# **Composite Biopolymer-based Wafer Dressings Loaded** with Microbial Biosurfactants for Potential Application in Chronic Wounds

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### SUPPLEMENTARY TABLES

Table S1. Comparison of the mean pore sizes	(± SD) ( $\mu$ m) of single, composite and
optimized BSs loaded wafers ( $n = 3$ ).	

(% w/w)	1:0	0:1	(µm)	
1.0	173.77 (± 75.99)	126.10 (± 45.04)	-	-
1.5	146.56 (± 53.65)	85.63 (± 25.64)	-	-
2.0	79.06 (± 23.22)	65.78 (± 13.90)	-	-
2.5	90.66 (± 28.08)	-	-	-
3.0	97.88 (± 22.35)	-	-	-
	1:1	1:2	1:3	3:1
1.5	87.07 (± 30.26)	169.00 (± 38.66)	78.80 (± 15.92)	-
2.0	180.25 (± 53.44)	87.10 (± 19.37)	89.07 (± 22.22)	153.80 (± 34.30)
	0.1% RL	0.2% RL	0.1% SL	5% SL
1.5	136.60 (± 50.95)	122.26 (± 46.30)	98.21 (± 42.52)	141.13 (± 47.15)

Peak number	CARR STD	SA	RL	SL	1.5% (1:0)	1.5% (0:1)
1	3373	3244	3257	3368	3368	3252
2	-	1595	2924-2855	2928-2855	1373	1598
3	1221	1407	1726	-	1224	1408
4	-	-	1655	1641	1156	1083
5	925	1025	1575	1553	925	1028
6	844	-	-	1415	844	-
7	-	-	1397	1369	-	-
8	-	-	1317	1247	-	-
9	-	-	1123	1170	-	-
10	-	-	-	1077	-	-
11	-	-	1046	1034	-	-
12	-	-	981		-	-
13	-	-	916	-	-	-
14	-	-	881	-	-	-
15	-	-	831	-	-	-
16	-	-	808	-	-	-
17	-	-	704	-	-	-
18	-	-	663	-	-	-

Table S2. Wavenumbers of various polymer and BSs starting materials and representative single CARR and SA wafers based on possible intermolecular/intramolecular interactions analyzed by ATR-FTIR analysis.

Peak number	1.5% (1:3)	1.5% (1:3) 0.2% RL	1.5% (1:3) 0.1% SL
1	3337	3283	3284
2	1599	1598	1599
3	1410	1411	1411
4	1255	1255	1255
5	1029	1028	1029
6	931	931	932
7	-	846	-

Table S3. Comparison of wavenumbers present in selected optimised CARR:SA:BLKs and representative CARR:SA:BSs loaded wafers based on ATR-FTIR analysis

Table S4. Comparison of the porosities of single, composite and BSs loaded wafers

(%, w/w)	CARR :SA 0:1	Pore analysis (%)		
1.5	-			
2.0	100.00 (±7.20)			
	1:1	1:2	1:3	3:1
1.5	49.92 (± 11.10)	50.83 (± 1.40)	90.48 (± 17.20)	-
2.0	43.26 (± 10.21)	67.79 (± 15.10)	49.25 (± 5.04)	53.98 (± 7.25)
	0 .1% RL	0.2% RL	0.1% SL	5% SL
1.5	100.00 (± 6.62)	100.00 (± 3.97)	97.34 (± 3.37)	98.94 (± 2.04)

Table S5. Comparison of the water absorption (Aw) and equilibrium water content(EWC), of single, composite and BSs loaded wafers

1.5	0:1	1:1	1:2	1:3	3:1
Aw	-	2521 (± 468)	3074 (± 241)	2826 (± 135)	-
EWC	-	96.12 (± 0.63)	96.84 (± 0.23)	96.58 (± 0.16)	-
2	0:1	1:1	1:2	1:3	3:1
Aw	2369 (± 75)	1974 (± 180)	2574 (± 590)	1943 (± 412)	2854 (± 407)
EWC	95.95 (± 0.12)	95.15 (± 0.43)	96.14 (± 0.84)	94.95 (± 1.15)	96.57 (± 0.44)
1.5	0 .1% RL	0.2% RL	0.1% SL	5% SL	
Aw	2699 (± 157)	3560 (± 122)	3458 (± 458)	3569 (± 262)	-
EWC	97.46 (± 0.24)	97.53 (± 0.05)	97.61 (± 0.57)	97.00 (± 0.57)	-

Table S6. Comparison of the evaporative water loss (EWL) of 1.5% CARR:SA (1:3) BSs loaded wafers

1.5%(1:3) CARR:SA	1	2	3	4	5	6	24 h (%)
0.1% RL	90.54	81.05	72.11	64.56	57.83	51.86	14.36
	(± 1.41)	(± 2.48)	(± 3.69)	(± 4.38)	(± 4.99)	(± 5.43)	(± 1.20)
0.1% SL	91.70	83.44	75.32	68.53	62.49	57.24	14.40
	(± 0.13)	(± 0.32)	(± 0.50)	(± 0.76)	(± 1.24)	(± 1.29)	(± 0.84)
0.2% RL	89.99	79.87	70.17	62.15	55.10	48.87	14.48
	(± 2.13)	(± 4.08)	(± 5.77)	(± 6.91)	(± 7.89)	(± 8.78)	(± 1.21)
5% SL	90.63	81.50	72.90	65.66	59.44	53.62	15.22
	(± 0.90)	(± 1.59)	(± 2.13)	(± 2.47)	(± 2.74)	(± 3.07)	(± 0.03)

1.5%	1	2	3	4	24 h (g/m²day-1)
0:1	-	-	-	-	-
1:1	87.53 (± 4.28)	199.76 (± 4.27)	317.66 (± 6.61)	595.70 (± 50.41)	3082 (± 285)
1:2	89.03 (± 1.31)	201.27 (± 3.46)	318.79 (± 4.61)	644.94 (± 24.17)	2777 (± 105)
1:3	105.07 (± 6.21)	250.13 (± 57.90)	376.89 (± 69.67)	735.29 (± 76.06)	3054 (± 184)
3:1	-	-	-	-	-
2%					
0:1	124.12 (± 19.57)	225.42 (± 24.83)	346.33 (± 30.39)	660.59 (± 49.66)	2920 (± 132)
1:1	84.32 (± 3.71)	189.58 (± 7.09)	300.68 (± 9.63)	585.14 (± 13.90)	2661 (± 114)
1:2	89.41 (± 2.59)	198.63 (± 2.04)	311.24 (± 2.04)	577.78 (± 4.63)	2657 (± 69)
1:3	130.72 (± 63.72)	318.04 (± 103.78)	491.77 (± 167.47)	886.95 (± 219.86)	3285 (± 690)
3:1	130.72 (± 41.68)	260.88 (± 44.32)	386.70 (± 45.70)	731.14 (± 112.37)	3330 (± 439)

Table S7. Comparison of the water vapour transmission rate (WVTR) of BLK 1.5 and 2%CARR:SA (0:1, 1:1, 1:2, 1:3, 3:1) wafers

Table S8. Comparison of the water vapour transmission rate (WVTR) of BSs loaded 1.5%CARR:SA (1:3) wafers

1.5%	1	2	3	4	5	6	24 h
CARR:SA							(g/m²day-1)
(1:3)							
0.1% RL	126 (±5)	278 (±5)	615 (±20)	832 (±45)	990 (±56)	1148 (±66)	3080 (±143)
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0.2% RL	127 (±3)	277 (±9)	590 (±27)	806 (±37)	958 (±51)	1106 (±61)	2982 (±145)
0.1% SI	129 (+5)	275 (+9)	498 (+36)	672 (+53)	818 (+56)	965 (+67)	2828 (+157)
	127 (±0)	270 (±2)	170 (±00)	072 (±00)	010 (±00)	900 (±07)	2020 (±107)
5% SL	133 (±2)	273 (±5)	433 (±38)	586 (±38)	725 (±37)	864 (±38)	2702 (±49)

Moisture content	0:1	1:1	1:2	1:3	3:1
(%)					
1.5%	-	14.18 (±0.64)	14.46 (±0.10)	14.86 (±0.53)	-
2.0%	14.36 (±0.06)	13.75 (±0.33)	14.23 (±0.10)	15.16 (±0.18)	13.77 (±1.33)

Table S9. Residual moisture of optimized formulations analyzed by TGA

## Table S10. Comparison of the mucoadhesive stickiness of single, composite BLK and

0					
Stickiness (N)					
Single polymer	1:0	0:1			
wafers					
1 (% w/w)	0.34 (± 0.12)	0.31 (±	_	-	-
		0.02)			
1.5 (% w/w)	0.14 (± 0.02)	0.28 (±	-	-	-
		0.06)			
2 (% w/w)	0.16 (± 0.01)	0.29 (±	-	-	-
		0.02)			
2.5 (% w/w)	0.18 (± 0.03)	-	-	-	-
3 (% w/w)	0.20 (± 0.00)	-	-	-	-
Composite wafers	1:1	1:2	1:3	2:1	3:1
1 (% w/w)	0.29 (± 0.11)	0.36 (±	0.24 (±	0.26 (±	0.18 (±
		0.14)	0.02)	0.09)	0.04)
1.5 (%, w/w)	0.81 (± 0.06)	0.47 (±	0.60 (±	-	-
		0.14)	0.19)		
2 (% w/w)	0.42 (± 0.09)	0.35 (±	0.61 (±	-	0.47 (±
		0.11)	0.22)		0.17)
DL loaded wafers	0.1% RL	0.2% RL	0.1% SL	5% SL	-
1:3 (1.5%)	0.55 (±	0.56 (±	0.58 (±	0.48 (±	-
	0.02)	0.10)	0.13)	0.05)	

### drug loaded wafers

Work of adhesion (WOA) (N.mm)							
Single polymer	1:0	0:1					
wafers							
1.0 (% w/w)	0.61 (±	0.37 (±		-	-		
	0.20)	0.03)					
1.5 (% w/w)	0.23 (±	0.35 (±	-	-	-		
	0.00)	0.10)					
2.0 (% w/w)	0.30 (±	0.22 (±	-	-	-		
	0.02)	0.04)					
2.5 (% w/w)	0.41 (±	-	-	-	-		
	0.19)						
3 .0(% w/w)	0.23 (±	-	-	-	-		
	0.01)						
Composite wafers	1:1	1:2	1:3	2:1	3:1		
1.0 (% w/w)	0.38 (±	0.72 (±	0.45 (±	0.23 (±	0.30 (±		
	0.17)	0.37)	0.02)	0.11)	0.03)		
1.5 (% w/w)	1.19 (±	0.68 (±	1.09 (±	-	-		
	0.12)	0.31)	0.48)				
2.0 (% w/w)	0.47 (±	0.54 (±	1.91 (±	-	0.67 (±		
	0.20)	0.21)	1.99)		0.24)		
DL loaded wafers	0.1% RL	0.2% RL	0.1% SL	5% SL	-		
1:3 (1.5%)	0.59 (±	0.78 (±	0.59 (±	0.54 (±			
	0.19)	0.15)	0.17)	0.04)			

Table S11. Comparison of the work of adhesion (WOA) of single, composite and drug

loaded wafers

Cohesiveness (mm)					
Single wafers	1:0	0:1	-	-	-
1 (% w/w)	3.61 (± 0.51)	2.92 (± 1.21)	-	-	-
1.5 (% w/w)	3.01 (± 0.33)	2.40 (± 0.54)	-	-	-
2 (% w/w)	4.03 (± 1.36)	1.61 (± 0.49)	-	-	-
2.5 (% w/w)	4.90 (± 2.38)	-	-	-	-
3 (% w/w)	2.29 (± 0.09)	-	-	-	-
Composite wafers	1:1	1:2	1:3	2:1	3:1
1 (% w/w)	2.05 (± 0.28)	3.14 (± 0.67)	3.62 (± 0.45)	1.50 (± 0.39)	3.50 (± 0.57)
1.5 (% w/w)	3.61 (± 0.43)	2.84 (± 0.86)	5.49 (± 3.31)	-	-
2 (% w/w)	2.16 (± 0.38)	2.98 (± 0.80)	4.91 (± 2.87)	-	3.30 (± 0.88)
DL loaded wafers	0.1% RL	0.2% RL	0.1% SL	5% SL	-
1.5%(1:3)	2.15 (± 0.44)	3.30 (± 1.73)	3.14 (± 2.15)	2.12 (± 0.29)	-

Table S12. Comparison of the mucoadhesive cohesiveness of single, composite and drugloaded wafers

#### SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURES



Figure S1. SEM comparison of selected single polymer wafers prepared from pure CARR (ai) 1%(1:0) (aii) 1.5%(1:0) (aiii) 2%(1:0) pure SA (bi) 1%(0:1) (bii) 1.5%(0:1) (biii) 2%(0:1) and higher total polymer weight pure CARR gels (ci) 2.5%(1:0) (cii) 3%(1:0).



Figure S2. SEM images of composite wafers obtained from 1.0, 1.5 and 2.0 % (total polymer weight) CARR:SA gels at ratios of 1:0, 0:1, 1:1, 1:2 and 1:3 respectively.



Figure S3. Comparison of (ai) 1%(2:1) (aii) 1.5%((2:1) (aiii) 2%(2:1) (bi) 1%(3:1) (bii)1.5%(3:1) (biii) 2%(3:1) CARR:SA wafers.



Figure S4. XRD diffractograms of 1 - 3% CARR:SA (1:0) BLK.



Figure S5. XRD diffractograms of 1 - 2% CARR:SA (0:1).



Figure S6. XRD diffractograms of 1% CARR:SA (1:1, 1:2 and 1:3).



Figure S7. XRD diffractograms of 1.5%(1:1, 1:2 and 1:3) CARR:SA.



Figure S8. XRD diffractograms of 2% CARR:SA (1:1, 1:2 and 1:3) BLK.



Figure S9. XRD diffractograms of 1% CARR:SA (2:1) BLK and 1.5% CARR:SA (2:1) BLK.



Figure S10. XRD diffractograms of 1% CARR:SA (3:1) BLK and 1.5% CARR:SA (3:1) BLK.



Figure S11. XRD diffractogram of 2% CARR:SA (2:1).