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## Stopping power and depth dose profile of H<sup>+</sup> and He<sup>+</sup> ion beams in hydroxyapatite thin films

P. de Vera<sup>1</sup>, S. Limardi<sup>2</sup>, R.C. Fadanelli<sup>3</sup>, L.C.C.M. Nagamine<sup>4</sup>, A. Mello<sup>5</sup>,  
I. Abril<sup>1</sup>, M. Behar<sup>3</sup>, R. Garcia-Molina<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Departament de Física Aplicada, Universitat d'Alacant, E-03080 Alacant, Spain*

<sup>2</sup>*Centro Atómico Bariloche, RA-8400 San Carlos de Bariloche, Argentina*

<sup>3</sup>*Instituto de Física, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul,  
Porto Alegre, 91501-970, Brazil*

<sup>4</sup>*Instituto de Física, Universidade de São Paulo, 05508-090, São Paulo, Brazil*

<sup>5</sup>*Centro Brasileiro de Pesquisas Físicas, Rua Dr. Xavier Sigaud, 150,  
Rio de Janeiro, 22290-180, RJ, Brazil*

<sup>6</sup>*Departamento de Física – CIOyN, Universidad de Murcia, E-30100 Murcia, Spain*  
*Corresponding author: pablo.vera@ua.es*

Hadron therapy is a promising technique to treat deep-seated tumors. For an accurate treatment planning, the energy deposition in the soft and hard human tissue must be well known. Water has been usually employed as a phantom of soft tissues, but other biomaterials, such as hydroxyapatite (HAp), used as bone substitute, are also relevant as a phantom for hard tissues. The stopping power of HAp for H<sup>+</sup> and He<sup>+</sup> beams has been studied experimentally and theoretically. The measurements have been done using the Rutherford backscattering technique in an energy range of 450-2000 keV for H<sup>+</sup> and of 400-5000 keV for He<sup>+</sup> projectiles. The theoretical calculations are based in the dielectric formulation together with the MELF-GOS (Mermin Energy-Loss Function – Generalized Oscillator Strengths) method [1] to describe the target excitation spectrum. A quite good agreement between the experimental data and the theoretical results has been found. The depth dose profile of H<sup>+</sup> and He<sup>+</sup> ion beams in HAp has been simulated by the SEICS (Simulation of Energetic Ions and Clusters through Solids) code [2], which incorporates the electronic stopping force due to the energy loss by collisions with the target electrons, including fluctuations due to the energy-loss straggling, the multiple elastic scattering with the target nuclei, with their corresponding nuclear energy loss, and the dynamical charge-exchange processes in the projectile charge state. The energy deposition by H<sup>+</sup> and He<sup>+</sup> as a function of the depth are compared, at several projectile energies, for HAp and liquid water, showing important differences.

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### References

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