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BIOLOGICALLY ACTIVE COMPOSITIONS BASED ON CYSTEINE, SILVER NITRATE AND WATER-SOLUBLE POLYMERS

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In this research, we have obtained the first results on the synthesis and study of the properties of hydrogels based on cysteine-silver solution and bioactive biocompatible polymers of different molecular weight and chemical nature (polyvinyl alcohol - PVA, polyethylene glycol - PEG, polyvinylpyrrolidone - PVP).

Gels based on cysteine, silver nitrate and polymers were obtained in two stages. On the first, the cysteine-silver aqueous solution (CSS) was prepared [1]. Further, the polymer of different concentrations (0.002, 0.01, 0.02, 1 and 2 % w/w) was added to the mature (24 h) CSS solution and finally sodium sulfate (fixed concentration) as the initiator of gel formation was added to the resulting mixture.

Using UV and IR spectroscopy, it was found that the polymer macromolecules interact with CSS supramolecules without changing the structure of the latter. The study of the rheology of obtained compositions by the vibrational viscometry showed the addition of a polymer induces an increase the viscosity characteristics of hydrogels compared to the control sample (hydrogel without polymer). At the same time, PVA showed the strongest influence on the viscosity of the system. Rheological test also confirmed that gels with PVA are the most stable in time.

Methods of pH analysis, measurement of the size of the formed units and their zetta potential (DLS) confirmed the interaction of CSS and polymers through the formation of hydrogen bonds.

The study of the morphology of hydrogels (SEM) revealed a strong difference in their structure. For PVA, regardless of the molecular weight, a regular porous structure was obtained, whereas for PVP and PEG – an irregular porous structure.

References

1. Khizhnyak S.D., Komarov P.V., Ovchinnikov M.M., Zherenkova L.V. and Pakhomov P.M. Soft Matter. 2017. 30. № 13. P.5168-5184.

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