Photocatalytic TiO₂ and doped TiO₂ coatings on stainless steel for antibacterial property

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Photocatalysts have an excellent activity for removal of microorganisms in water under light source. Titanium dioxide (TiO₂) is considered to be one of the most promising photocatalysts owing to its favorable band gap energy (3.2 eV in anatase phase), high photochemical stability, non-toxic property, and relatively inexpensive cost. In this study, TiO₂ and doped TiO₂ sols were synthesized and coated on 304 stainless steel by dipcoating method under various conditions. The morphology and composition of photocatalyst on the substrate were investigated by field emission scanning electron microscope (FE-SEM). Photocatalytic activities of the prepared samples were analyzed through methylene blue (MB) discoloration by decomposition. Anti-bacterial activities against *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*) were evaluated for the prepared samples on Kirby-Bauer antibiotic test method. As-prepared samples were washed with sterilized H₂O several times and their activities were evaluated for the confirmation of the stability of the attached catalysts at each washing step.