

Nanocomposite-Based Electrochemical Platforms for Pharmaceutical and Environmental Applications [†]

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In the last decades, nanomaterials have been extensively used in biosensors design to enhance their electrochemical performance in terms of sensitivity, reproducibility and oftentimes selectivity. Polymers, nanoparticles, and carbon based-materials have attracted a lot of attention in this field. Three different electrochemical nano-platforms for pharmaceutical applications are described.

First, an electrochemical non-enzymatic sensor for glucose based on 3D copper nanostructures with Ni foams as promotor of the enhanced nanoporous morphology was developed. Detection of glucose was performed by means of chronoamperometry (0.55V) and the sensor was successfully tested in the presence of the designated target even in the presence of common interference agents found in biological samples.

A polycarboxypyrol based platform was developed by electrodepositing carboxylic pyrol (PyCOOH) at screen printed electrodes (SPCE) by means of CV from a mixture of PyCOOH/Polivinilpirolidone/LiClO₄ solution in order to obtain cone-like polycarboxypyrol shapes. The application of the platform was proven when a Folic acid oxidation peak (-0.55V) was triggered by Differential Pulse Voltammetry (DPV) from bulk solution and pharmaceutical tablets solution at the polymer-based electrode surface.

A hybrid composite material containing polyaniline (PANI) and bimetallic nanoparticles (Au-PtNPs) was synthesized at SPCE by means of electrochemical procedures as cyclic voltammetry (CV: -0.4-0.8V, 10 cycles, 50 mV/s from an aniline 2.5mM solution) and chronoamperometry (+0.2V for 130s from a H₂AuCl₄/H₂PtCl₆ mixture solution). The sensor was successfully applied for arsenic detection.

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