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Advancements in application of chitosan and cyclodextrins in biomedicine and pharmaceuticals: recent progress and future trends

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The global community is faced with numerous health concerns such as cancer, cardiovascular and neurological diseases, diabetes, joint pain, osteoporosis, among others. With the advancement of research in the fields of materials chemistry and medicine, pharmaceutical technology and biomedical analysis have entered a new stage of development. The utilization of natural oligosaccharides and polysaccharides in pharmaceutical/biomedical studies has gained significant attention. Over the past decade, several studies have shown that chitosan and cyclodextrin have promising biomedical implications in background analysis, ongoing development, and critical applications in biomedical and pharmaceutical research fields. This review introduces different types of saccharides/natural biopolymers such as chitosan and cyclodextrin and discusses their wide-ranging applications in the biomedical/pharmaceutical research area. Recent research advances in pharmaceuticals and drug delivery based on cyclodextrin, and their response to smart stimuli, as well as the biological functions of cyclodextrin and chitosan, such as the immunomodulatory effects, antioxidant, and antibacterial properties, have also been discussed, along with their applications in tissue engineering, wound dressing, and drug delivery systems. Finally, the innovative applications of chitosan and cyclodextrin in the pharmaceutical/biomedicine were reviewed, and current challenges, research/technological gaps, and future development opportunities were surveyed.

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1. Introduction

Oligosaccharides and polysaccharides are a diverse group of natural polymers with important biological functions.¹ The highest class of functional oligosaccharides are considered carbohydrates, whose monosaccharide units are fructose, galactose, glucose and/or xylose.² These molecules are called prebiotics because they promote the growth of beneficial bacteria, especially *Bifidobacterium* species. These beneficial oligosaccharides have physical and physiological benefits that help improve consumers' health. In this way, the application of oligosaccharides as additives in beneficial nutraceuticals has great potential to make major advances in the quality of nutraceuticals affecting the user's health. Functional oligosaccharides offer various health benefits and can be used as nutrients, medicine, animal feed, beauty products, immunostimulating, and prebiotics.^{3,4} In expansion, known functional oligosaccharides incorporate arabinose–oligosaccharides,

arabinogalactan–oligosaccharides, arabinoxylo–oligosaccharides, galacturonic–oligosaccharides and human draining oligosaccharides (HMOs). In particular, cyclodextrins, made from starch with modifications in the product, are a class of macrocyclic oligosaccharides.^{5,6} Cyclodextrins are cyclic α -(1/4)-glucans that polymerize levels of 6, 7, and 8 monosaccharide units, respectively. Macrocyclic carbohydrates are widely associated with supramolecular chemistry products, drug carriers, atomic reactors, and artificial devices.⁷ Since the 1950s, cyclodextrins have been recognized for their physicochemical properties and potential to enhance the solubility, stability, and bioavailability of molecular therapies. They can serve as multi-functional drug carriers through the formation of inclusion complexes or CyD/drug conjugates, making them attractive for drug delivery applications. The unique biocompatibility and functional capabilities of cyclodextrins and their derivatives have led to their development for biomedical materials. Beneficial oligosaccharides have been shown to promote intestinal regeneration and reduce⁸ the risk of intestinal diseases, obesity, cancer, body weight, and type 2 diabetes. As a result, they are recommended as important nutrients for metabolic diseases.⁹

Polysaccharides have various functional groups including hydroxyl, amino, carboxylate, sulfate and ester groups. Certain polysaccharides and their derivatives, such as alginate, starch, and particularly chitosan, exhibit mucosal adhesion properties

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due to modifications in hydrogen bonding, electrostatic attraction, and hydrophobic interactions.¹⁰

Polysaccharides like cellulose, xylan, and chitosan are structural components of plant cell walls and the shells of fish and reptiles. Other polysaccharides like glycogen, amylose, and amylopectin are important for sugar storage in bacteria and plants.¹¹ Chitosan has attracted major scientific and industrial interests since the late 1970s. Because of its particular macromolecular structure, biocompatibility, biodegradability and other intrinsic functional properties, chitosan and its derivatives have practical applications in pharmacy, medicine, and chemistry.²⁵ There has been notable advancement in understanding how certain compounds are synthesized in living organisms.¹² This understanding has helped in discovering new types of sugars by exploring genetic information and has opened up possibilities to modify these sugars in a way that improves their medicinal properties.¹³ Many polysaccharides have anticancer activity.¹⁴ Usually, the way it works is by making the macrophages in the host become active.¹⁵ Sugar-based carbohydrates, which are used in biomedical applications to improve the ratio, are also used in unconventional applications.¹⁶ In biomedical applications, PEG (polyethylene glycol) is known as a safe and consistent material that can enhance the relaxation of some paramagnetic substances such as gadolinium diethylenetriaminepentacetate (Gd-DTPA) or ferrite.¹⁷ However, researchers have studied how saccharides affect T1 and T2 relativities as possible options.¹⁸ Polysaccharides like heparin, pullulan, and chitosan are used to target tumor cells.¹⁹ Small sugars can be used as a source of energy in living organisms. These small sugars can be broken down easily and quickly to provide fuel for cells. Additionally, glycan is now being used in nanotechnology to prepare materials for purposes such as tissue engineering, drug delivery, inhibiting enzymes, and creating biosensors.^{16,20–22} The one important use the carbohydrates in medical science is their ability to be recognized and taken into cells by lectins on the surface of mammalian cells. Also having multiple valence or charge states is a common characteristic of transition metal elements.²³ Scientists discovered that when multiple patterns of a substance join together on a specific target, it can increase the attachment strength between carbohydrates and protein receptors, this is called a multivalent ligand.²⁴

This study aimed to explore the use of oligosaccharides derived from natural sources and bioactive polysaccharides. The review introduced various types of saccharides, defined natural biopolymers such as cyclodextrin and chitosan, and discussed their wide applications in biomedical fields that have received attention from researchers. Recent research advances in pharmaceuticals, especially in drug delivery based on the response of cyclodextrin to smart stimuli, were also discussed. The review covered the biological functions of cyclodextrin and chitosan, including their antimicrobial, anti-oxidative, and immunomodulatory effects, as well as their applications in tissue engineering, wound dressing, and drug delivery systems. Innovative applications of saccharides were investigated. Finally, current challenges and future development opportunities were discussed. To aid in understanding the procedure, a summary is provided in Fig. 1.

2. Chitosan oligosaccharide (COS)

Chitosan is a heteropolysaccharide composed of 2-acetamido-2-deoxy-D-glucopyranose and 2-amino-2-deoxy-D-glucopyranose that are distributed linearly and randomly. Chitosan is a biopolymer obtained from chitin, one of the most abundant and renewable materials on Earth. Chitin is a primary component of cell walls in fungi, the exoskeletons of arthropods, such as crustaceans, *e.g.* crabs, lobsters and shrimps, and insects, the radulae of molluscs, cephalopods, and the scales of fish and lissamphibians. The arthropod's exoskeleton is first smashed and cleaned, then soaked in hot sodium hydroxide (NaOH) to dissolve the proteins and sugars, leaving behind only basic chitin. The remaining chitin is washed with deionized water, which is then drained off. The chitin is converted into chitosan by the acetylation process.²⁶ Chitosan is widely used in various fields such as biomaterials, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, environmental science, agriculture, and food processing due to its ability to interact with other polyelectrolytes and its effectiveness in tasks such as flocculation and clarification. Chemical studies of chitosan (CS) have mainly focused on its use in drug delivery systems for biomedical applications.^{27,28}

Chitosan, unlike its chitin precursor, is mostly insoluble in solvents and can be rapidly converted into filaments, cast into films, or various microscopic morphologies from its acidic aqueous solution.²⁹ Electrospinning from vinegar solutions has been recorded to produce tiny fibers. As a natural biopolymer, chitosan has the ability to create porous structures when its solutions freeze and lyophilize (freeze-drying), or by using simple methods such as the “internal bubble process”. This makes chitosan very useful for tissue engineering, particularly in orthopedics for bone regeneration and cartilage. There are several methods for preparing chitosan material for laboratory-cultured cells. These materials can be sponges, gels, fibers, or poriferous materials such as chitosan and ceramics, as well as other materials such as collagen or gelatin.^{11,30,31}

Tissues were formed from cells by mixing chitosan alginate with various substances like calcium phosphate, polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA), poly-L-lactic acid (PLLA), and hydroxyapatite, hyaluronic acid. Alginate is a suitable material for cartilage engineering, but it does not adhere to cells. Researchers have shown that alginate-based chitosan hybrid polymer fibers have better cell adhesion and growth ability in the laboratory than alginate fibers alone. Additionally, when mixed with alginate, it acts like a body, controlling the release of important substances in the body called bioactive macromolecules such as hirudin. Researchers have mixed chitosan with different materials such as alginate, hydroxyapatite, hyaluronic acid, calcium phosphate, PMMA, poly-L-lactic acid (PLLA), and the growth materials that could be used for lab-grown tissue.^{32–37}

3. Use of chitosan-based biomaterials in tissue engineering

Skin is the largest organ and the first line of defense against external agents such as viruses and mutagens.³⁷ Skin injuries



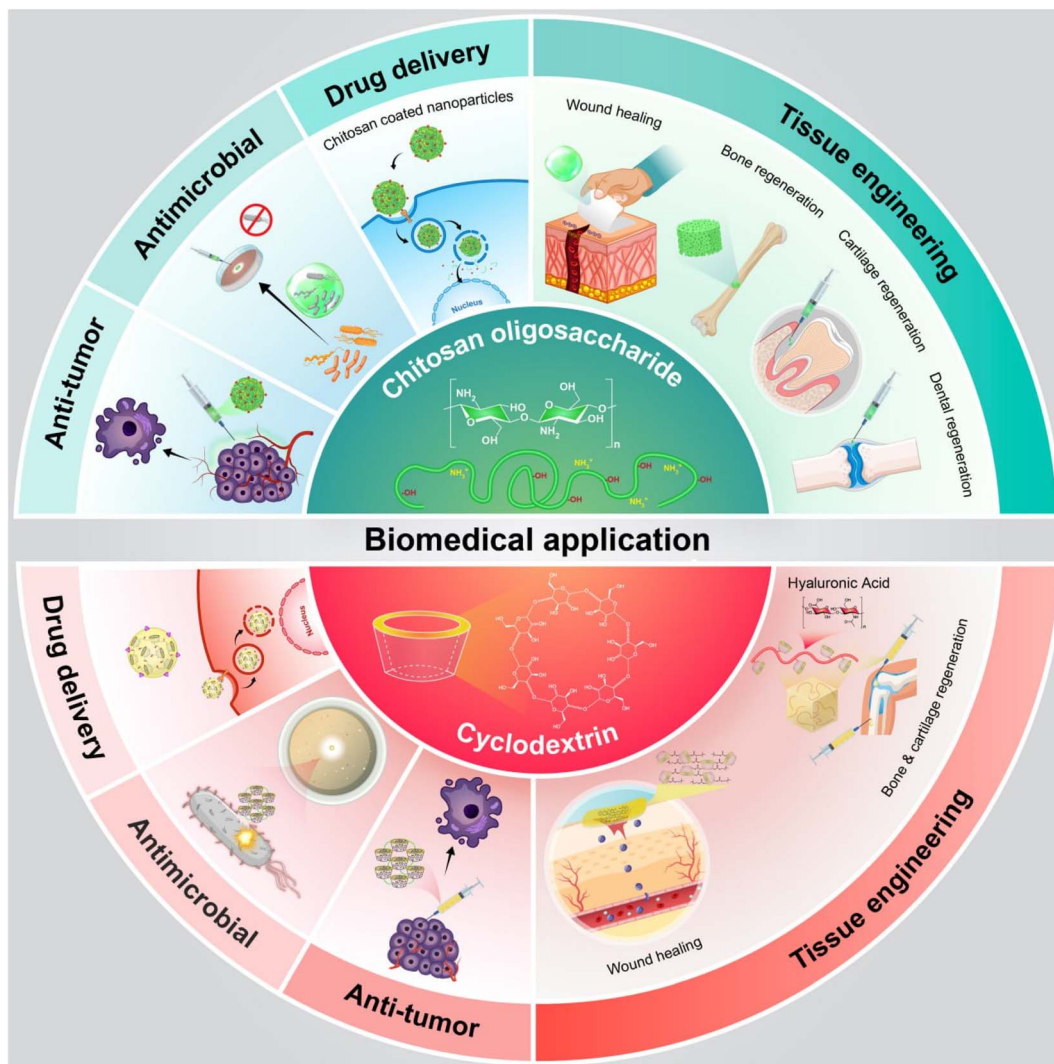


Fig. 1 Schematic representation of pharmaceutical/biomedical application of natural chitosan and cyclodextrin.

caused by heat, chemicals, or electricity can be detrimental, causing long-lasting injuries that are difficult to heal. Traditional skin graft treatments and techniques are not very effective, and they can cause a delayed or incorrect healing process, as well as a negative immune response. In this field, engineering provides effective solutions by morphologically mimicking natural systems,³⁸ allowing cells to grow and multiply in three dimensions³⁹ and helping skin cells move and change properly. Chitosan is an ideal material for tissue engineering because it is non-toxic, biodegradable and compatible with living cells. It can also be modified to create structures that resemble the body's natural framework.³⁹

3.1. Capability of chitosan in tissue building

The use of chitosan-based membrane structures for tissue engineering has been widely studied. *In vitro* studies using L929 mouse fibroblasts demonstrated accelerated growth, reduced apoptosis, and oxidative stress when compared to control plastic. Furthermore, protein analysis confirmed the presence

of fibroblast markers for cell survival and membrane development.⁴⁰ *In vitro* studies using dermal fibroblast cultures showed that the designed membrane promoted fibroblast growth. These results suggest that the chitosan-based membrane has the potential to be used as an antibacterial agent in the treatment of skin burns.⁴¹ Furthermore, a different study examined the potential of a chitosan-aloe-curcumin layer in facilitating tissue regeneration in large wounds. The study also found that incorporating curcumin into the membrane composites may aid in wound healing and controlling infections.⁵ The study investigated the wound-healing effect of a polyvinyl alcohol chitosan layer in combination with ibuprofen. *In vitro* studies of the drug release membrane showed that the layer promoted drug release. Furthermore, biocompatibility testing confirmed that the membrane did not affect human dermal fibroblasts (NHDF) and also increased the adhesion and growth of the culture. Microscopic images of cells showed skin healing and reduced inflammation in samples treated with ibuprofen membranes.⁴² Similarly, chitosan-silk microfiber membranes



with suitable properties were prepared, which were biocompatible and did not harm L929 cells and helped them grow.⁴² Furthermore, *in vivo* experiments conducted on mice with burns demonstrated that applying the chitosan-based membrane resulted in a reduction of the inflammatory response, even distribution of fibroblast cells, and deposition of sufficient collagen.⁴³ The study also involved seeding the membrane with mesenchymal stem cells (MSCs) due to their good adhesion properties. Results from *in vivo* experiments showed that chitosan films mixed with MSCs enhanced wound healing outcomes.⁴⁴ Similarly, another study examined the anti-inflammatory effect of a chitosan-hyaluronic acid-edaravone membrane in wound healing. Additionally, *in vivo* analysis of mouse skin showed that the membranes caused less swelling and facilitated the movement of fibroblasts, keratinocytes, and endothelial cells, leading to wound healing.⁴⁵ They used microwave drying to fabricate a strong and elastic composite membrane with effective antimicrobial properties against both Gram positive and negative bacteria. The chitosan-based composite membrane also showed significant wound healing properties in shallow burn wounds in rats, as indicated by Masson staining revealing the presence of vascular endothelial growth factor.⁴⁶ MTT analysis revealed that the membrane formation did not harm fibroblasts, and fluorescent dye tests showed that chitosan-based membranes actively promoted fibroblast growth and maturation. The fibroblast cells had a usual shape and a strong network structure, showing that they stuck to the membrane, the experiments found that chitosan-based membrane material can help heal cells and prevent infections. This makes it a good option for making membranes for skin tissue engineering.⁴⁷ In conclusion, chitosan-based layers have had a major impact on the development of chitosan science and biomedical fields including tissue engineering. Most researchers only use simulated fluids, animals (mice, pigs, *etc.*) or cells to test the biomedical properties of chitosan-based biomaterials, to bridge the gap in biotechnology.⁴⁸ So, further research and technology are needed to develop chitosan-based biomaterials for tissue engineering. Scientists have done a lot of research on how chitosan-based hydrogels can be used in treating skin issues.⁴⁹ In a research experiment, scientists made a substance called chitosan hydrogel by mixing glutaraldehyde and genipin. The test in the lab showed that cell growth increased on the chitosan hydrogel surface compared to the control. A research study combined chitosan and alkaline lignin to produce a biocompatible hydrogel.⁵⁰ The chitosan-lignin hydrogel promoted rat migration in scratch wound healing, with the 3T3 fibroblast cell line dispersed throughout the area, and long-term incubation showing fibroblasts in all scratch areas. It enhanced collagen strand formation and the number of fibroblast cells at the wound site in skin injuries. The researchers observed that the chitosan hydrogel with the small carrier system is adhesive and reduces the chances of phenytoin absorption through the skin. Additionally, a unique gel composed of chitosan and fluorinated methacrylamide was tested on rats with diabetes, showing increased collagen fibers, improved skin healing, and formation of new blood vessels.⁵¹⁻⁵³ In another research, scientists looked at a special gel made with

alginate and chitosan that included hesperidin, and they tested it on rats with wounds. Furthermore, the hydrogel also exhibited powerful antioxidant properties because it contains chitosan amino groups and silver nanoparticles.⁵⁴ Enhancing chitosan's properties through modifications and combination with other substances, such as complex formation, holds promising potential. The porous structure of sponges follows the structure of the body, promoting integration, interaction, growth and development.⁵⁵ Cell-derived sponges can maintain their porous structure and are suitable for skin engineering applications.⁵⁶ A study documented the tissue engineering of an innovative chitosan-gelatin sponge-like skin treatment. In another study, biocompatible chitosan gelatin sponges containing curcumin were investigated for tissue building. It contains less gelatin than sponge chitosan due to its wound-healing properties. Additionally, in another study, researchers developed and tested sponges containing dermal fibroblasts and chitosan. Sponges aid the body's healing process by accelerating cell growth and increasing collagen production. Scientists combined chitosan sponge with basic fibroblast growth factor to create a novel tissue engineering material with a highly porous structure and increased elasticity as chitosan content was raised. This chitosan-based sponge releases growth factors, aiding in wound healing, and has shown impressive physical properties. Another study explored a collagen and chitosan sponge infused with MSCs, demonstrating effective reduction of inflammation and promotion of blood vessel growth in diabetic rats, accelerating wound healing. mRNA expression study showed sustained presence of β -catenin in treated tissues, highlighting its crucial role in wound healing and dermis formation.⁵⁹ This sponge shows effective water retention, expansion, support, and protection for damaged tissue. Chitosan, derived from shellfish shells, possesses properties that reduce inflammation, fight infections, and promote cell growth. Applying these sponges to wounds can create a favorable environment for tissue repair, promoting cell growth and aiding in the healing process. Chitosan sponges have the potential as supportive structures for damaged skin. In summary, chitosan-based sponge materials are notable for their compact size, impressive biocompatibility, and capacity for self-repair in the body's natural environment. Fiber-based biomaterials can support the 3D growth and development of cells as well as biomimicry. Experimental results in wound healing show that fibers promote cell adhesion and expansion towards their surface. The resulting composite nanofibers displayed a smooth, uniform structure with hydrophobic properties.⁵⁷⁻⁶⁸ Additionally, the presence of starch and chitosan promoted L929 cell migration, aiding in wound healing. Overall, these nanofibers have the potential to eliminate pathogens and enhance wound healing. Scientists combined chitosan and collagen microfibrils and tested the mixture on 3T3 fibroblasts and HaCa T keratinocytes, facilitating healing. Another study connected silk and chitosan fibers using genipin and glutaraldehyde, with genipin showing low toxicity and promoting rapid fibroblast cell growth.⁶⁵ In the identical experiment, researchers fabricated a scaffold utilizing chitosan-polyvinyl alcohol nanofibers and investigated the adhesion of skin fibroblasts,



a specific type of cell, to the material. In summary, researchers have developed and assessed wound dressings made by blending chitosan and polyvinyl alcohol nanofibers with carboxymethyl chitosan nanoparticles. These nanofibers enhance bioactive substance availability, regulate degradation, and effectively combat *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Escherichia coli*. Histopathological examinations have shown that chitosan-based nanofibers promote collagen expression and epithelial cell regeneration, demonstrating their dual capabilities in antibacterial properties and wound recovery. The resulting nanofiber filament demonstrated enhanced stability and effectiveness in reducing colonies of *Staphylococcus aureus* and *E. coli*. Cytotoxicity assessments showed that the composite nanofiber structure was biocompatible with keratinocytes and human dermal fibroblast cell lines. Studies indicate that chitosan composite biomaterials exhibit favorable properties and biocompatibility, making them suitable for various applications.⁶⁹

In concluding this section, it's evident that the impact of chitosan on the development of biomedical fields, such as tissue engineering, pharmaceuticals, drug delivery, and bacteria eradication, is significant. Research has shown that chitosan-based membrane materials contribute to cell healing and disease protection, making them ideal for constructing tissue engineering membranes. These membranes have been effective in eradicating Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria and have also demonstrated the promotion of healing without causing severe burns in experiments involving mice. The membrane preparation process displays properties such as good crystallinity, flexibility, and antibacterial effectiveness against *Staphylococcus aureus*. Significant advancements have been made, yet a notable disparity remains between the research efforts focused on chitosan-based biomaterials and the actual number of approved products available in the market. Furthermore, the expedient development of chitosan-based coatings poses a persistent challenge in areas where the attainment of precise geometries and high performance presents difficulties. To bridge this gap in biotechnology, a majority of researchers opt to explore the biomedical properties of chitosan-based biomaterials using simulated fluids, animal models (mice, pigs, *etc.*), or cellular tests. Therefore, advancing research and technology is imperative to propel the progress of chitosan-based biomaterials within the domain of tissue engineering. Notably, hydrogel offers the benefit of being soft, flexible, non-toxic, and conducive to stable pore size control, and poses disadvantages in terms of mechanical properties for particular pore sizes and the potential for toxic responses. Moreover, there could be variations based on chitosan's activity and its combination with other substances (complex formation) can enhance its characteristics. The sponge's porous structure mimics the human body's structure, promoting integration, interaction, growth, and development. Sponges derived from cells can preserve their porous structure, making them suitable for skin engineering applications. These sponges are biocompatible with human keratinocytes (HaCa T), aiding the body's healing process by stimulating cell growth and increasing collagen production. Chitosan sponges are a favorable option

for modeling damaged tissue. Chitosan-based sponges are widely preferred due to their small size, good biocompatibility, and potential in physiological settings. Despite this potential, the development of chitosan-based self-healing hydrogels (*e.g.*, PEG) remains challenging.

3.2. Other applications of chitosan

Unrestrained hemorrhaging from an injury can result in various complications, including hypothermia, low blood pressure, infection, and even shock. The risk is heightened when there is minimal obstruction between the key components of innovation or discovery, such as the idea and the experiment.⁷⁰

If not addressed, it can result in severe health complications and mortality.⁷³ Surgical interventions such as those performed on the heart, liver, and bones can lead to bleeding and adverse impacts on the body, such as low blood volume shock and hypothermia, which can affect blood coagulation.⁷⁴ As a result, researching the cessation of blood flow and discovering methods to swiftly halt bleeding are crucial for emergency lifesaving measures.⁷¹ Moreover, when in contact with blood or fluids, hemostats may become contaminated by bacteria. A torn dressing can cause prolonged pain and delay the healing of a wound, thus limiting the possibility of their reuse.⁷⁶ Furthermore, they are unable to be adapted for irregular, deep, or minor wounds.⁷⁷ Over the recent years, scientists have created specific medications that aid in halting bleeding during surgical procedures and emergency scenarios. These medications, known as topical hemostatic adhesives and sealants, work by speeding up the blood clotting process.^{78–80} However, these products have their limitations. While cyanoacrylates serve as potent hemostatic adhesives, they have the potential to trigger allergic reactions. Additionally, when these adhesives solidify, they generate heat rapidly and form substances that may be harmful to the human body. On the other hand, hydrogels, which comprise natural or synthetic components, can be used in the production of hemostatic materials. Traditional hydrogels can be easily inserted and applied to specific areas, including uniquely shaped wounds, with minimal adverse effects. Natural polysaccharides, often used as raw elements for hydrogel formulations, possess properties like biodegradability, good biocompatibility, and the capacity to enhance hemostatic effects after wound healing.^{72,73} An appropriate hemostatic hydrogel should possess the following characteristics (I) undergo rapid conversion into a gel to halt bleeding and promote wound healing (II) exhibit good viscosity and durability in wet environments to ensure effective wound coverage. With the advancement of biomaterial science, chitosan-based hemostatic hydrogels have demonstrated effective hemostatic effects, biodegradability, anti-inflammatory capabilities, and healing properties.⁷⁴

3.2.1. The effect of hemostasis of chitosan. The effectiveness of chitosan in stabilization depends on its degree of acetylation, molecular weight, and chemical modification. Lower acetylation levels lead to increased coagulation effect and binding of positive molecules to red blood cells, enhancing blood clotting.⁸⁴ Highly deacetylated chitosan has more amino



groups forming hydrogen bonds, resulting in lower conductivity and lower viscosity compared to less deacetylated chitosan. Deacetylation influences protonation, with highly acetylated chitosan hindering platelet activation and low-acetylation chondroitin sulfate showing a positive impact on blood cell coagulation. Additionally, the size of chitosan molecules affects their effectiveness in supporting blood clotting.⁷⁵ A research investigation explored the impact of blood molecule size on clotting through the analysis of various molecule types. As outlined in the report findings, CS inhibits the aggregation of red blood cells and platelets. The study indicates that the accumulation of CS is influenced by the interaction between positively charged CS and negatively charged cells and proteins in the bloodstream.⁷⁶

Adequate control of bleeding is necessary to diminish patient suffering and mortality, and a thorough understanding of hemostasis is crucial for achieving effective hemostasis. Chitosan (CS) possesses favorable qualities such as biodegradability, biocompatibility, and non-toxicity, making it extensively applicable in fields like biomedicine, chemicals, food industry, cosmetics, and other industries. Optimization of chitosan-based composite material structures can facilitate rapid hemostasis. Moreover, CS can serve as antibiotic, anti-inflammatory, wound healing agents, and other applications. It can also be utilized to develop diverse hemostatic components leveraging its properties.⁷⁷ Mixing chitosan and succinic anhydride in pyridine yields a product known as CS-succinic acid (CSS). Research has demonstrated the efficacy and safety of a hemostatic made with CSS for managing hemostasis in rats with liver disease. This formulation has potential for treating severe bleeding *via* intravenous injection.⁷⁸

In a separate study, Prof. Xu's research team examined a unique gel type created by combining silk fibroin with CS using *N*-hydroxy succinimide. This gel boasts a range of functionalities, such as antibacterial, hemostatic, and slow drug release properties. The CS dressing, incorporating fibroin fibers, demonstrates improved water absorption, hemostasis, and enhanced air permeability. Results indicated that the CS/SF hydrogel exhibits potent bactericidal and hemostatic capabilities without causing harm to human skin cells, showing promising applications as a wound dressing.⁶⁴

Chitosan combined with CSS presents an eco-friendly alternative to traditional plastic packaging derived from non-renewable resources, as it is composed of biodegradable polymers. The quality of the cast chitosan membrane is influenced by the choice and application method of the plasticizer used in the product. Research indicates that the proper grafting of succinic acid occurred without altering the structure of the chitosan sample. The inclusion of succinic acid as a plasticizer offers various advantages, including its ability to function as a biodegradable material for bacterial eradication and hemorrhage control, in addition to its potential usage as a wound dressing.⁸⁰

In summary, hemostatic, adhesives, and sealants play a crucial role in controlling bleeding during surgeries and in emergency scenarios. While cyanoacrylates in hemostatic adhesives are powerful, their potential to trigger allergic

reactions and release harmful substances upon hardening should be noted. Nonetheless, the benefits of these medical products in reducing patient morbidity and mortality cannot be overlooked. The combination of silk fibroin with CS using *N*-hydroxy succinimide yields a versatile product with antibacterial, hemostatic, and anti-secretory properties. The CS dressing, enriched with fibroin fibers, exhibits improved water absorption, effective hemostasis, and permeability to excess air. Studies show that the CS/SF hydrogel displays significant bactericidal and hemostatic capabilities without causing harm to human skin, making it suitable as a wound dressing. The combination of chitosan and succinic anhydride results in CSS, which has been proven to effectively control bleeding in mice with liver disease. In cases of severe bleeding, injections may be employed for treatment. The use of succinic acid stands out as it serves as a biodegradable, sterilizing substance that aids in preventing bleeding and acts as a wound dressing, albeit with potential toxicity in certain instances. Despite ongoing advancements in hemostatic agents in modern medicine, challenges persist, hindering their successful application in treating uncontrolled bleeding. Therefore, there is a pressing need for the rapid development of efficient, user-friendly, and versatile hemostatic products, with CS-based hydrogels positioned to replace existing options, thereby enhancing the quality of such medical interventions in surgical and emergency settings.

4. Cyclodextrin and types of cyclodextrins

Cyclodextrins (CDs) are short-chain oligosaccharide molecules that result from the degradation of starch. Comprising D -glucopyranose units joined by a glycosidic bond between carbon 1 and carbon 4, there are three types of cyclodextrins consisting of 6 units (α), 7 units (β), and 8 units (γ). Notably, cyclodextrin offers various advantages, such as being non-toxic, readily soluble in water, easily modifiable, and possessing high bioavailability. Furthermore, it is widely accessible and brings significant benefits across diverse research domains.^{81,82}

Cyclodextrins stand out due to their unique characteristics – a hydrophilic surface combined with a hydrophobic cavity inside, forming clathrates through weak interactions without undergoing chemical reactions.⁸³ The cone-shaped cavity of cyclodextrins allows them to encapsulate other molecules, providing chemical and physical stability to the encapsulated molecule.⁸⁴ This ability enables them to protect light or oxygen-sensitive substances, alter the chemical reactivity of the host molecules, reduce the evaporation of volatile compounds, enhance the dissolution of substances, and safeguard against breakdown by microorganisms.^{85,86} Among the native CDs, α -CD is noted for its robust and stable structure, attributed to its comparatively smaller internal space.⁸⁷ From a chemical perspective, β -CD exhibits optimal clathrate-forming ability, thanks to its structural features. Nonetheless, native CDs, with their hydroxyl groups that can be functionalized in different ways, offer a wide range of functionalities.⁸⁸ Modified



cyclodextrins can effectively incorporate specific host molecules and enhance solubility, but they often come with a higher price tag than native CDs.⁸⁹ They are also utilized for controlled drug release, capitalizing on the empty spaces inside the cyclodextrins and their ability to bind to drugs in a way that allows for eventual release.⁹⁰

Therefore, the host molecules are gradually and controllably released without modifying the drug's properties, encompassing physical, chemical, and biological attributes. Moreover, cyclodextrins (CDs) facilitate the sustained retention of molecules within the emitting substance, ultimately amplifying their effectiveness and accuracy in targeting specific tissues for an extended period.^{7,91}

CDs are generally inactive within the body, yet they are utilized as ingredients in numerous medications. They have found widespread use in pharmaceutical science and technologies for several purposes, including enhancing the dissolution and duration of drugs in liquids, improving the efficacy of drug absorption into the body, masking odors and tastes, regulating the release rate of drugs in the body, reducing local and systemic toxicity, and facilitating the passage of drugs through biological barriers.^{92,93}

Medications containing cyclodextrins can be administered orally, intranasally, ocularly, or transdermally.⁹⁴ In order to enhance the pharmaceutical characteristics of natural cyclodextrins for medical applications, researchers have subjected them to chemical modifications.⁹⁵ These modifications improve their solubility, capacity to encapsulate other substances, controlled drug release, and reduce potential harm to the body.⁹⁶ Examples of these modifications include increasing solubility and hydrophilic or hydrophobic properties.⁹⁷ Cyclodextrins are utilized for drug delivery and gene therapy, with modifications tailored to specific properties and enhanced molecular recognition abilities.⁹⁸

4.1. Amphiphilic CD

CD amphiphiles have been created with the aim of enhancing CD's interaction with biological organisms and boosting its binding capacity in water. Depending on the specific groups linked to CDs, the derivative substances can be classified into three groups: neutral, positive, and negative CD amphiphilic.⁹⁹

4.2. Neutral CD amphiphilic

It is possible to generate CD molecules with dual hydrophilic and hydrophobic characteristics by linking certain molecules to the secondary hydroxyl group at a specific position.¹⁰⁰ This leads to the formation of CD molecules containing two fatty acid chains with lengths varying from 2 to 14 carbons.^{101–103}

Amphiphilic CDs have the capability to bind with cholesterol-derived drugs. A novel drug called amphiphilic hepta (6-alkylthio-6-deoxy)- β -CD 2-oligo (ethylene glycol)¹¹⁸ was recently developed by scientists. This was achieved through the modification of perbrominated CDs using a process known as nucleophilic displacement, along with the addition of another chemical, ethylene carbonate.¹¹⁹ Besides the multi-part amphiphilic CDs, single-part amphiphilic CDs have also been

successfully produced.^{120–122} To further enhance the characteristics of CD amphiphiles, different responsive connections or targeting entities have been incorporated.¹²³ CD amphiphiles have been formed by linking hydrophobic elements to CDs through disulfide bonds that respond to redox reactions. Additional special molecules such as galactosyl and mannosyl can be attached to the chains of oligo(ethylene glycol) to enable recognition and targeting of specific cells.¹²⁴

4.3. Cationic CD amphiphilic

Cationic CD amphiphiles are synthesized for the supramolecular assembly of soft materials with specific surface chemistry and charge.^{104,105} Recent attention has focused on their ability to provide genetic information.¹⁰⁶ A simple way to synthesize cationic β -CD amphiphilic compounds is to incorporate the amide group in the core of CD with alkyl chains at the 2- and 3-position, *O*-alkyl ethers are readily available.¹⁰⁴ Cationic amphiphiles can also be formed by replacing the amphiphilic-containing oligo (ethylene oxide) oligomer chain with the ω -amino group.¹⁰⁷ Recently, a series of amphiphilic β -CD polycations were produced by replacing the primary hydroxyl group with various amino-containing moieties.¹⁰⁰ By changing the alkyl chains at positions 2 and 3, the density and hydrophobic-hydrophilic balance of the resulting product can be adjusted.

4.4. Anionic CD amphiphilic

Amphiphilic CDs with carboxyl or sulfate groups have been produced, with the possibility of loading on either the first or second side. To make the carboxyl-containing CD amphiphilic, alkyl groups were introduced at the 6-position, while carboxyl-methyl groups were added at the 2- and 3-positions.¹⁰⁸ Sulfated amphiphilic cyclodextrins can be synthesized by introducing sulfate groups to the 6-hydroxyls of cyclodextrins that have been esterified at the 2nd and 3rd positions.¹⁰⁹

4.5. Hydrophobic CD

Modifying CDs with hydrophobic groups can create carriers for controlled release. To achieve this, it is necessary to synthesize alkylated or acylated derivatives like hepta (2,3,6-tri-*O*-ethyl) and hepta (2,3,6-tri-*O*-butyryl)-CD.¹³¹ Hydrophobic derivatives of cyclodextrin (CD) have been created by carefully acetylating CD using 2-methoxypropene as the acetylation agent.^{87,110,111} The acetylated materials can decompose effectively in solvents like acetone, ethanol, methylene chloride, or THF. The hydrolysis rate, which is dependent on pH and molecular structure, was assessed with acetylated CD materials. The degradation rate can be readily adjusted by controlling the acetal type and level of modification through the manipulation of reaction kinetics. Importantly, both *in vitro* and *in vivo* toxicological tests have demonstrated the excellent biocompatibility of acetylated CD, with its nanoparticles planned for secure local or systemic administration. Furthermore, when combined with adamantyl-terminated polyethylene glycol (Ada-PEG), acetylated CD can develop either parallel or cylindrical particles according to their weight ratio, indicating the well-preserved complex capabilities of acetylated CDs. Later on, we examined the growing popularity



of the use of plant-based slimy substance in medicine, particularly in tissue engineering. This substance is utilized to facilitate the growth of new tissue, aid in wound healing, administer medication, and support pharmaceutical applications.¹¹²

Covering with mucilage reduces moisture loss during the storage period. Humidity decreases due to the continuous flow of water into the environment, so it is classified as hydrophobic. Mucilage is utilized to facilitate the growth of new tissue, and aid in wound healing.

The structure of oligosaccharides undergoes significant changes throughout the developmental process, with specific groups of oligosaccharides emerging at different stages of development. Moreover, alterations in the sugar molecules found on the outer surface of cells are associated with various diseases, including cancer development. Oligosaccharides, as large molecules, play a crucial role in safeguarding integral parts of proteins, regulating the interaction of sugar compounds with other molecules, and influencing the pace of processes involving changes in shape. The process of glycosylation within cells is susceptible to changes in cellular functionality. Abnormal glycosylation may serve as an indicator for the presence of certain diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis and cancer.¹¹³

4.6. Application of CD-based biomaterials in tissue engineering

Cyclodextrin (CD) is composed of both linear and curved chain polymers along with minerals such as hyaluronic acid, chitosan, alginate, hydroxyapatite, and calcium phosphate. This process facilitates the transformation of cells into specific types, enhances the compatibility of natural materials with the body, strengthens connections through robust bonds, and improves the properties necessary for cell and tissue regeneration. CD is considered a safe substance for use in both animals and humans, according to several reports and the FDA, as it does not elicit an immune response and exhibits minimal toxicity. The solubility of CD in water varies, with α CD at 13%, β CD at 2%, and γ CD at 26%. This essentially means “each corresponds in sequence.” The limited solubility of β CD in water is attributed to the strong internal bonds that it forms. However, this bond can be disrupted by modifying β CD with secondary hydroxyl groups, resulting in a modified version known as hydroxypropyl- β CD, which exhibits much higher solubility in water compared to β CD.¹¹⁴

In the continuation of this topic, the use of biometrics modified with cyclodextrins in tissue regeneration and tissue engineering was investigated.

4.6.1. Capability of CDs modified hyaluronic acid polymers in tissue engineering. Hyaluronic acid (HA) has been extensively studied as a biomaterial for tissue regeneration and tissue engineering due to its appealing viscoelastic properties and prevalence in the human body. Moreover, HA possesses the ability to interact with specific receptors in the body, rendering it valuable in the treatment of pain, cancer, and arthritis.¹¹⁵ Furthermore, CD has the potential to attach to HA and create supramolecular assemblies that can be used in various

applications. Additionally, the incorporation of CD into HA results in a distinctive structure that is well-suited for a wide range of applications. The grafted CD offers binding sites for drug molecules to form through non-covalent molecular interactions, thereby forming a supramolecular hydrogel system.¹¹⁶

For instance, researchers led by Rod-ell produced a soft gel that exhibits decreased thickness under compression. They achieved this by using CD-HA to engineer the gel. The study states that the CD-CD-HA transforms into a substance known as tosylated β -CD, which is then joined with an intermediate material called HA, or hyaluronic acid-tetrabutylammonium hydroxide, through the amidation process. These structures have the ability to engage with adamantane-HA conjugates, leading to the formation of hydrogel materials through the combination of adamantane and CD.¹¹⁶

The research indicates that blending HA with β -CDs creates a potential material for achieving drug delivery objectives. HA has the capability to regulate the discharge of the material from the gels. The HA grafted with β -CDs hindered crystallization by preserving a unified dispersion of the drug, thus expediting the diffusion of the material out of the gel network. Upon application of force, the developed hydrogel can transition to a more fluid state and be utilized as an injectable substance within the body.¹¹⁴

4.6.2. Capability of CD modified by glucuronylglucosyl in tissue engineering to treat amyloid polyneuropathy. Amyloidosis is a group of diseases that occur as a result of the release of irregular substances called amyloid fibers in various organs and tissues, causing various tissue damage.^{117,118} Unfortunately, there is no cure for FAP, and new drug treatments are the most important. Interestingly, β -CD has been reported to inhibit amyloid peptide synthesis in Alzheimer's disease.¹¹⁹ Additionally, studies with β -CD, HP- β -CD, and per-6-amino-6-deoxy- β -CD improved aggregation. At the same time, it can inhibit the accumulation of various factors, such as branched-chain β -CD,¹²⁰ transgenic human growth factor,¹²¹ basic fibroblast growth factor,¹²² including glucosylglucosyl- β -CD (GUG- β -CyD),¹²² insulin analogues,¹²³ and lysozyme in egg white¹²⁴ which are propagated by various molecules bearing aromatic amino acid residues. The ability of GUG- β -CD on TTR (tabulation of human transthyretin) amyloid formation was investigated. In summary, GUG- β -CD significantly reduced TTR amyloid fibril production without adverse effects. According to the results of circular dichroism and ¹H-nuclear magnetic resonance studies, GUG- β -CD inhibits the conversion of TTR to amyloid intermediate by binding to Trp 79 of TTR.¹²¹

Glucuronylglucosyl-cyclodextrin (GUG-CD) conjugates can be used as gene transfer vectors. Studies have shown that GUG- β -CD reduces amyloid fibril formation *in vitro* and *in vivo* without side effects. Therefore, GUG- β -CD has the potential to be a promising drug for the treatment of FAP.¹²⁵

4.6.3. Capability of CD to modify cellulose for the application in the *in situ* tissue engineering. During the CD production process, additives are introduced into the CD culture medium at the initiation stage. An *in situ* modification is frequently employed to modify CDs effectively. These additives become part of the developing network of CD fibrils, resulting



in CD composites possessing a blend of two desired properties. Furthermore, this method of modification can alter the physical, chemical, mechanical, and morphological characteristics of the resulting CD composite biomaterials.^{126,127} This modification is often used to control the porosity of the CD backbone. In this case, paraffin microspheres are included in the CD culture medium to form a CD platform with expanded porosity.^{128–131} CD frameworks were utilized for bone recovery.¹²⁹ This ponder appeared that the novel microporous CD platform essentially expanded cell invasion into the platform, demonstrating the potential application of TE in bone recovery.^{128,129} In conclusion, the creators contemplated that microporous CD frameworks may be appropriate for particular bone recovery applications, such as facial and cranium plate bones.¹³² Moreover, another detailed the arrangement of microporous CD frameworks employing a comparable method different sizes of paraffin are placed in tubular ageing tanks containing acetobacter xylinum to produce streaks in cyclodextrin for urine.¹³⁰

Additionally, hydroxyapatite nanoparticles (HA-Ca₅(PO₄)₃(OH)) were used as additives in CD culture medium to evaluate the biological properties of new CD scaffolds for bone regeneration.¹³³ To evaluate the effectiveness of the composite in promoting bone regeneration, a CD scaffold was implanted into the tibia defect of rats. The results showed that there was no anti-inflammatory reaction around the implant and the intact bone was replaced by new bone 4 weeks after the implant.¹³³ In a study by Barreiro *et al.*, the fabrication of composite materials using porous cyclodextrins (CDs) in combination with sand scaffolds was reported. It was found that the sand scaffold, primarily composed of CaMg(CO₃)₂ from *Clypaster subdepressus*, did not provide adequate support for the CD composites, leading to the accumulation of apatite particles on the CD surface during cultivation in *Gluconobacter hansenii* cultures. The study recommended that the scaffold's compressive strength should be tailored to facilitate bone regeneration, particularly in the tibial bone. An ideal wound dressing should exhibit moisture at the wound site, offer protection with oxygen permeability, and effectively absorb excess fluids. Essential characteristics of such a dressing include being composed of biomaterials, minimally invasive, incorporating antibiotics, facilitating wound healing, and allowing painless removal.^{149,156} Efforts have been made to develop minimally invasive biomaterials with antimicrobial properties that promote wound healing while minimizing discomfort. Various external electrical devices aimed at accomplishing this have also been developed. Recently, attention has been directed toward the investigation of bacterial cellulose (BC) composites for potential wound dressing applications. For example, composite materials like bacterial cellulose/glucose and bacterial cellulose/dextrin, produced through *in situ* fermentation, showed enhanced porosity and promising properties for this purpose.¹³⁴

Moreover, this study also showed that β-CD based modifies the composite material led to increases in its ability to retain water which is important in wound dressings.¹³⁴ It should be noted that the change in position only changes the morphology and physical properties of the bacterial cellulose membrane. However, the chemical composition of the bacterial cellulose

membrane does not change in space. Combination therapy has recently been investigated as a potential factor in wound healing. Dressings such as bacterial cellulose/glucose and bacterial cellulose/dextrin composites are prepared by *in situ* fermentation.

The MTS (multi-task semantic segmentation) method shows that composite materials have greater porosity and better biocompatibility ((3-(4,5)-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-5-(3-carboxymethoxy phenyl)-2-(4-sulfophenyl)-2H-tetrazol) and bacteria compared to the control of cellulose group.¹³⁴

In conclusion, the enhanced products are manufactured from biomaterials requiring minimal processing, possessing antibacterial properties, and promoting wound healing without causing harm or requiring extraction. As a result, numerous bacterial cellulose composites have been under recent investigation as potential materials for medical use. For instance, bacterial cellulose/glucose and bacterial cellulose/dextrin composites, with increased porosity and enhanced biocompatibility, are being widely utilized in various tissue engineering applications.¹⁵⁷ Furthermore, other aspects such as *in situ* modification and the interaction between external materials and bacterial cellulose fibril growth, as well as the process control of bacterial cellulose nanofibers, remain important. Cellulose hydrogels have garnered attention in the medical field due to their biodegradability, biocompatibility, and their ability to create a moist environment conducive to healing. Utilizing various hydrogels modified by CD for wound healing composites enables the controlled release of additional drugs, leading to enhanced clinical outcomes.¹³⁵

4.7. Other innovative applications of CDs

Industrialization have caused the pollution of air, water, soil and many foods. At the same time, people's lifestyles have changed dramatically, and malnutrition has become a fast-food culture media.^{136–138} Many challenges are faced, such as determining the health benefits of certain foods, improving immunity, preventing certain diseases, and reducing side effects and medical costs. Promote safe and sound clinical research to evaluate the mechanisms of action and effectiveness of nutrients in response to nutritional challenges.^{139–142} Safety and health evaluations are encouraged to evaluate the processing and effectiveness of nutrients in response to nutritional challenges.¹⁴³

In conclusion, the requirements to achieve therapeutic goals are include bioavailability, biocompatibility, solubility, loading efficiency, and toxicity of the drug, as well as pharmacokinetic, including release, long-term effect, and development.¹⁴⁴ In this regard, we can talk about the use of dextrin in the pharmaceutical industry, as they are non-toxic, biodegradable and biocompatible, easily swelled by drugs with varying water solubility or high pressure.¹⁴⁵ Dextrin is starch derivative known for its great potential on the development of hydrogels due to their excellent absorbability and proven clinical tolerance associated with amylase degradation.¹⁴⁶ CD and linear dextrin have the same physicochemical and biological properties, but CD is more resistant to non-enzymatic hydrolysis due to its



structure.⁹⁵ Maltodextrin is a linear dextrin composed of linear (amylase) and branched (amylopectin) carbohydrates.^{147,148} However, some limitations of dextrans are loss of viscosity during storage, poor solubility, uncontrolled hydration rate, and microbial contamination.¹⁴⁹

In the continuation of this topic, the applications of (1) Cyclodextrin nano sponge, (2) carbonated NS of CD, (3) ether-NS of CD, (4) ester-NS of CD, (5) maltodextrins are mentioned as innovative applications of cyclodextrin.

4.7.1. Cyclodextrin nano sponge. Polyurethane nano-sponges, derived from CD-based diisocyanates like hexamethylene diisocyanate (HDI) and toluene-2,4-diisocyanate (TDI), play a crucial role in synthesizing CD-NS polyurethanes. Thatiparti and von Recum modified a CD-based gel with 1,6-hexane diisocyanate (LTI). This modified polymer interface enabled the loading of antibiotics such as rifampicin, novobiocin sodium salt, and vancomycin hydrochloride using a solid/solid adsorption technique due to the low swelling capacity of synthetic polymers. The observed antibacterial properties of these gels indicate effective inhibition, and it has been evidenced that CD-based gels can impart long-lasting antibacterial effects. These polymers are typically prepared by dissolving-CD in *N,N*-dimethyl formamide (DMF) or dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) and then introducing hexamethylene diisocyanate (HDI) as a cross-linker. Moreover, the polymers have proven efficacy in the loading of antibiotic Mitomycin C (MMC).¹⁵⁰

In alternative studies, cyclodextrin-based polymers are created by dissolving cyclodextrin in dimethyl sulfoxide and introducing hexamethylene diisocyanate (HDI) as a cross-linking agent. Subsequently, the antibiotic Mitomycin C (MMC) is incorporated into the polymers to establish a beneficial interaction between MMC and the polymer. As demonstrated in this study, the release of MMC is fine-tuned to be more gradual and consistent. In comparison to traditional treatments, this approach presents reduced risk to patients and surgical staff due to the lower level of MM.¹⁵¹

In summary, the defining characteristic of cyclodextrin nanosponges today lies in their interconnected three-dimensional structure comprised of cross-linked CD units. The effectiveness of CD nanosponges can be attributed to their capacity to evolve over time while preserving their inherent attributes, including cost-efficiency, eco-friendliness, non-toxicity, and the ability to encapsulate diverse molecules. Conversely, researchers attach significance to the potential benefits that can be derived from their utilization. Consequently, further exploration of their present applications, such as serving as a carrier, signifies their capability to open new prospects in the realms of biomedicine and human health.¹⁵²

4.7.2. Carbonated NS of CD. Carbonyl compounds such as 1,1'-carbonyldiimidazole (CDI), triphosgene, and diphenyl carbonate (DPC) are commonly utilized to produce CD-NS carbonate, which exhibits a limited surface area and unique spacing. Quercetin, a plant-derived substance renowned for its antioxidant properties, has challenging medical application due to its poor water solubility. In a notable advancement, Julian and colleagues employed β -CD modified hydroxypropyl- β -cyclodextrin (HP- β -CD) and sulfobutyl ether- β -cyclodextrin to

enhance the solubility of quercetin. They incorporated small particles composed of β -CD and DPC in differing proportions to regulate the rapid release of quercetin, resulting in increased antioxidant effects and novel routes for drug administration, such as oral and topical application. Furthermore, for diverse applications, curcumin was encapsulated in nanoparticles of β CD modified NSs for drug delivery.¹⁵³

Additionally, Dhakar *et al.* found through their studies that resveratrol exhibited significant effectiveness, and oxy-resveratrol proved to be even more potent when encapsulated in β -CD: CDI NSs. The NSs loaded with resveratrol and oxy-resveratrol demonstrated superior solubility compared to the individual drug molecules, indicative of improved antioxidant activity. Matencio and his research team delved into the interaction of oxyresveratrol with two varying quantities of β -CD: CDI NSs using an innovative technique. Employing UV-Vis measurements, the scientists determined the inclusion constant (K_{Fapp}) between β -CD: CDI NSs and oxyresveratrol, making developments to the Benesi-Hildebrand method to achieve this. As per the findings of this study, complexes of CD modified NSs hold potential for utilization in nutritional products.¹⁵⁴

In conclusion, the development of novel nanocarriers for anti-cancer medications offers the potential to overcome some of the current treatment limitations. Another innovative synthetic approach involves incorporating an active molecule, like carbonate, during the cross-linking process to create molecularly imprinted nanosponges. Active molecules enable very slow-release kinetics. Researchers are exploring targeting nanosponges for tumor-specific drug accumulation in the future by modifying the structure and combining cationic nanosponges with high cross-links to enhance loading capacity.¹⁵⁵

4.7.3. Ether-NS of CD. Epichlorohydrin (EPI), bisphenol A diglycidyl ether, ethylene glycol diglycidyl ether and other threads related to epoxy groups are used to combine ether CDNS, which can treat swelling and high blood pressure. Despite the toxicity of EPI, EPI-based CD-NS has been extensively studied.¹⁵⁶ For example, Machín *et al.* synthesized an insoluble polymer of CD-EPI, for the controlled release of anti-inflammatory drugs such as naproxen and nabumetone, as well as naftifine and pesticides. According to this study, hydrogel matrices of CD-EPI are thought to be suitable for the release process.¹⁵⁷

Researchers have formulated a innovative biocompatible hydrogel using hydroxypropyl cyclodextrin as the base, with ethylene glycol diglycidyl ether (EGDE) serving as the cross linker, along with hydroxypropyl methylcellulose (HPMC) and other polymers. Diclofenac, a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug, was chosen as an appropriate candidate for incorporation into synthetic materials. The hydrogel possesses the capability to encapsulate diclofenac and steadily release it over an extended period.¹⁵⁸

Ether NS based CD are the product of the coupling reaction of CD and epoxy reagents. Most research still focuses on epichlorohydrin. In this case, ether NS based on CD exhibit high anti-inflammatory properties. CDs and their chemical modifiers



and also, tailor-made components, including polymeric nano-materials, facilitate delivery of species and improve clinical outcomes. Also, CD-related polymeric nanostructures are widely used in the selection of drug molecules for tissue repair. CD pendant polymers can serve as a host to encapsulate many drug molecules that cannot be easily encapsulated by free CD.⁶¹

4.7.4. Ester-NS of CD. Ester-NS are materials formed from cyclodextrin (CD). Dianhydrides such as pyromellitic dianhydride (PMDA) can be derived from di/polycarboxylic acids for the production of these materials. Ester-based CD-NSs utilize citric acid and similar compounds, leading to increased water absorption and the formation of a gel-like substance. Research has indicated the potential of CD:PMDA NS in facilitating safe insulin delivery into the body, protecting it from degradation in the stomach, and enhancing gut strength. Additionally, researchers explored the application of a CD-modified PMDA for skin medication delivery. Utilizing a unique method involving PMDA-modified NS, the study aimed to improve the efficacy of treating certain skin conditions with imiquimod, a medicine that boosts the immune system and now benefits from controlled release through this novel approach.^{159,182}

The synthesis of Ester-NS of CD involves subjecting CD to a reaction with dianhydride or di/polycarboxylic acid. This allows Ester-NS of CD to absorb significant amounts of water and create hydrogels, with the degree of crosslinking directly impacting its water absorption and swelling properties. Limited crosslinking results in greater water uptake, but also reduces its chemical stability, rendering it more susceptible to hydrolysis in aqueous environments compared to polyurethane or carbonate species.⁶¹

4.7.5. Maltodextrins. Maltodextrins are one of the innovative processes of dextrin.^{160,161} Maltodextrins are classified according to their glucose value (DE). DE provides more than 20 and reduced sugar in the polymer. Maltodextrins with the same sugar markers (DE) essentially have many properties. A small amount of sugar and a lot of simple carbohydrates means a low DE index and *vice versa*.^{162,163} The various parts of repeating glucose units in maltodextrins have many options for the chemical combination.¹⁶⁴

Maltodextrins have many uses in the food, medical, beverage, and pharmaceutical industries because of their properties and qualities. Maltodextrin is considered the foremost utilized starch hydrolysate by the nourishment industry.¹⁶⁵ A single study demonstrated that the *in vitro* release test revealed the strong protective effects of casein-maltodextrin-PAS nanoparticles under storage and heat treatments, while also affecting the bioavailability of PAS. As a result, casein-maltodextrin-PA nanoparticles are being recognized as innovative antioxidants suitable for use in pharmaceutical and nutraceutical products.¹⁶⁶ In addition, Gurturk and colleagues discovered that the use of maltodextrin-modified liposomes containing levodopa proved to be the most potent treatment for relieving Parkinson's disease symptoms. This discovery ultimately paved the way for a successful method of targeting the blood-brain barrier (BBB) and minimizing cytotoxic effects.¹⁶⁷

In a study, maltodextrins were utilized to produce a film, with the addition of glycerin to enhance flexibility and improve

the absorption of orally administered quercetin. Maltodextrin films have the capability to maintain freshness for extended periods while rapidly dissolving.¹⁶⁸ As per the research carried out by Helal and her team, maltodextrin forms an ester bond with vitamin E succinate through a chemical reaction. Bio-conjugated compounds, as a result, exhibit increased water solubility, reduced impact on major organs within the body, and may offer protection against damage caused by less effective molecules compared to vitamin E succinate.¹⁶⁴

In a particular research, scientists incorporated ciprofloxacin (CFX) into synthetic polypropylene (PP) gastric inserts that had been treated with citric acid acidifier and hydroxypropyl- β -CD (HPYCD) or maltodextrin for functionalization. The employment of HPYCD and maltodextrin as two types of carbohydrate oligomers derived from starch promotes a sustainable and environmentally friendly approach by sustaining diverse methods for activities such as blood or electric current. The subsequent CFX group and maltodextrin report during the HPYCD introduction period. The HPYCD-terminated networks exhibit chemical resistance due to the inner cavity determination, independent of the presence of ions and hydrogen, between CFX and CD-terminated materials.¹⁶³ Maltodextrin has also been utilized in the construction of proteasomes, identifying potential materials for hydrophobic or amphipathic drug delivery.¹⁶⁹

In a study, it combines maltodextrin, lactose monohydrate and rubulan to create a unique product containing resveratrol. Blocked resveratrol has a stable release and is more stable in the stomach and intestines.¹⁷⁰ Similar to CD, maltodextrin can be modified for better performance. Compared to CD, maltodextrin is cheaper and better soluble in water.¹⁷¹ In medicine, modified CD has been studied more than modified maltodextrin. Therefore, scientists have developed special CDs that can be used for many purposes. These modified CDs can be modified to work better and help deliver nutrients. Castro-Carbado and others explained this in their studies. Researchers combined maltodextrin with citric acid and tartaric acid to create a new product.¹⁷²

Cecone and colleagues not only developed environmentally friendly polymers using corn maltodextrin as the main material, but also other chemicals such as 1,4-butanediol diglycidyl ether, 1,4-diazabicyclo-[2,2,2] octane (DABCO), imidazole and *etc.* This method can be used on a larger scale.¹⁷³ These materials are seen as eco-friendly alternatives and have the potential to be explored as sustainable adsorbents for a range of uses, including in the environmental, medical, and pharmaceutical fields, owing to their high adsorption capabilities. Notably, Melendez-Ortiz and colleagues developed hydrogels based on maltodextrin with antibacterial qualities. These were modified using glycidyl methacrylate (GMA) and copolymerized with acrylic acid (AAc) or acrylamide (Aam) to enhance their mechanical and chemical properties. This process led to the creation of bioactive nanoparticles, such as zinc oxide nanoparticles (ZnONPs).¹⁷⁴

Yan *et al.* conducted another study that presented a novel approach to hinder the lipid-lowering drug simvastatin (SIM) within an injectable maltodextrin-based micelle/hydrogel



composite for enhancing bone regeneration. Aldehyde-modified micelles loaded with SIM were linked to the hydrogel through Schiff base bonds. This method represents a significant enhancement in the mechanical properties of the hydrogel, its favorable biocompatibility, controlled release in the body, and its capability to promote bone formation.¹⁷⁵ Maltodextrin appreciates the helical structure of amylose chains and can act as a complexing agent; proposes strategies for incorporating drug carriers into hydrogels for drug delivery and tissue engineering applications.¹⁷⁶

The results show that supercritical fluid extracts of maltodextrin have potential as ingredients in the cosmetic and pharmaceutical industries due to their properties and properties.

In addition to examining oligosaccharides and polysaccharides in biomedical research, in this review article, we also surveyed their applications in biomedicine and drug delivery.

5. Applications of CS oligosaccharide and CD in biomedicine and pharmaceutical studies

Most of the researches on chitosan has focused on its ability to deliver of drugs, genes along with usage in medical and food production,¹⁷⁷ However, there are some important studies on the abilities of chitosan as an antioxidant,¹⁷⁸ anti-inflammatory,¹⁷⁹ immunostimulatory,¹⁸⁰ wound healing/hemostatic,²⁵ and antibacterial effect.¹⁸¹ CD biopolymers are commonly utilized as the structural basis for a wide range of potential medical and drug delivery devices. The molecule is loaded by placing the drug in the center of the CD. Furthermore, various interactions between chemicals and polymer materials support the loading process. These interactions are primarily associated with the carboxyl group of the polymer network, enabling binding to the drug through hydrogen bonding. The utility of CD inclusion complexes as therapeutic agents is particularly notable in the context of antibiotics, anti-inflammatory drugs, and antioxidant drugs.⁸⁹ This review continues the latest research on biomedical and pharmaceutical application of above-mentioned saccharides. So, in the first part, we discuss different kind of application of CS in biomedicine/pharmaceutical studied such as antimicrobial, tissue engineering, drug delivery, gene delivery and so on. Also, at the next subsection the usage of CD on the biomedicine and pharmaceutical studies will be discussed. In addition, recent progress and challenges on the biomedical and pharmaceutical application of oligosaccharide/polysaccharide like CD/CS based composite will be surveyed focusing on their biological activities towards medical approaches.

5.1. Chitosan oligosaccharide's antimicrobial activity

The ability of chitosan or its derivatives to kill germs depends on different things such as their size, degree of modification, and other physico-chemical properties. It also depends on the type of germs that they are targeting, specifically if they are

Gram-negative or Gram-positive. There are substantial efforts invested in studying how COS (chitosan oligosaccharide's) could be used to treat serious infections caused by bacteria and fungi. They are looking into the potential benefits and other ways it could be used. For many clinically important bacteria, COS has been shown to be effective in killing harmful bacteria and fungi, including, *E. coli*, *Vibrio parahaemolyticus*, *Salmonella typhimurium*, *P. aeruginosa*, *Mycobacterium luteus*, *Streptococcus mutans*, *Streptococcus faecalis*, *Streptococcus epidermidis*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Bacillus subtilis*, *Bacillus cereus*, *Lactobacillus plantarum*, *Bifidobacterium*.¹⁸² Interestingly, chitosan oligosaccharide (COS) has been found to not target specific pathogenic bacteria, therefore affecting both pathogenic microbes and the normal flora in the gastrointestinal tract. Significantly, COS inhibited the typical growth of seven particular non-pathogenic anaerobic colonic bacteria, including species of *Clostridium* and *Bacteroides*.¹⁸³

In a study measuring the highest inhibitory concentration of COS, it was found that COS can effectively exert its antibacterial properties to impact the balance of the colon, which has been shown to be a crucial polysaccharide in the development of both intestinal and non-intestinal infections and inflammations.¹⁸⁴

In a different investigation, it was observed that chitosan oligosaccharide (COS) derivatives possess anti-virulence properties against infections caused by Shiga toxin-producing *E. coli*, which often lead to severe cases of hemolytic uremic syndrome. One notable development was the successful conjugation of COS with a Shiga toxin ligand, effectively countering the cytotoxic effects of the toxin. Moreover, COS has been found to exhibit non-specific antibacterial activity, thereby inhibiting the growth of pathogenic microbes as well as indigenous microorganisms in the gastrointestinal tract (GIT). Furthermore, COS hindered the normal proliferation of seven specific bacteria present in the colon, including species of *Clostridium* and *Bacteroides*. This illustrates the ability of COS to eradicate bacteria and influence colon function. Recent research has also indicated that COS plays a significant role in the development of both intestinal and non-intestinal infections and inflammations.¹⁸⁵ Additionally, the specific ingredient of COS successfully killed a Gram-negative bacterium of *Vibrio vulnificus*.¹⁸⁶ COS derivatives have been demonstrated to possess the ability to inhibit the activity of Shiga toxin-producing *E. coli* bacteria, which can be life-threatening and result in hemolytic uremic syndrome by damaging red blood cells. COS primarily binds to a component known as the Shiga toxin ligand, specifically trisaccharide globulotriose, effectively counteracting the harmful effects of the Shiga toxin. The antibacterial properties of COS can be attributed to its relationship with chitin and chitosan. According to this report, COS initiates its antimicrobial action by targeting the receptors of microbial cell-dividing bacteria and viruses. This initiation leads to the movement of potassium granules (K⁺) across the cell membrane, resulting in (K⁺) efflux and the stimulation of extracellular fermentation.¹⁸⁶ So, it causes an increase in cell differentiation and an increase in Ca²⁺ uptake. This limits the abilities of microbial cells and causes them to die. Studies have shown that COS-*N*-chlorogenic acid manganese (COS-N-MB),¹⁸⁷ exerts an antibacterial effect by



being well scavenged and promotes cell wall adsorption through electrostatic interaction and internal chelation ions, thus promoting bacterial growth permeability, cell membrane, which causing cell leakage and membrane disruption. This process leads to the complete breakdown of the cell membrane, distortion of the membrane and target, and eventual migration of the cell. The positive charge signal at the C-2 position of the glucosamine unit helps regulate cell division throughout the bacterial cell.¹⁸⁸

In a different analysis, it was found that the carboxylic acid group of macromolecules present on the surface of bacteria interacts negatively with the positively charged glucosamine, impacting the cellular biological processes. An investigation was carried out to assess the influence of chitosan oligosaccharide supplementation in post-weaning feed on *E. coli* and *Lactobacilli* proliferation, fecal excretion, complement assimilation, and structural integrity of the frozen region of the small intestine. Chitosan has been observed to offer positive alterations to the gut microbiota and its appendage.¹⁸⁹

5.2. Chitosan oligosaccharide's anti-fungi

COS significantly impacts by eliminating a wide range of bacteria and fungi due to its antibacterial properties.¹⁹⁰ Based on previous reports, COS could increase cell membrane permeability, thus causing the destruction of fungal cells.¹⁹¹ COS appears to have a better antifungal effect due to its lower MW (molecular weight) and DA (degree of acetylation). However, some studies have shown that COS with moderate polymerization has the strongest inhibitory activity against yeast.¹⁹² Briefly, as indicated by past research, chitosan and COS share similar mechanisms of action. They both interact with receptors within microbial cell structures, resulting in the displacement of potassium and efflux of K⁺ from the cell layer. Consequently, this alteration causes a delay in cellular fermentation and enhances the uptake of calcium ions, eventually culminating in cell death and the proliferation of calcium particle intake, ultimately resulting in cellular destruction.¹⁹³ Another study indicated that positively charged glucosamine units also provide energy for different carboxyl strands of bacterial cell division and inhibit bacterial cell growth.¹⁹⁴

5.3. Chitosan oligosaccharide's anti-tumor activity and anti-cancer

Cancer is characterized by the rapid growth of irregular cells, which possess the capacity to invade and destroy healthy cells, as well as spread extensively throughout the body's organs and tissues. Research has indicated that COS expression can impact the progression of cancer during various stages, including growth, invasion, and metastasis.¹⁹⁵ Earlier research has indicated that chitosan oligosaccharide (COS) is capable of stimulating the release of clinically significant cells such as ascites. Several instances have demonstrated COS's potential to diminish inflammation in cancer cells and to facilitate the formation of self-assembled micelles for delivering nanobiomaterials within the body. Moreover, COS has exhibited promise in inhibiting the proliferation of cancer cells in both

laboratory settings and live organisms by impeding specific enzymes known as matrix metalloproteinase (MMP).¹⁹⁶ In simple words, COS was found to stop the movement and invasion of stomach cancer cells in a test tube.¹⁹⁷ It was also discovered that when these cells were treated with COS, a protein called MMP-2, which can damage a specific type of collagen, was not produced. Mainly a special concentration of COS prevents inflammation of colon cancer cells of HT-29. This is achieved by reducing the expression of nitric oxide synthase (iNOS) and MMP-2.¹⁹⁸ Scientists also investigated the potential of COS and chitin oligomers in combating cancer and alleviating inflammation. They delved into the usage of these oligomers as a component of a balanced diet to potentially prevent cancer and inflammatory diseases. Apart from their tumor-fighting efficacy, these oligomers possess a high affinity for tumor cells, enabling them to deliver potent doses for cancer treatment.¹⁷⁹

COS can slow tumor growth by producing lymphocyte cytokines to increase T-cell proliferation. However, there have been no further studies to confirm this idea. The ability of COS to stop MMP-9 from being produced in fibrosarcoma cells is very important for the spread and growth of cancer.¹⁹⁹ COS has been shown to non-competitively bind and neutralize MMP-2 in melanoma cells, preventing the viability of these cells.²⁰⁰ This prevents the spread of cells and reduces CD147 levels. COS helps prevent cancer by reducing inflammation and increasing antioxidant activity in the body.¹⁹⁸

COS has the ability to hinder the growth of tumors by disrupting critical cancer pathways. Furthermore, it impedes the formation of blood vessels in tumor vasculature cells. COS also facilitates the formation of tight junctions in cells through its dependence on the protein AMPK. These discoveries imply that COS can stimulate AMPK *via* an inflammatory response and calcium release, offering potential benefits for diarrhea treatment and colorectal cancer prevention. Moreover, COS contributes to the establishment of tight junctions reliant on AMPK, presenting a novel means through which COS triggers AMPK activation involving an inflammatory response and calcium release. Understanding this process could be instrumental in the management of diarrhea and the prevention of colorectal cancer.²⁰¹ In another study, treatment of human colon cancer cells (HT-29) with COS (molecular weight 3–5 kDa) resulted in increased production of antioxidants, including glutathione, reduced glutathione in -S-transferase, and kinin reductase.²⁰²

A research study has shown that COS has a positive impact on the immune system of piglets weaned at an early age. COS regulates the production of antibodies and cytokines, thereby boosting the activity of superoxide dismutase and catalase enzymes and enhancing their ability to combat harmful substances when administered through their diet at a specific dosage.²⁰³ An interesting new research work was conducted by Lee and his team in 2017, It was found that giving piglets chitosan in their food in different amounts increased the levels of prostaglandin E2 (PGE2), leukotriene B4 (LTB4). The increase in levels was either straight or curved depending on the dosage. The activity of certain chemicals in the blood was increased in either a straight line or curved line pattern. These chemicals are



serum cytosolic-phospholipase A2, COX-2, and 5-lipoxygenase. These findings show that chitosan can affect how the body processes arachidonic acid.^{204,205}

The effect depends on the amount of chitosan taken. In most studies that have been published, the results show that chitosan can help with growth just like antibiotics in food. So, chitosan is a good and useful option instead of antibiotics.²⁰⁶

5.4. Chitosan oligosaccharide's: biomaterials for drug and DNA delivery activities

Redaction of multidrug resistance (MDR) in infectious and proliferative diseases, in the era of the evolution of one of the main problems in drug therapy and gene therapy, is to increase the effectiveness of drugs and/or DNA delivered to the cell, and tissue target *via* drug administration and/or DNA.²⁰⁷ Interestingly, COS has shown potential in biomedical applications as a drug and DNA delivery agent for the biomolecule chitosan.^{208,209} The excellent gelling properties, of chitosan, can provide morphogenic and pharmaceutical properties in the formulation. To overcome MDR, it is important to develop chemotherapy drugs that deliver antibodies to cancer/tumor sites.²¹⁰

Also, in another study, stearic acid self-assembled COS (COS-SA) nanoparticle conjugates were used to deliver DOX for target delivery, demonstrating pH-dependent sustained release of DOX with less cytotoxicity. The cell turnover rate of DOX was higher in nanoparticle-treated cells compared with cells without DOX. According to this report, it can improve the response and penetration of nanoparticles into tissues while reducing drug delivery to other organs such as the heart. While the level of nanoparticles increases due to the reduction of nanoparticles by macrophages and the reduced adsorption of nanoparticles to proteins in the blood, the increase of amount of nanoparticles by tumor cells increases the number, growth and cell shrinkage of cancer cells. COS-based nanocarriers were used in cross-linking systems with glutaraldehyde and genipin b, revealing the potent cytotoxicity of COS micelles containing antibodies against various types of cancer.²¹¹ COS has also been shown to enhance DNA delivery and drug absorption across epithelial cells. Polymer micelles made from COS and stearic acid have been tested and proven to be an effective method of DNA delivery in the laboratory and in living organisms. The sticky property of COS is very important for the ability of nanocarriers to stick to cells, which helps them interact with the walls of the cells. This data shows that COS and its derivatives are safe and can be used for delivering drugs or genes effectively.²¹²

5.5. Chitosan oligosaccharide's anti-inflammatory activity

Inflammation occurs when the body responds to harmful agents like bacteria, damaged cells, or allergens, initiating a defensive response using immune cells and chemicals that cause swelling and attract more immune cells to the affected area. Inflammatory processes are linked to various diseases such as cancer, heart disease, diabetes, and other health issues. The cell wall of Gram-negative bacteria contains lipopolysaccharide (LPS), which contributes to the pathogenesis of

inflammatory diseases. When LPS binds to the TLR4 receptor, it triggers an inflammatory response in the body by hindering the degradation of I κ B or blocking specific pathways involving MAPK, a signal-transmitting complex consisting of three subunits (p38, MAPK, ERK^{1/2}, JNK^{1/2}).²¹³ The main component of MAPK helps translocate a protein activating into the nucleus, which then activates inflammatory genes.²¹⁴ COS has been shown to block LPS-induced inflammation. Similar effects were observed in cells and animals tested using different concentrations of COS.²¹⁵

One study showed protection against ovalbumin (OVA)-induced lung inflammation in a mouse model of induced asthma expressing COS, IL-4, and IL-5 at the mRNA and protein levels. It can reduce inflammation and the level of certain proteins in the lungs and fluid. This is achieved by reducing the expression of iNOS, a protein activated by LPS, in L9 microglia.⁷¹

In another study, the inhibitory effect of COS on nitric oxide (NO) production was determined, and COS decreased the expression of iNOS in L9 microglia activated by LPS.⁵²

Glc-containing low molecular weight COS (b1 kDa) inhibits antigen-stimulated degranulation and cytokine production in RBL-2H3 cells.⁵¹ High molecular weight COS (b1 kDa) containing Glc prevents antigen-induced degranulation and cytokine production in RBL-2H3 cells.⁵⁰ These data indicate that oral administration of low molecular weight COS is effective in reducing allergic reactions and is therefore a potential product for the treatment of mastcell-mediated allergic asthma.²¹⁶ Another study found that porcine epithelial cells were effective in suppressing intestinal inflammation and the immune response of low-molecular-weight COS. p38, a COS-related factor that inhibits LPS-induced MAPK activation, including JNK^{1/2} and ERK^{1/2}, thereby inhibiting AP-1 nuclear translocation.⁷⁵

5.6. Chitosan oligosaccharide's immuno-stimulating activity

With the increasing prevalence of diseases like AIDS, cancer, and diabetes, there is a growing need to develop therapies and vaccines that boost the immune system. Recent research suggests using substances to strengthen the immune system, especially in supporting cancer treatment with chemotherapy. Chitosan oligosaccharides (COS) have shown to alleviate inflammation, combat harmful molecules, and enhance the immune system's response. COS enhances the growth and abilities of specific cells to fight harmful substances and promotes the proliferation and activity of certain immune cells. Studies revealed that COS treatment increased TLR4 and iNOS mRNA levels in macrophages, highlighting its potent anti-inflammatory effects through TLR4 activation.²¹⁷

The research utilized subtilis Rec to assess its effects at varying dosages. This study suggests that increased COS levels have a greater potential to prevent mutations, dependent on the quantity rather than the size of COS molecules. COS activates macrophages, located on cell membranes, which are essential for pattern recognition, mediated by TLR4 to trigger intracellular immune responses.⁷² A study conducted by Zhang and colleagues show that COS helps RAW 264.7 cells, a type of



immune system, grow and consume harmful substances. So, increased levels of NO and TNF- α are important components of the immune system. When COS is taken orally, macrophages take up FITC-COS and TITC-COS. However, the increase in FITC-COS was stopped when anti-mouse TLR4 was used.¹¹¹

5.7. Chitosan oligosaccharide's anti-AIDS

HIV is the most common clinical virus found worldwide. Interestingly, some studies have shown that certain types of chitosan, called oligomeric derivatives, can block the effects of HIV on human T lymphoblastoid CEM-SS cells.⁷³

Interestingly, AE-chitosan was found to be effective against HIV-1 in a three-days test at a concentration of a specified amount. Researchers created a new compound by combining chitosan oligomers with CS-*O*-isopropyl-5'-*O*-d4T monophosphate. This compound was found to be effective against HIV and harmful to certain cells. This research led to some of strategies on the treatment of HIV using chitosan and nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor (NRTI). The treatment was designed to be more effective in fighting HIV when used with antiretroviral therapy.⁷⁴ Recently, it's found that CS and its oligomers have shown effectiveness against HIV. This is about a very interesting discovery, where they made a new composite by combining different small parts of proteins, namely tryptophan, methionine, and glutamine combined, with COS. The evaluation of the results of this report showed that QMW-COS and WMQCOS defended C8166 cells from the harmful effects of the HIV-1RF strain, as well as stopping the formation of HIV-induced syncytia. Different combinations of tripeptides had various effects that changed gradually and repeatedly.¹⁹⁴

5.8. Chitosan oligosaccharide's antioxidant

Reactive oxygen species (ROS) increase the risk of diseases such as diabetes, heart disease and cancer. Injury and infection cause some immune systems to produce harmful chemicals called free radicals. These substances can damage cells and cause ongoing inflammation. Lately, researchers have been studying COS and similar substances because they have been shown to have powerful benefits for fighting damage caused by harmful molecules and reducing swelling, which could potentially be helpful in treating or preventing certain severe conditions. Various studies have obtained similar findings. According to the report of Sun *et al.*, COS, with molecular weight of 3–5 kDa, was combined with L-ascorbic acid and used as antioxidant. This combination showed the ability to remove of harmful molecules (free radicals) and protect against damage caused by them.⁷⁶

According to another report, COS stops the activity of myeloperoxidase enzyme, which helps reduce damage to proteins and genetic material in mouse macrophage cells. Researchers found that a treatment called COS was able to prevent damage to the tissues caused by lipopolysaccharide injection. COS helps prevent cell damage and ageing by acting as an antioxidant in different ways. For instance, it increases the level of GSH reduced glutathione, which helps in capturing and removing harmful substances inside cells. However, COS also makes AMPK adenosine monophosphate-activated kinase more active,

and this helps control of other processes in the living organs of body. These include regulating genes like NF- κ B, limiting the effect of β -catenin, and activating caspase-3. These responses are triggered when the body has too many harmful molecules called ROS and is under a lot of oxidative stress.²¹⁶

However, it might be possible in future to deliver insulin directly to the right place in the body by using chitosan that sticks well to the intended area of absorption. Chitosan dissolves in water and has a low weight helping insulin to be processed easily. Sulfated chitosan greatly opens up the channels for insulin to pass through. For this purpose, chitosan and its derivatives can be use as carriers for insulin. In conclusion chitosan is the second most used natural polymer and among many biopolymers. It has important properties such as mucoadhesion, improved permeability, biocompatibility and biodegradability. Chitosan and its derivatives play an important role in the safety and treatment of various diseases. The activity of chitosan makes it suitable for biomedical and pharmaceutical applications. Chitosan-based nanocarriers have emerged as promising drug delivery methods. Chitosan nanoparticles (CSNP) are safe and effective nanocarrier systems with controlled drug release and release. CSNPs have broad biomedical applications in medicine and drug delivery. Since chitosan and its derivatives have many physical and chemical properties, they can be used effectively in the pharmaceutical and biomedical industries.²¹⁸

Table 1 indicates the analysis results from different literature summarizing the ingredients and applications of chitosan used in biomedical research. It can be seen that there are many treatments such as antibiotics, anti-inflammatory drugs, anti-inflammatory drugs, anti-epithelial cells, anti-transplantation, immune stimulation, anti-HIV, antioxidant activity, and various biomedicine/pharmaceutical applications. It is often used in research as the basis for various medical conventions and drug-delivery devices.^{246–252}

5.9. CDs anti-inflammatory and antimicrobial therapy

In a study conducted by Kfoury, it was shown that Anatole and eugenol can help decrease levels of inflammatory chemicals called interleukin-6 (IL-6) and IL-8 in lung and liver cells exposed to air pollution.⁷⁸ It was tested on mice to see if it could help wounds heal to done faster. They looked at how the wound area changed and how much inflammation there was by checking for a type of white blood cell that gets into the skin. The results of this report showed that when using tobramycin and inclusion complexes together in the hydrogel made of dialdehyde carboxymethyl cellulose, there was a greater decrease in these two aspects compared to when they were used separately.⁷⁹

Also, Xu and colleagues made a bandage for wounds using a type of gel that included eugenol and β -CD. This made the bandage more stable and able to dissolve in water easily. It also helped the bandage release of VOC (Volatile organic compounds) slowly, which stayed at a higher concentration in the bandage for a longer time. Based on the results of this report, under *in vitro* conditions the number of cells involved in



Table 1 Sources and usage of CS

Saccharides	Natural source	Applications	Advantage	Disadvantage	Ref.
Chitosan oligosaccharides	Depolymerised of chitosan or chitin	Antimicrobial, to determine the pathogenesis of enteric infections and inflammation	The chitosan backbone can provide good safety and performance as a carrier for biological agents, as demonstrated by the transport of DNA or drugs such as insulin and famotidine	None of the treatments affected the survival of the disease-free mice	184
	Prepared from 90–95% deacetylated chitosan	Anti-inflammatory effects, it blocks the cytotoxic effect of (<i>Vibrio vulnificus</i>) on intestinal epithelial cells	COS has potent antibacterial activity against <i>Vibrio vulnificus</i> both <i>in vitro</i> and <i>in vivo</i> . Its molecular weight. It can be used as a therapeutic agent to treat <i>Vibrio vulnificus</i> infection	Low concentrations of COS have a weak inhibitory effect on the growth of <i>Vibrio vulnificus</i> and have no effect within 5 hours after application	219
	Chitosan conjugates bearing trisaccharide globotriose	Antimicrobial, antiviral immunity against Shiga toxin-producing <i>E. coli</i>	Chitosan oligosaccharide (COS) derivatives have anti-inflammatory properties against Shiga toxin-producing <i>Escherichia coli</i> infection, which often causes severe hemolytic uremic disease	Its antibacterial effect is not as good as LMWC	185
	Depolymerised products of chitosan or chitin	Antimicrobial, leads to the relocation of potassium particles (K^+) from the cell film, causing an efflux of K^+ and incitement of extracellular fermentation	COS derivatives have been demonstrated to possess the ability to inhibit the activity of Shiga toxin-producing <i>E. coli</i> bacteria	The antibacterial properties of COS can be attributed to its relationship with chitin and its molecular weight	186
	Chitosan and its derivatives (the negatively charged carboxylic acid groups and positively charged glucosamine units)	Assess the impacts of the distinctive effect of dietary chitosan oligosaccharide level on the growth efficiency of <i>Escherichia coli</i> and lactic acid bacteria in faecal excretion	Chitosan and its derivatives as a pig-feed additive provides positive antimicrobial, anti-oxidative, immunoregulatory, and blood cholesterol-limiting effects	The molecular mechanisms of these bioactivities and the precise influences of the physicochemical properties of these substances on their various bioactivities remain to be understood	189
	Depolymerised of chitosan	Anti-tumor, inhibitory effect of COS on orthotopic liver cancer	Molecular weight and DDA of chitosan oligosaccharides are important factors for suppressing cancer cell growth	Antitumor activity of chitosan seems to depend not only on molecular size but also on their chemical structure	220
	Nanoparticles called Galactosylated COS and (Gal-COS/ATP)	Anti-tumor, COS prevent the spread of cancer cells in both lab dishes and live animals by blocking certain enzymes called matrix metalloproteinase (MMP) In simple words, to stop the movement and invasion of stomach cancer cells in a test tube	COS significantly inhibited SGC-7901 cell proliferation and metastasis in a dose-dependent manner	The underlying mechanisms and the direct influence of COS on gastric cancer cells have not been fully tested in detail	197
	COS oligomer and chitin oligomer	Anti-tumor, these oligomers can be used as part of a healthy diet to help prevent cancer and inflammatory diseases	COS derivatives are effective in targeted drug therapy/gene therapy	The exact mechanisms behind the actions of NACOS and COS are not yet fully dissected, and further mechanistic studies will be required to harness the benefits of NACOS and COS in therapeutics	179
	Depolymerised products of chitosan or chitin	Anti-cancer, it decreased NF- κ B activity and COX-2 expression while increasing AMPK activity and antioxidant activity	COS is an antitumor metastatic agent for the treatment of colon cancer	Without COS pretreatment, NO production by cytokines is impossible	198
Depolymerised products of chitosan	Anti-cancer, β -catenin caused the arrest of mTOR, pyruvate kinase, and ornithine decarboxylase. Additionally, COS inhibits the growth of blood vessels in tumors by	COS inhibits the growth of blood vessels in tumor activators in blood vessel cells	The amount of chitosan used should be much higher to accumulate strongly in the tumor tissue after intravenous injection, leading to almost	221	



Table 1 (Contd.)

Saccharides	Natural source	Applications	Advantage	Disadvantage	Ref.
		reducing VEGF and urokinase-type plasminogen activators in blood vessel cells		complete inhibition of growth and metastasis	
	Chitosan	Anti-cancer, the production of several antioxidants, including glutathione-S-transferase, and kinin reductase, as well as ornithine decarboxylase and cyclin reduction in oxygenase (COX-2)	Due to the cationic nature of chitosan, it is very useful in cell absorption and transport in the degenerative disorders such as diabetes, obesity and AD	Due to its composition of multiple NGlc units and its vulnerability to degradation, its safety is of concern	202
	Depolymerised products of chitosan or chitin	Anti-cancer, COS promotes cell-mediated immune response by regulating the production of antibodies and cytokines in early-weaned piglets	COS promotes cell-mediated immune response by regulating the production of antibodies, and passive tumor targeting can be a promising anticancer drug delivery system for tumor-targeted therapy	Cytotoxicity <i>in vitro</i> should be investigated	203
	Depolymerised products of chitosan or chitin	Anti-cancer, increase in the activity of COX-2, and an increase in 5-lipoxygenase activity	Chitosan is a well-known elicitor that strongly affects both secondary metabolites and biomass production by plants	The effect of chitosan on <i>S. marianum</i> cell suspension is not known yet	204
	Depolymerised products chitosan or chitin	Anti-inflammatory, protection against ovalbumin (OVA)-induced lung inflammation and reduced inflammation and levels of certain proteins in the lung tissue and fluids	COS effectively reduced the expression of inflammatory mediators (TNF- α , iNOS, MCP-1, RANTES, fractalkine, and ICAM-1), COS could also abate the ability of the recruited lymphocytes to secrete chemokines and cytokines, further blocking the attraction of leukocytes to the inflammatory sites	COS reduces inflammatory damage by affecting different components of the inflammatory response, but it has not been reported which components it is effective on	71
	Depolymerised products of chitosan or chitin	Anti-inflammatory, COS inhibit NO production by inhibiting the expression of inducible nitric oxide synthase (iNOS) in activated microglia	COS could suppress NO production in LPS-induced N9 microglial cells, mediated by p38 MAPK and ERK1/2 pathways	It is not possible without chitosan pretreatment	222
	Depolymerised products of chitosan	Anti-inflammatory epithelial cells, LPS-induced activation of MAPKs, thus inhibits AP-1 nuclear translocation. In addition, COS inhibits NF- κ B activation, resulting in decreased NF- κ B nuclear translocation	LCOS significantly attenuated mRNA expression of IL-8 and MCP-1 induced by TNF- α in the cells	PKA (protein kinase A)-specific inhibitor, reversed the mRNA expression of IL-8 when co-cultured with LCOS	75
	Depolymerised products of chitosan	Prevent mutations, COS's ability to indirectly reduce mutations, the COS mechanism for boosting the immune system starts by activating certain cells called macrophages	COS's ability to indirectly reduce mutations	Mutagenic activity of indirect-acting mutagen was inhibited by ~50% in the gene expression system	217
	Depolymerised products chitosan	Immuno-stimulating It causes an increase in nitric oxide, an important molecule in the immune system, and tumor necrosis factor	COS possesses potent immune-stimulating properties by activating TLR4 on macrophages	Chitosan has limitations such as poor solubility in physiological conditions	111
	Chitosan oligomers	Anti-HIV activity the creation of a new treatment using chitosan and nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor (NRTI)	Chitosan-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor (NRTI) conjugate with a phosphoramidate linkage an efficient approach for improving NRTI therapy	More attention has been paid to partially hydrolyzed chitosan oligosaccharides	74



Table 1 (Contd.)

Saccharides	Natural source	Applications	Advantage	Disadvantage	Ref.
	Chitosan and its oligomers	Anti-HIV activity combining different small parts of proteins, namely tryptophan, methionine, and glutamine, with COS. QMW-COS and WMQCOS defended C8166 cells from the harmful effects of the HIV-1RF strain, as well as stopping the formation of HIV-induced syncytia	efficacy in antiretroviral treatment Chitosan prevents the formation of syncytium caused by HIV	Only three proteins (Tryptophan, methionine, and glutamine) have been investigated	76
	Depolymerised products chitosan	Antioxidants activity, COS was combined with L-ascorbic acid, showed the ability to remove harmful molecules called free radicals and protect against damage caused by them Antioxidants COS stops the myeloperoxidase enzyme from working in cells, which helps reduce damage to proteins and genetic material in mouse macrophage cells	The antioxidant assays demonstrated that conjugation significantly improved the antioxidant activities, being dramatically higher than that of free chitosan chitosan oligosaccharides attenuated organ dysfunction and improved survival rates after LPS injection	The antioxidant activity of conjugated chitosan is higher than its free state Need for more studies on chitosan oligosaccharides with different molecular weights and which specific monomer has the best anti-inflammatory effect	194 216

blood vessel growth has been increased and the activation of inflammatory substances was decreased. Experiments conducted on living organisms showed that the wound heals done faster after a few days. In addition, the growth of bacteria was stopped.²²³ In various studies, caryophyllene was encapsulated in M- β -CD, which made it easier to dissolve in water. The inclusion complex reduced swelling, while free caryophyllene reduced swelling to a lesser extent than the inclusion complex.¹⁵² According to this report, if mice were pretreated with a caryophyllene/M- β -CD inclusion complex, the injury was reduced better than when they were given caryophyllene or free omeprazole. In addition to reducing inflammation, caryophyllene also acts as an antioxidant to protect the lining of the stomach.²²⁴

Interestingly, certain substances were successfully trapped inside a material called randomly methylated- β -cyclodextrin, which made them easier to dissolve in water and protected them from outside conditions. These trapped substances helped fight bacteria better than when they were free, and they also had antioxidant properties in lower amounts. For example, in a research work, cinnamaldehyde was trapped in CDs and used to make wound dressings with antibacterial properties.²²⁵

In another experiment, cinnamaldehyde mixed with different CDs and used to make nanofibers with antibacterial properties and tested. The very thin fibers were placed on agar plates with the bacteria *Escherichia coli*. The study lasted for 24 hours and showed that the nanofibres containing only CDs did not have any effect in stopping the growth of *Escherichia coli* bacteria. The authors of this report believed that the antibacterial activity is caused by the cinnamaldehyde/CD inclusion

complexes, Nanofibers containing β -CD did not kill bacteria, but nanofibers containing cinnamaldehyde and β -CD did it. Additionally, when the cinnamaldehyde/ β -CD complex is included in the nanofibers, it does not cause brain damage, unlike free cinnamaldehyde.²²⁶

Also, linalool was encapsulated in three different types of modified CDs to produce antibacterial nanofibres. Prepared nanocomposite, showed that nanofibers with linalool/M- β -CD inclusion complexes were the most stable and effective in slowly releasing the substance. Because thymol has antibacterial abilities, researchers looked into using it in fibrous membranes made by electrospinning. The findings showed that the combination of thymol and β -CD had a stronger ability to kill bacteria because it dissolved better in water and released volatile organic compounds slowly over time.²²⁷

Interestingly, a study conducted by Paiva in 2022 show that thymol was enclosed inside β -CDs. They added the material Eudragit®EPO to the mixture of thymol and β -CD to hide the strong bad taste and smell of thymol. This substance did not change how thymol was enclosed. So, this mixture was selected for the laboratory and live tests. In studies on how medicine moves through the body, the inclusion complex was better than free thymol. It got into the body faster and stayed there longer, so people didn't need to take it as often during the day. Furthermore, the findings showed that thymol is mostly absorbed by the stomach and is not absorbed well by the intestinal lining. Based on the results of this report the inclusion complex enhances thymol's movement through the digestive system, causing more thymol to build up on the



surface of the intestine. This could potentially help thymol fight against bacterial intestinal problems.²²⁸

In another research, thymol was put inside different kinds of CDs and it was found that HP- β -CD) 2-hydroxypropyl- β -cyclodextrin (was the best choice. The antifungal effect of thymol was greatly enhanced when it was encapsulated in HP- β -CD. This is likely because its ability to dissolve in a liquid. Additionally, the encapsulation increased the amount of time of product incubation compared to regular thymol. It also made the product more stable when exposed to high temperatures. The tests conducted on free limonene showed that it is effective against *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. When *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* is combined with gentamicin, there is a beneficial interaction. Simply put, limonene did not alter the antibacterial effect of gentamicin when incorporated into β -CD. Inclusion complexes also did not show any improvement, probably due to β -CD interfering with the interaction of organic compounds (VOCs) and bacteria. Also, Piletti and coworkers proposed eugenol/BCD incorporation lead to a substance with excellent antibacterial activity.²²⁹

5.10. CDs pain control activity

The scientists examined the combination of carvacrol and β -CD to see if it could help lessen the pain that comes with muscle inflammation. In a study conducted by Souza, rats were given different treatments before muscle inflammation was caused. The treatments done by carvacrol/ β -CD and dexamethasone. Based on the results of this report, the control group showed high levels of markers that cause inflammation and pain, while the groups that were given carvacrol/ β -CD inclusion complex or dexamethasone before showed similar ability to reduce inflammation in most cases.²³⁰

Interestingly, Silva conducted a study in which they injected formalin into mice to induce pain and then tested whether complexes containing carvacrol/ β -CD reduced that pain. Free carvacrol in the first (neurogenic) phase of the response is ineffective, causing side effects in the second (inflammatory) phase. The carvacrol/ β -CD combination reduced pain in two phases. Based on this report, the combination of carvacrol and β -CD can reduce pain more effectively and longer than carvacrol alone. This is an appropriate treatment good because it reduces the problems associated with the toxicity of carvacrol. Also, combination of caryophyllene and β -CD also helps reduce pain by activating the body's natural pain relief system,²³¹ Santos created a mixture of citronellal and β -CD to make citronellal more effective in reducing pain. Studies of these research group shown that the combination of citronellal/ β -CD and tramadol (painkiller), just as well as each other in reducing pain. The way it might be by citronellal interacting with glutamate receptors, which then activates a pathway that stops signals from going up to the brain. Normally, these medicines make your muscles stronger, but the citronellal/ β -CD mixture did not have the same effect. Similarly, the treatment that was received every day did not show any signs of needing it more.²³²

In another study, researchers found that limonene became more water soluble and remained stable longer when combined

with β -CD. Additionally, the combination of limonene and β -CD has no effect on muscle tone. Another study found that linalool and the β -CD compound could relieve pain without affecting muscle tone. This may be because they interfere with the body's pain relief and reduce a protein called Fos in the spinal cord. But the key difference between free linalool and the compound is how long the effect lasts. Similarly, the combination of α -terpineol with β -CD increases its water solubility, increases its use in the body and remains stable. Inclusion complexes provide longer-lasting pain relief than α -terpineol without binding to other drugs.²³³

5.11. CDs anti-hypertensive treatment

The anti-inflammatory activity of linalool was examined in spontaneously hypertensive rats and compared with the effects provided by linalool/ β -CD containing complexes and specific products in its composition, compared with other samples.²³⁴ This means that the free linalool had a positive impact on lowering blood pressure, but the effects were even better when it was pronounced or emphasized. Also, the addition complex made the substance more stable and improved its ability to be used by the body. Recently, researchers tested both carvacrol and the carvacrol enclosed in β -CD to see how they affected blood pressure in rats that are prone to high blood pressure. Carvacrol given for free did not lower blood pressure compared to the control group. However, when carvacrol was combined with β -CD, a decrease in blood pressure began on the 15th day of treatment. Furthermore, a combination of carvacrol and β -CD can reduce inflammation and lower blood pressure.²³⁵

5.12. CDs antioxidant behavior

To evaluate the behaviour of antioxidants effect of β -CD, eugenol was packaged into CDs and incorporated into nanofibers by electrospinning. This led to water solubility inurement and thermal stability. In a time-dependent antioxidant test, the incorporated eugenol/M- β -CD inclusion complex showed a faster antioxidant response and a better overall antioxidant performance than free eugenol.²³⁶ Xiao prepared sulfobutyl ether β -cyclodextrin (SBE- β -CD) encapsulated borneol to improve the apparent solubility and stability of VOCs and used this incorporated compound together with tetramethylpyrazine in transdermal drug delivery systems to protect middle cerebral artery occlusion. Application of borneol/SBE- β -CD inclusion complex promotes the opening of the blood-brain barrier. The absorption of this drug in the brain is increased when administered with tetramethylpyrazine, enhancing the protective effect of this drug against middle cerebral artery occlusion. HP- β -CD is a CD widely used in drug formulations to encapsulate caryophyllene to improve its solubility and bioavailability.²³⁷ In addition, caryophyllene/HP- β -CD plays a role in improving cerebral blood flow, inhibiting neuronal apoptosis and reducing brain degeneration in vascular dementia model mice, thus improving memory and spatial learning. Complexes containing caryophyllene/HP- β -CD also activate type 2 cannabinoid receptors located in the brain's immune system.²²⁸



Table 2 Sources and usage of CD

Saccharides	Natural source	Applications	Advantage	Disadvantage	Ref.
CD	β -Cyclo-dextrin	Anti-inflammatory, without the use of surfactants and solvents to produce VOCs, HP- β -CD may be a better environmental choice	The addition of either free or encapsulated essential oil components to particulate matter exposed cells decreased up to 96% of the cytokine IL-6 level and by up to 87% of the cytokine IL-8 level	It should be investigated on other essential oils with more careful measurement	78
	β -Cyclo-dextrin	Anti-inflammatory, the gel is formulated with tobramycin and borneol/mono-6-(2-hydroxy-3(trimethylammonium)propyl)- β -cyclodextrin (BN/EPTAC- β -CD) to promote rapid wound healing	The positively charged cyclodextrin derivatives containing the auxiliary drug borneol are dispersed inside the hydrogel by electrostatic attraction with carboxyl groups, imine bonds can break in response thereby drugs and moisture inside the hydrogel are released to promote wound healing	It has only been investigated in weakly acidic environments	79
	β -Cyclo-dextrin	Anti-inflammatory, made a bandage for wounds using a type of gel that included eugenol and β -CD, the bandage was more stable and able to dissolve in water easily	β -Cyclodextrin accelerated diabetic wound healing by reducing the lectin-like oxidized low-density lipoprotein receptor-1/nuclear factor kappa-B-induced dysfunction in endothelial cells and promoting angiogenesis	Eugenol is poorly soluble, pungent smelling, and volatile, thus preventing its clinical use as a potential therapeutic agent	223
	Caryophyllene enclosed in M- β -CD	Anti-inflammatory, apart from reducing inflammation, caryophyllene also works as an antioxidant to protect the stomach lining	Caryophyllene also acts as an antioxidant to protect the lining of the stomach	Antiproliferative, anti-migratory, cytotoxic, and pro-apoptotic effects of OEO-PbH may lead to the drying and falling off of the skin tags	223 and 247
	β -Cyclo-dextrin	Anti-inflammatory and antibacterial properties of cinnamaldehyde are found in β -CD. The findings show that β -CD helps cinnamaldehyde remain stable even after 3 weeks, similar to the effect of free cinnamaldehyde	β -Cyclo-dextrin has strong anti-inflammatory and antioxidant effects, similar to those of tCIN when used alone	tCIN self-inclusion in the β -CD polymer did not elevate the toxicity to more than that of tCIN alone	248
	Methylated- β -cyclodextrin	Antimicrobial, a chemical called cinnamaldehyde was trapped in cyclodextrins and is used as a wound dressing along with antibiotics	Methylated/ β -CD improved the antibacterial activities of the mixture against <i>Escherichia coli</i> and <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	Highest effective antibacterial activities of PLA/ β -CD/CA-3 for <i>E. coli</i> and <i>S. aureus</i> were preserved for 60 h	225
	Combination of cinnamaldehyde with different CDs	Antimicrobial, a combination of cinnamaldehyde with different CDs was used to produce nanofibers with antibacterial properties. The complex containing cinnamaldehyde/HP- β -CD was inhibited at 4.83 cm	Cinnamaldehyde has kept its antibacterial activity in cinnamaldehyde/CD-IC NF samples when tested against <i>Escherichia coli</i>	Pure cinnamaldehyde is insoluble in water in nature, cinnamaldehyde is a highly volatile compound	226
	Limonene/M- β -CD	Antimicrobial, nanofibers with linalool/M- β -CD inclusion complex are the most stable and effective in the slow release of drugs, showing that it is better at killing bacteria. <i>E. coli</i> and <i>S. aureus</i>	CD/limonene-IC-NFs exhibited high antibacterial activity against <i>E. coli</i> and <i>S. aureus</i>	It can be used for a short time period	249
	Three different types of modified CDs	Antimicrobial, strong immunity against <i>Escherichia coli</i> and <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	Characteristics of liquid linalool have been preserved in a solid nanofiber form and designed CD/linalool-IC-NFs confer high loading capacity, enhanced shelf life and strong antibacterial activity of linalool	The limitation of this test is related to the fact that it has been evaluated only for Gram-positive bacteria	227
	Thymol/ β -CDs	Antimicrobial, research results show that thymol is mainly absorbed from the stomach and poorly absorbed from the small intestine. Encapsulation compounds support	The ingredients in the capsule support the movement of thymol throughout the digestive tract and cause more thymol to accumulate on the surface of the gut, which can help	Thymol is mainly absorbed from the stomach and poorly absorbed from the small intestine	228



Table 2 (Contd.)

Saccharides	Natural source	Applications	Advantage	Disadvantage	Ref.
		the movement of thymol throughout the digestive tract, causing more thymol to build up on the surface of the intestine. This could potentially help thymol fight against bacterial intestinal problems	thymol fight against bacterial problems in the gut		
	Thymol with- β -CDs	Antimicrobial, the tests conducted on free limonene showed that it is effective against <i>S. Bacteria Aureus</i> and <i>P</i> are two things. When <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> is combined with gentamicin, there is a beneficial interaction	The tests conducted on free limonene showed that it is effective against <i>S. Bacteria aureus</i> and <i>P</i> are two things	When <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> is combined with gentamicin, there is a beneficial interaction	229
	Carvacrol/ β -CD	Pain control activity, while the control group showed high signs of pain and inflammation, when the group was given carvacrol/ β -CD with complex or dexamethasone. There was a similar ability to reduce pain in most cases	β CD-carvacrol reduces inflammation and nociception in a model of acute injury to skeletal muscles	Not reported	230
	Carvacrol/ β -CD	Pain control activity, administration of free carvacrol was ineffective in the first phase of the response (neurogenic) but the carvacrol/ β -CD combination reduced pain	The encapsulation of carvacrol in β -cyclodextrin can act as a considerable therapeutic agent for orofacial pain management	The low polarity and water solubility limit their pharmacological uses	231
	Mixture of citronellal and β -CD	Pain control activity, by citronellal interacting with glutamate receptors, activates a pathway that stops signals from going up to the brain. Normally, these medicines make your muscles stronger	By interacting with glutamate receptors, citronella activates a pathway that stops signals from going up to the brain, so these drugs make your muscles stronger	β -CD poor solubility and their applications are limited	232
	Limonene combined with β -CD	Pain control activity, the combination of these drugs reduces the severity of spinal symptoms by reducing the amount of Fos protein. Its pain-relieving effect is related to its interaction with certain receptors in the brain	β CP reduced hyperalgesia produced by a chronic muscle pain model. The inhibition of the superficial dorsal horn of the spinal cord lamina I is involved in this process, possibly evoked by CNS activation, specifically the descending inhibitory pain system	The β CP curve showed an endothermic event in the range of 165–47 °C	250
	Linalool and β -CD combination	Pain control activity, linalool/ β -CD inclusion complex helps reduce stomach damage using small doses of linalool, and the analgesic effect of the inclusion complex lasts for 24 hours after administration, while the effects of the free linalool didn't last as long because it was more easily absorbed and stable in the inclusion complex	LIN-CD improved the analgesic profile of LIN with the possible involvement of descending pain pathways and the analgesic effect of linalool in an animal model of chronic non-inflammatory muscle pain	So far, only the investigations in animal models of inflammatory pain and supraspinatus have been published	251
	Carvacrol enclosed in β -CD	Anti-hypertensive therapy when carvacrol was combined with β -CD, a decrease in blood pressure. Additionally, the combination of carvacrol and β -CD may reduce inflammation, lower blood pressure, and treat high blood pressure	Encapsulation of CARV in β -CD can improve cardiovascular activity, showing potential anti-inflammatory and antihypertensive effects	low polarity and water solubility, which restricts its pharmacological	235
	Borneol encapsulated with SBE- β -CDs	Antioxidant activity, borneol/SBE- β -CD leads to the opening of the blood-brain barrier. The absorption of this drug in the brain is increased when combined with tetramethylpyrazine, contributing to	The solubility of DMY was significantly improved in the presence of natural (α -, β -, γ -) CDs and their derivatives, namely hydroxypropyl- β -cyclodextrin (HP- β -CD)	Poor water solubility and low chemical stability, its applications in food and pharmaceutical fields remain limited	237



Table 2 (Contd.)

Saccharides	Natural source	Applications	Advantage	Disadvantage	Ref.
	FA is combined with b-CD	the protection of this drug against middle cerebral artery occlusion Anti-tumor, when FA is combined with b-CyD using a PEG spacer, it helps rhodamine-B enter KB cells, which are a type of human squamous carcinoma cell (FR-a (+)). However, this combination does not have the same effect on MCF7 cells, which are human breast cancer cells (FR-a (-)). When b-CyD is combined with FA using a click chemistry strategy, it forms a small particle in water with 5-fluorouracil. This particle can enter cells that have a lot of FR-a proteins without needing clathrin or GPI-anchored proteins	CD/FA nanoparticles with excellent long-term optical properties have great prospects for the development of targeting tracers and anti-tumor biomedical research	This combination does not have the same effect on MCF7 cells, which are human breast cancer cells (FR-a (-))	243
	CDs with folate attached to them	Anti-tumor, DOX complex had similar abilities to fight tumors both in lab dishes and in living organisms	These findings suggest that DOX- β -CyD could be useful as a tumor-selective carrier for anticancer drugs	β -Cyclodextrin poor solubility, volatility and sensitivity to environmental factors pose challenges for formulation scientists	244 and 252

5.13. CDs anti-tumor therapy

Cancer is a disease that often leads to death, so scientists are working on ways to make the treatment better with fewer side effects. They want it to be more effective in fighting of cancer. These cancer drugs are harmful to normal cells and can make cancer resistant to treatment.²³⁸ So, the important things to do are to make the drugs better and reduce any bad effects they may have.²³⁹ The carrier for anticancer drugs is a way to treat cancer. In this situation, The Scientists focus on methods that actively target using DDS. So far, scientists have found different things that can be used for targeting, like folate, transferrin, EGF, Her2, and RGD peptide. Folic acid is a commonly used ligand because it targets cells with high levels of folate receptors, which is often found in more severe forms of cancer.²⁴⁰ Moreover, FA also has advantages such as low cost, low molecular weight, and high safety immunity. However, there have been only a few reports where anticancer drugs have been successfully targeted in living organisms using FA-conjugated CDs.²¹⁰

Another study made two types of CDs with folate attached to them. The use of caproic acid as a spacer between the folate and CD molecules tested how well these CDs can form complexes with DOX (Fig. 1). According to the obtained results of this report, the DOX/Fol-c1-CD complex is safer than the DOX/Fol-c2-CD complex because it has no effect on blood chemistry once injected into the muscle of the tumor.^{241,242}

5.14. Other pharmaceutical applications

Carvacrol is a substance that is good for fighting cancer. Scientists have put carvacrol into β -CDs to make them even better at treating diseases by making them easier to dissolve, more stable, and easier for the body to absorb when taken

orally. To test if the combination of carvacrol and β -CD can fight cancer, based on the results of this report, carvacrol alone caused the death of 35% of cells, while carvacrol combined with β -CD caused 95% of cell death, indicating that the combination was more toxic.²⁴³ Carvacrol can reduce inflammation in the body^{230, 193}. To understand this characteristic and see if the carvacrol/ β -CD inclusion complex can help with Parkinson's disease, researchers caused inflammation in the brains of rats. Some rats were given carvacrol/ β -CD inclusion complexes for 15 days before triggering inflammation. The rats that did not receive any treatment showed high levels of molecules that cause inflammation and a loss of special cells in the brain. However, the rats that were given a special substance called carvacrol/ β -CD did not show any differences compared to the rats that did not have inflammation in their brains. Therefore, the inclusion complex showed strong anti-inflammatory effects and could protect against the loss of a certain type of brain cells called dopaminergic neurons, which is a characteristic symptom of Parkinson's disease. In another study, researchers examined how β -CD can make linalool more effective in protecting the stomach.²⁴⁴ Because linalool is more easily dissolved in water and remains stable when encapsulated, so, it shown an improved ability to protect the stomach lining from called free radicals.²⁴⁴

Celebioglu made nanofibers without using polymers. with the use of HP- β -CD) hydroxypropyl-beta-cyclodextrin (, HP- γ -CD) hydroxypropyl-gamma-cyclodextrin (, and M- β -CD)methyl-beta-cyclodextrin(, which contain complexes that have the ability to join together and form structures in concentrated solutions. Thymol incorporated to β -CD helps create a material for electrospinning that has a big surface area. This allows thymol to dissolve better in water and withstand higher



temperatures. It also makes the thymol very good at stopping damage from oxidation, achieving a near-perfect antioxidant activity of 100.0% so, tiny fibers with a mixture of linalool and M- β -CD can help fight off damaging substances in the body, even in small amounts. This is because the M- β -CD can hold onto the linalool better and the fibers provide a lot of surface area for the mixture. Authors of this report indicate that the CDs make the healing properties of the substances stronger and more reliable.²⁴⁵ Although most of these studies were performed *in vitro* and *in vivo* condition, they demonstrated that CDs can improve the therapeutic properties and stability of VOCs, leading to the future use of VOC/CD in medicine, particularly involving complexes in oral and cosmetics.

Interestingly CD is a type of carrier used to improve the pharmacokinetics of drug molecules.

These cyclic oligosaccharides have medical and pharmaceutical applications because they can form bonds with poorly water-soluble molecules. The advantage of complexes in improving the chemical and biological properties of drug molecules; solubility, bioavailability, stability, non-toxicity and shelf life. The first compounds used in the treatment are α -, β - and α -, β -, γ -CD has been shown to be effective but has some specific nephrotoxicity. Currently, to solve these problems, sulfobutyl ether- β -CD, hydroxypropyl- β -CD, and *etc.*, can be used.

The data in Table 2 presents an analysis of different studies on the utilization and benefits of Cyclodextrins in biomedical research. The results reveal the diverse applications of CD biopolymers, including their role in anti-inflammatory, antimicrobial, pain control, anti-hypertensive, antioxidant, and anti-tumor activities. These findings underscore the frequent use of CD biopolymers as a basis for numerous potential medical and drug delivery devices.

6. Conclusions, challenges, gap discovery, and future perspectives

Naturally occurring oligosaccharides and polysaccharides show promise for biomedical and drug delivery applications due to their cost-effectiveness and compatibility with biological systems. However, their structures and physical properties often need to be tailored through chemical or physical methods to meet specific application requirements. Chondroitin sulfate, an amino polysaccharide, has potential in the biomedical industry, but its limited water solubility hinders widespread use, requiring the functionalization of polymers with water-soluble molecules. Diverse research approaches are essential for the development of novel polymers with medical applications. Cyclodextrins are valuable additives in the medical field and can be used in creating supramolecular assemblies for biomedical purposes. Various methods, including mixing, solubilization, encapsulation, emulsification, as well as processes such as lyophilization, compression, casting, and absorption, are employed to formulate these carriers.

Cyclodextrins offer multiple benefits for improving the performance and containment of anti-inflammatory drugs, enhancing administration, release, and delivery. Further

investigation in this area is essential for advancing nano-medicine solutions. They have proven to be optimal for manufacturing antibiotics and bioactive drugs and new forms have been developed to accommodate larger molecules like proteins. Research interest in this field remains high.

Cyclodextrins (CDs) have proven clinical effectiveness in cancer treatment and diagnosing cardiovascular diseases. They offer advantages such as longer duration, increased payload, tailored size and properties for tissue penetration, passive targeting, cellular/subcellular traffic, and adaptability for customization to meet different objectives. Integrating CDs into supramolecular platforms improves biocompatibility, simplifies functionalization, and enhances drug payload and therapeutic target identification. However, the use of CDs, specifically β -CD, is limited to oral and topical applications due to low water solubility and potential nephrotoxicity. Despite their advantages, CD-based formulations have limitations, particularly related to spatio-temporal controlled charge distribution tailored to individual body characteristics and disease progression across different conditions.

Ongoing concerns remain about the potential harm of certain chitosan derivatives used to transport drugs from the nasal cavity to the brain. More research is essential to comprehend how polysaccharides interact with proteins and the properties of chitosan-protein complexes. Protonated chitosan plays a key role in stabilizing these complexes under acidic conditions. Furthermore, there is a need to enhance chitosan-based wound dressings by integrating sensors and therapeutic agents for simultaneous release to address microbial growth. Taking a proactive approach, wounds could potentially release bioactive compounds in response to environmental changes linked to primary infection, such as pH, temperature, or UV light chitosan and its derivatives can be used as carriers for insulin. Thousands of studies have been submitted over the years, but they have still been unsuccessful and the applications of chitosan in biomedical fields are still limited. There are still many unanswered questions and problems that need to be resolved; many composite materials have been developed for human clinical use. However, the processes related to drug delivery selection, *in vitro* and *in vivo* toxicity and safety issues of chitosan-based biomaterials, and their synthesis process need to be thoroughly examined.

Conflicts of interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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