

## Graphene-based materials included in hydrogels as platforms for skin diseases treatment

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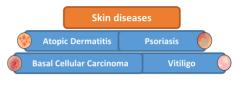
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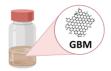
\*\*LEPABE - Laboratory for Process Engineering, Environment, Biotechnology and Energy, Faculdade de Engenharia, Universidade do Porto, Portugal; \*ALICE - Associate Laboratory in Chemical Engineering, Faculdade de Engenharia, Universidade do Porto, Portugal; \*TSS - Instituto de Investigades o Inovação em Saúde, Universidade do Porto, Portugal; \*GBAS - Instituto de Engenharia Biomédica, Universidade do Porto, Portugal; \*GBAS - Instituto de Ciências Biomédicas Able Salzar, Universidade do Porto, Portugal; \*GOVR - Centro de Química Vila Real, Universidade de Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro, Portugal; \*GESPU, IINFACTS - Institute for Research and Advanced Training in Health Sciences and Technologies, Portugal; \*CESPU, IINFACTS - Institute for Research and Advanced Training in Health Sciences and Technologies, Portugal.

## 1. Background

- Skin diseases are the fourth most common of the leading causes of global disease burden.
- Treatment of skin diseases include phototherapy with drugs, which possess poor stability, low skin
- penetration and high toxicity [1].

   Graphene-based materials (GBM) possess strong near infrared (NIR) absorption, large surface area, and biocompatibility, which reveals their potential as photothermal and drug delivery agents [2-4]
- In this study, we propose the topical administration of carbopol 974P (CP) hydrogels containing nanographene oxide (GOn), and reduced nanographene oxide (rGOn) as new platforms for dermatologic diseases treatment.

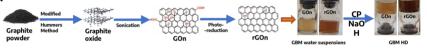




- ✓ High NIR region absorption
- ✓ Biocompatibility
- √ High surface area

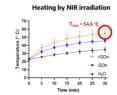
GBM hydrogels (HD)

## 2. GBM production



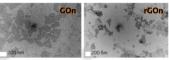
## 3. GBM characterization

# UV/Visible spectra

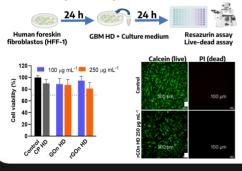


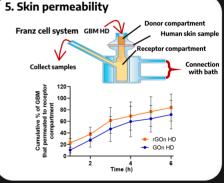


# Transmission electron microscopy



#### 4. Biocompatibility





## 6. Conclusions

• GOn and rGOn HD were nontoxic (ISO 10993-5:2009(E)) and can permeate through the skin. Revealing a great potential to be used as skin phototherapy agents.

## 7. References

[1] Fichenfield, LF et al. 2014, LAm Acad Dermatol, 70, 338. [2] Azevedo, S et al. 2022, Appl. Mater. Today, 27, 101397. [3] Amaral, S et al. 2022, Carbon, 190, 194-244. [4] Silva, FALS et al. 2021, Materials, 14, 2810.





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[CEECKIN/03908/2017]. Soraia Pinto (SRRH/BD/144719/2019) would like to thank FCT, Portugal for financial support. Authors would like to acknowledge the Department of Plastic Surgery, SSo João Hospital, Porto, Portugal, for providing the human skin samples used, under the collaborative protocol in place between them and i35.









