

PROCEEDINGS

Antibacterial Surface Modification and Its Application on Janus Wearable Devices

Kaiwei Tang^{1,2,*} and Xiufeng Wang^{1,2,*}

¹Key Laboratory of Low Dimensional Materials and Application Technology of Ministry of Education, School of Materials Science and Engineering, Xiangtan University, Xiangtan, 411105, China

²Hunan Provincial Key laboratory of Thin Film Materials and Devices, School of Materials Science and Engineering, Xiangtan University, Xiangtan, 411105, China

*Corresponding Authors: Kaiwei Tang. Email: tangkaiwei@xtu.edu.cn; Xiufeng Wang. Email: onexf@xtu.edu.cn

ABSTRACT

The prolonged health monitoring using wearable technology faces challenges stemming from perspiration, including bacterial proliferation, compromised adhesion, signal quality deterioration, and user discomfort. Notably, excessive sweat fosters bacterial colonization, escalating infection risks, and compromising biomarker analysis. Existing antibacterial approaches, unfortunately, risk disrupting the delicate balance of skin microbiota. To address this, we've developed a Janus patch featuring Zn-Al layered double hydroxide (LDH) modification, which boasts sustained antibacterial properties while preserving the epidermal microecology. It integrates a hydrophobic LDH fabric that mechanically eradicate bacteria via a nanoknife effect, and a laser-engraved medical adhesive with microholes for unidirectional sweat transport. This innovative design not only enhances adhesion stability but also safeguards the skin microbiome by preventing direct contact with Zn-Al LDH. Moreover, our patch seamlessly interfaces with sweat-monitoring technologies like uPADs sensors, ensuring 100% antibacterial efficacy and efficient sweat redirection for reliable detection while prioritizing user comfort. It could serve as a durable bridge between perspiring skin and epidermal sensors, revolutionizing the realm of long-term health monitoring.

KEYWORDS

Mechanically antibacterial, sweat-wicking, Janus patch, LDH

Funding Statement: This research was supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (12172319, 52302355 and 52371252), the Natural Science Foundation of Hunan Province (2021JJ30648, and 2023JJ40630), Scientific Research Fund (22A0130) of Hunan Provincial Education Department, Furong Scholars Programme of Hunan Province, and National Undergraduate Training Program for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (S202310530058).

Conflicts of Interest: The author(s) declare(s) no conflicts of interest to report regarding the present study.

