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Adhesive hemostatic conducting injectable composite hydrogels with sustained drug release and photo-thermal antibacterial activity to promote full-thickness skin regeneration during wound healing

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Developing injectable nanocomposite conductive hydrogel dressing with multi-functions including adhesiveness, antibacterial and radical scavenging ability and good mechanical property to enhance full-thickness skin wound regeneration is highly desirable in clinical application. Herein, a series of adhesive hemostatic anti-oxidant conductive photo-thermal antibacterial hydrogels based on hyaluronic acid-graft-dopamine and reduced graphene oxide (rGO) using H₂O₂/HPR (horseradish peroxidase) system are prepared for wound dressing. These hydrogels exhibit high swelling, degradability, tunable rheological property, and similar or superior mechanical properties to human skin. The polydopamine endows antioxidant activity, tissue adhesiveness and hemostatic ability, self-healing ability, conductivity and NIR irradiation enhanced *in vivo* antibacterial behavior of the hydrogels are investigated. Moreover, drug release and zone of inhibition test confirm sustained drug release capacity of the hydrogels. Furthermore, the hydrogel dressings significantly enhance vascularization by upregulating growth factor expression of CD31 and improve the granulation tissue thickness and collagen deposition, all of which promote the wound closure and contribute to the better therapeutic effect than commercial Tegaderm™ films group in a mouse full-thickness wounds model. In summary, these adhesive hemostatic anti-oxidant conductive hydrogels with sustained drug release property to promote complete skin regeneration are excellent wound dressing for full-thickness skin repair.

1. Introduction

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In human body, skin tissue is the largest, most exposed and also most vulnerable tissue.^[1, 2] Once the damage of skin tissue occurs, the repair process appears to be very complex,^[3-5] which includes four interactive and classic phases: hemostasis, inflammation, proliferation and remodeling/maturation.^[6] Although most skin defect can be quickly and effectively healed within one or two weeks,^[7, 8] the extensive full-thickness wounds are often hard to repair, which presents serious impact on health and even threaten people's life.^[9] Therefore, a variety of biomaterials have been developed as wound dressings, such as nanofibers, spongy, foam, and hydrogels.^[10, 11] Among these materials, injectable polymeric hydrogels have become a promising option due to their soft properties similar to extracellular matrix, adjustable physical and chemical properties, and ability to fill any irregular shaped wound.^[12] Especially, injectable hydrogels with adhesiveness can attach and bond the defected tissues together, which accelerate the wound heal properly. Besides, it can also play the role of hemostat or sealant for stopping the bleeding or preventing the leakage of fluid or gas from the wound, and serve as a shield to avoid bacterial infections.^[13-15] Thus, developing new injectable adhesive hydrogel dressing to promote the whole wound healing process is highly desirable.

Hyaluronic acid (HA), as a natural polysaccharide produced by fibroblasts in the wound repair stages of proliferation,^[6] can mediate cellular signaling,^[16] promote cell migration,^[17] and induce morphogenesis and matrix organization, which enhances the repair process of soft tissue wound.^[18-20] Besides, HA has good biocompatibility,^[21] biodegradability,^[22] moisture retention and gelation property,^[23] which favors the design of injectable hydrogel dressing. However, although HA based hydrogel can fill the tissue surrounding the fresh wound,^[24] absorb wound extract and reduce inflammation, it presents weak adhesive property to close the wound site. Polydopamine based or catechol contained hydrogels often possess good wet adhesiveness to soft tissues, due to the

chemical crosslinking and physical bonding between polydopamine or catechol group and soft tissue.^[25] Thus, grafting dopamine (DA) to HA (hyaluronic acid-graft-dopamine (HA-DA)) will endow HA with good tissue adhesion property.^[26,27] Moreover, the introduction of catechol onto HA will also improve the hemostatic effect of HA-DA based hydrogel for its enhanced adhesiveness of HA-DA to the wounded tissue. Furthermore, the catechol group can endow HA-DA based hydrogel with good antioxidant ability, which will be beneficial to accelerate the wound repair process by balancing oxidative pressure in wound area. Thus, grafting DA to HA will endow HA-DA based hydrogels with good adhesiveness, hemostatic ability and antioxidant property, which makes HA-DA based hydrogels excellent candidates as multi-functional injectable hydrogel dressing.

The process of wound healing depends on the mutual effect between cytokines, growth factors, macrophages and so on. All these activities rely on the delivery of signals that caused the proliferation of cell lines at the edges of wound, which then formed a new matrix in the gap between wounds.^[28, 29] Our previous researches have also proved the promoting effect of biomaterials with conductivity properties in wound healing process.^[30-35] Graphene is a promising candidate material for its excellent electrical conductivity, biocompatibility, high surface area, and mechanical strength.^[36] Incorporation of graphene into HA-DA hydrogel can result in conductive HA-DA hydrogel dressing, which may favor to enhance the wound healing process. The high specific surface area also exhibits peculiar interactional pattern with biomolecules, cells and even human tissues to improve the hydrogel's bioactivity.^[36, 37] However, the disadvantage of poor dispersity seriously limits graphene's application.^[38] Graphene oxide (GO) shows better water dispersity due to its hydrophilic groups, such as hydroxyl group, epoxy group and carboxyl group. But its conductivity is much lower compared to graphene. Fortunately, at a weak alkaline pH, dopamine can serve as a reducing agent

for GO to form reduced GO (rGO) to improve its conductivity, and will simultaneously undergo self-polymerization to generate a hydrophilic polydopamine (PDA) coating on the surfaces of rGO to enhance its water dispersity.^[39,40] Moreover, the obtained rGO not only presents good dispersity and good electrical conductivity, but also possesses excellent photo-thermal antibacterial property and bioactivity from polydopamine, all of which contribute to preparing bioactive wound dressing. The reactive polydopamine coating from rGO can also serve as nanofiller to reinforce the HA-DA based hydrogel network. Thus, developing rGO and HA-DA based nanocomposite adhesive hemostatic antioxidant conductive hydrogel dressing is highly anticipated in wound healing field, which has not been reported.

In this study, taking advantages of the unique functions of HA, DA and rGO, a series of adhesive antioxidant hemostatic conductive hydrogels were synthesized based on HA-DA and polydopamine-coated rGO through the oxidative coupling of catechol groups by H₂O₂/HRP catalytic system. These HA-DA/rGO hydrogels exhibited high *in vitro* swelling, suitable degradation, and tunable rheological properties and excellent compressible and tensile properties. The performance of tissue adhesiveness, conductivity, antioxidant activity, hemostatic ability, photo-thermal effect and NIR irradiation enhanced *in vitro* and *in vivo* antibacterial behaviors were systematically investigated. Besides, more than 10 days' drug release study and zone of inhibition test showed the drug sustained release capacity of these hydrogels. The good blood compatibility and cytocompatibility were also demonstrated *in vitro* to confirm the hydrogel's biocompatibility. Furthermore, wound closure, collagen metabolism, histomorphological examinations and immunofluorescence staining were carried out to evaluate the good promoting effects of these hydrogels in a mouse full-thickness wounds repair model. In summary, all of these results demonstrate the enormous potential of these

adhesive conductive hemostatic hydrogels with excellent mechanical properties, antioxidant activity, photo-thermal effect, drug sustained release ability and biocompatibility for wound healing application.

2. Results and discussion

2.1. Preparation of HA-DA/rGO hydrogel

A series of adhesive hemostatic conductive hydrogels with suitable mechanical properties, conductivity, antioxidant activity, photo-thermal effect, drug sustained release ability and biocompatibility were prepared and evaluated for wound healing application in this study. The overall strategy to develop HA-DA/rGO hydrogels for wound healing is shown in **Figure 1a-c**. HA was selected as the main component of the hydrogels on account of its characteristics of improving skin nutrition metabolism, making skin tender, smooth, wrinkle free, increasing elasticity and enhancing skin penetration.^[20] To endow HA with good adhesiveness and anti-oxidant property, DA was linked to HA by the classic EDC/NHS chemistry to synthesize HA-DA (Figure 1a). The ¹H-NMR analysis results (Figure S1) confirmed the successful conjugation of dopamine to HA. To improve water dispersibility and conductivity of GO, DA was coated on the surface of GO to enhance the hydrophilicity and to reduce GO in an alkaline condition (Figure 1b), and the successful preparation of rGO@PDA was confirmed through FT-IR (Figure S2) and TGA test (Figure S3). As shown in Figure 1c, the HA-DA polymer chains were cross-linked with rGO@PDA by oxidative coupling of catechol groups between both of them by using H₂O₂/HRP as an initiator system, leading to the formation of hydrogels network. To validate the crosslinking reaction in the hydrogel system, hydrogel HA-DA/GO5 was prepared where rGO@PDA was replaced with GO in the system, and the compression test was

performed after the complete gel formation. The HA-DA/GO5 hydrogel (18.3 ± 1.9 kPa) showed significantly lower compression stress than that of HA-DA/rGO5 hydrogel (37.9 ± 0.7 kPa) at a strain of 60% (Figure S4), because the chemical crosslinking between rGO@PDA and HA-DA greatly enhanced the compression stress of the HA-DA/rGO5, indicating that rGO@PDA was chemically crosslinked with HA-DA within the hydrogels. Four groups of HA-DA/rGO hydrogels were synthesized by increasing the mass ratio of rGO@PDA to HA-DA from 0 wt % to 1 wt %, 3 wt% and 5 wt% and named as HA-DA/rGO0, HA-DA/rGO1, HA-DA/rGO3 and HA-DA/rGO5, respectively. The original, bending, compressing shapes of HA-DA/rGO3 hydrogels exhibited their flexible mechanical properties. When the hydrogels were cut into pieces, they could adhere together, indicating their self-healing property. Upon application, after adhering to the wound site, the self-healing capacity of these adhesive hemostatic hydrogels can ensure good performance to prevent fluid leakages, as well as bacterial penetration and infection under the circumstances of deformation or fracture of hydrogels due to external force.

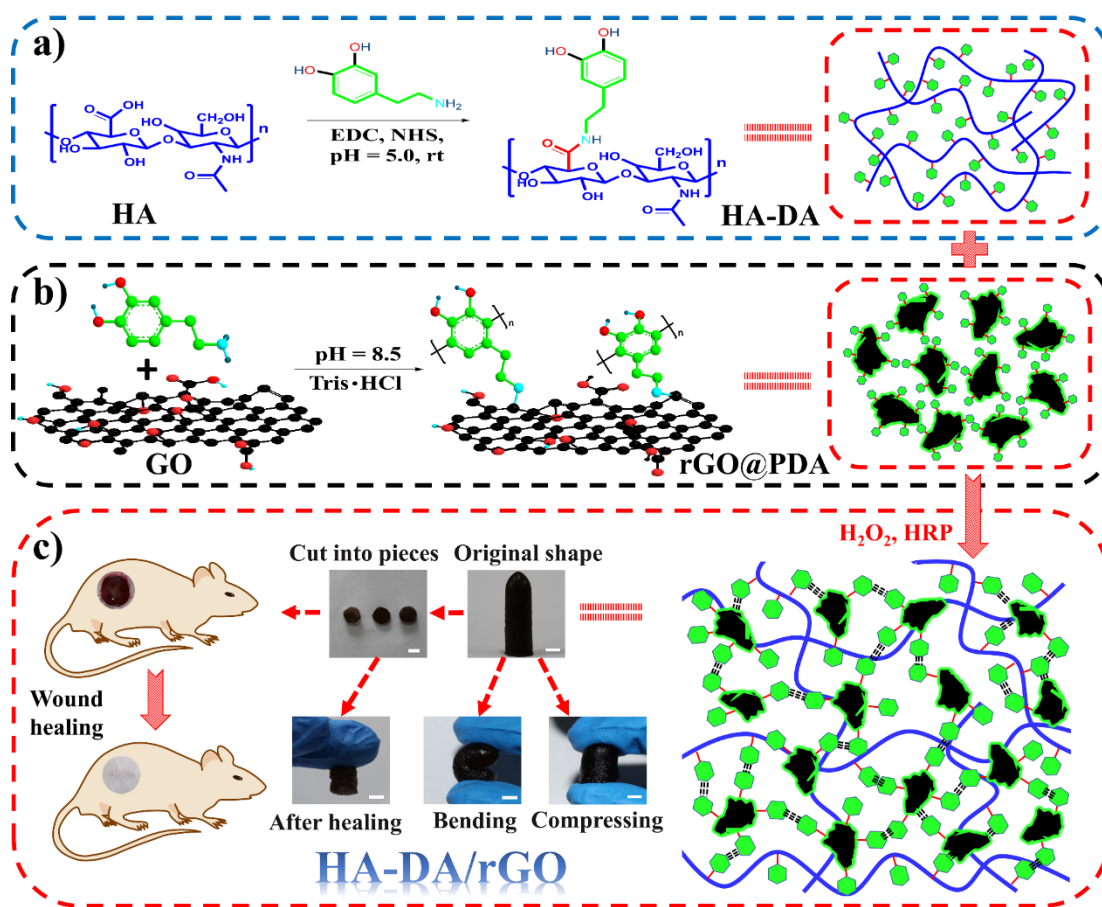


Figure 1. Diagrammatic sketch of HA-DA/rGO hydrogel preparation. (a) Preparation scheme of HA-DA polymer and (b) rGO@PDA, (c) Scheme of HA-DA/rGO hydrogel and the original, bending, compressing, self-healing representation and the application in wound healing. Scale bar: 5 mm.

2.2. Gelation time, swelling, degradation, morphology and rheological property

For the gelation time test, the intersection of the storage modulus and loss modulus curves which derived from the rheological test is considered to be the gelation point and each group was tested at least three times. As a result, gelation time was found to be dependent on the weight ratio of rGO@PDA in this system. By using 0 wt% rGO@PDA, the gelling process took the longest time of

557.4±51.2 s, and the gelation time gradually decreased to 386.6±46.6 s, 267.0±20.2 s and 157.7±33.8 s, when the weight ratio of rGO@PDA was increased to 1 wt%, 3 wt% and 5 wt%, respectively. These results indicated that the higher concentration of the rGO@PDA in the hydrogel networks improves the efficiency of gelation.

The water uptake ability of hydrogel is beneficial to accelerate wound healing process by absorb wound effluence and reduce the probability of infection. Swelling behaviors of these hydrogels were shown in **Figure 2a**. Overall, all of hydrogels reached a maximum water absorption around 300 % of their initial weight after 3 days. The lowest water absorption of about 269.2% was observed for HA-DA/rGO5 hydrogel over 3 days, and 284.3%, 292.9% and 305.5% for HA-DA/rGO3, HA-DA/rGO1 and HA-DA/rGO0, respectively, indicating that the swelling ratio increased with decreasing the concentration of rGO@PDA.

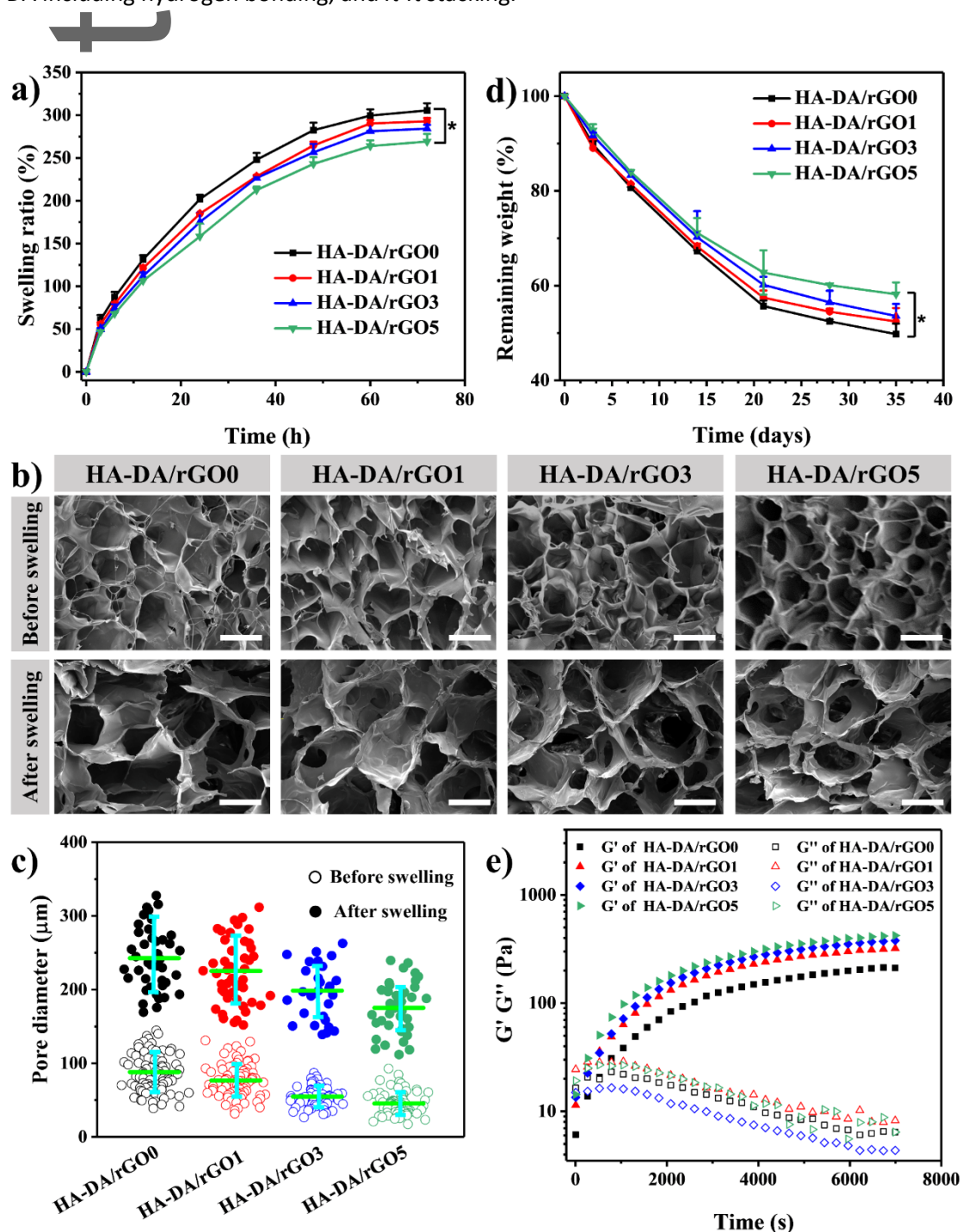
Surface morphology of these HA-DA/rGO hydrogel were observed with SEM. The collected images and statistical results of pore diameter showed homogeneous pores with round shape (**Figure 2b**). The pore size (**Figure 2c**) of the hydrogel showed an obvious dependence on the weight ratio of rGO@PDA, that is, higher mass ratio of rGO@PDA, smaller pore size of these hydrogels. Specifically, the pore sizes for HA-DA/rGO0, HA-DA/rGO1, HA-DA/rGO3 and HA-DA/rGO5 hydrogels varied from 88.1 μm to 76.7, 54.9 and 45.4 μm , respectively. Moreover, after swelling, the pore sizes still showed a dependence on the content of rGO@PDA and increased to 243.5 μm , 225.6 μm , 198.9 μm and 175.6 μm , respectively. Additionally, the integrity and interconnectivity of the pore structure also indicated the good structural stability of hydrogels.

Suitable degradation rate of biomaterials is also important for biomaterials application.^[30, 41-43] By adjusting the concentration of rGO@PDA, the degradation rate was also proved to be tunable. The fastest degradation ratio of 50.2% was found for HA-DA/rGO0 hydrogel after about one month (Figure 2d). With the increase of rGO@PDA concentration, weight remaining ratio increased from 52.4% to 53.6% and 58.2% for HA-DA/rGO1, HA-DA/rGO3 and HA-DA/rGO5 hydrogels, respectively. These swelling and degradation results exhibited that higher mass ratio of rGO@PDA in the hydrogel networks improves the efficiency of cross-linking and stability.

To analyze the influence of different rGO@PDA weight ratio on the rheological properties of HA-DA/rGO hydrogel, the curves of storage modulus (G') and loss modulus (G'') of these hydrogels over time were recorded. G' of hydrogel with rGO@PDA weight ratio of 5 wt% (421.5 Pa) was higher than samples with rGO@PDA weight ratio of 3 wt% (378.7 Pa), 1 wt% (321.5 Pa) and 0 wt% (210.9 Pa). This is because more rGO@PDA in the system increased the crosslinking density leading to the higher G' of these hydrogels (Figure 2e).

The self-healing behavior of hydrogels was measured by rheology test. From the results of strain amplitude sweep of the HA-DA/rGO3 hydrogel, its network collapsed when the strain was 1537.8%. The continuous step strain test was then used to perform the rheological recovery behavior of the hydrogel (Figure S5). After the first high strain (2000%), the G' of the recovered hydrogels decreased significantly from 300 Pa to 5 Pa, and $G'' > G'$, indicating the collapse of the hydrogel network. When at low strain (1%), the G' of the hydrogel returned to 125 Pa, indicating that crosslinking of hydrogel was partially recovered. And after experiencing another four high-low strain cycles tests, the healed hydrogel displayed nearly the same values of G' and G'' with the second cycle, demonstrating the

self-healing of HA-DA/rGO hydrogel, probably due to the physical bonding between rGO@PDA and HA-DA including hydrogen bonding, and π - π stacking.^[44]



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Figure 2. Characterization of HA-DA/rGO hydrogels. (a) Swelling ratio of hydrogels in PBS (pH 7.4) at 37 °C; (b) SEM images of hydrogels, scale bar: 100 μm; (c) Pore size distribution of hydrogels; (d) Degradation profiles of the hydrogels in PBS with pH 7.4 at 37 °C; (e) Rheological behavior of hydrogels.

2.3. Mechanical properties of HA-DA/rGO hydrogel

Suitable mechanical properties similar to the skin is good for skin wound repairing material, which can not only maintain integrity of the material and is also beneficial to good adhesion when the skin tissue is deformed by external force.^[45] The tensile testing results of these four hydrogels can be seen in **Figure 3a**. These hydrogels exhibited good stretchability (93.9%–200.8%), which is better than the extensibility of the human skin (60–75%).^[46] With the addition of rGO@PDA from 0 wt% to 5 wt%, it is obvious that the elongation at break increased from 93.9% to 153.1%, 194.4% and 200.8%, respectively. HA-DA/rGO5 with the highest rGO@PDA content exhibited the highest fracture strain (about 200.8%). The tensile stress of hydrogel also increased from 18.6 to 30.9, 38.4 and 65.1 kPa, which is comparable to human skin.^[47]

Compression stress–strain measurements were carried out to evaluate the mechanical properties of these hydrogels. The results in **Figure 3b** exhibited that incorporating rGO@PDA into these HA-DA/rGO hydrogel could effectively enhance the mechanical properties, and hydrogel containing more rGO@PDA showed higher stress at the same strain. Specifically, the stress increased from 16.8 kPa to 21.9 kPa, 30.5 kPa and 36.5 kPa at the strain of about 60% along with the increase of rGO@PDA weight ratio from 0 wt% to 1 wt%, 3 wt% and 5 wt%, respectively. Besides, in order to further evaluate the recovery and robustness of the interconnected porous hydrogels, 50 cycles

were carried out through a loading–unloading compression test by applying a strain of 60% (Figure 3c–3f). After 50 cycles of loading-unloading test, the recovered hydrogels still presented similar stress-strain curves to that of original ones, demonstrating that the hydrogel has good fatigue resistance. Therefore, these hydrogels with similar or superior mechanical properties to human skin can resist external forces without fracture and better avoid the damage of potential tissues.

2.4. Conductivity and antioxidant ability of HA-DA/rGO hydrogel

Based on the higher conductivity of rGO than graphene, it was chosen as a component to prepare these HA-DA/rGO hydrogels. It has been reported that the conductive materials could accelerate the wound healing process.^[48-52] Therefore, the conductivity of these hydrogels were tested. The dried HA-DA/rGO hydrogel presented the lowest conductivity of 0.3×10^{-4} S/m. After the addition of rGO@PDA, conductivity of dry hydrogels were greatly improved from 1.2×10^{-4} to 2.0×10^{-4} and 2.5×10^{-4} S/m for the HA-DA/rGO1, HA-DA/rGO3 and HA-DA/rGO5 hydrogel, respectively, which mainly derived from reduced graphene's electronic conductivity (Figure 3g). Furthermore, when measurements were applied to wet hydrogels, the conductivity of HA-DA/rGO dramatically increased to the level of about 0.5 S/m, which mainly derived from hyaluronic acid's ionic conductivity. In conclusion, the enhanced conductivity would be helpful for transmitting electrical signals from living biological tissue and promoting wound healing process.

The existence of free radicals in wound site can lead to oxidative stress which will further result in the peroxidation of lipid, damage of DNA, and inactivation of enzyme.^[53] Studies of the topical application of materials with free radical scavenging properties on patients or animals have been demonstrated to significantly improve wound healing.^[54] The antioxidant ability of these HA-DA/rGO

hydrogels was evaluated by detecting their efficiency for scavenging the stable free radical DPPH and the HA-DA/rGO3 hydrogel was chosen as a representation. As is shown in Figure 3i, 2.5 mg/mL of the copolymer can clear almost 70 % of free radicals and the antioxidant efficiency also increased to more than 90% when the content of hydrogel reached to ≥ 5 mg/mL. Overall, the good antioxidant capacity of HA-DA/rGO hydrogels increases their potential application for skin wound dressing.

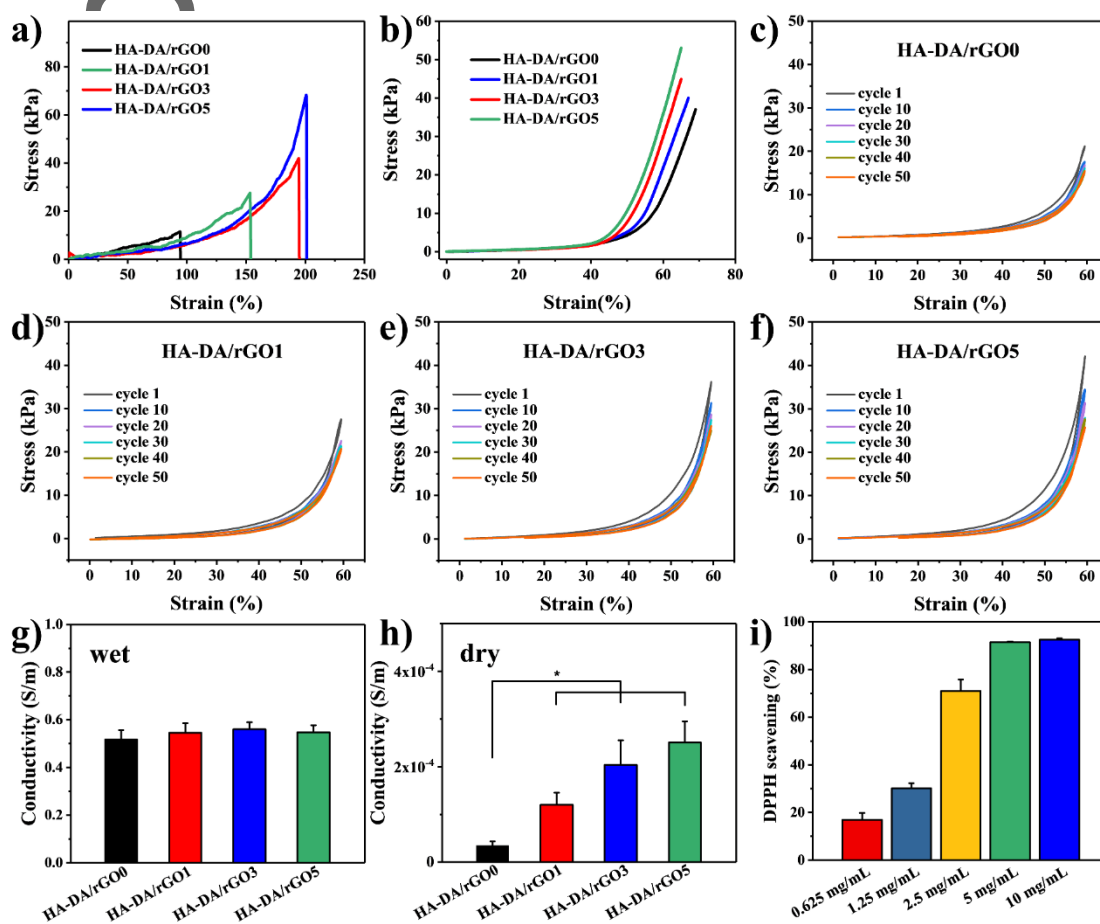


Figure 3. Mechanical characterizations, conductivity and antioxidant ability of HA-DA/rGO hydrogels.

(a) The stress–strain profiles about the hydrogels though tensile tests; (b) Stress–strain profiles of these hydrogel by compression; The cycling curves of stress–strain for the hydrogel (c) HA-DA/rGO0,

(d) HA-DA/rGO1, (e) HA-DA/rGO3, and (f) HA-DA/rGO5 with the compression strains of 60%. Conductivity of the hydrogels at (g) wet state and (h) dry state; (i) DPPH scavenging percentage by HA-DA/rGO3 hydrogels with different concentrations.

2.5. Adhesion and *in vivo* hemostatic performance of HA-DA/rGO hydrogel

As an excellent skin wound repair material, in addition to the good promoting effect of the ingredients on the wound repair process, good adhesion performance is also necessary.^[13] In this work, the lap-shear test was performed to estimate the adhesion capacity of these material to skin tissue (Figure 4a, 4b).^[55] All the hydrogels showed good adhesive strength between 5.0 ± 0.5 and 6.3 ± 1.2 kPa and had no significant difference ($P > 0.05$), which are similar with or even better than the commercial dressings (about 5 kPa),^[56] exhibiting that the our HA-DA/rGO hydrogels possessed great potential in wound repair. About the adhesion mechanism of these hydrogels, the imide formation or Michael type reaction of catechol and quinone groups on rGO@PDA and HA-DA with amino or thiol groups on the protein should be a reasonable explanation.^[57]

In skin trauma, especially in full-thickness skin defect, bleeding was inevitable. Whether the bleeding could be stopped rapidly acted as a vital role in the first stage of repair. Based on the good tissue adhesiveness of HA-DA/rGO hydrogel, the hydrogels could be used as hemostat.^[44] Hence, a liver bleeding mouse model was established to confirm the hemostatic ability of HA-DA/rGO hydrogel. In Figure 4c, the control group reached to about 398.3 ± 60.1 mg outflow of blood from the mouse' liver while only 74.2 ± 36.2 mg was presented in the HA-DA/rGO3 hydrogel group, and the blood loss between control group and HA-DA/rGO3 hydrogel group also exhibited significant difference. ($P < 0.01$), indicating that the hydrogel possessed good hemostatic capacity *in vivo*.

2.6. Photo-thermal property and photo-thermal antibacterial activity

The photo-thermal property of these hydrogels was estimated. The curves of temperature rise and NIR irradiation time for the hydrogels were recorded and shown in Figure 4d. HA-DA/rGO0 showed the lowest temperature increase about 3.9 °C after 10 min NIR irradiation due to the crosslinked catechol groups from HA-DA. With the rise of rGO@PDA mass ratio from 1 wt% to 3 wt% and 5 wt%, the ΔT s increased from 11.3 °C to 17 °C, indicating the good photo-thermal ability of rGO contained HA-DA/rGO hydrogels. Furthermore, Figure 4e exhibited the temperature pictures of these hydrogels after 10 min NIR irradiation, the core area with maximum temperatures from 32 °C to 45 °C (corresponding ΔT from 3.9–17 °C) were surrounded by zones with a large temperature gradient.

Studies have shown that bacteria could be killed due to the damage of some enzymes and proteins when the temperature is above 50 degrees. The NIR-induced *in vitro* photo-thermal antibacterial ability of HA-DA/rGO3 (ΔT of 14.5 °C) was evaluated and HA-DA/rGO0 hydrogel and PBS were taken as the control groups (Figure 4f-4g). When introducing rGO@PDA as photo-thermal contrast agent, for just 1 minute of NIR irradiation, HA-DA/rGO3 showed significantly decreased ($P < 0.05$) bacteria survival ratio of 64.1% for *E. coli* and 65.4% for *S. aureus*. Moreover, with the time of irradiation increased, the survival ratio of bacteria showed a cliff-like decline. When the irradiation time increased to 10 min, HA-DA/rGO3 group showed nearly complete bacteria killing for both the two bacteria. For HA-DA/rGO0 group, after 10 min irradiation, the bacterial survival ratios just decreased to 74.1% and 62.9% for *E. coli* and *S. aureus*. These results demonstrated that the HA-DA/rGO hydrogel possessed excellent *in vitro* NIR photo-thermal performance, which are beneficial to a good antibacterial ability for both gram-negative and gram-positive bacteria.

To further confirm the photo-thermal antibacterial effect of hydrogels *in vivo*, a *S. aureus* infected skin wound model of mouse was established. After 2 days' infection with *S. aureus*, all the wounds became inflamed and had a light yellow exudate with the amount of bacterial colonies reaching 10^8 CFU from the original 10^6 CFU, indicating the successful establishment of infection model. As shown in Figure 4h, after different treatment and culturing bacteria from the infected tissues, LB agar plates from treated tissues groups suggested that the PBS control group and wound treated with PBS+NIR irradiation and HA-DA/rGO3 hydrogel exhibited high bacterial survival ratio, while the wound covered with HA-DA/rGO3 hydrogel and applied 10 min NIR irradiation showed a very low bacterial survival ratio (3.1%), and the HA-DA/rGO3+NIR group and the other three groups also showed significant difference ($P < 0.01$). Besides, the bacterial survival ratios among PBS control, PBS+NIR irradiation and HA-DA/rGO3 hydrogel groups showed no obvious difference, indicating that the antibacterial property of HA-DA/rGO originated from the photo-thermal effect provided by rGO. Besides, the *in vivo* antibacterial activity of HA-DA/rGO hydrogels against *E. coli* was also carried out (Figure S6). A very low *E. coli* survival ratio (3.1%) was observed when the wound was covered with HA-DA/rGO3 hydrogel and applied 10 min NIR irradiation, demonstrating the broad-spectrum photo-thermal antimicrobial activity of the HA-DA/rGO hydrogels.

The macroscopic photos (Figure 4i and Figure S7) of *in vitro* antibacterial performance from different irradiation times (0, 1, 3, 5 and 10 min) for *S. aureus* and *E. coli* and *in vivo* antibacterial ability from different treatments for both of them also agreed well with the antibacterial effect in Figure 4f, g, h. These results confirmed the good *in vivo* and *in vitro* photo-thermal antibacterial ability of HA-DA/rGO hydrogel.

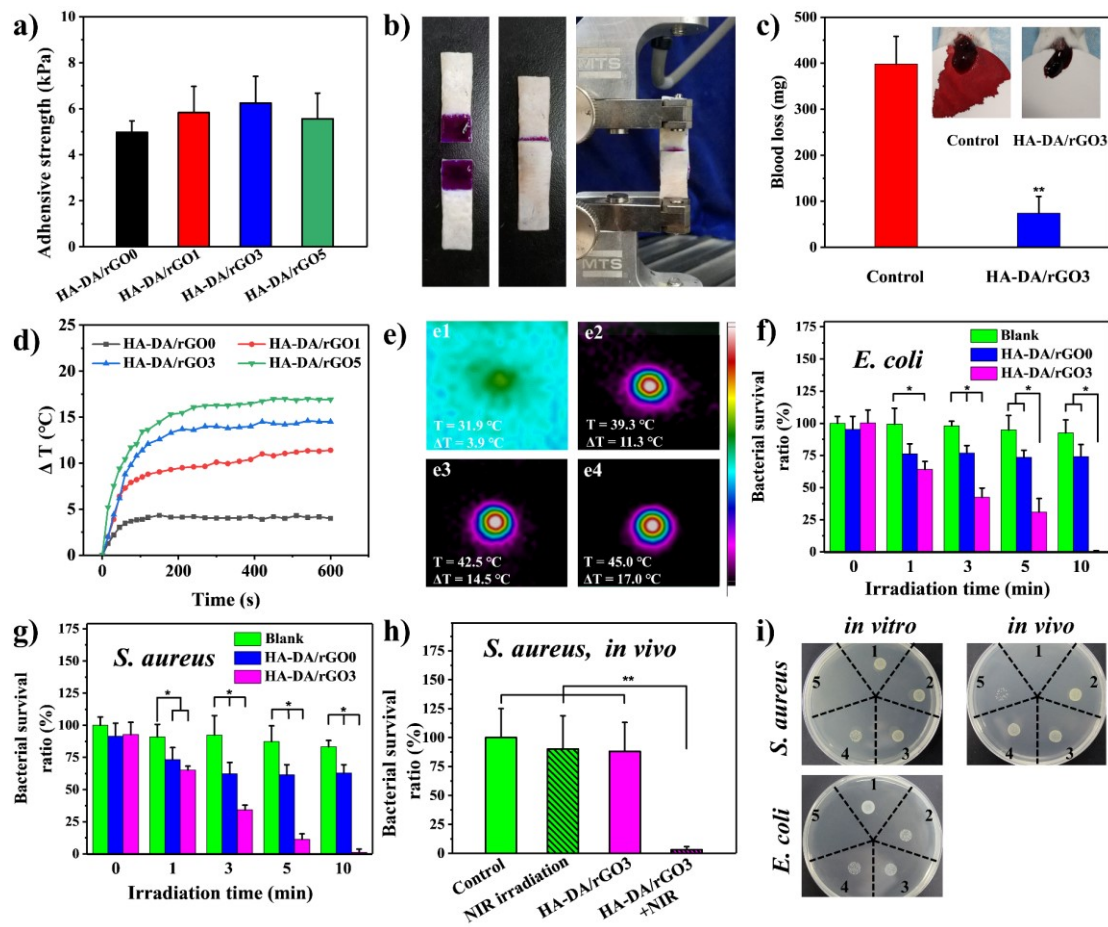


Figure 4. (a) Adhesive strength of different hydrogels; (b) Photographs of adhesive strength test; (c) Hemostatic performance of hydrogel HA-DA/rGO3; (d) The curves of ΔT -NIR irradiation time for the hydrogels under light intensity of 1.0 W/cm^2 ; (e) Heat maps of HA-DA/rGO0 (e1), HA-DA/rGO1 (e2), HA-DA/rGO3 (e3), and HA-DA/rGO5 (e4) hydrogels after 10 min NIR 808 nm irradiation; (f) NIR irradiation enhanced *in vitro* antibacterial performance of hydrogels for *E. coli* and (g) *S. aureus*; (h) NIR irradiation enhanced *in vivo* antibacterial performance of hydrogels for *S. aureus*; (i) Photographs of *in vitro* and *in vivo* antibacterial performance of hydrogels, and for the *in vitro* test, 1-5 represented the different irradiation times from 0 to 1, 3, 5 and 10 min, respectively. For the *in*

in vivo test, 1-5 represented the blank (PBS), PBS control, PBS+NIR irradiation, HA-DA/rGO3 and HA-DA/rGO3+NIR groups, respectively.

2.7. Drug release and antibacterial activity of the hydrogel

As widely used broad-spectrum antimicrobial agents, the clinical application of tetracycline ointment has strongly confirmed the application of tetracyclines drugs in skin wound repair.^[58] Hence, doxycycline as a well-known 'second generation' tetracycline in clinical was used to endow the hydrogel with antibacterial activity, and the release profiles of it from the hydrogels was studied. As can be seen in Figure 5a, doxycycline' release behavior within the first 15 h showed a nearly linear release and had no apparent difference among the four groups. After that, the release speed decreased, but the release process lasted for about 10 days and approximately 77.5%, 80%, 83.8% and 87% of doxycycline were released in PBS at pH 7.4 from HA-DA/rGO5, HA-DA/rGO3, HA-DA/rGO1 and HA-DA/rGO0, respectively. These results demonstrated the sustained release behavior of doxycycline from HA-DA/rGO hydrogel and the potential of the HA-DA/rGO hydrogel used as carrier for sustained drug release. FT-IR test was employed to characterize the interactions of doxycycline to HA-DA/rGO hydrogel (Figure S8), there were some characteristic peaks at 3451 cm^{-1} and 3332 cm^{-1} representing amino group in the FT-IR spectrum of doxycycline. However, these peaks disappeared and shifted to a lower wavenumber in the FT-IR spectrum of HA-DA/rGO/Doxy hydrogel, indicating the existence of hydrogen bond between amino group of doxycycline and hydrogel network, which greatly prolonged the sustained release time of the drug. As to the further mechanism of doxycycline sustained release from the hydrogels, the famous Korsmeyer-Peppas equation was used and the results exhibited that the cumulative release of doxycycline can be well fitted by this equation with high correlation ($r^2 > 0.99$).

$$M_t/M_\infty = k \cdot t^n \quad (1)$$

In particular, n represents the diffusion exponent in this equation. And for cylindrical samples, the release behavior could be described by fickian diffusion if n is less than 0.45. The fitted data (Figure 5b) exhibited that the n values for all of the hydrogels were between 0.31 and 0.33, indicating that the doxycycline was released from the HA-DA/rGO hydrogels by diffusion.

In order to observe the antibacterial activity of doxycycline loaded HA-DA/rGO hydrogel with controlled release property, zone of inhibition (ZOI) test was performed on both the gram-negative bacterial *E. coli* and gram-positive bacterial *S. aureus*, respectively. Figure 5c and 5d shows the changes of dark grey zones (marked with a red circle) of bacterial inhibition versus time with different bacteria. As comparison, PBS and drug-free HA-DA/rGO3 hydrogel did not show any zone of clearance throughout the experiment. In contrast, the entire drug release process of doxycycline encapsulated HA-DA/rGO3 hydrogel lasted a long time of 9 days for *E. coli* and 15 days for *S. aureus*, respectively, due to the sustained release of doxycycline to the surroundings which inactivated bacteria in the respective areas (Figure 5c, 5d). The statistical data of inhibition zones also decreased from 3.9 cm to 1.7 cm for *S. aureus* and from 3.2 cm to 1.5 cm for *E. coli*, due to the gradually decreased doxycycline release content (Figure 5e).

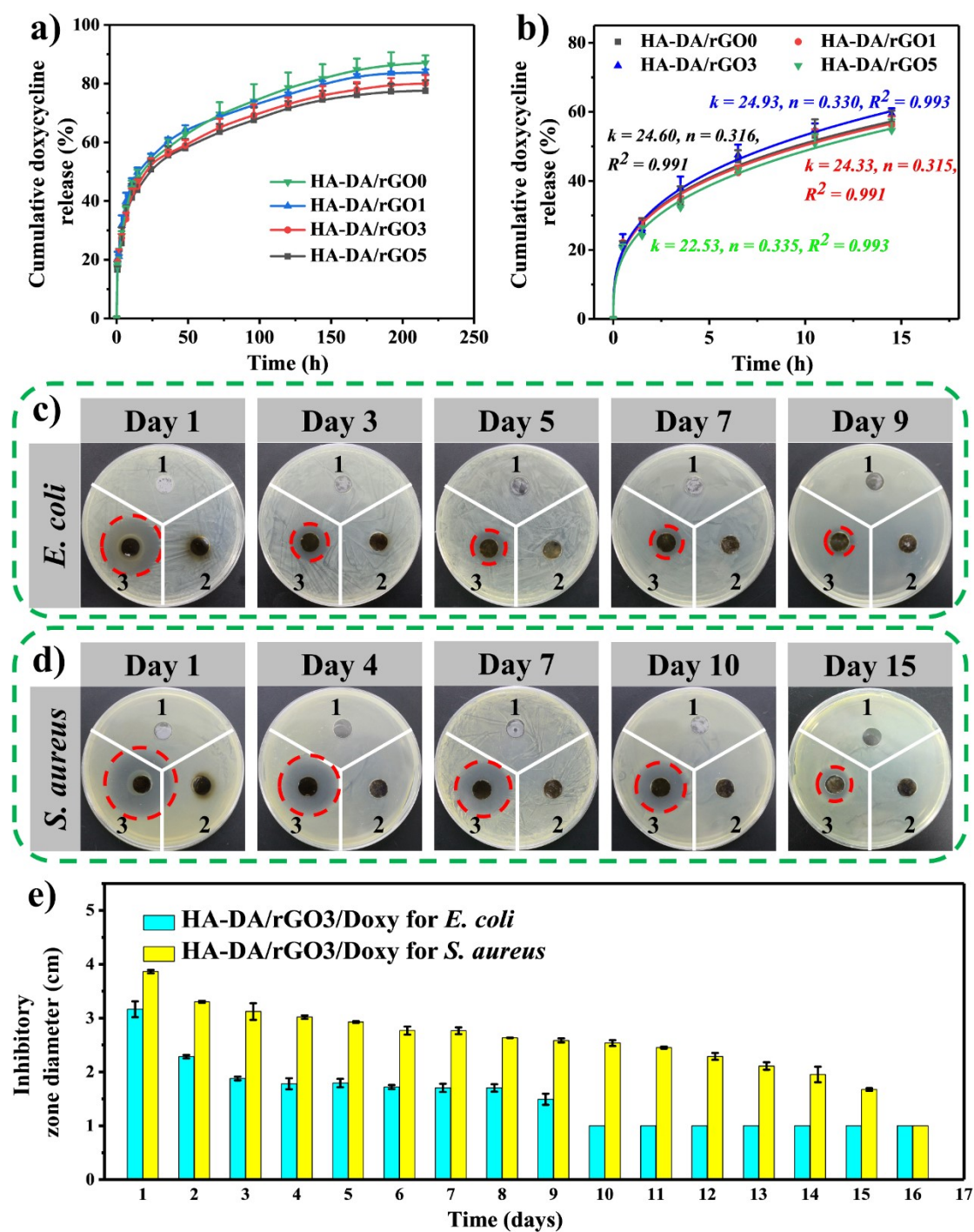


Figure 5. (a) The *in vitro* cumulative release curves of doxycycline from hydrogels; (b) The release profiles of doxycycline were fitted by Equation (1); Pictures of inhibition zones for bacterial from the

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sterilizing effectiveness test for *E. coli* (c) and for *S. aureus* (d): (1) Blank, (2) HA-DA/rGO3 hydrogel, and (3) HA-DA/rGO3/Doxy hydrogel; (e) Statistics of inhibitory zone diameter.

2.8. Biocompatibility evaluation of the hydrogels

Good biocompatibility is an essential factor for biomaterials. *In vitro* hemolysis test was performed to estimate the hemocompatibility of HA-DA/rGO hydrogel. The picture in Figure 6b exhibited the apparent difference in color between the four hydrogels group, negative control group (PBS) and positive control group (Triton X-100). All the four hydrogel groups were observed to be light yellow which was similar to the negative control group, while the Triton X-100 group was bright red. The quantitative data are presented in **Figure 6a**, and HA-DA/rGO0 hydrogel exhibited a very low hemolysis ratio (1.2%), indicating the best hemocompatibility among the four hydrogels. When rGO@PDA was added, the hemolysis ratios showed no obvious increase (1.5%-1.6%).

To further evaluate the cytocompatibility of these hydrogels, a direct contact test between the L929 cells and hydrogels was carried out. As shown in Figure 6c, the number of cells on the fifth day increased significantly from the first day, demonstrating that the cells grew well throughout the whole experiment. Cell viability of all the groups on the first day showed no obvious difference demonstrated the nontoxicity of HA-DA/rGO hydrogel. With three days' co-incubation, HA-DA/rGO1 and HA-DA/rGO3 hydrogels exhibited higher cell number than the TCP group ($P < 0.05$), and HA-DA/rGO3 hydrogel showed the highest cell proliferation. After five days' co-incubation, all the hydrogel groups presented higher fluorescence intensity compared with TCP ($P < 0.05$), and HA-DA/rGO1, HA-DA/rGO3 and HA-DA/rGO5 hydrogels exhibited significant difference ($P < 0.05$) with HA-DA/rGO0 hydrogel, indicating the promoting effect of rGO@PDA on cell proliferation. The pictures in

Figure 6d were also consistent with the quantitative experiments. The above experiments confirmed the good biocompatibility and wide application prospects of these hydrogels as hemostatic and wound healing materials. The HA-DA/rGO3 with balanced rGO@PDA content showing best cell proliferation was selected for further evaluation of *in vivo* wound healing.

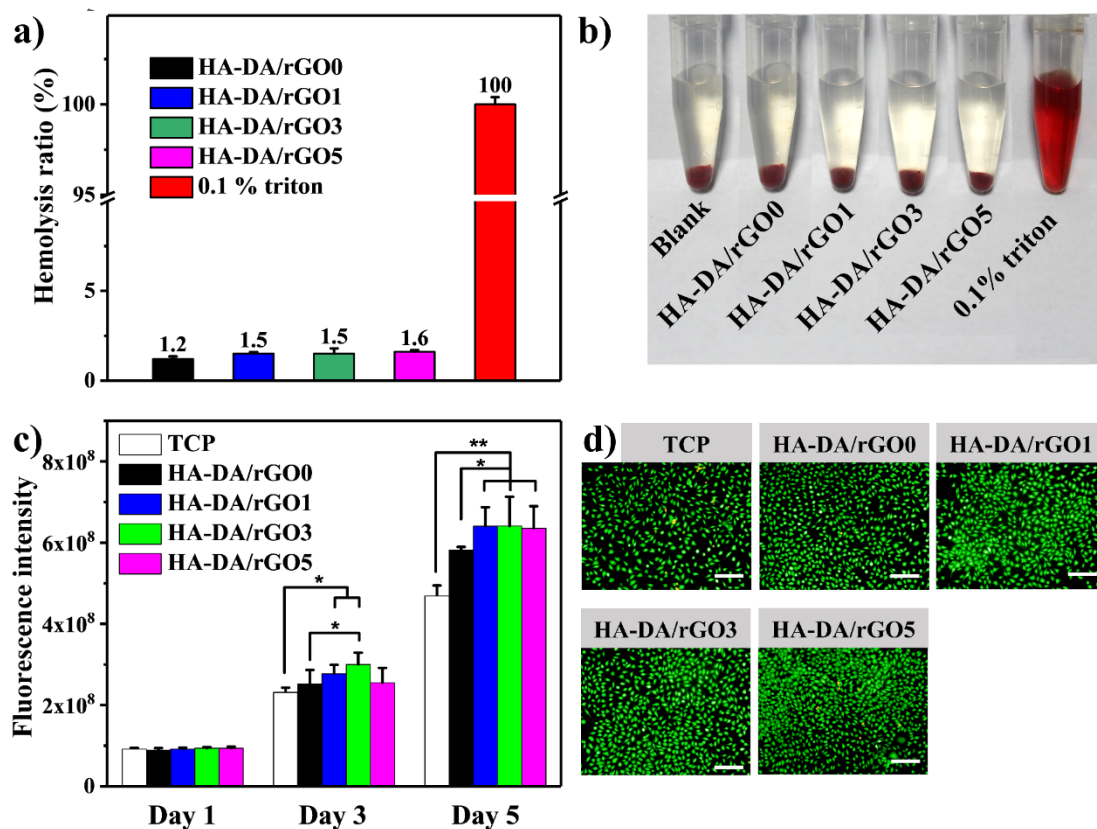


Figure 6. (a) Hemolytic percentage of the hydrogels; (b) Pictures from hemolytic activity test of the hydrogels; (c) Cytocompatibility evaluation of these hydrogels by contacting with the L929 cells, *P < 0.05, **P < 0.01; (d) LIVE/DEAD staining of L929 cells after contacted with the hydrogels for 5 days. Scale bar: 200 μ m.

2.9. *In vivo* wound healing in a full-thickness skin defect model

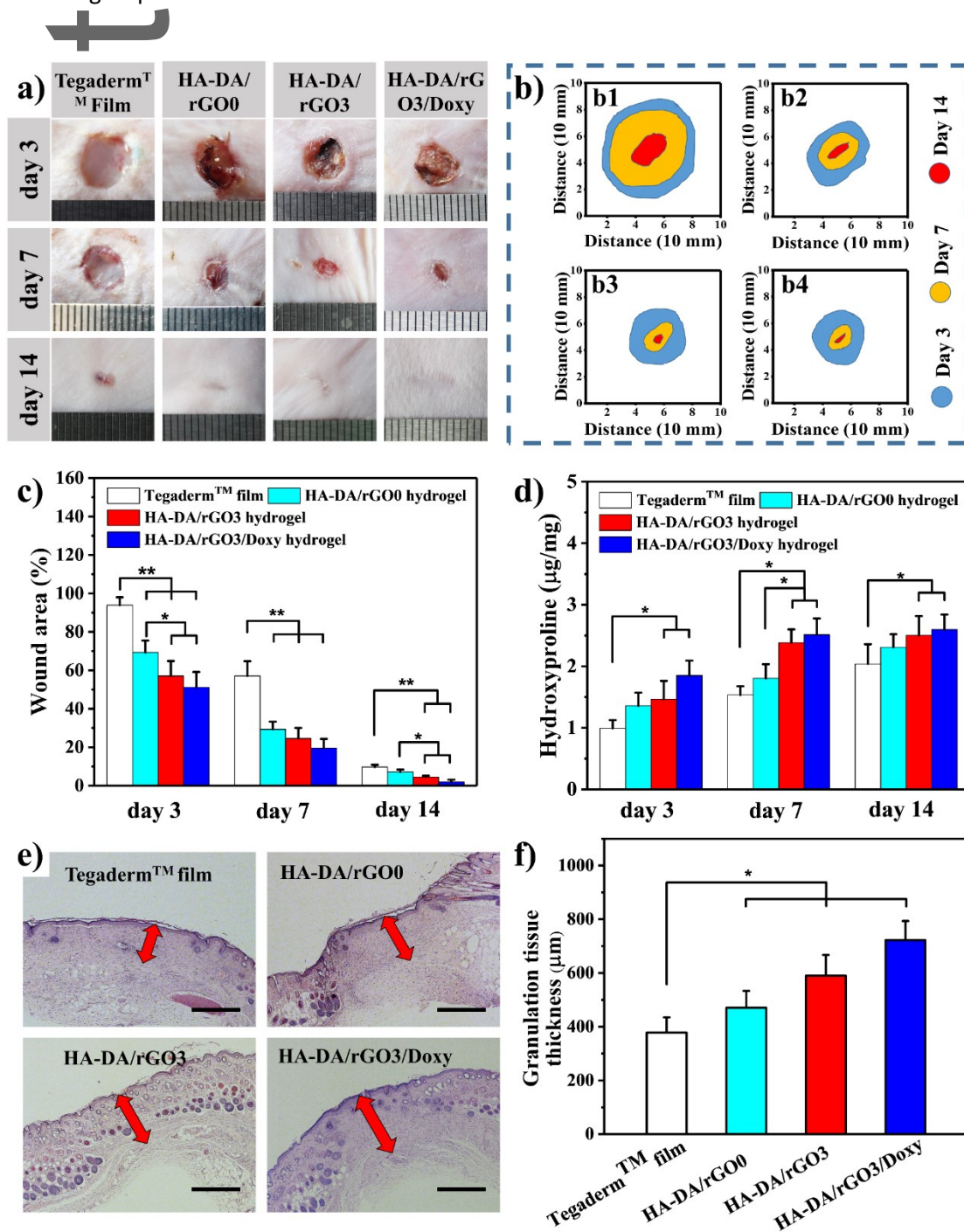
To further evaluate the wound healing application, a mouse full-thickness skin defect repair was performed to confirm the advantages of HA-DA/rGO hydrogel as wound dressing *in vivo*. HA-DA/rGO3 hydrogel with the best promoting effect for cell proliferation was chosen as a representative, and a Tegaderm™ dressing was used as a control group. Doxycycline loaded hydrogel (HA-DA/rGO3/Doxy) was used as another group because of its good antibacterial ability (Figure 5e). As can be seen in **Figure 7a-7c**, the wound areas in all the four groups became smaller with increasing post-surgery time. After treated for three days, the wound areas treated with HA-DA/rGO0, HA-DA/rGO3 and HA-DA/rGO3/Doxy hydrogels were smaller than Tegaderm™ dressing ($P < 0.05$). HA-DA/rGO3 group and HA-DA/rGO3/Doxy group also showed significant difference ($P < 0.05$) with HA-DA/rGO0 hydrogel. However, there was no significant difference between HA-DA/rGO3 and HA-DA/rGO3/Doxy groups ($P > 0.05$). After treated for 7 days, all of the three hydrogel groups still showed significantly enhanced wound repair rate than Tegaderm™ dressing group ($P < 0.05$). On the 14th day, the wounds treated with Tegaderm™ dressing had passably closed, but it showed completely closed in the hydrogel group, and even some of the mice presented hair coverage. Quantitative analysis of the wound area over the whole repair process indicated that the wounds covered with HA-DA/rGO3 and HA-DA/rGO3/Doxy hydrogels had healing ratios of 95.5% and 98.0% (Figure 7c), which exhibited significant difference with the Tegaderm™ dressing (90.2%) ($P < 0.05$) and HA-DA/rGO0 group (92.8%) ($P < 0.05$), indicating the better effect of HA-DA/rGO3 and HA-DA/rGO3/Doxy hydrogel group on accelerating wound healing. Besides, the healing rate of HA-DA/rGO3 hydrogel exhibited no obvious difference with the HA-DA/rGO3/Doxy hydrogel ($P > 0.05$), indicating that the HA-DA/rGO3 hydrogel was intrinsically beneficial to wound healing. All these *in*

in vivo evaluation results demonstrated that the HA-DA/rGO hydrogel with adhesive hemostatic property showed great promoting effect in wound-healing compared with Tegaderm™ dressing.

Throughout the whole healing process, metabolism of collagen is constantly changing. Hydroxyproline is unique in collagen fibers, and its mass fraction is constant (13.4%) in collagen.^[59] Therefore, the hydroxyproline content was measured to evaluate the collagen deposition in the new connective tissue. As can be seen in Figure 7d, collagen content in each group continued to rise throughout the 14-day period. Besides, compared with control group, all of the hydrogel groups showed higher collagen over the whole repair stage, and the HA-DA/rGO3 and HA-DA/rGO3/Doxy groups exhibited obvious difference with the control group ($p < 0.05$) in the whole test period. Especially, HA-DA/rGO3 and HA-DA/rGO3/Doxy groups even exhibited significant difference when compared with the HA-DA/rGO group ($p < 0.05$) on the 7th day, and HA-DA/rGO3 hydrogel still had no obvious difference with the HA-DA/rGO3/Doxy hydrogel ($P > 0.05$), indicating that hydrogel HA-DA/rGO3 greatly enhanced the collagen deposition compared to HA-DA/rGO0 hydrogel.

For the injury accompanied with inflammation, it is difficult for the parenchymal cells to complete the repair work alone.^[60] In these circumstances, granulation tissue plays a vital role in the repair process. It will first proliferate, and then dissolve and absorb necrotic tissue and foreign bodies, filling the gap and finally transformed into scar tissue to complete the repair.^[61] Hence, a thicker granulation tissue in the wound healing process is an important indicator to evaluate the repair effects. As shown in Figure 7e-7f, after 14 days' repair, the granulation tissue in Tegaderm™ films group was thinner than all of the hydrogel groups ($P < 0.05$). Among the hydrogel groups, HA-DA/rGO3 hydrogel produced a thicker granulation tissue than HA-AD/rGO0 hydrogel, and HA-

DA/rGO3/Doxy showed the thickest granulation tissue, indicating the best wound healing effect in these three groups.



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Figure 7. (a) Photographs of wounds on 3rd, 7th and 14th day for Tegaderm™ film dressing (control), HA-DA/rGO0, HA-DA/rGO3 and HA-DA/rGO3/Doxy hydrogel; (b) Schematic diagram of wound area during 14 days for Tegaderm™ film dressing (b1), HA-DA/rGO0 (b2), HA-DA/rGO3 (b3) and HA-DA/rGO3/Doxy (b4); (c) Wound area for each group. *P < 0.05, **P < 0.01; (d) Collagen amount in different groups by measuring the content of hydroxyproline. *P < 0.05; (e) Granulation tissue (red arrows) thickness for different groups on 14th day. Scale bar: 500 μm. (f) Quantitative data of granulation tissue thickness.

2.10. Histomorphological evaluation

To further distinguish the quality of regenerated skin in the defects between the four groups, histological analysis was performed (**Figure 8a**).^[62] By monitoring the wounds in the early stages of wound healing (3–7 d), no obvious inflammatory response which triggered by these hydrogels was observed for all the groups, although more inflammatory cells were found in wound sites of Tegaderm™ film group than the three hydrogel groups (Figure 8a, a1-a4) through the hematoxylin eosin (H&E) staining on the third day. These results demonstrated that the HA-DA/rGO hydrogels did not cause increased foreign body response. With the advancement of the repair process, inflammatory cells were less observed for all the groups on the 7th day. Additionally, the three experimental groups showed different degrees of nearly complete and thicker epidermis compared with the blank group on the 7th day, especially the HA-DA/rGO3 and HA-DA/rGO3/Doxy group (Figure 8b). In general, new blood vessels are essential to wound repair by providing nutrients and oxygen to the damaged tissue microenvironment. As shown in Figure 8d, HA-DA/rGO3 and HA-DA/rGO3/Doxy hydrogel groups exhibited more blood vessels than control group (P < 0.05), and even some hair follicles in HA-DA/rGO3/Doxy group formed (Figure 8a, b4). On the 14th day,

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although Tegaderm™ films group exhibited complete re-epithelialization, few hair follicles were observed (Figure 8a, c1 and Fig 8c). In contrast, the wound treated with the hydrogels, especially HA-DA/rGO3 and HA-DA/rGO3/Doxy hydrogels was covered with epithelial tissue that is closer to normal skin (Figure 8b).^[63] More skin appendages like hair follicles (Figure 8c) and blood vessels (Figure 8d) were observed in HA-DA/rGO3 and HA-DA/rGO3/Doxy hydrogel groups, and also exhibited significant differences when compared with control and HA-DA/rGO0 groups ($P < 0.05$), respectively. These results indicating that the hydrogel, especially those with rGO were beneficial to extracellular matrix (ECM) remodeling and tissue regeneration. Graphene with high specific surface area exhibits favorable interaction pattern with tissues, cells and even biomolecules, thus improving the rGO incorporated hydrogel's bioactivity to enhance the wound healing process.^[36, 37] In addition, the unique structure of graphene makes it easy for electrons to escape from graphene into cells under the action of the cell membrane.^[64] The conductivity of rGO might contribute to the skin tissue regeneration via transmitting electrical signals between wound sites and stimulating excitable skin cells.

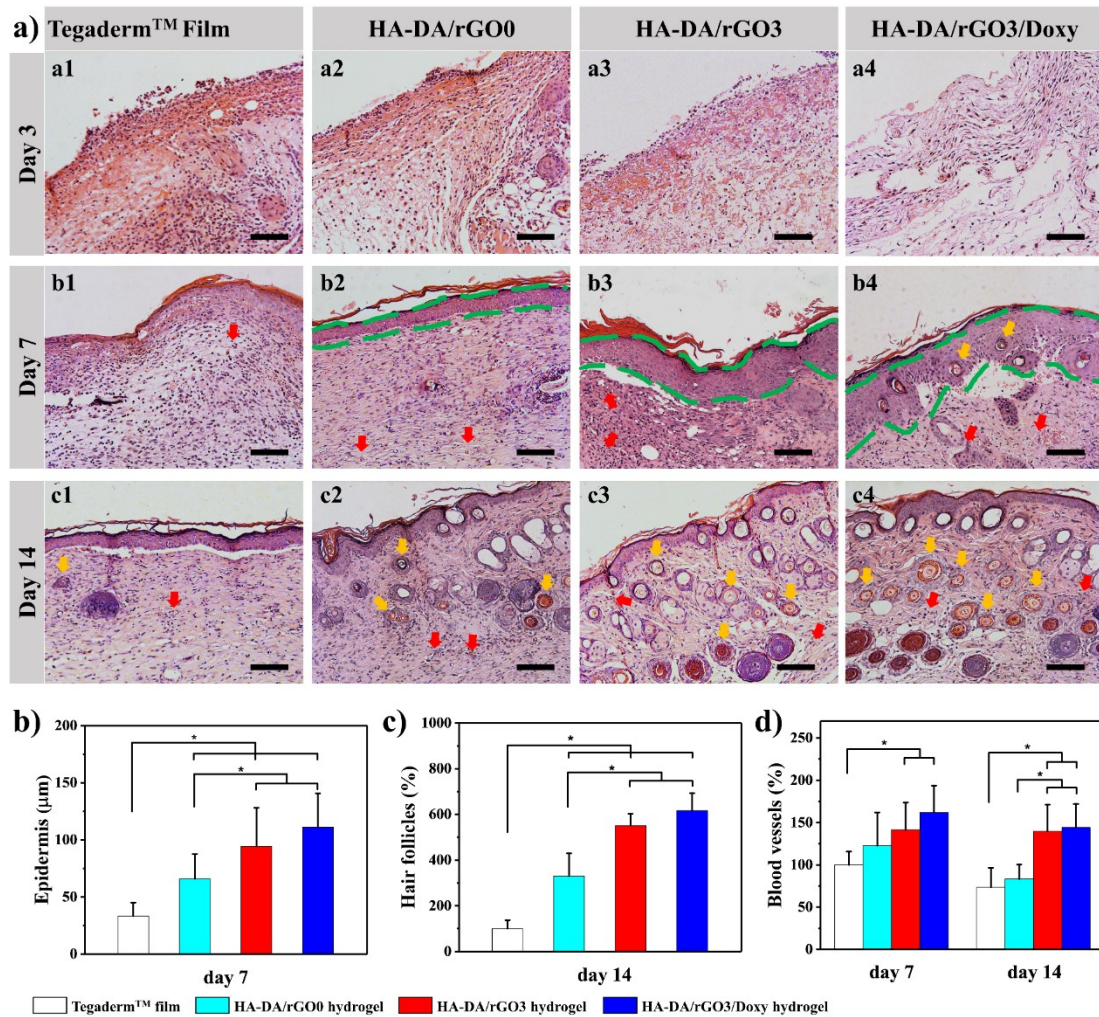


Figure 8. Pictures of histological analysis for wound regeneration between Tegaderm™ film dressing, HA-DA/rGO0, HA-DA/rGO3 and HA-DA/rGO3/Doxy hydrogel on 3rd, 7th, and 14th day (blood vessels: red arrows, hair follicles: yellow arrows, boundary of epithelium: green lines). Scale bar: 100 µm.

2.11. TNF-α and CD31 expression during the wound healing process

Numerous studies have shown that cytokines are specifically associated with the initiation and cessation of many required cellular activities for wound healing.^[65, 66] Tumor necrosis factor-α (TNF-

α) was selected to estimate the effect of these hydrogel dressing in preventing infection. In Figure 9a and 9c, the antibiotic doxycycline loaded HA-DA/rGO3/Doxy hydrogel exhibited lower expression of TNF- α compared with other groups on both 7th day and 14th day ($p < 0.05$). The HA-DA/rGO0 and HA-DA/rGO3 groups also exhibited significant differences with Tegaderm™ films group ($p < 0.05$), confirming the better effects of these hydrogels than control group. Angiogenesis of the wound was determined by CD31 immunohistochemical staining of healed wounds at day 7 and day 14 post-surgery in this study. As can be seen in Figure 9b and 9d, the wounds treated with HA-DA/rGO3 and HA-DA/rGO3/Doxy groups appeared grossly more CD31 than Tegaderm™ films group on 7th and 14th day ($P < 0.05$), illustrating the advantages of the addition of conductive component rGO@PDA and antibiotics doxycycline in accelerating wound closure and improving angiogenesis. Besides, there is no difference between the HA-DA/rGO3 and HA-DA/rGO3/Doxy group in the angiogenesis. In summary, by reducing the expression of proinflammatory factor (TNF- α) and upregulating production of CD31 simultaneously, hydrogel groups, especially HA-DA/rGO3 and HA-DA/rGO3/Doxy groups, significantly promoted wound closure and induced a better repair efficiency than the Tegaderm™ films.

In conclusion, HA-DA/rGO0 hydrogel showed better repair effect than the Tegaderm™ film group, mainly due to the promotion effect of hyaluronic acid for wound healing. Besides, the HA-DA/rGO3 hydrogel containing rGO@PDA exhibited better skin tissue regeneration and extracellular matrix (ECM) remodeling than the HA-DA/rGO0 hydrogel in terms of wound closure rate, granulation tissue thickness, collagen deposition, epidermis, hair follicles and vessel blood regeneration, indicating the incorporation of rGO@PDA greatly improved wound healing effect of hydrogel. As additional

functions, adhesive and mechanical properties are presented in all three hydrogel groups, providing good hemostasis, tissue closure, and robust physical barrier to accelerate wound closure.

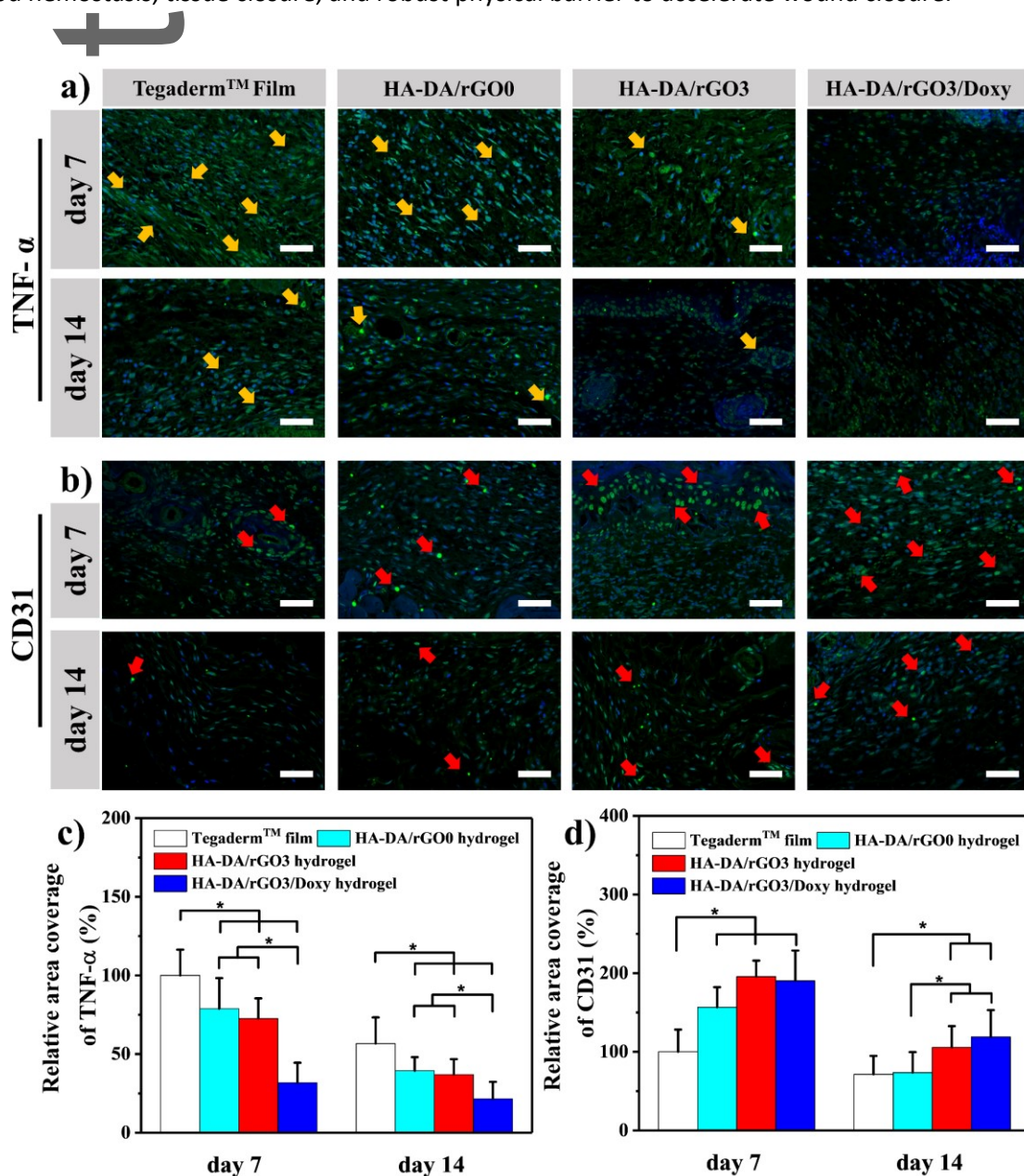


Figure 9. Pictures of skin wound tissues on 3rd day, 7th day and 14th day after surgery by immunofluorescence labeling with (a) TNF- α (green) and (b) CD31 (green), yellow arrows show the

hair follicles and red arrows present the blood vessels. Scale bar: 100 μm . Quantified data of the relative area percentage that covered by TNF- α -actinin (c) and CD31 (d), respectively. For all data, the control group on 7th day was set as 100%. *P < 0.05.

3. Conclusion

A series of adhesive hemostatic anti-oxidant and conductive hydrogels based on hyaluronic acid-graft-dopamine and polydopamine-coated reduced graphene oxide were successfully prepared through the crosslinking of catechol groups with HRP/H₂O₂ as initiator system. These hydrogels exhibited multi-functions like tunable gelation time, stable rheological property, suitable swelling and degradation behavior, excellent biocompatibility, inherent photo-thermal effect, NIR irradiation induced and doxycycline endowed antibacterial activity. Besides, more than 10 days' drug release study in physiological environment and zone of inhibition test of antibiotics loaded hydrogels exhibited the promising application of these hydrogels in drug sustained release carriers. Additionally, good tissue adhesion, excellent stretching, compression and bending property also make these hydrogels more competitive in the application of wound dressings. An antioxidant property and excellent hemostatic effects were also demonstrated by a free radical scavenging test and mouse liver injury model. Furthermore, the rGO@PDA added hydrogel HA-DA/rGO3 showed better *in vivo* wound healing effect than commercial Tegaderm™ film and rGO/PDA absent HA-DA/rGO0 hydrogel in terms of wound closure, granulation thickness and collagen metabolism. Especially, histomorphological evaluation and TNF- α and CD31 expressions during the wound healing process proved the better promoting effects of these multifunctional hydrogels in process of wound

healing in a full-thickness mouse skin wound model. All these results demonstrated that adhesive conductive hemostatic hydrogel with multiple functions are ideal candidates as drug sustained release carriers and wound healing dressings.

4. Experimental Section

Synthesis of hyaluronic acid-graft-dopamine (HA-DA): The hyaluronic acid-graft-dopamine conjugate was prepared by an EDC chemistry procedure following previous studies with some modifications.^[27, 67] The specific synthesis procedures are available in Supporting Information.

Synthesis of polydopamine coated GO (rGO@PDA): rGO@PDA was prepared by stirring GO and dopamine hydrochloride together in an alkaline condition (Tris-HCl buffer, pH = 8.5).^[68, 69] And the details are available in Supporting Information.

Preparation of HA-DA/rGO hydrogel: To prepare the HA-DA/rGO hydrogel,^[70] HA-DA aqueous solution and rGO@PDA aqueous dispersion were cross-linked through an oxidative coupling by using H₂O₂/HRP as initiator system. Firstly, HA-DA was added to PBS to form a 2.5 wt% solution at 37 °C. rGO@PDA was dispersed in PBS varying the rGO@PDA from 0.2 wt% to 0.6 wt% and 1 wt%, respectively at room temperature. 1 mL of above rGO@PDA dispersion or 1 mL of DI water was added into 8 mL of HA-DA solution to prepare the mixed solutions. Following completely stirred, 0.5 mL of H₂O₂ (Sigma-Aldrich) solution (0.1 mol/mL) and 0.5 mL of HRP (Sigma-Aldrich) solution (0.5 mg/mL) were added to HA-DA/rGO mixture. Then, the hydrogel precursor was placed at 37 °C and the hydrogel can be formed after a short time. Hydrogels with a 2 wt% HA-DA content and increasing weight ratios of rGO@PDA to HA-DA varying from 0 wt%, 1 wt %, 3 wt% and 5 wt% to HA-DA were prepared in this study.

Characterizations: The Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FT-IR), nuclear magnetic resonance ($^1\text{H-NMR}$), UV-vis spectroscopy, scanning electron microscope (SEM) and rheological measurements were used to confirm the physical and chemical characterizations of HA-DA, rGO@PDA or HA-DA/rGO hydrogels. The specific details of thermal stability,^[71] conductivity test,^[72] swelling^[9, 73] and degradation test^[74] are available in the Materials and methods section of Supporting Information.

Rheological measurements of the hydrogels: The TA rheometer (DHR-2) were used to test the rheological property of these hydrogels. The stiffness of these hydrogels was measured by a time sweep test with a constant strain of 1% and frequency of 10 rad/s at 37 °C. 350 μL of the polymer mixture was placed at a height of 1000 μm between 20 mm parallel plates and sealed with silicone oil to prevent water evaporation.^[75]

Mechanical properties of HA-DA/rGO hydrogel: Compression and tensile stress-strain evaluation of HA-DA/rGO hydrogel were performed based on our previous reports.^[73, 76] The details are available in the Materials and methods section of Supporting Information.

Antioxidant ability of hydrogels: The efficiency of scavenging the stable 1, 1-diphenyl-2-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH) free radical was used to evaluate the antioxidant ability of these hydrogels by referring to previous reports.^[77] The details are available in the Materials and methods section of Supporting Information.

Adhesive strength test of the hydrogels: The adhesive strength test of hydrogel was conducted based on our previous reports.^[55, 78] The details of the test are available in the Materials and methods section of Supporting Information.

Hemostatic ability test in vivo: According to the reference,^[12] a liver bleeding mouse model (Kunming mice, 20-30 g, female) was established to evaluate the hemostatic effect of these HA-DA/rGO hydrogels. The details of specific operation steps are available in the Materials and methods section of Supporting Information. All measurements were carried out more than five times. All animal experiments were conducted based on current guidelines on the care of experimental animals and approved by professional committee of Xi'an Jiaotong University.

Photo-thermal property of the hydrogels: For the evaluation of photo-thermal property of these hydrogels, the as-prepared hydrogel was cut into cubes (5 × 5 × 5 mm) and then exposed to an NIR laser (MDL-III-808nm-1000mW, Changchun New Industries Optoelectronics Tech Co., Ltd.) with a power density of 1.0 W/cm² for 10 min. The temperature pictures of these hydrogels were recorded using an infrared (IR) thermal camera.^[79]

NIR irradiation enhanced in vitro and in vivo antibacterial performance of hydrogels: The test of NIR irradiation enhanced *in vitro* antibacterial performance were carried out by a modified method from our previous work.^[76] The hydrogel was exposed to NIR laser light (808 nm, 1.0 W/cm²) for different time from 0 to 1, 3, 5 and 10 min, respectively.^[80] The details are available in the Materials and methods section of Supporting Information. At least three samples in each group were tested and the results were expressed as bacterial survival ratio %:

Bacterial survival ratio (%) = (survivor bacterial count of experimental group)/(bacteria count of control)×100%

The test of *in vivo* NIR irradiation enhanced antibacterial performance were carried out according to the previous reports,^[81] and the details are available in the Materials and methods section of Supporting Information.

In vitro drug release study: For the controlled drug release behaviors test of HA-DA/rGO hydrogels, doxycycline was chosen as model drug.^[82, 83] To better explain the release mechanism of doxycycline from HA-DA/rGO hydrogels, the famous Korsmeyer-Peppas equation was used to fit with the release behaviors. The details of specific operation steps are available in the Materials and methods section of Supporting Information.

Antibacterial activity of doxycycline encapsulated HA-DA/rGO hydrogel: *E. coli* (gram-negative) and *S. aureus* (gram-positive) were chosen as the representative to evaluate the antibacterial activity of doxycycline loaded HA-DA/rGO3 hydrogel by using a zone of inhibition test.^[84, 85] The detail of the specific operation steps are available in the Materials and methods section of Supporting Information.

Hemolytic activity test of the hydrogels: The test of *in vitro* hemolysis activity of these hydrogels was carried out according to reference.^[86] The details of specific operation steps are available in the Materials and methods section of Supporting Information.

Cytocompatibility evaluation of the hydrogels: A direct contact test between L929 cells and hydrogels were used to measure the cytotoxicity of these HA-DA/rGO hydrogels based on the published reports.^[73, 87] The details of specific operation steps are available in the Materials and methods section of Supporting Information.

In vivo wound healing in a full-thickness skin defect model: A mouse full-thickness wound model was carried out for the evaluation of the effect of HA-DA/rGO hydrogel on wound healing. All mice were randomly divided into 4 groups including Tegaderm™ film (control), hydrogel HA-DA/rGO0, hydrogel HA-DA/rGO3 and hydrogel HA-DA/rGO3/Doxy. 7 mm diameter full thickness skin round wounds were created. The regeneration process of wounds was assessed by wound area monitoring.^[88] Collagen amount was evaluated by estimating hydroxylproline content using a commercial kit.^[12] The details are available in the Materials and methods section of Supporting Information.

Histology and immunohistochemistry: Histology and immunohistochemistry examination was performed to evaluate blood vessels regeneration and inflammation. Then, the samples were immunohistochemistry stained with CD31 and TNF- α by a standard protocol. The details can be found in the Materials and methods section of Supporting Information.

Statistical analysis: All the experimental data were statistically analyzed and the results were expressed as a mean \pm standard deviation (SD). Statistical differences were determined using one-way ANOVA followed by a Bonferroni post hoc test for multiple comparisons with SPSS, version 24 (IBM). In all cases, differences were considered significant if $P < 0.05$.

Supporting Information

Supporting Information is available from the Wiley Online Library or from the author.

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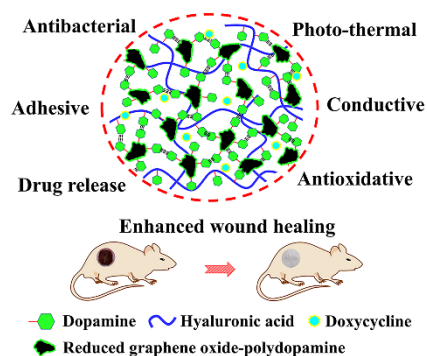
A series of hydrogel dressings with multi-functions including adhesive hemostatic antioxidative conductive photo-thermal antibacterial property based on hyaluronic acid-graft-dopamine and reduced graphene oxide (rGO) with H₂O₂/HPR (horseradish peroxidase) system have been prepared and the high promotion repair effect for full-thickness skin wound regeneration confirms their great potential for clinical application.

Keyword

Adhesive conductive hydrogel, hemostat, drug release, wound healing, antioxidant

*Y. Liang, X. Zhao, T. Hu, B. Chen, Z. Yin, Peter X. Ma, and B. Guo**

Adhesive hemostatic conducting injectable composite hydrogels with sustained drug release and photo-thermal antibacterial activity to promote full-thickness skin regeneration during wound healing



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