

# Calcium Carbonate Nanoparticles' Toxicological Profile for Use in Industry

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## Abstract

The CO<sub>2</sub>-derived calcium carbonate nanoparticles (CaCO<sub>3</sub>NPs) are promising materials for a variety of industrial

**Keywords:** Calcium carbonate; Nanoparticles; Environment toxicity

## Introduction

The use of various nanomaterials to enhance the capabilities and mechanical qualities of cement is currently generating a lot of scientific attention [1]. Numerous nanoparticles, such as carbon nanotubes (CNTs) titanium dioxide nanoparticles (TiO<sub>2</sub> NPs), silica nanoparticles (SiO<sub>2</sub> NPs), alumina nanoparticles (Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> NPs), and silica nanoparticles (SiO<sub>2</sub> NPs) have been added to cement-based materials, each of which has potential advantages and disadvantages. In this context, calcium carbonate nanoparticles (CaCO<sub>3</sub>NPs) made from CO<sub>2</sub> are being researched as possible nanomaterials to be used in these industrial applications, with the aim of assisting in CO<sub>2</sub> capture and utilisation directly in the industrial site in which CO<sub>2</sub> is available or produced. As one of the main sources of anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in this regard, the cement industry raises the possibility [2].

## Synthesis of CaCO<sub>3</sub>NPs

Slurry made with analytical-grade CaO (Merck, purity 99%), deionized water, and CO<sub>2</sub> (quality: 99.9%, supplied by SIAD, Italy) was used to create CaCO<sub>3</sub>. The CaCO<sub>3</sub>NPs were created by carbonating a CaO slurry with only pure CO<sub>2</sub>. Raschig rings were packed randomly in a Packed Bed Reactor (PBR) as part of the experimental setup, which is depicted in Fig. 1. The slurry is pumped into the PBR using a peristaltic pump, where it comes into touch with the CO<sub>2</sub> and precipitates. The vessel, which is kept at a constant stirring speed, received the precipitated particles right away. In this fashion, two zones are distinguished: the crystallisation zone, which is located inside the PBR. the stabilisation process, which takes place inside the feed tank where the pH is kept high enough to create a stable environment for the CaCO<sub>3</sub> particles because the growth and agglomeration processes of the CCnPs are not favoured by alkaline circumstances. The CO<sub>2</sub> supply was halted once the pH fell below 10.5, which, in accordance with the carbonate equilibria, discourages CO<sub>3</sub>-formation and lowers the CaCO<sub>3</sub> saturation. After the procedure was complete, the synthesised particles were quickly filtered by vacuum (pore size = 0.45 μm), and the excess ions were then removed by repeatedly washing the particles in deionized water. The CaCO<sub>3</sub> powder was ultimately ready for assessment of their size, shape, and crystal after being dried at 60 °C for an overnight period [3, 4].

Due to their special characteristics, such as a high surface area to volume ratio and high porosity, calcium carbonate nanoparticles are thought to strengthen cement. The kinematic of the C single bond is accelerated by CaCO<sub>3</sub>. Since they serve as the initial building blocks for the cement's hydration, which the CaCO<sub>3</sub> turns out to speed

up, single bondH bonds form. As the early age compressive and flexural strengths of the cement are increased. CaCO<sub>3</sub> also improves mechanical properties due to its filling qualities [5].

An urgent need for a thorough toxicological examination of these nanoparticles' effects on ecosystems and human health arises from the massive increase in the manufacture and use of CaCO<sub>3</sub>NPs, exposure of industry workers to them, and the effects of their discharge. In order to solve this problem, we tested the toxicity of CaCO<sub>3</sub>NPs on two different cell lines, a human breast cancer cell line and a mouse embryonic fibroblast cell line (NIH 3T3) (MCF7). By measuring survivability, reactive oxygen species (ROS) production, and DNA damage in vitro and after treatment with various concentrations of CaCO<sub>3</sub>NPs, the cytotoxic assessment was carried out. Our findings showed that CaCO<sub>3</sub>NPs were not harmful to either NIH 3T3 or MCF7 cells, showing that they did not promote cell mortality, reactive oxygen species, or oxidative DNA damage [6, 7, 8].

## Conclusion

The creation of calcium carbonate nanoparticles from CO<sub>2</sub> and tests of their toxicity on cultured cells and more sophisticated biological systems are described in this paper. We have demonstrated that CaCO<sub>3</sub>NPs may be produced quickly and easily from CaO slurry. Additionally, we have shown that both normal and cancer cell lines exhibit high cyto-biocompatibility for our CaCO<sub>3</sub>NPs. On the two separate cell lines, the cell viability showed high values and there was no evidence of cell death, an increase in reactive oxygen species levels, or DNA damage. We looked at the precise interactions of the nanoparticles with zebra fish, which are vertebrate models, to determine the safety of CaCO<sub>3</sub>NPs with regard to human exposure. We showed that CaCO<sub>3</sub>NPs are very biocompatible with zebra fish at the early. [9, 10].

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Received: 03-Jan-2023, Manuscript No: tyoa-23-85616; Editor assigned:

source are credited.

Citation:

**Acknowledgement**

None