, for nBG.</li> </ul>
SALM AN – 2012 [42]	G1	MELT- QUENC H	48	36	12	4		X		Formation of apatite	SBF	7, 14, 21 d	Х	X	A decrease in the bioactivity of the glass ceramic was observed as Na <sub>2</sub> O was replaced by K <sub>2</sub> O. Sr and Ca ions in the apatite layer formed and were detected with SrO/CaO replacement.
BACH AR – 2013 [79]	GN0	EXPERI MENTA L TECHNI QUE (MELTI NG MIXTU RE)	55	13 .5	31 .5	0		X		Apatite layer formation	SBF	15 d	X	X	Crystallinity of bioactive apatite layer decreased with increasing nitrogen content, suggesting that nitrogen may slightly decrease bioactivity.
FARO OQ - 2013 [80]	4585	MELT- QUENC H	46.1	26 .9	24 .4	2. 6		X		Apatite formation	TBS	0, 3, 6, 24 h		X	Glasses formed apatite within 6 h or less, suggesting that they were highly bioactive and capable of forming apatite within a few hours.
PLEWI	4585	MELT-	47.3	24	22	6.				Apatite formation	SBF	1, 7, 14	X	Х	Calcium silica and calcium carbonate layers were found

NSKI –	(Amorp	QUENC		.2	.1	2						d				on amorphous BAG after 7 and 14 d. Apatite formation
2013	hous –	Н														was observed only on the crystallized 45S5 samples after
[26]	crystalli															storage.
	zed															
	samples)															
SOUZA	4585	MELT-	46.3	26	24	2.		X		Formation of an	SBF	4, 8, 16	X	Х		Partial replacement of CaO by MgO in the BAG had no
- 2013		QUENC		.9	.3	5				apatite-like layer		h - 1, 2,				influence on the kinetic of precipitation of the initial
[44]		Н										4, 8, 16				ACP layer when glass was exposed to SBF.
												d				
AREPA	Ba-0		46.1	26	24	2.		X		Formation of HCA	SBF	1, 3, 7,	X	Х		The formation of a hydroxyl carbonate apatite layer was
LLI -				.9	.3	6				layer		14, 30 d				observed on the surface of the barium containing BAG
2015										5		,				after immersion in SBF. However, an increase in barium
[81]																content in the glass samples decreased the tendency of
[•-]																calcite formation.
KIRST	4585		45.5	24	23	6		x		Surface reaction	SBE	1357	x	x		4585 and BAG with partial substitution of Na2O and
FN_	+565	_	3	8	1	0. 29		~		lavers (HCA)	SDI	1, 5.5, 7, 17, 28 d	~	Λ		$C_{2}O$ by $K_{2}O$ and $M_{3}O$ exhibited an Si-rich layer of
2015			5	.0	.1	29				layers (HCA)		17, 20 u				cao by K <sub>2</sub> O and MgO exhibited an Si-field layer of
2015				0	0											approximately 20 µm and a CaP-rich layer of
[82]																approximately 10 $\mu$ m after 14 d of storage in SBF. HCA
																was found after 3.5 to 7 d on both glasses.
ABBAS	58S –	SOL-	-	-	-	-			Х	Formation of an	SBF	6h - 1, 3,	Х	Х		The 58S has a high surface area and can release ions very
I – 2016	(<40	GEL								apatite layer		6, 9 d				fast in the solution (high bioactivity). Dental ceramic/58S
[83]	μm)															BAG mixtures also exhibit high degrees of bioactivity
																despite the presence of leucite with non-bioactive
																behavior.
WANG	smBG	_	_	_	_	-			Х	Apatite formation	SBF	1, 5 d	Χ			Crystalline apatites were precipitated on the
- 2016	(510-															polycarbolactone (PCL)/submicron BG (smBG) group
[15]	590 nm)															and pure smBG surfaces after incubation. The thickness
	- 4585															of the apatite layer on the PCL/smBG group was higher
																than for the smBG samples.
1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1			I	

MATH EW – 2017 [84]	S90 S85 S58	EISA process	90 85 58	10 10 37	0 0 0 0	0 5 5	-			ACP formation/conversi on into HCA – Distinct Ca, Si and	SBF	0.25, 1, 4, 8, 24 h - 3, 7, 15, 30 d		X	HCA formation occurred after 4h of SBF exposure, except for P-free S90 MBG (after 8h).
										P contents					
ANAN	MBG	EXPERI	_	_	0	_				Carbonated HA	SBF	24, 48 h	Χ	Х	Formation of hydroxyapatite layer on different
D –	(nano)	MENTA								forming ability					surfactants was evaluated: non-ionic surfactant pluronic
2018		L													and ionic surfactant hexadecyltrimethyl-ammonium
[85]		TECHNI													bromide in contrast with non-ionic surfactant
		QUE													polyethylene glycol and citric acid.
ASHO	BGNR –	SOL-	45	24	24	6			Х	Formation of	Hank's	3, 7 d	Χ	Х	On the 3 <sup>rd</sup> day, the formation of the HCA layer is
К –	4585	GEL		.5	.5					hydroxyl	solution				relatively higher in nano hybrids of BGNR/rGO (reduced
2018										carbonated apatite					graphene oxide sheets) compared with that of BGNR.
[54]										layer (HCA)					Similar levels of HCA formation in BGNR were
															observed only on the 7 <sup>th</sup> day.
ТАНА	4585	MELT-	46.1	26	24	2.		Χ		Apatite formation	TBS	1, 3, 6,		Х	BAG with $CaF_2$ formed apatite faster (6 h) than 45S5
- 2018	(Sylc <sup>TM</sup> )	QUENC		.9	.4	6						9, 24 h			$(Sylc^{TM})$ (24 h) in TBS.
[86]	air-	Н													
	abrasion														

Table 2. Selected articles: In vitro BAG remineralization of enamel and/or dentin

<u>BAG compared with</u> 1 Control group; 2 BAG with adjuvants; 3 Oxide alone, antibacterial, desensitizing agents, bioactive, or restorative materials; 4 Laser. <u>Analysis:</u> 1 Microscopic observations; 2 Chemical or structural analysis; 3 Mechanical properties evaluation; 4 Histological

analysis. ( $\_$  = not specified in the article / s = seconds; m = minutes; h = hours; d = days; w = weeks; m = months)

REFER		BAG INVI	ESTIGA	TED			C	OM	PAF	RE	CRITERIA		METHOD	S				MAIN RESULTS
ENCES							]	D W	ITH	ł								
Authors	Glass	Manufac	Glass	Com	oositio	n by						Interface	Contact		Ana	alys	is	
Date	Label –	turing		mo	1%								time					
	size	methods	SiO <sub>2</sub>	Ca	Na	P <sub>2</sub>	1	2	3	4				1	2	3	4	
				0	2	<b>O</b> 5												
					0													
EFFLA	45\$5	MELT-	45	24	24	6		Х			Apatite formation	Human	5, 21, 24	Х	Х	-		Ions from glass penetrated dentin. Presence of
NDT –		QUENC		.5	.5							dentin	d					apatite at the interface between glass and dentin
2002		Н																was observed.
[87]																		
FORSB	S53P4	-	53	20	23	4	Х				Occlude dentin	Human	14 d	Х	X			Pretreatment with BAG decreased the degree of
ACK –	(<45 µm										tubules -	Dentin						decalcification of dentin during the mineralization
2004	)										Formation of CaP							process.
[51]	Control	_	_	_	_	-												
	glass																	
	(CG)																	
	(<45 µm																	
	)																	
HASSA	S53P4	_	53	20	23	4	Х		Х		Topography of the	Human	10 d	Х	X			BAG has the potential to remineralize artificial
NEIN –											remineralized	enamel						carious lesions in enamel and dentin: formation of
2006											areas – Nature of	and dentin						hydroxyapatite, sealing of enamel pores, and
[88]											the compounds							plugging of dentinal tubules.

										deposited -						
										Degree of						
										remineralization						
LEE –	DP-	SOL-	39.6	40	8.	12				Dentinal tubule	Human	3 d	Х	Х		Percentage of tubular occlusion with DP-BAG was
2007	BAG	GEL			4					occlusion	dentin					53.2%65.4% and significantly better than Seal &
[21]	with	MELT-														Protect (41.2%).
	30%	QUENC														
	PPA	Н														
SCHMI	S53P4	_	_	_	_	_		Х		Improve	Human	3 w		Х		Hardness and elastic modulus values of the dentin
DLIN –	(≤ 45									mechanical	Dentin					subjacent to empty microcavities and counterparts
2007	μm)									properties -						lined were significantly higher with BAG
[45]										Higher hardness						compared with the RMGIC.
VOLLE	4585	FLAME	/	/	/	/				New mineral	Human	1, 10, 30	Х	Х	Х	After treatment with nano-BAG for 10 or 30 d, a
NWEID	NBG –	SPRAY								precipitated -	dentin	d				pronounced increase in mineral content of the
ER –	4585	SYNTH								Improve						dentin was observed. A substantially higher
2007	BG	ESIS								mechanical						remineralization rate was induced by nanometer-
[89]	(PerioGl	(NBG)								properties						sized vs. micrometric.
	as® 90-															
	710 µm)															
CURTI	70S30C	SOL-	70	30	0	0				Tubule occlusion -	Human	24 h	Х	Х		Treatment with nanobioglass resulted in particle
S – 2010	(0.65	GEL								Formation of an	dentin					deposition within tubules and formation of apatite
[23]	μm)									apatite layer						rods.
	4585	MELT-	45	24	24	6										
	(3.30	QUENC		.5	.5											
	μm)	Н														
BAKR	4585	_	45	24	24	6			Х	Tubule orifice	Human	24 h	Х	Х	Χ	45S5 could occlude the dentinal tubule orifices
Y - 2011	with 50			.4	.5					Closure – Recover	dentin					with calcium phosphate crystals.
[ <b>90</b> ]																

									properties							
DONG	45S5	MELT-	44.8	26	23	5.	X		Mineralized layer	Human	7 d	Х	X	X		Enamel surface formed a homogenous, dense
- 2011		QUENC		.5	.4	3			– Surface	enamel						mineralized layer with the treatment of 45S and
[27]		Н							roughness - Nano-							58s samples. 77S treatment showed a loose and
	58S	SOL-	62.8	27	0	9.			hardness and							uneven remineralized layer. These results also
		GEL		.6		6			Nano-reduced							indicated that the level of silicon content of BAG
									elastic modulus							played a key role in dental enamel
	77S	SOL-	73.7	16	0	9.										remineralization.
		GEL		.5		8										
	A2 –		38.1	25	29	6.	1									
	(38 µm)		4	.9	.6	33										
				1	2											
SAURO	45S5	_	_	_	_	_		Х	Dentin	Human	24, 48 h	Х	X		X	45S5 (Sylc <sup>TM</sup> ) was the only substance (compared
- 2011	(Sylc <sup>TM</sup> )								permeability –	dentin						with prophylactic materials) able to reduce dentin
[91]									Hydroxyapatite							permeability after immersion in remineralising
									precipitation							solution and to show hydroxyapatite precipitation.
WANG	BAG	_	45	24	24	5.		Х	Mineral variation	Human	7 d	Х	X			Results showed a significant increase of the
- 2011	(30-90			.5	.6	8			of the surface –	dentin						mineral matrix area ratio in dentin specimens
[92]	μm)								Apatite formation							treated with BAG and M-BAG (with magnesium).
									– Roughness of							Both formulations have similar potential in
									the surface							dentine remineralization.
BAKR	4585	/	45	24	24	6	1	Х	Dentin	Human	24 h	Х	X	X		Application of 45S5 BAG paste to dentin occluded
Y –	with			.4	.5				permeability –	dentin						patent dentinal tubule orifices with a layer of
2013	50%								Examination of							calcium phosphate crystals.
[93]	PPA								surfaces (chemical							
									nature - crystalline							

										structures)						
GJORG	4585	MELT-	49.4	23	26	1.			Х	Observe ion	Human	6 w	Х	Х		GIC and BAG underwent ion exchange with the
IESVS		QUENC	7	.0	.3	07				exchange layer -	dentin					surrounding tooth tissue, confirming their
KA –		Н		8	8					Determine the						bioactivity. The particle size of BAG meant that
2013										elemental levels						cavity adaptation was poor. Smaller particle size
[46]										(%) of ions						BAG may provide a more acceptable result
																(<90 μm).
BAKR	4585	_	45	24	24	6	Χ	Х		Improve	Human	24 h	X	Х	Х	45S5 paste application improved the
Y –	with			.4	.5					mechanical	enamel					microhardness of the subsurface eroded enamel
2014	50%									properties of						compared with the fluoride and control specimens.
[94]	PPA									demineralized						
										subsurfaces						
BAKR	4585	_	45	24	24	6				Layer of	Human	24 h	Х	Х		Artificial enamel caries lesions treated with BAG
Y –	with			.4	.5					hydroxyapatite	enamel					paste showed complete coverage with a layer of
2014	50%									crystals						brushite crystals.
[95]	PPA															
MILLY	BAG	_	45	24	24	6	Χ		Х	Mechanical	Human	7 d	Х	Х	Х	BAG and PAA-BAG surface treatments enhanced
- 2014	4585			.4	.6					properties -	enamel					enamel remineralization: improved mechanical
[96]	slurry (2									Phosphate conten	t					properties, higher phosphate content, and
	- 6 - 12									- Morphological						morphological changes within the artificial
	μm) –									changes						lesions.
	PAA-															
	BAG															
	(40															
	wt%-															
	60wt%)															

MILLY	BAG	_	_	_	_	_	Χ		Х	Average	Human	Twice	Х	Х	2	X	The pretreatment enhanced the remineralization of
- 2015	4585									roughness –	enamel	daily (5					WSL treated with BAG 45S5 slurry: increased
[97]	slurry (2									Optical changes –		min per					mineral content, improved mechanical properties
	- 6 - 12									Structural changes		applicati					and ultrastructural changes.
	μm)									of WSL		on) for					
												21 d					
CARV	Bio-	EXPERI	42.3	28	22	6.			X	 Release of Ca, Na	Human	10 min –		X		+	CH had the highest level of Ca ions release at 30
ALHO	Gran+di	MENTA		.3	.8	6				and P ions	dentin	24 h - 7,					d. The BAG released more Na and P ions and
- 2016	stilled	L										14, 21,					presented an alkaline pH immediately and after 30
[98]	water	TECHNI										30 d					d.
[]		OUE –															
		MELTI															
		NG															
		MIXTU															
		RE															
FI -	4585		45	24	24	6	v	v	v	 Changes in the	Bovine	24 h	v	v	,	x	Treating demineralized enamel with cold plasmas
WASSE	with	-		1	5	0	~	~	~	mineral content	enamel	2411	~	Λ		<b>x</b>	before BAG application ensued a significant high
WASSE EV	500%			.+	.5					Hindran Content –	chanter						mineral volume recovery and microhardness of
F I -	50%									nigii							demineral volume recovery and micronardness of
2017	PPA									micronardness							demineralized region.
[99]																	
SAFFA	BG	-	64	26	0	10		Х		Chemical structure	Human	7, 14, 21	Х	Х			Dentinal tubules were partially occluded by BG
RPOUR										– Presence of	dentin	d					and BG modified with 5% Strontium, and they
- 2017										globular HA							almost completely obstructed after the use of BG
[43]										crystals – Tubular							modified with 10% Sr. Addition of 10% Sr to BG
										obstruction							enhanced apatite formation. Addition of 5% Sr to
																	BG stabilized the apatite lattice and increased the
																	remineralization.
ТАНА	4585	NC	NC	N	N	N		X		Intensity of light	Human	24 h	X	Х	2	x	BAG with CaF <sub>2</sub> enhanced enamel remineralization

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									- Chemical						exposed dentinal tubules.
									changes in						
									collagen fibers						
DIONY	BAG	/	45	24	24	6	Х	Х	Enamel surface	Bovine	10 s	Х	Х	Χ	Surface pretreatment with BAG 45S5 reduced
SOPOU	4585			.4	.6				loss – Mechanical	enamel					surface loss after erosion/abrasion challenge
LOS –	(30-60-								properties						compared with the negative control group.
2019	90 µm)														
[103]															
UBALD	4585	/	45	24	24	6		Х	Chemical	Human	30 s	Х	Х	Χ	BG and biosilicate promoted mineral matrix ratios
INI –	(BG)			.5	.5				composition and	dentin					increase in the control dentin and bleached dentin.
2019									bond strength of						Both bioactive materials presented a high
[48]									dentin						remineralization ability on bleached dentin
															surfaces (improved dentin's ability to chemically
															interact with adhesive monomers and consequently
															increased the resin-dentin bond strength).

Table 3. Selected articles: In vitro effects of BAG on the mineralization capacity of cells

BAG compared with: 1 Control group; 2 BAG with adjuvants; 3 Oxide alone, antibacterial, desensitizing agents, bioactive, or restorative

## materials; 4 Laser. Analysis: 1 Microscopic observations; 2 Chemical or structural analysis; 3 Mechanical properties evaluation; 4 Histological

analysis (  $\_$  = not specified in the article / d= days; w = weeks)

REFER	BAG INVESTIGATED						C	OM	PAF	RE	CRITERIA		METHOD	MAIN RESULTS				
ENCES								D W	ITH	[:								
Authors	Glass	Manufac	Glass	Comp	positio	n by						Interface	Contact		Ana	alysi	S	
Date	Label –	turing		mol	1%								time					
	size	methods	SiO <sub>2</sub>	Ca	Na	<b>P</b> <sub>2</sub>	1	2	3	4				1	2	3	4	
				0	2	<b>O</b> 5												
					0													
GONG	4585 – 1	MELT-	45	24	24	6	Х				Matrix	hDPCs	21 d				Х	All BG extractions, especially nano-58S, increased
- 2014	and 10	QUENC		.5	.5						mineralization							mineralized nodules formation.
[14]	$\mu$ m	Н																
	58S BG	SOL-	58	33	0	9												
	- 2–20	GEL																
	μm																	
	Nano-		58	33	0	9												
	58S BG																	
	- 10-100																	
	nm																	
WANG	58Sm	SOL-	58	33	0	9	X				Calcium	hDPCs	4 w				X	Relative calcium concentrations increased
- 2014	(micro)-	GEL									concentrations							significantly in the m-BG and n-BG groups and
[13]	BG																	were particularly higher in the n-BG group
																		compared with the control group.
	58Sn																	
	(nano)-																	

	BG															
	DC								N/						 V	
WANG - 2016	smBG (510-	-	-	-	-	_			х		nodules	nDPCs	4 W		Х	More mineralized nodules were generated in the polycarbolactone (PCL)/submicron BG (smBG)
[15]	590 nm)															group than for smBG.
	- 4585															
HUAN	Zn0BG	MELT-	38.5	29	26	6.		Х			Mineralized	hDPSCs	3, 5 w		Х	Formation of mineralized nodules was observed in
G –	(≤38 µm	QUENC			.3	3					nodule formation					the 0ZnBG group; however, it was higher in the
2017	)	Н									and composition					ZnBG group.
[16]																
LOPEZ	BG	SOL-	57	26	0	17	Χ		Х	Х	Calcium	SHEDs	21 d		Х	Desensitizing agent alone or with laser, and BG
- 2017		GEL									precipitation					alone or with laser, stained positively with Alizarin
[17]																red staining. BG + laser had significantly higher
																mineral matrix deposition than BG alone.

Table 4. Selected articles: In vivo evaluation of dentin mineralization and/or dental pulp

BAG compared with 1 Control group; 2 BAG with adjuvants; 3 Oxide alone, antibacterial, desensitizing agents, bioactive, or restorative

materials; 4 Laser. Analysis: 1 Microscopic observations; 2 Chemical or structural analysis; 3 Mechanical properties evaluation; 4 Histological

analysis ( _ =	not specified	in the article /	' w = weeks; m =	= months)
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REFER	R BAG INVESTIGATED						CC	OMP	ARI	E	CRITERIA	METHODS						MAIN RESULTS
ENCES							D	WĽ	гн:									
Authors	Glass	Manufac	Glass	Com	positic	on by						Interface	Contact		Analysis		is	
Date	Label –	turing		mol	1%								time					
	size	methods	SiO <sub>2</sub>	Ca	Na	P <sub>2</sub>	1	2	3	4				1	2	3	4	
				0	2	<b>O</b> 5												
					0													
SALAK	S53P4	_	53	20	23	4			X		Inflammation -	Molars	2, 4 w				Х	BAG induced an inflammatory response at 2 weeks (w) with
0 -											Necrosis – Cells	rats –						resolution of inflammation at 4 w.
2003											observations -	Pulpotomy						Most of the 4 w-old BAG samples showed regular pulpal
[18]											Dentin bridge							histology, with some dilated blood vessels.
											formation							Complete pulpal necrosis of some specimens.
																		No dentin bridge formation.
WANG	58Sm	SOL-	58	33	0	9	Χ				Mineralized tissue	Molars	2, 6 w				Х	2 w/n-BG group: newly generated matrix was observed around
- 2014	(micro)-	GEL									formation	pulp rats						particles.
[13]	BG																	6 w/n-BG group: new dentin-like tissue was formed with uniform
	58Sn																	thickness and well-organized dentinal tubule structure.
	(nano)-																	6 w/m-BG group: pulpo-dentinal complex-like tissue was also
	BG																	generated (thinner than that in n-BG group).
HAGH	BAG	_	_	_	_	_			X	╡	Pulp statue	Human	2 m			1	X	2 m: In the BAG group, inflammation was observed in 3 patients
GOO -											(Inflammation,	dentin and						(n=22); internal resorption and abscess were not observed.
2016											necrosis, abscess,	pulp						Dentinal bridge formation was observed in 5 patients in the BAG
[20]											resorption) -							group (n=22).
											Dentin bridge							
											formation							

