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1 **Artificial Plateletoids Recruit Blood Proteins to Shield Symbiotic**
2 **Thrombin: A Silk Fibroin/Calcium Interface Medicated Thrombin**
3 **Generation and Preservation**

4
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27

28 ***Abstract***

29 Breaking the constraints of thrombin during storage and in vivo applications remains
30 challenging because of its low stability and sensitivity to environmental temperature
31 and acidity. Herein, we developed an artificial plateletoid for in situ thrombin
32 generation through a co-incubation approach with plasma in vitro, utilizing a silk
33 fibroin/Ca²⁺ interface, to enhance the activity and stability of the generated thrombin.
34 Notably, the enzymatic activity of the plateletoid thrombin platform was as high as 30
35 U/g, leading to rapid clotting within 55 s, and it persisted at least 90 days at as high as
36 37 °C. This considerably lessens the difficulties associated with maintaining the cold
37 chain while storing and shipping thrombin formulations. Additionally, a gastric
38 bleeding model confirmed that the plateletoid platform improved the acid resistance of
39 thrombin by upregulating the pH of the gastric environment (pH 0.8), facilitating oral
40 delivery of thrombin for effective hemorrhage control in the highly acidic stomach
41 conditions. This pioneering study addresses the constraints of thrombin in storage and
42 in vivo applications and may provide a basis for further research on biological storage
43 and delivery approaches.

44

45 ***Keywords:*** thrombin, stability, plateletoid, blood protein, gastric hemostasis

46 **1 Introduction**

47 Spontaneous hemostasis involves a series of enzymatic reactions that generate thrombin,
48 a crucial component for blood clotting ^[1]. Known as coagulation Factor IIa (FIIa),
49 thrombin is widely used as a hemostatic agent in clinical settings ^[2]. However, thrombin
50 is highly sensitive to environmental temperature, pH, and the nature of the carriers.
51 Commercial thrombin typically requires storage at or below 4 °C to maintain its
52 enzymatic activity. Research has shown that thrombin nanocomplexes lose significant
53 enzymatic activity over time when stored at 25 °C ^[3]. Therefore, the best delivery
54 method for thrombin available right now is cold-chain management. However, cold-
55 chain delivery consumes a significant amount of energy, restricting equitable
56 distribution in regions with scarce resources and shifting the responsibility of safe
57 storage and handling onto the consumer. Because of this complexity, the cost of cold-
58 chain management in clinical trials has gone up by almost 20% since 2015 ^[4].
59 Additionally, thrombin is severely deactivated in ultra-low pH environments ^[5], which
60 limits its use in vivo, such as for oral gastric therapy. Furthermore, thrombin may
61 become inactive when loaded onto inappropriate carriers ^[6]. For example, thrombin
62 loaded on porous materials often undergoes conformational changes that reduce its
63 bioactivity due to excessive adsorption onto the carrier surface ^[7]. These limitations
64 highlight the need for improved thrombin-delivery platforms to improve its enzymatic
65 activity and stability for effective hemostasis.

66

67 In drug delivery, cargos generated in situ on the carrier often exhibit higher bioactivity

68 compared to those directly loaded onto the carrier ^[8]. Thus, generating thrombin in situ
69 on carriers might be a more effective approach to preserve its bioactivity. The blood
70 coagulation cascade involves three successive steps: initiation, amplification, and
71 propagation ^[9]. The prothrombinase complex, comprising coagulation factors Xa (FXa)
72 and Va (FVa), plays a crucial role in thrombin generation ^[10]. This complex assembles
73 on the phospholipid membrane of platelets in the presence of Ca²⁺, converting
74 prothrombin into thrombin by cleavage ^[11]. The prothrombinase complex assembly
75 involves the transbilayer migration of phosphatidylserine (PS) in platelets. PS binds to
76 Ca²⁺ and moves from the inner to the outer side of the phospholipid bilayer, forming a
77 PS/Ca²⁺ structure ^[12]. This structure then binds to the negatively-charged Gla domain
78 (γ -carboxyglutamic acid) of FXa and the C2 domain of FVa via Ca²⁺ bridging ^[13].

79

80 The Ca²⁺-bridging effect is crucial for the assembly of the prothrombinase complex and
81 the catalytic generation of thrombin. Inspired by this, preliminary studies have explored
82 the in situ generation of thrombin on zeolites in the presence of Ca²⁺ ^[14]. Based on these
83 results, the adsorption mechanism and kinetic modeling of FXa in the prothrombinase
84 complex over zeolite were further elucidated ^[15]. These studies demonstrated that Ca²⁺
85 is essential for the self-assembly of the prothrombinase complex and the subsequent in
86 situ generation of thrombin.

87

88 Unlike absorption of Ca²⁺ on the rigid surface of inorganic minerals, the presence of
89 functional groups in polymers provides more flexible binding sites ^[16]. These sites

90 facilitate the binding of Ca^{2+} through electrostatic interactions, van der Waals forces,
91 and hydrogen bonding, which can enhance the bioavailability of Ca^{2+} and accommodate
92 the conformational changes of coagulation factors during adsorption ^[17]. However,
93 despite these advances, research on biomimetic interfaces that harbor Ca^{2+} , particularly
94 those based on natural polymers, remains limited. Developing natural polymeric
95 interfaces capable of harboring Ca^{2+} could provide a superior biocompatible interface
96 that mimics the PS/ Ca^{2+} structure of real platelets for thrombin generation. In this
97 context, an artificial plateletoid that mimics a real platelet and features a polymeric Ca^{2+}
98 -harboring interface could effectively mediate in situ thrombin generation.

99

100 Introducing particles into biological fluids often results in the formation of aggregated
101 biomolecules around them, including proteins, lipids, sugars, nucleic acids, and
102 metabolites ^[18]. Proteins are the primary focus among these biomolecules. Therefore,
103 plateletoids introduced into plasma may spontaneously form a protein corona around
104 them. Since thrombin is highly sensitive to temperature and has a very short shelf life
105 at room temperature, the use of biomolecules can stabilize its conformation and
106 improve its overall stability ^[19]. For instance, bovine serum albumin coatings can
107 enhance thrombin's stability when loaded onto nanorobots ^[20] and also leads to protein
108 aggregation on gold nanoparticles (AuNPs) ^[21]. As serum albumin is a major plasma
109 protein, plateletoid particles introduced into plasma are highly likely to recruit blood
110 proteins, forming a protein corona around their surfaces. When the protein corona
111 coexists with thrombin, it is expected to enhance thrombin's enzymatic activity,

112 thermal stability, and structural integrity. However, research on the interaction between
113 thrombin and the protein corona is limited. Since both thrombin and protein corona are
114 generated in situ over plateletoids symbiotically, understanding how the protein corona
115 affects thrombin's enzymatic activity and stability is crucial for improving its
116 application.

117

118 Inspired by the role of platelets in hemostasis *in vivo*, this study proposes an artificial
119 plateletoid ($\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}$) designed to induce in situ generation of thrombin, with
120 stable activity against thermal denaturation even at as high as 37 °C and acidic
121 denaturation at as low as pH 0.8. The plateletoid has a core of microparticle-sized
122 CaCO_3 and a shell composing chitosan/silk fibroin multilayer (CSF), which features
123 surface-bound Ca^{2+} . This plateletoid, created for an *in vitro* co-culturing process with
124 platelet-poor plasma (Fig. 1A), aims to (1) mimic activated platelets to assemble
125 prothrombinase complexes for thrombin generation, and (2) recruit essential blood
126 proteins to form a protein corona that stabilizes the generated thrombin. To validate this
127 hypothesis, we conducted a comprehensive analysis of thrombin generation on the
128 plateletoid and the composition of the surrounding protein. We also assessed the effect
129 of the protein corona on thrombin's stability at 37 °C. A gastric bleeding model was
130 used to evaluate the hemostatic effectiveness of the plateletoid thrombin delivery
131 platform ($\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -P). The $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -P aims to regulate the acidity
132 of gastric fluid in the stomach to offer the preferred physiological conditions and deliver
133 protein corona-shielded thrombin with high activity and stability for effective gastric

134 hemostasis (Fig. 1B).

135

136 This study focuses on the development of a unique thrombin delivery platform, which

137 would be quite competitive to reported thrombin delivery system. The thrombin

138 generated in situ in the platform is expected to have ultra-high stability and activity,

139 addressing issues in storage and transportation of thrombin formulation. Additionally,

140 the platform paves the way for oral delivery of thrombin for gastric hemostasis,

141 expanding the application of thrombin in gastric therapies.

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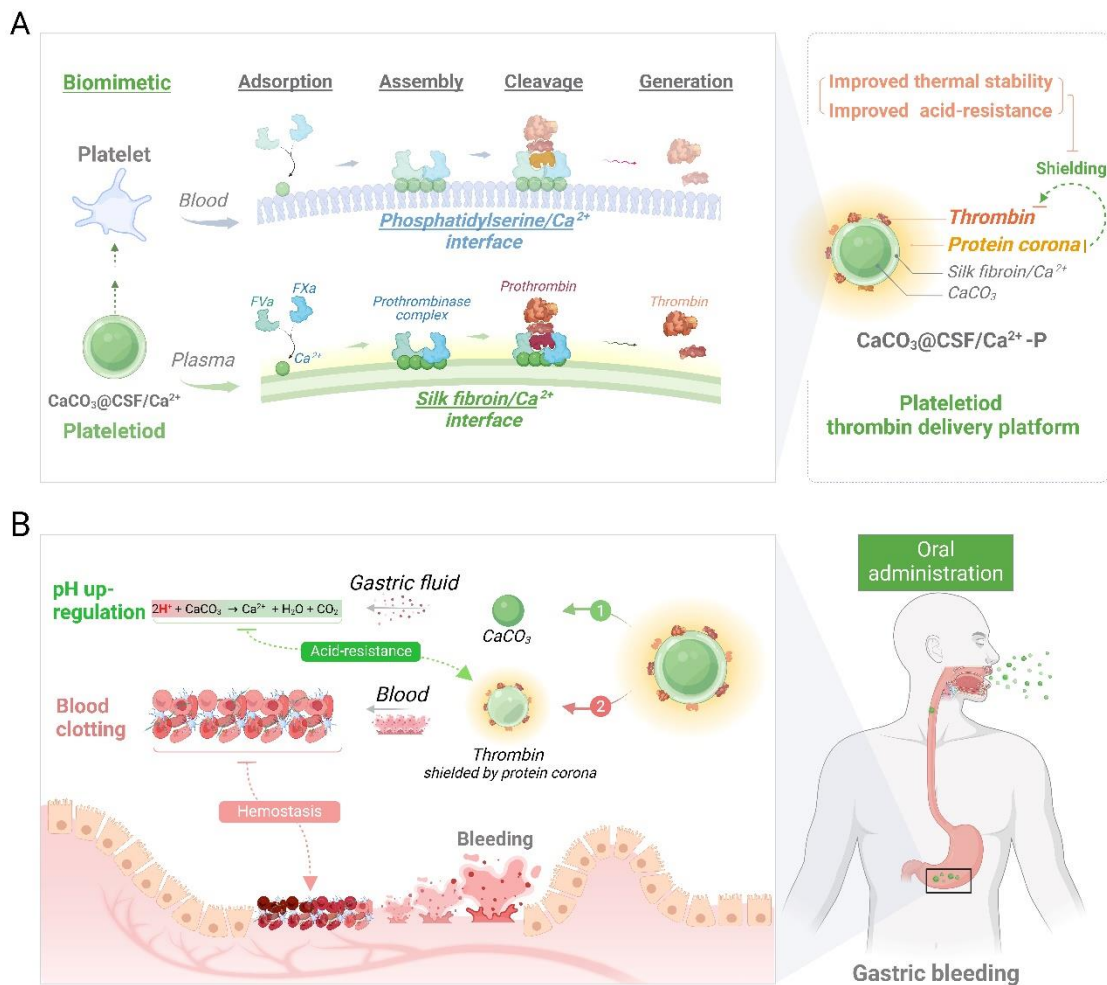


Fig. 1. Action mechanism of the plateletoid ($\text{CaCO}_3\text{@CSF/Ca}^{2+}$) and the

145 **plateletoid thrombin delivery platform (CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺-P).** (A) The plateletoid
146 (CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺) induces thrombin generation in situ and recruits blood protein
147 biomolecules from plasma to form a protein corona. (B) Hemostatic mechanism of the
148 plateletoid thrombin delivery platform (CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺-P) in gastric hemostasis.
149 (Fig. 1 was created in BioRender. Hu. A. (2023) BioRender.com/t13e817)

150

151 **2. Results and discussion**

152 **2.1 Material design and characterization**

153 In artificial plateletoids, the Ca²⁺-bridging effect is crucial for the catalytic generation
154 of thrombin from prothrombin in situ. Therefore, creating a biocompatible interface
155 that harbors Ca²⁺ is essential. Key considerations in fabricating the plateletoid include:
156 (1) selecting biocompatible polymers that can bind to Ca²⁺, (2) choosing an appropriate
157 particle skeleton to immobilize these polymers, and (3) incorporating additional
158 functionalities to facilitate applications in vivo.

159

160 The choice of biocompatible polymers is critical, as they ensure the Ca²⁺ bridging effect
161 necessary for thrombin generation in situ. The polymers must bind to Ca²⁺ efficiently.

162 Among the bioactive and biocompatible natural polymers, silk fibroin (SF) stands out
163 due to its rich polar groups, high bioactivity, and structural modifiability. SF has been
164 extensively studied for drug delivery systems and demonstrated their versatility and
165 effectiveness. For instance, SF has been used in template-guided self-weaving
166 technology to develop hyaluronic acid-coated SF carriers for cancer immunotherapy

167 [22]. Notably, it is capable of binding Ca^{2+} to carbonyl oxygen groups, which weakens
168 hydrogen bonding and hydrophobic interactions between fibrils [23]. Our previous
169 studies have also highlighted the strong interactions between SF and Ca^{2+} [24]. Thus, SF
170 is suitable for creating an SF/ Ca^{2+} interface that mimics the natural PS/ Ca^{2+} interface
171 found on platelets.

172

173 Coating the SF/ Ca^{2+} polymer complex onto the surface of the insoluble skeleton
174 provides more reactive sites for thrombin generation. Based on an overview of the
175 particles used in biomaterials, calcium carbonate (CaCO_3) is a suitable choice as it can
176 be engineered via template-induced layer-by-layer assembly into porous, hollow, or
177 core-shell structures for drug delivery applications [25]. The introduction of CaCO_3 into
178 drug delivery systems for specific applications in vivo has also been extensively
179 investigated in our previous studies [26]. Furthermore, CaCO_3 nanoparticles have been
180 shown to enhance the mechanical properties of SF [27], which benefits the robustness of
181 the biomimetic SF/ Ca^{2+} interface. CaCO_3 can also neutralize gastric fluids, providing
182 additional functionality to establish a favorable physiological environment in the
183 stomach for thrombin stabilization. Therefore, coating SF/ Ca^{2+} onto a CaCO_3 particle
184 skeleton is a rational approach.

185

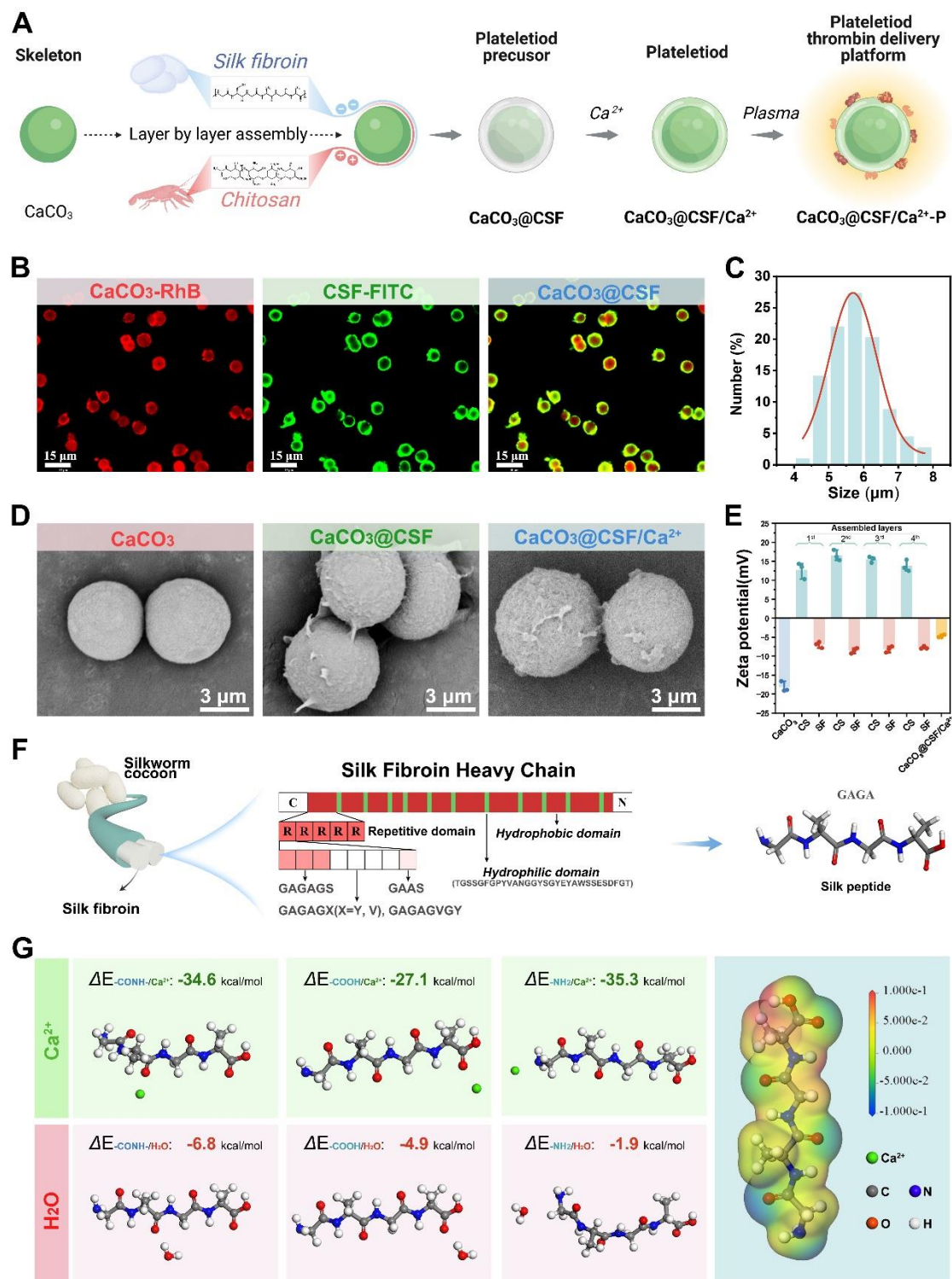
186 However, the negative zeta potential of CaCO_3 particles repels soluble SF polymers.
187 To address this, it is necessary to alter the surface charge of CaCO_3 particles to make
188 them positively charged, allowing for the electrostatic adsorption of the negatively

189 charged SF/Ca²⁺ polymer complex. Chitosan (CS), the only natural cationic polymer
190 among soluble polymers, was used to coat CaCO₃ particles, thereby altering their
191 surface potential to positive. This modification provides adsorption sites for the SF/Ca²⁺
192 complex. After electrostatic deposition of the SF/Ca²⁺ complex onto the CaCO₃
193 particles via CS, the artificial plateletoid with an SF/Ca²⁺ interface is fabricated.

194

195 The fabrication process of the artificial plateletoid and the corresponding thrombin
196 delivery platform is illustrated in Fig. 2A. Initially, CS and SF are assembled onto the
197 CaCO₃ skeleton layer-by-layer through electrostatic adsorption to form the plateletoid
198 precursor (CaCO₃@CSF). Next, CaCO₃@CSF is bonded by Ca²⁺ on the surface via
199 robust interaction between SF and Ca²⁺, resulting in the plateletoid
200 (CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺). When co-cultured with platelet-poor plasma in vitro, the
201 CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺ transforms into the plateletoid thrombin delivery platform
202 (CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺-P), which includes a protein corona and carries thrombin with high
203 enzymatic activity and superior room temperature stability for effective hemostasis
204 under harsh physiological conditions.

205



206

207 **Fig. 2. Fabrication and characterization of the plateletoid materials. (A)**

208 Preparation of the $\text{CaCO}_3\text{@CSF/Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$; **(B)** Laser scanning confocal microscopy

209 images of the $\text{CaCO}_3\text{@CSF}$. The CaCO_3 core was stained with rhodamine B (RhB) and

210 the CSF multilayer was stained with fluorescein isothiocyanate (FITC). **(C)** Size

211 distribution of $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}$. **(D)** Scanning electron microscopy images of the CaCO_3
212 skeleton, $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}$ and $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$. **(E)** Zeta potentials changes during the
213 layer-by-layer assembly in $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ preparation. **(F)** Schematic of the
214 primary structure of SF heavy chain. **(G)** The density functional theory calculations of
215 binding energies between silk fibroin polar groups and Ca^{2+} . (Fig. 2A was created in
216 BioRender. Hu, A. (2024) BioRender.com/o05y729)

217

218 Upon fabrication, we performed material characterization of the plateletoid precursor
219 $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}$ and the final plateletoid $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$. The $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}$ is a well-
220 defined core-shell sphere with a CaCO_3 core and a CSF shell (Fig. 2B and Fig. S1),
221 exhibiting a diameter of 4-8 μm (Fig. 2C), which is comparable to the size of real
222 platelets [28]. Based on clotting time measurements, the optimal number of CS and SF
223 assembly cycles on the surface of CaCO_3 was determined to be 4 (Fig. S2). After
224 coating with the CSF shell and binding with Ca^{2+} , the surface roughness of the CaCO_3
225 skeleton increased (Fig. 2D). The increase is due to the alternating assembly of CS and
226 SF polymers over the CaCO_3 skeleton for four cycles, which enhances the strength of
227 the SF multilayer for Ca^{2+} binding, with CS applied before SF. Moreover, the CaCO_3
228 skeleton from $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}$ can be removed using simulated gastric fluid, leaving
229 behind only CSF shells (Fig. S3). This indicates that the CSF shell was successfully
230 wrapped around the CaCO_3 core. The successful layer-by-layer deposition of the CSF
231 shell is attributed to the electrostatic adsorption between the positively charged CS and
232 negatively charged SF (Fig. 2E).

233

234 In real activated platelets, the PS/Ca²⁺ structure serves as the active site for assembly of
235 the prothrombinase complex assembly [29]. To mimic this, the CaCO₃@CSF should
236 have an overall negatively charged surface to firmly bind Ca²⁺. Because the outermost
237 layer of CaCO₃@CSF is an SF polymer, which is negatively charged at neutral pH and
238 contains abundant polar groups [30], it effectively adsorbs Ca²⁺ to form the plateletoid
239 CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺. The firmly bonded Ca²⁺ on CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺ promotes the
240 assembly of the prothrombinase complexes for in situ thrombin generation under
241 physiological conditions. Therefore, the negative SF layer(s) on CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺
242 play a critical role in Ca²⁺ immobilization, which is crucial for the prothrombin-to-
243 thrombin conversion process [31]. Although there are no significant morphological
244 changes in CaCO₃@CSF or CaCO₃ after loading of Ca²⁺ (Fig. 2D for
245 CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺ and Fig. S4A for CaCO₃/Ca²⁺), CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺ shows an 11-
246 fold higher Ca²⁺ level compared to CaCO₃/Ca²⁺ (Fig. S4B). This highlights the
247 importance of SF in effectively binding Ca²⁺ in plateletoids.

248

249 Previous research has shown that SF polymers contain multiple domains (Fig. 2F) with
250 polar groups, such as amino (-NH₂), carboxyl (-COOH), and amide groups (-CO-NH-),
251 which interact closely with Zn²⁺ [32]. These polar groups may similarly interact with
252 Ca²⁺. To investigate this, density functional theory (DFT) calculations were performed
253 to determine the interactions between the SF and Ca²⁺. Fig. 2G indicates that the
254 electrostatic potential mapping reveals the charge distribution of the protein peptides in

255 the SF main chain. The binding energies between typical SF polar groups (-CO-NH-, -
256 COOH, and -NH₂) and Ca²⁺ were calculated to be -34.6, -27.1, and -35.3 kcal/mol,
257 respectively, which are significantly lower than those between SF polar groups and H₂O
258 molecules, which are -6.8, -4.9, and -1.9 kcal/mol, respectively. The lower binding
259 energies suggest that SF can bind Ca²⁺ selectively and firmly. Molecular dynamics (MD)
260 simulations were also conducted to explore the interactions between SF and Ca²⁺. When
261 SF peptides were introduced into a CaCl₂ solution, they were surrounded by Ca²⁺ (Fig.
262 S5). The combined DFT calculations and MD simulations confirmed that the SF polar
263 groups on the CaCO₃@CSF shell can capture Ca²⁺ electrostatically, forming a robust
264 SF/Ca²⁺ interface that mimics the PS/Ca²⁺ interface of activated platelets for in situ
265 thrombin generation.

266

267 **2.2 Effective thrombin generation over the plateletoid thrombin delivery platform** 268 **(CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺-P) in situ**

269 Cargo generated in situ over a drug carrier may have higher bioactivity. Therefore,
270 generating thrombin in situ on plateletoids may better preserve thrombin's bioactivity.
271 Consequently, CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺ was introduced into platelet-poor plasma for in situ
272 thrombin loading, resulting in the preparation of CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺-P.

273

274 Fig. 3A illustrates the schematic procedure for thrombin generation in situ on
275 CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺ to obtain CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺-P, during which blood protein
276 biomolecules may enrich to form a protein corona around the CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺. Fig.

277 3B shows that $\text{CaCO}_3\text{@CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -induces flocculation when introduced into platelet-
278 poor plasma for 5.5 min, forming $\text{CaCO}_3\text{@CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$. In contrast, $\text{CaCO}_3/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ does
279 not produce insoluble flocs during a 60 min co-incubation with platelet-poor plasma
280 (Fig. S6A). Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) observations confirm that
281 $\text{CaCO}_3\text{@CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ is extensively covered with fibrous biomolecules in the
282 $\text{CaCO}_3\text{@CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ sample (Fig. 3C), whereas $\text{CaCO}_3/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ remain bare (Fig. S6B).
283 This confirms that $\text{CaCO}_3\text{@CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ recruits blood biomolecules from platelet-poor
284 plasma to cover it with insoluble flocs. Additionally, $\text{CaCO}_3\text{@CSF}$ was also co-
285 incubated with platelet poor plasma to prepare the $\text{CaCO}_3\text{@CSF}\text{-P}$ sample. Even after
286 60 min of incubation, little clots formed in the coincubation bath (Fig. S6C). However,
287 a minimal amount of protein corona was observed over $\text{CaCO}_3\text{@CSF}\text{-P}$ (Fig. S6D).
288
289 To assess the mass of the insoluble flocs covering $\text{CaCO}_3\text{@CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ in the
290 $\text{CaCO}_3\text{@CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ sample, protein concentration in platelet-poor plasma was
291 measured after co-incubation with $\text{CaCO}_3\text{@CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$. Plasma proteins, rich in amino
292 acids such as tryptophan, tyrosine, and phenylalanine, were quantified by measuring
293 absorbance at 254 nm ^[33]. The absorbance of the $\text{CaCO}_3\text{@CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ group was
294 significantly lower than that of the $\text{CaCO}_3/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ group (Fig. S7), indicating greater
295 enrichment of blood proteins by $\text{CaCO}_3\text{@CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$. These proteins likely form a
296 protein corona around $\text{CaCO}_3\text{@CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$, enhancing the stability and activity of in
297 situ-loaded thrombin for improved blood clotting. The optimum solid-to-liquid ratio
298 and temperature for incubation of $\text{CaCO}_3\text{@CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ were 1:4 (Fig. S8) and 25 °C

299 (Fig. S9).

300

301 Proteomic analysis using liquid chromatography with-tandem mass spectrometry (LC-

302 MS/MS) further identified the protein compositions of the protein corona. Fig. 3D

303 shows that the protein corona in $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -P is similar to that of platelet-poor

304 plasma, both containing coagulation factors such as serum albumin, immunoglobulins,

305 and fibrinogen. Fig. 3E demonstrates that these factors in platelet-poor plasma and the

306 protein corona surrounding $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ in $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -P consist of a full

307 set of intrinsic pathway coagulation factors in the cascade. Typically, more than 80%

308 of the coagulation factors from platelet-poor plasma, typically FV/Va, FX/Xa, FXI/XIa,

309 and FXII/XIIa, were extensively recruited by $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ in the

310 $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -P group (Fig. 3F). Because of the similarity in amino acid

311 sequences and structural properties between active and inactive coagulation factors, it

312 is challenging to distinguish them based solely on their mass-to-charge ratios or

313 fragmentation patterns. Fortunately, in combination with the thrombin activity in

314 $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -P (Fig. 3I), it is evident that the coagulation cascade reaction is

315 activated, and these coagulation factors are likely to be in their active forms, for

316 example FV and FX are converted to FVa and FXa, respectively. These results

317 demonstrated that the SF/Ca^{2+} interface from $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ led to the

318 accumulation of coagulation factors over $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -P, promoting the

319 assembly of prothrombinase complexes (FXa and FVa) for in situ thrombin generation.

320

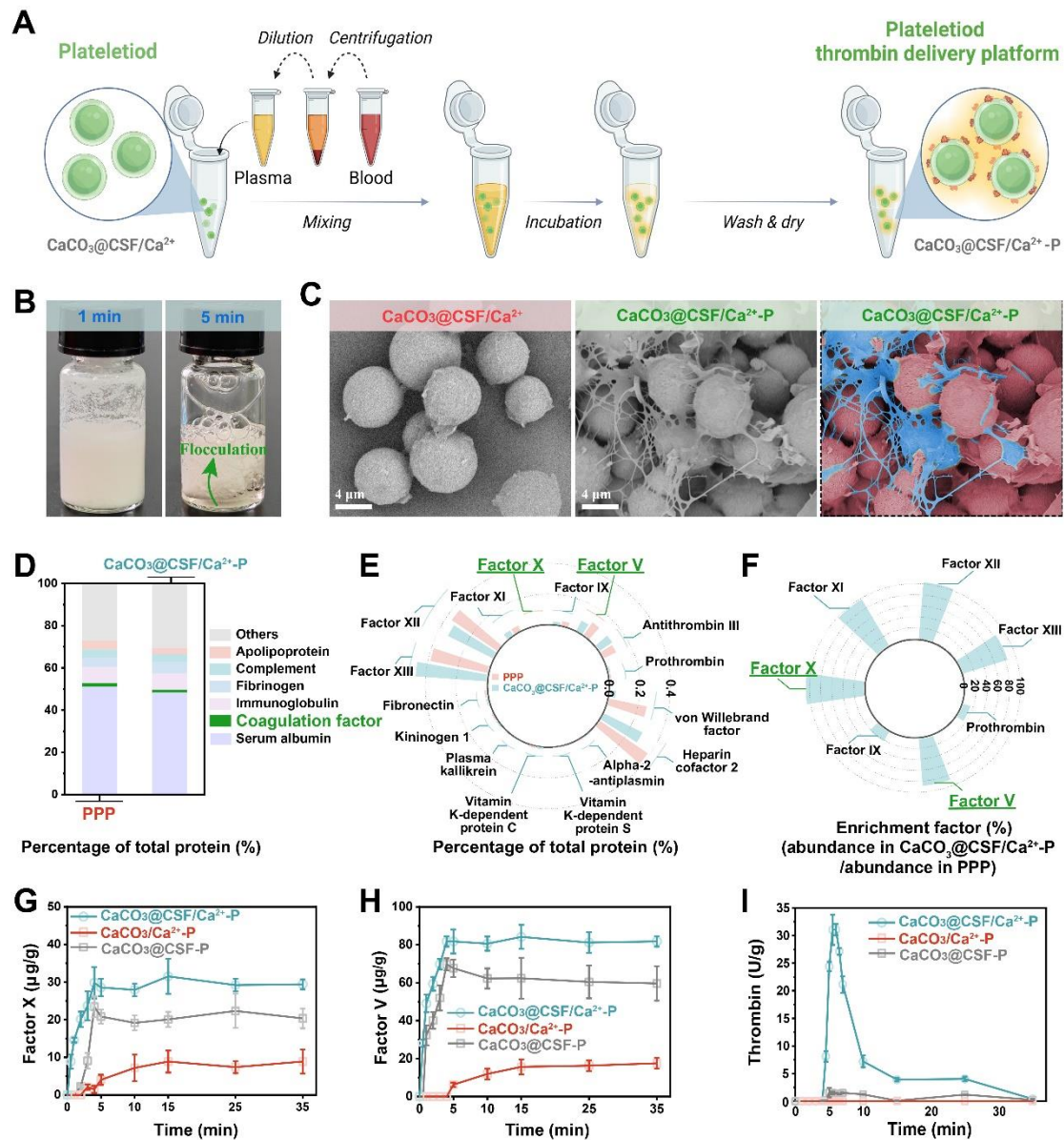
321 Thrombin generation from prothrombin is strongly regulated by the membrane-bound
322 prothrombinase complex, composed of FXa and FVa in the presence of Ca^{2+} [34].
323 Therefore, quantifying FXa and FVa in the protein corona of $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ is
324 crucial for assessing its hemostatic performance. As depicted in Fig.s 3G and 3H,
325 significant accumulation of FXa and FVa occurred within the first 4 min, with amounts
326 of FXa and FVa is 30 $\mu\text{g}/\text{g}$ and 80 $\mu\text{g}/\text{g}$, respectively in $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$, which
327 are substantially higher those in $\text{CaCO}_3/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ and $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}\text{-P}$. Notably, thrombin
328 activity in $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ (30 U/g) peaks at 5.5 min during incubation with
329 platelet-poor plasma (Fig. 3I). This increase in thrombin activity confirms that the
330 SF/Ca^{2+} interface of $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ assemble active prothrombinase complexes by
331 enriching FXa and FVa, leading to prothrombin cleavage and thrombin generation.
332 Furthermore, the procoagulant capacity of $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ was best at 5.5 min of
333 co-incubation (Fig. S10), which aligns with the thrombin activity results of
334 $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ (Fig. 3I). In contrast, $\text{CaCO}_3/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ exhibited negligible
335 thrombin activity and minimal effect on clotting time due to the low concentration of
336 Ca^{2+} in $\text{CaCO}_3/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ (1 mg/g) (Fig. S4B), only 10% of that in $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$, which
337 leads to defective blood clotting performance. Additionally, although $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}$
338 formed a protein corona incorporating FXa and FVa (Fig. 3G and Fig. 3H), the absence
339 of Ca^{2+} hindered the catalytic transition of prothrombin into thrombin, leading to poor
340 thrombin activity (Fig. 3I) which inhibits fibrin generation and clot formation. These
341 results collectively confirm that the robust binding of SF to Ca^{2+} provides a
342 $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ plateletoid with a strongly active SF/Ca^{2+} interface, which mimics

343 the real PS/Ca²⁺ interface in platelets, to assemble the prothrombinase complex for in
344 situ thrombin generation.

345

346 In summary, the in situ thrombin generation mechanism on the CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺
347 plateletoid is confirmed (Fig. 1A). Initially, CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺ activates the intrinsic
348 pathway of blood coagulation by activating FXII, followed by rapid activation of
349 factors such as FX and FV, converting them to FXa and FVa, respectively [35]. The
350 prothrombinase complex is then assembled with FVa (via its C2 domain) and FXa (via
351 its GLA domain) in the presence of Ca²⁺ from CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺ [36]. Prothrombin is
352 also linked to CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺ (via its GLA domain) [37]. Ultimately, FXa protease
353 residues from the prothrombinase complex, with the FVa's help, cleave prothrombin
354 into thrombin [38], which is then stabilized and protected by the protein corona of
355 CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺-P.

356



357

358 **Fig. 3. Characterization of blood protein biomolecules and thrombin induced by**

359 **the plateletoid ($\text{CaCO}_3\text{@CSF/Ca}^{2+}$) in the platelet-poor plasma. (A) Schematic**

360 **flow for introducing the plateletoid ($\text{CaCO}_3\text{@CSF/Ca}^{2+}$) in the platelet-poor plasma to**

361 **obtain the plateletoid thrombin delivery platform ($\text{CaCO}_3\text{@CSF/Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$). (B) Photos of**

362 **plateletoid ($\text{CaCO}_3\text{@CSF/Ca}^{2+}$) dispersion incubated with platelet-poor plasma after 1**

363 **min (no flocs) and 5.5 min (flocs formed). (C) Scanning electron microscopy images**

364 **of the plateletoid thrombin delivery platform ($\text{CaCO}_3\text{@CSF/Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$). (D) Proteomic**

365 **analysis of protein corona in the plateletoid thrombin delivery platform**

366 (CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺-P). (E) Mass analysis of coagulation factors. (F) Enrichment
367 percentages of coagulation factors in the plateletoid thrombin delivery platform
368 (CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺-P). (G) Mass of FVa and FXa in the plateletoid thrombin delivery
369 platform (CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺-P). (H) Incubation time-dependent thrombin activity of
370 the plateletoid thrombin delivery platform (CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺-P). (Fig. 3A was created
371 in BioRender. Hu, A. (2023) BioRender.com/t13e817)

372

373 **2.3 Stability of thrombin from the plateletoid thrombin delivery platform**

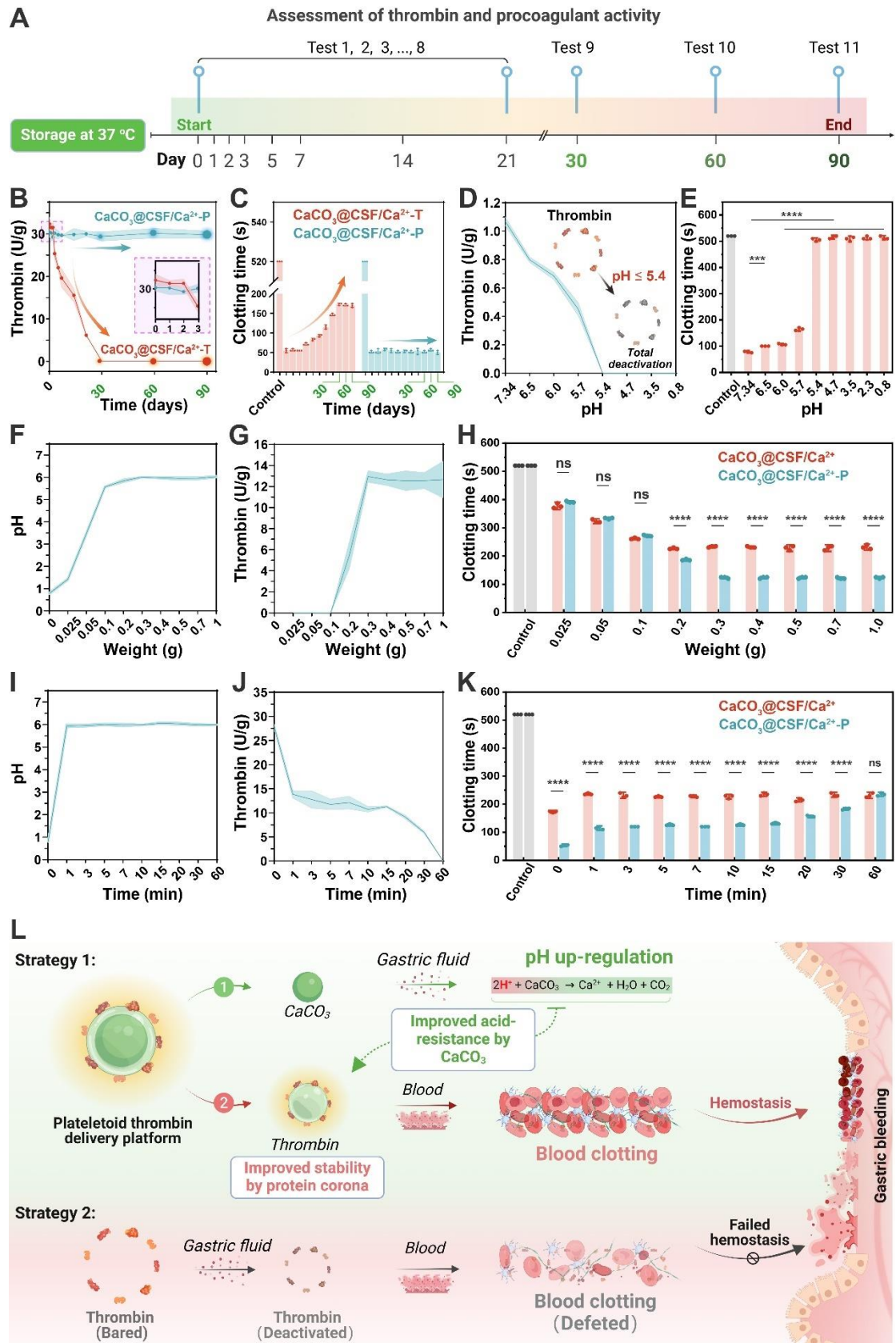
374 **(CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺-P)**

375 While the high thrombin activity of the plateletoid thrombin delivery platform
376 (CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺-P) has been confirmed, its stability remains uncertain. Given that
377 commercial thrombin is highly unstable at room temperature and must be stored at or
378 below 4 °C, assessing the room temperature stability of thrombin from
379 CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺-P is crucial.

380

381 Fig. 4A outlines the workflow for evaluating the stability of thrombin from
382 CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺-P at room temperature (37 °C) over a 90 d period. It was found that
383 the activity of thrombin from CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺-T, prepared by directly loading
384 commercial thrombin onto CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺, decreased significantly over time, with
385 activity completely lost by day 30. In contrast, thrombin from CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺-P
386 remained highly stable, maintaining approximately 30 U/g of activity over 90 d (Fig.
387 4B). A similar trend in procoagulant activities of CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺-T and

388 $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -P is detailed in Fig. 4C. The clotting time in the $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -
389 T group increased from 55 s to 173 s after 30 days, while the $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -P
390 group maintained a clotting time of 55 s. This confirms that thrombin loaded onto
391 $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ has low stability at room temperature, whereas $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -
392 P exhibits superior stability, preserving thrombin's biological enzymatic activity at
393 physiological temperatures and suggesting potential for long-lasting thrombin delivery
394 in vivo. This shall be the longest storage period of thrombin reported ever.
395



396

397 **Fig. 4. Thrombin stability of the plateletoid thrombin delivery platform**

398 ($\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$). (A) Sampling flow for evaluation of the thrombin activity. (B)

399 Thrombin activity of and (C) procoagulant activity of the plateletoid thrombin delivery
400 platform ($\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$) at 37 °C. Effects of pH on the (D) commercial
401 thrombin activity and (E) procoagulant activity. (F) Effect of the dosage of the
402 plateletoid thrombin delivery platform ($\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$) on pH of simulated
403 gastric fluids. Effects of the dosage of the plateletoid thrombin delivery platform
404 ($\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$) on its (G) thrombin activity and (H) procoagulant activity. (I)
405 Effect of time on pH of simulated gastric fluids treated with the plateletoid thrombin
406 delivery platform ($\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$). Effect of time on (J) thrombin activity and
407 (K) procoagulant activity of the plateletoid thrombin delivery platform
408 ($\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$) treated with simulated gastric fluids. (L) Schematic actions of
409 the plateletoid thrombin delivery platform ($\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$) in shielding
410 thrombin for gastric hemostasis. (**** represents $p < 0.0001$, *** represents $p < 0.001$
411 and ns means no significant difference. Fig. 4A and 4L were created in Biorender. Hu,
412 A. (2024) BioRender.com/m01d167)

413

414 The flexibility of thrombin's active site^[39] means that prolonged interactions with drug
415 carriers at ambient temperatures can induce conformational changes that lead to
416 irreversible inactivation of thrombin^[6]. This may explain the heat-induced inactivation
417 of thrombin in $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-T}$. Previous studies suggest that enhancing the
418 rigidity of enzyme active sites through additional interactions can improve enzymatic
419 stability at high temperatures^[40]. Therefore, the protein corona from
420 $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$, which contains numerous blood proteins, is speculated to induce

421 extensive interactions with thrombin. These interactions likely increase the rigidity of
422 thrombin's active site, protecting it from heat-induced conformational changes and
423 avoiding irreversible inactivation at room temperature. Thus, the protein corona from
424 $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ shields thrombin similarly to a knight's strong shield in battle [41].

425

426 In addition to poor room-temperature stability, thrombin's low acidity resistance is a
427 significant barrier to its in vivo applications, such as in gastric bleeding. The low pH of
428 gastric fluid (approximately pH 0.8) rapidly deactivates thrombin [42]. Fig. 4D confirms
429 that commercial thrombin loses its activity completely when exposed to $\text{pH} \leq 5.4$, with
430 clotting time increasing to 513 s (Fig. 4E). Therefore, assessing the acidity resistance
431 of thrombin from $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ is essential for its potential use in the stomach.
432 The thrombin activity of $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ was evaluated in simulated gastric fluid.
433 Introduction of various amounts of $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ increased the pH of the
434 simulated gastric fluid (Fig. 4F). As the dosage of $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ increased, the
435 pH of the simulated gastric fluid rose from 0.8 to 6.0, maintaining thrombin activity at
436 approximately 13 U/g (Fig. 4G). Since CaCO_3 from $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ reacts with
437 the acidic components in the simulated gastric fluids to generate additional Ca^{2+} , which
438 is known to promote coagulation [43], the coagulation effects of $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$
439 (with thrombin) and $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ (without thrombin) are compared in Fig. 4H.
440 After treatment with simulated gastric fluid, $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ showed intermediate
441 clotting time (233 s), which was much longer than that of $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ (123 s)
442 and shorter than that of the control (510 s). This suggests that the superior clotting

443 performance of $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ is a combined result of thrombin carried by
444 $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ and Ca^{2+} released from CaCO_3 in $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$.
445
446 Dynamic variations in thrombin activity of $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ were also analyzed.
447 Notably, $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ (0.3 g) rapidly increased the pH of the simulated gastric
448 fluid (10 mL) from 0.8 to 6.0 within 1 min (Fig. 4I). Although thrombin activity
449 decreased significantly due to the initial strong acidity of the stimulated gastric fluid,
450 $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ sustained high thrombin activity above 11 U/g for up to 15 min,
451 with a gradual decrease thereafter. The procoagulant efficacy of $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$
452 in the simulated gastric fluid was evaluated, showing that within 60 min, the clotting
453 time of $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ was significantly lower than that of $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$
454 due to preserved thrombin activity (Fig. 4K). The action mechanism of
455 $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ in the simulated gastric fluid is illustrated in Fig. 4L. Initially,
456 CaCO_3 from $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ neutralizes the acidic gastric fluid, raising the pH to
457 6.0, which helps maintain thrombin activity and ensures effective procoagulant
458 performance. Additionally, thrombin shielded by the protein corona exhibits superior
459 stability in the gastric environment, contributing to effective hemostasis (Strategy I). In
460 contrast, bare thrombin is deactivated by stimulated gastric fluid, leading to ineffective
461 hemostasis due to defective clotting (Strategy II). These results collectively suggest that
462 (1) $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ can increase the pH of simulated gastric fluids to maintain
463 thrombin activity, and (2) the superior procoagulant activity of $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ is
464 due to both thrombin it carries and the Ca^{2+} released by $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$.

465

466 **2.4 Hemostatic mechanism**

467 In spontaneous hemostasis, thrombin facilitates (1) the transformation of erythrocytes
468 to echinocytes to release procoagulants, (2) platelet activation to form platelet plugs,
469 and (3) the cleavage of fibrinogen into fibrin meshes to reinforce blood clotting (Fig.
470 5A). Therefore, the effects of $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ on erythrocytes, platelets, and
471 fibrinogen were investigated at the cellular level. As shown in Fig. 5B,
472 $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ exhibited substantial erythrocyte adhesion to its surface. The
473 number of adsorbed erythrocytes was similar among $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$,
474 $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$, $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}$, and CaCO_3 . However, a significant number of
475 echinocytes, distinct from the typical biconcave disk-shaped erythrocytes (Fig. S11),
476 were observed exclusively on $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$. Previous studies have shown that
477 the transition from erythrocytes to echinocytes is linked to the transformation of
478 adenosine triphosphate to adenosine diphosphate, which activates platelets to promote
479 procoagulant release and hypercoagulation [44]. Thus, the transition of erythrocytes to
480 echinocytes indicates the potential of $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ to induce coagulation (Fig.
481 5B).

482

483 In addition to the erythrocyte transition, $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ also induced the most
484 significant platelet aggregation among all samples (Fig. 5C), resulting in the highest
485 fluorescence intensity of CD41 (Fig. S12). The quantitative analysis of platelets showed
486 that the number of platelets on $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ was 7.9×10^6 , 2-6 times higher

487 than on CaCO_3 , $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}$, and $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ (Fig. 5D). Since thrombin binds
488 to receptors on platelets, such as glycoprotein (GP) Ib-IX and protease-activated
489 receptors (PARs), to activate platelet aggregation [45], the platelet aggregation induced
490 by $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -P is likely due to thrombin generation in situ. These results
491 strongly indicate that $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -P induces platelet aggregation to accelerate
492 blood coagulation directly.

493

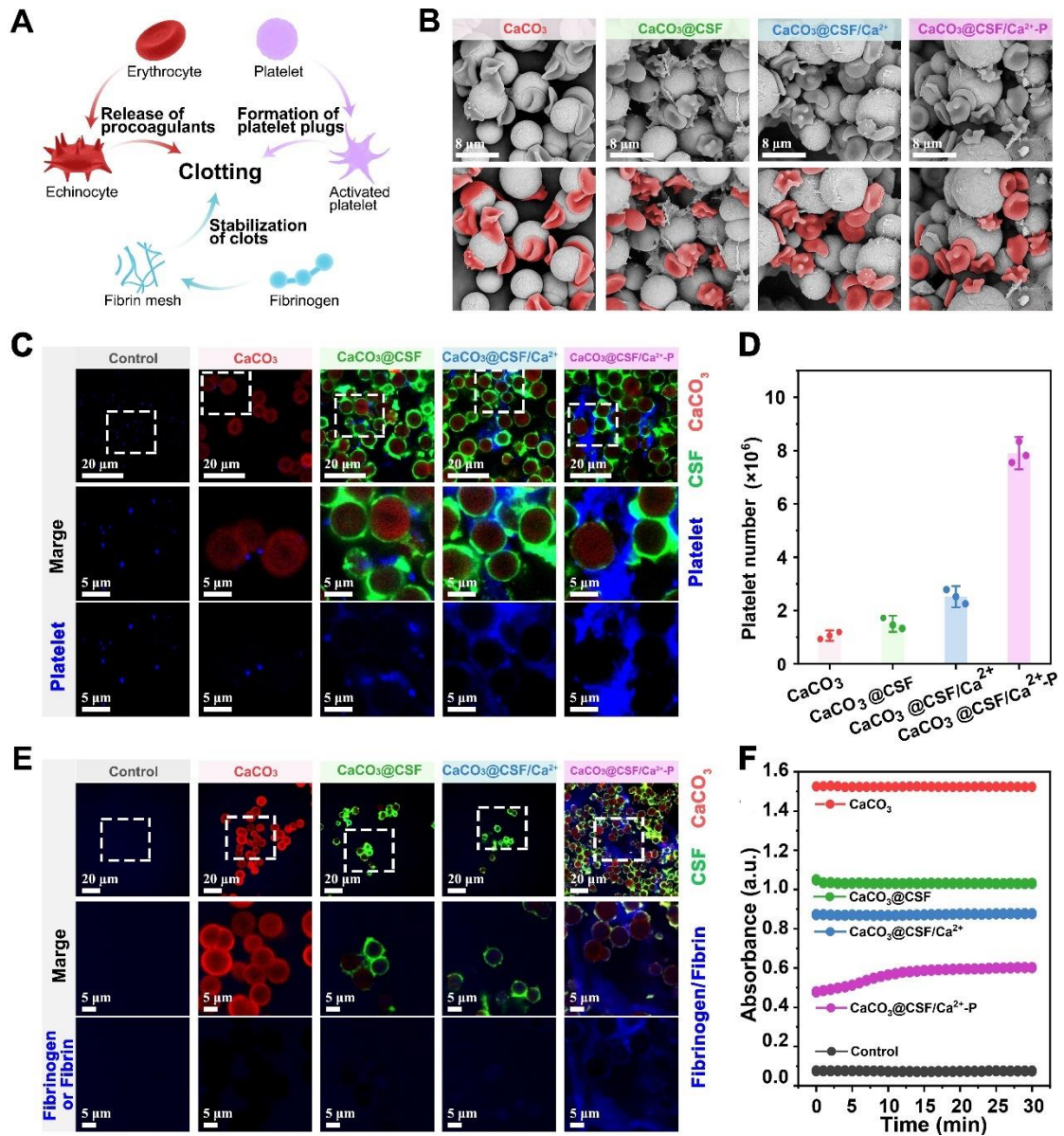
494 Furthermore, the impact of $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -P on fibrinogen levels was investigated.
495 Fig. 5E shows that $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -P particles clearly display fibrin and fibrinogen,
496 and neither CaCO_3 nor $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}$ exhibited these proteins. The transition from
497 fibrinogen to fibrin was further confirmed by optical density analysis, which showed a
498 significant increase in optical density for the $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -P group over the
499 incubation period, indicating gradual fibrin generation (Fig. 5F). In contrast, neither
500 CaCO_3 , $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}$, nor $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ showed increased optical density within
501 30 min. Thrombin cleaves fibrinopeptides A and B from fibrinogen exposing “knobs”
502 that bind to “holes” in the γ - and β -nodules to generate fibrin [46]. Therefore, thrombin
503 in $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -P is primarily responsible for fibrin generation, highlighting its
504 key role in accelerating coagulation by converting fibrinogen into a fibrin mesh to
505 reinforce blood clots.

506

507 Overall, $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -P induces echinocyte formation, platelet aggregation, and
508 fibrin generation for hemostasis (Fig. 5A), independent of the host’s blood-clotting

509 pathway.

510



511

512 Fig. 5. The effect of the plateletoid thrombin delivery platform

513 ($\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/Ca^{2+}-P$) on erythrocytes, platelets, and fibrinogen during

514 hemostasis. (A) Schematic mechanism of thrombin in blood clotting. (B) Scanning

515 electron microscopy images of erythrocytes transformation. (C) Fluorescence images

516 and (D) quantitative analysis of platelet aggregation (labeled with CD41a-eFluor 450).

517 (E) Fluorescence images and (F) quantitative analysis of fibrinogen (labeled with Alexa

518 Fluor 350).

519

520 **2.5 Biosafety evaluation**

521 To address safety concerns, the biocompatibility of $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ was evaluated.

522 The hemolysis test, performed at various concentrations of $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$,

523 showed a hemolysis ratio of less than 5% across all concentrations (Fig. S13),

524 confirming its excellent hemocompatibility. Additionally, the cytotoxicity of

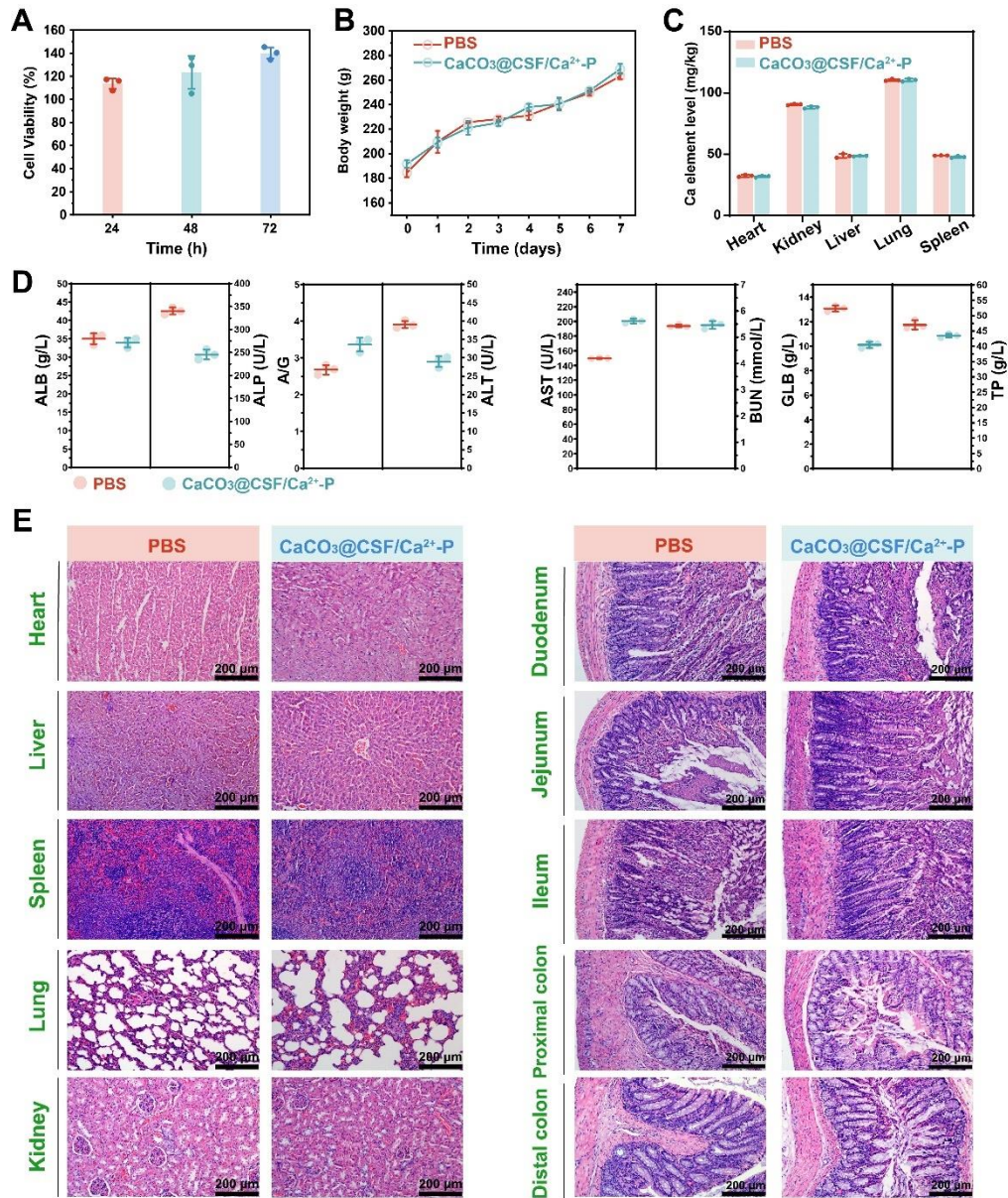
525 $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ was assessed by incubating fibroblast cells with the materials. Fig.

526 6A demonstrates that cell activity in all groups remained above 95% after incubation

527 with $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$. The live/dead staining assay further confirmed that

528 $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ had a negligible negative influence on the cells (Fig. S14). These

529 results collectively indicate the excellent cytocompatibility of $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$.



530

531 **Fig. 6. Biocompatibility and biosafety of the plateletoid thrombin delivery**
 532 **platform (CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺-P).** (A) Cell viability of fibroblast cells. (B) Daily body
 533 weight of rats. (C) Calcium accumulation in primary organs of rats. (D) Blood
 534 biochemical indexes of rats. (E) Histological staining of gastrointestinal tract and
 535 primary organs of rats.

536

537 Furthermore, the long-term safety of CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺-P was assessed in vivo using

538 a rat model. As shown in Fig. 6B, all rats that received oral administration of
539 $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ for 7 days showed normal body weight without vomiting or
540 diarrhea. The body weight evolution was comparable to that of the PBS-treated rats,
541 suggesting that $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ has minimal impact on rat metabolism. Fig. 6C
542 indicates that calcium accumulation in major organs from the $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$
543 group was nearly identical to that in the PBS group. Blood biochemistry was used to
544 evaluate the possible side effects. Markers such as ALT, AST, and ALP can indicate
545 liver health and potential toxicity [47]. Abnormal levels of these markers may suggest
546 liver damage or dysfunction. Parameters like BUN and creatinine levels indicate renal
547 function and potential nephrotoxic effects [48]. Changes in these markers may indicate
548 kidney impairment or toxicity. As there were no significant deviation between the
549 $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ group and the control group (Fig. 6D), further signaling no
550 adverse systemic effects of $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ on renal and liver functions.
551 Additionally, no visible damage or lesions were observed in the gastrointestinal tract or
552 primary organs (heart, liver, spleen, lung, and kidney) (Fig. S15), which was consistent
553 with the corresponding histological staining assay (Fig. 6E). These results confirm the
554 good biocompatibility and biosafety of $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$.

555

556 **2.6 Treatment of gastric hemorrhage via oral drug delivery**

557 Gastric hemorrhage is a prevalent medical emergency with a mortality rate of
558 approximately 10% [49]. Endoscopic hemostatic treatments, such as mechanical, thermal,
559 and injection devices, are often used as first-line therapies [50]. However, endoscopic

560 hemostasis is limited to hospital settings and depends heavily on the endoscopist's skills
561 [51]. Moreover, these procedures carry risks of thermal damage, perforation, and
562 extensive gastrointestinal necrosis [52]. Therefore, an orally administered formulation
563 for prehospital gastric hemostasis is in high desirable.

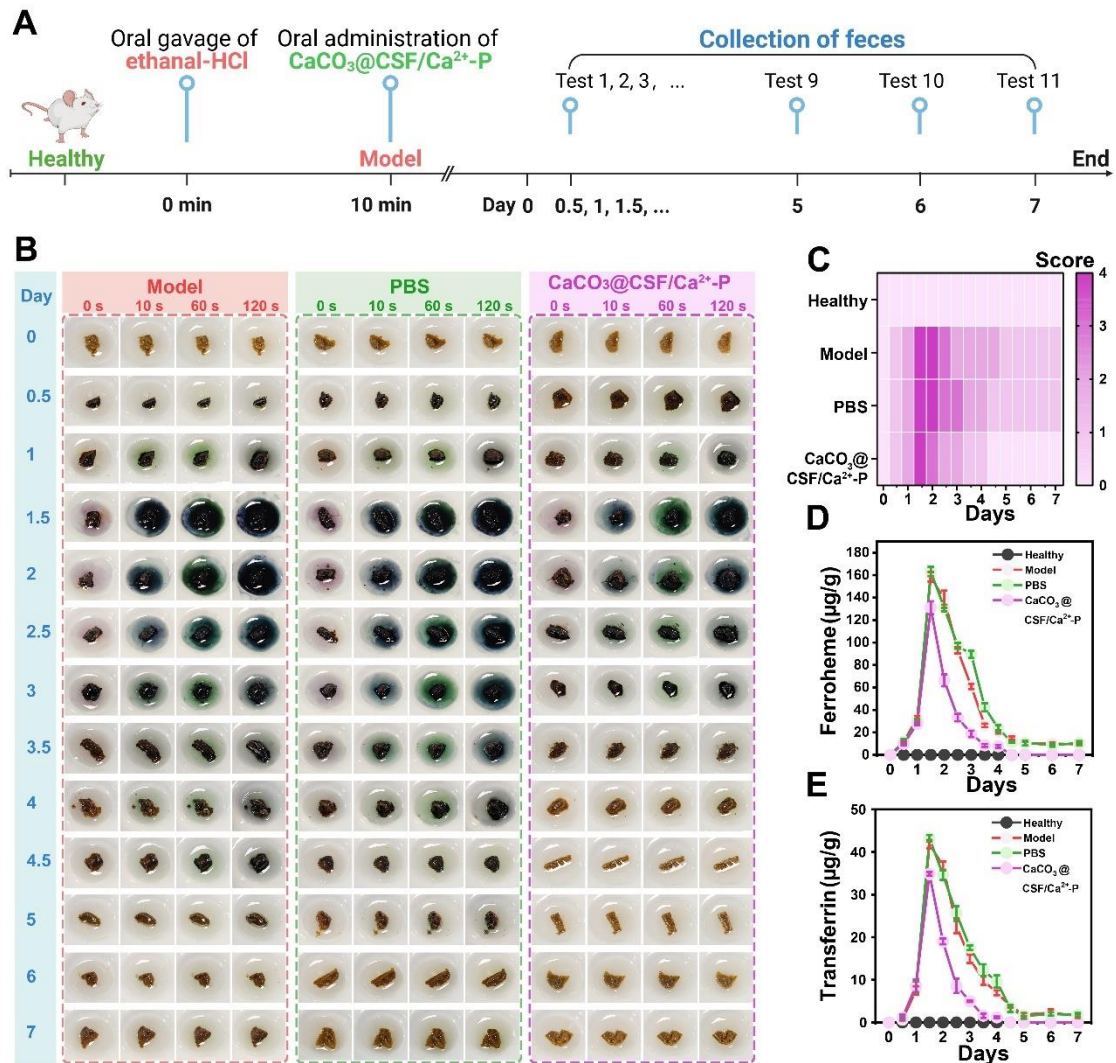
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565 Few studies have explored oral thrombin administration for gastric hemorrhage control,
566 primarily because thrombin is highly unstable under gastric conditions. The acidic
567 environment of the stomach (pH around 0.8) is hostile to thrombin, which quickly loses
568 its hemostatic efficacy [53]. Thus, a formulation that can regulate the gastric environment
569 and maintain thrombin activity is essential. Given the pH upregulation behavior of
570 $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ in vitro in stimulated gastric fluid, its therapeutic performance
571 was tested in vivo.

572

573 To begin, the effect of $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ on gastric acidity was evaluated.
574 Administration of 30 mg of $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ improved the gastric pH 6.5 within 5
575 min (Fig. S16A) and maintained this level for 30 min before gradually returning to
576 normal (Fig. S16B). These results suggest that an appropriate dose of
577 $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ can create a more favorable environment for addressing gastric
578 hemorrhage by neutralizing gastric acidity.

579



580

581 **Fig. 7. In vivo hemostatic capacity of plateletoid thrombin delivery platform**

582 **($\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$) in gastric bleeding model. (A) Animal experiment flow. (B)**

583 **Rat feces collected from different treatment groups. (C) Score of the fecal occult blood**

584 **test (0 point: no color reaction within 2 min, 1 point: light green changes to green, 2**

585 **point: light green changes to bluish brown, 3 point: bluish brown changes to black**

586 **brown, 4 point: immediately changing to blue-black brown). Quantitative analysis of**

587 **(D) ferroheme and (E) transferrin in rat feces. (Fig. 7A was created in BioRender. Hu,**

588 **A. (2024) BioRender.com/m01d167)**

589

590 For evaluating the hemostatic potential of $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$, an ethanol-HCl mixed
591 solution was used to establish a rat gastric bleeding model. After model establishment,
592 feces were collected for a fecal occult blood assay (Fig. 7A), where the intensity of the
593 color correlates with hemoglobin content. The assay showed no chromogenic reactions
594 in the healthy group (Fig. S17), while reactions were observed in the other groups.
595 Within 7 days, PBS treatment showed negligible therapeutic efficacy, with
596 chromogenic reactions similar to the model group. In contrast, the $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$
597 P group exhibited a reduction in chromogenic reactions after 1.5 d and complete
598 disappearance after 4.5 d (Fig. 7B). This indicated that $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ was the
599 most effective in controlling gastric hemorrhage (Fig. 7C).

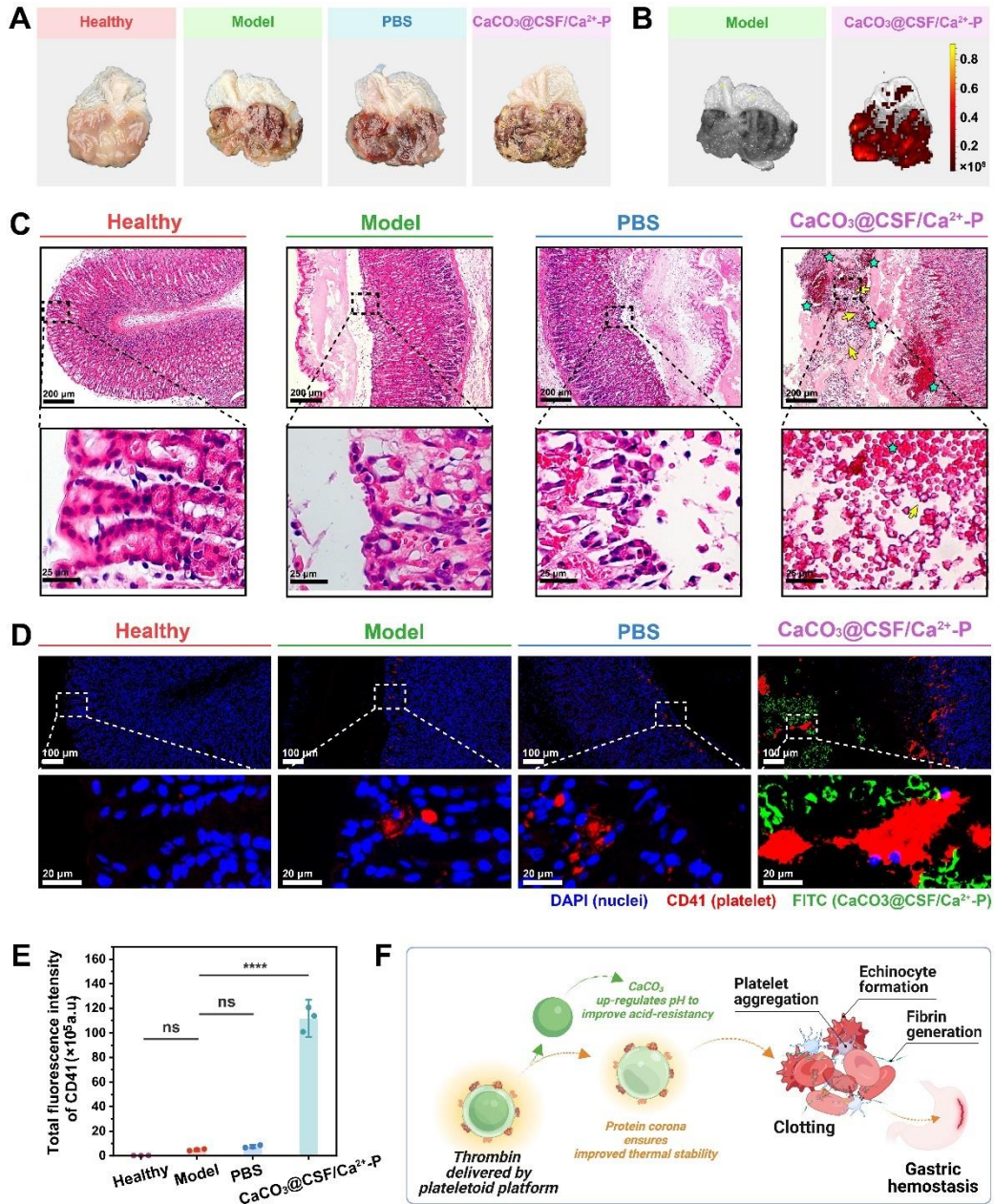
600

601 Quantitative analysis of ferroheme and transferrin in rat feces further supported the
602 efficacy of $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$. The ferroheme content in the $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$
603 group ($131 \mu\text{g/g}$) was significantly lower than in the PBS group ($163 \mu\text{g/g}$) after 1.5 d
604 (Fig. 7D). Similarly, transferrin content followed the same trend (Fig. 7E). Both
605 ferroheme and transferrin were undetectable in the feces 4.5 d after $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$
606 P administration, whereas they were still detectable in other groups even after 7 d. These
607 results underscore the superior effectiveness of $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ in managing
608 gastric hemorrhage.

609

610 Hemostatic efficacy was also assessed through histological and immunofluorescence
611 analyses. Fig. 8A confirms the successful induction of an acute gastric hemorrhage

612 model, with extensive ulceration and congestion observed in gastric tissues after
613 ethanol-HCl gavage. Fluorescence images displayed intense signals distribution in the
614 injured gastric mucosa following oral administration of $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ (labeled
615 with FITC onto the CSF component), which was absent in the Model group (Fig. 8B).
616 This indicates that $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ adhered to the injured gastric mucosa, a crucial
617 step for effective hemostasis. Fig. 8C shows significant damage to the gastric epithelial
618 barrier and necrosis in the Model group compared to the healthy group. Notably,
619 hemostatic clots were clearly observed on the injured gastric mucosal surface in the
620 $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ group, indicating effective incorporation into hemostatic clots. In
621 contrast, the Model and PBS groups showed minimal clot formation. These results
622 unequivocally demonstrate the hemostatic role of $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ in gastric
623 hemorrhage.
624



625

626 **Fig. 8. Gastric hemostasis with the plateletoid thrombin delivery platform**

627 **($\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$).** (A) Gastric tissues from bleeding models. (B) Fluorescence

628 imaging of the plateletoid thrombin delivery platform ($\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$) in gastric

629 bleeding tissues. (C) Histological staining of the gastric bleeding tissues (hemostatic

630 clots are marked by cyan stars, and the plateletoid thrombin delivery platform

631 ($\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$) is marked by yellow arrows). (D) Immunostainings of platelet

632 plugs in hemostatic clots of the gastric bleeding tissues. (E) Fluorescence intensity of
633 platelet in the immunostaining images. (F) Schematic mechanism of plateletoid
634 thrombin delivery platform ($\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$) in gastric hemostasis. (****
635 represents $p < 0.0001$ and ns means no significant difference. Fig. 8F was created in
636 Biorender. Hu, A. (2024) BioRender.com/o05y729)

637

638 Immunofluorescence staining with CD41 was used to analyze platelet plugs in
639 hemostatic clots. The Model and PBS groups exhibited a limited number of platelet
640 plugs, in contrast to the $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ -treated group, which showed a
641 substantial number of platelet plugs co-localized with $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ (Fig. 8D).
642 Quantitative analysis demonstrated that the $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ group had the highest
643 fluorescence intensity (111.8×10^5), approximately 15-fold higher than the PBS-treated
644 group (7.6×10^5) (Fig. 8E). This indicates that $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ significantly
645 enhances platelet plug formation, thereby promoting hemostasis in the injured gastric
646 mucosa.

647

648 The hemostatic action of $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ in gastric hemorrhage can be attributed
649 to its enhanced acid resistance and thrombin stability. After oral administration, the
650 hemostatic agent adheres to the injured gastric mucosal surface through stomach
651 peristalsis and exerts its effect in a neutral environment, leading to echinocyte formation,
652 platelet aggregation, and fibrin generation for clotting (Fig. 8F).

653

654 **3. Conclusion**

655 Thrombin's low stability limits its in vivo application due to its sensitivity to
656 environmental temperature, pH, and delivery carriers. This study presents an artificial
657 plateletoid ($\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$), with a SF/ Ca^{2+} interface mimicking the
658 phosphatidylserine/ Ca^{2+} interface of real platelets. During co-incubation with plasma,
659 $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ induces thrombin generation and recruits additional blood proteins
660 to shield the generated thrombin. The thrombin activity of $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -P
661 remains stable at as high as 37 °C for at least 90 d, overcoming storage limitations for
662 thrombin formulations. Additionally, $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -P adjusts the acidity of the
663 gastric environment to enhance thrombin delivery for gastric hemostasis, thus
664 addressing the constraints of oral thrombin administration to highly acidic
665 physiological conditions. This pioneering study focused on the fundamental principles
666 of platelet-induced hemostasis, advancing the field of hemorrhage control. For the first
667 time, it reports an ultra-stable thrombin formulation against thermal and acidic
668 denaturation, while some limitations may raise further research interests. Future works
669 shall focus on the determination of the exact shelf life of the thrombin formulation and
670 the robustness of thrombin activity during real postal service with long-term shipment
671 in a wide temperature range.

672

673 **4. Experimental**

674 **4.1 Materials and chemicals**

675 *Bombyx mori* cocoons were provided by High Fashion International Limited (Hong

676 Kong). CS was supplied by Macklin Biochemical Co. Ltd. (Shanghai, China).
677 Commercial thrombin was obtained from Yuanye Biotechnology Co., Ltd. (Shanghai,
678 China). All other reagents were of analytical grade and used as received.

679

680 **4.2 Animals**

681 All animal experiments adhered to EU Directive 2010/63/EU and were approved by the
682 Animal Experiments Ethics Committee of Southwest University (approval number:
683 IACUC-20240624-01). Male Sprague-Dwley (SD) rats were purchased from Hunan
684 SJA Laboratory Animal Co., Ltd. (China).

685

686 **4.3 Fabrication of the plateletoid thrombin delivery platform (CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺- 687 P)**

688 Regenerated SF: SF was regenerated [24b], and re-dissolved to a predetermined
689 concentration for use.

690

691 Fluorescein isothiocyanate (FITC) labeled CS (FITC-CS): CS (0.5 g) was dissolved in
692 acetic acid (0.1 M) and mixed with methanol. FITC methanol solution (2 mg/mL) was
693 added, and the reaction occurred in the dark at room temperature for 3 h. FITC-CS was
694 precipitated with sodium hydroxide (0.2 M), washed with ethanol, re-dissolved in acetic
695 acid solution (0.1 M) for dialysis against DI water in the dark for 3 d, and lyophilized.

696

697 Fabrication of the CaCO₃ microparticles: The CaCO₃ microparticles, as the skeleton of

698 plateletoid was synthesized as described in the literature ^[54]. Rhodamine B (Rh-B)
699 labeled CaCO₃ (Rh-B-CaCO₃) was prepared by adding Rh-B to the CaCl₂ solution
700 before Na₂CO₃ addition.

701

702 Fabrication of the plateletoid precursor (CaCO₃@CSF): A CS/SF (CSF) multilayer was
703 deposited on the CaCO₃ skeleton using layer-by-layer (LBL) assembly ^[55]. Specifically,
704 0.5 mg/mL CS solution (0.1 M sodium chloride [NaCl], pH 5.5) and 1 mg/mL SF
705 solution (0.1 M NaCl, pH 5.5) were prepared in advance. CaCO₃ (2 wt%) was immersed
706 in CS solution for 15 min, centrifuged for 1 min at 2,000 rpm, and washed three times
707 with NaCl solution (0.1 M, pH 5.5) before immersion in the SF solution for 15 min,
708 and collected by centrifugation for 1 min at 2,000 rpm. This process was repeated four
709 times, followed by washing three times with DI water and lyophilization to obtain
710 CaCO₃@CSF. Alternatively, FITC-CS and Rh-B-CaCO₃ were used to prepare FITC
711 labeled CaCO₃@CSF (FITC-CaCO₃@CSF) and Rh-B labeled CaCO₃@CSF (Rh-B-
712 CaCO₃@CSF) following the same procedure.

713

714 Fabrication of plateletoid (CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺): CaCO₃@CSF particles (50 mg) were
715 incubated in CaCl₂ solution (0.6 M) at 37 °C for 3 h, washed with DI water, and freeze-
716 drying. For comparison, the CaCO₃ skeleton was treated using the same procedure as
717 that used for loading of Ca²⁺ for preparation to prepare CaCO₃/Ca²⁺. Ca²⁺ levels on the
718 surface were determined using a Calcium Content Assay Kit (G1218F; Grace, China).

719

720 Fabrication of thrombin delivery platform (CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺-P): The platelet poor
721 plasma was obtained by centrifuging porcine blood for 10 min at 3,000 rpm. The
722 platelet poor plasma was kept at -80 °C until use. Then, CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺ (0.1 g) was
723 mixed in diluted platelet poor plasma (400 μL, dilution factor: 2) at 25 °C for 5.5 min.
724 The resultant precipitants were lyophilized to obtain CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺-P.

725

726 For comparison, platelet-poor plasma was loaded onto CaCO₃/Ca²⁺ and CaCO₃@CSF
727 may be performed following the same procedure used to prepare the CaCO₃/Ca²⁺ and
728 CaCO₃@CSF thrombin delivery platform (CaCO₃/Ca²⁺-P and CaCO₃@CSF-P).

729

730 For comparison, commercial thrombin on CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺ may be performed.
731 Commercial thrombin (125 U/g) was co-incubated with CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺ suspension
732 (0.25 g/mL, 4 mL) at 4 °C for 1 h. The precipitate was washed thrice and freeze-dried
733 to obtain thrombin-loaded CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺ (CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺-T). The ultimate
734 thrombin activity of CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺-T was nearly 32 U/g, which was comparable
735 to that of CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺-P.

736

737 **4.4 Characterization**

738 Laser scanning confocal microscopy (LSCM; FV3000RS, Olympus, Japan), scanning
739 electron microscopy (SEM; SU8010, Hitachi, Japan), and fluorescence microscopy
740 (IX73, Olympus, Japan) were used analyze physical structures. Dynamic light
741 scattering equipment (DLS, ZEV360011000, Malvern, UK) was used to measure zeta

742 potential. ImageJ software was used to perform particle size analysis.

743

744 **4.5 Density functional theory (DFT) calculation**

745 Binding energies between polar groups of SF (amino, carboxyl, and amide groups) and

746 Ca^{2+} were calculated using DFT with the Dmol3 program in Materials Studio. The

747 binding energies between H_2O molecules and Ca^{2+} were also calculated for comparison.

748 To determine the exchange and correlation terms, Generalized Gradient Approximation

749 (GGA) was utilized as suggested by Perdew, Burke, and Ernzerhof (PBE). The DNP

750 version 3.5 basis set, and DFT semi-core pseudopotential (DSPP) method were

751 employed to effectively treat the core electrons in calcium. Structural symmetry was

752 ignored in all geometry optimizations. A self-consistent field (SCF) procedure was

753 carried out with a total energy convergence threshold of 1×10^{-6} Hartree to guarantee

754 precise electronic convergence. The molecular clusters were subjected to structure

755 optimization and energy calculations before and after combination utilizing the implicit

756 solvent of the COSMO model. The binding energies of the configurations (E_{bind}) were

757 calculated according to Equation (1):

758

$$759 \quad E_{\text{bind}} = E_{\text{ab}} - E_{\text{a}} - E_{\text{b}} \quad (1)$$

760

761 Where, E_{a} , E_{b} , and E_{ab} denote the energies of A (Ca^{2+} or H_2O molecules), B (SF polar

762 groups), and the complex energy, respectively.

763

764 A negative E_{bind} value indicates that interaction between different materials is
765 exothermic. A higher absolute value of the negative E_{bind} suggests more pronounced
766 exothermic interaction and better stability of the mixture.

767

768 **4.6 Molecular dynamics (MD) simulation**

769 MD simulations were performed using the GROMACS (version 2019.3) with the
770 Dreiding force field. The size of the simulated box was $10 \times 10 \times 10 \text{ nm}^3$ and it had
771 periodic boundary conditions in all three directions. The simulated box contained 60
772 Ca^{2+} , 120 Cl^- , and 30 SF peptides and was filled with 6,000 H_2O molecules. After
773 optimization by the Dreiding force field, the system was subjected to a molecular
774 dynamics simulation under an NPT ensemble at room temperature and 1 atm for 1,000
775 ps. The configuration was visualized using the Visual Molecular Dynamics software.

776

777 **4.7 Component identification of the protein corona**

778 The protein corona (protein biomolecules enriched) formed on $\text{CaCO}_3@ \text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$
779 was analyzed by LC-MS/MS for proteomic analysis.

780

781 Sample preparation: $\text{CaCO}_3@ \text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ (0.1 g) was incubated with human platelet poor
782 plasma from volunteers (400 μL , dilution factor: 2) at 25 °C for 5.5 min to collect flocs.
783 The experiments were approved by the Ethics Committee of The Second Affiliated
784 Hospital of Chongqing Medical University, Chongqing, China (Approval No. 80). For
785 LC-MS/MS analysis, the washed flocs were resuspended in guanidine hydrochloride

786 solution (6 M, 1 mL). Protein extractions were carried out in SDT buffer (4% SDS, 100
787 mM Tris/HCl, 0.1 M DTT, pH 7.6). In accordance with the filter-aided sample
788 preparation (FASP) procedure, an appropriate amount of protein from each sample was
789 subjected to trypsin cleavage. The digested peptides were desalted on C18 cartridges
790 and lyophilized. Finally, they were redissolved in a formic acid solution (0.1%) before
791 further analysis. The components of human platelet-poor plasma were identified using
792 the same procedure.

793

794 Proteomic analysis using LC-MS/MS: An Easy-nLC1200 chromatography system
795 (Thermo Scientific, USA) was used for peptide separation. The peptides were separated
796 using a trap (100 μm *20 mm, 5 μm , C18, Dr. Maisch GmbH) and a chromatographic
797 column (75 μm *150 mm, 3 μm , C18, Dr. Maisch GmbH) with a linear gradient of
798 buffer B (0.1% formic acid and 80% acetonitrile). The flow rate was set at 300 L/min.
799 After chromatographic separation, mass spectrometry (MS) was performed using a Q-
800 Exactive HF-X mass spectrometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific). The mass spectrometer
801 was operated in the positive ion mode and scanned from m/z 300 to 1,800 with a
802 resolution of 60,000 at m/z 200. Tandem mass spectrometry (TMS) was performed to
803 identify the 20 most intense ions. The MS data were matched against the human protein
804 database (uniProt-Homo sapiens [9606]-207393-20221227.fasta) using Proteome
805 Discoverer 2.4 (Thermo Scientific). Proteome Discoverer parameters were set as
806 follows: maximum missed cleavage sites, 2; peptide tolerance, 10 ppm; and MS/MS
807 tolerance: 0.02 Da.

808

809 **4.8 Analysis of plateletoid-induced thrombin**

810 Determination of Factor V (FV) and Factor X (FX) contents: $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ (0.1
811 g) was incubated with human platelet-poor plasma (400 μL , dilution factor: 2) at 25 °C
812 for 35 min. Platelet-poor plasma supernatants were collected at predetermined time
813 points (0, 0.5, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 15, 25, and 35 min) by centrifugation. Absorbance of
814 platelet-poor plasma was measured using UV-visible spectrophotometer (U-
815 3900010401, Hitachi, Japan). The FV and FX contents in platelet-poor plasma
816 supernatants were determined using enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) kits
817 (KL-FV-Pg, KL-FV-Pg, Kalang Bio, China). For comparison, $\text{CaCO}_3/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ was
818 cultured with porcine platelet-poor plasma to perform the same assays following the
819 same procedure.

820

821 Thrombin activity test Thrombin activity was measured using a thrombin chromogenic
822 substrate (S-2238, S27564, Yuanye Bio, China). Initially, $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ (0.1 g)
823 was incubated with human platelet-poor plasma (400 μL , dilution factor: 2) at 25 °C.
824 $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -P particles were collected at predetermined times (0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 4.5,
825 5, 5.5, 6, 6.5, 7, 10, 15, 25, and 35 min), followed by freeze-drying. Next, the collected
826 particles (25 mg) were incubated with PBS (1 mL) and S-2238 solution (0.38 mg/mL,
827 1 mL) at 37 °C. After incubation for 2 min, the reaction was immediately stopped by
828 adding acetic acid solution (50% (v/v), 1 mL). Supernatant was collected by
829 centrifugation at 5,000 rpm. Absorbance was measured at 405 nm. The thrombin

830 activity was determined using a thrombin calibration curve. For comparison, thrombin
831 activity induced by $\text{CaCO}_3/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ was evaluated using the same procedure.

832

833 Procoagulant activity test Procoagulant activity was assessed using an *ex vivo* blood
834 clotting assay. $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ (0.1 g) particles incubated with human platelet-poor
835 plasma (400 μL , dilution factor: 2) at 25 °C for predetermined time (0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 4.5, 5,
836 5.5, 6, 6.5, 7, 10, 15, 25, and 35 min) were collected after freeze-drying. The collected
837 particles were added to citrated blood (2 mL), followed by the addition of CaCl_2
838 solution (0.2 M) at 37 °C for blood clotting. The clotting times of the different samples
839 were measured. For comparison, the procoagulant activity of thrombin induced by
840 $\text{CaCO}_3/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ was evaluated using the same procedure.

841

842 **4.9 Thrombin stability studies**

843 Room temperature stability: Dry $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ was stored in a constant
844 environment (37 °C, 65% R.H.). At predetermined times (0, 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 14, 21, 30, 60,
845 and 90 days), the thrombin and procoagulant activities of $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ were
846 tested according to the protocols described in Section 2.8. The stability of thrombin in
847 $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-T}$ was evaluated using the same procedure.

848

849 Acidity-resistant stability: $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ particles (0.025, 0.05, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4,
850 0.5, 0.7, and 1 g) were mixed with stimulated gastric fluid (10 mL) under gentle shaking
851 at 37 °C. After 5 min, the pH of the supernatant from the mixture was measured using

852 a pH meter (PHB-4, Inesa, China), and the thrombin and procoagulant activities of the
853 precipitates were evaluated. To study the time-dependent acidity-resistant thrombin
854 stability in $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$, 30 mg of $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ (30 mg) was mixed
855 with 10 mL of simulated gastric fluid (10 mL) for predetermined time intervals (0, 1, 3,
856 5, 7, 10, 15, 20, 30, and 60 min). The pH values of the supernatants, as well as the
857 thrombin and procoagulant activities of the precipitates from the mixture, were tested.
858 Furthermore, the pH-dependent stability of the commercial thrombin products was
859 investigated under different acidic conditions. In detail, the commercial thrombin
860 product (1 U/g, 100 μL) was mixed with simulated gastric fluid (0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 4.2, 5, and
861 10 μL), which offered the requested pH values (pH 7.34, 6.5, 6, 5.7, 5.4, 4.7, 3.5, and
862 2.3). After mixing for 5 min, the thrombin and procoagulant activities of free thrombin
863 were assessed.

864

865 **4.10 Hemostatic mechanism investigation**

866 Erythrocyte adhesion: Fresh rat blood was centrifuged at 1,200 rpm for 5 min for
867 preparation of the erythrocyte suspension. $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-P}$ (25 mg) was added into
868 of the erythrocyte suspension (5% (v/v), 500 μL), following incubation at 37 °C for 30
869 min. The sample was washed thrice with PBS and immobilized with a glutaraldehyde
870 solution (25 mg/mL). Subsequently, ethanol dehydration of the sample was carried out.
871 After drying, the erythrocytes were imaged using SEM (SU8010, Hitachi, Japan) to
872 observe their morphology.

873

874 Platelet aggregation Platelets collected from rat blood were labeled with an eFluor 450-
875 conjugated CD41a antibody (48-0411-82, Thermo Fisher Scientific, USA). 25 mg of
876 $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -P (Rh-B labeling CaCO_3 , FITC labeling CSF) was cultured with
877 500 μL of the labeled platelets at 37 °C for 30 min. After washing three times with PBS,
878 LSCM (FV3000RS, Olympus, Japan) was used to observe the aggregation status of the
879 platelets. ImageJ software was used to quantify the fluorescence intensity of CD41a.
880 Lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) was extracted from the platelets on $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -
881 P by lysis with Triton X-100 solution (1%). LDH in the resulting supernatant was
882 detected using an LDH kit (A020-1-2; Nanjing Jiancheng, China). The concentration
883 of the LDH enzyme, the quantity of platelets on $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -P was obtained.

884

885 Fibrin generation: $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -P (Rh-B labeling CaCO_3 , FITC labeling CSF) (1
886 mg) was cultured with Alexa Fluor 350-labeled fibrinogen solution (2.5 mg/mL, 100
887 μL) for 5 min, before observation of the generated fibrin with LSCM (FV3000RS,
888 Olympus, Japan). Additionally, fibrin generation was investigated based on the change
889 in the optical density (OD) at 405 nm over time. Briefly, $\text{CaCO}_3@CSF/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -P (1 mg)
890 was combined with fibrinogen solution (2.5 mg/mL, 100 μL) in a 96-well plate. The
891 plate was immediately placed in a microplate reader (SYNERGY H1, BioTek,
892 Winooski, VT, USA) to determine the total OD value within 30 min.

893

894 **4.11 Ex and in vivo safety studies**

895 Hemocompatibility evaluation: Fresh rat blood was centrifuged at 1,200 rpm for 5 min

896 to collect erythrocytes, followed by washing with PBS for 3 times. $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -
897 P solutions (0.5, 1, 5, and 10 mg/mL) were mixed with PBS (3 mL) and erythrocytes
898 (60 μL). After incubation at 37 °C for 1 h, the supernatant was collected by
899 centrifugation at 1,200 rpm for 5 min. Haemolysis was calculated as described
900 previously.

901

902 Cytocompatibility evaluation: Murine fibroblast cells (L929) were used to evaluate
903 cytocompatibility. UV-sterilized $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -P (0.1 g/mL) was directly soaked
904 in Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium (DMEM) at 37 °C for 24 h to acquire the extract
905 of $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -P. The obtained extract was introduced into a 96-well plate
906 containing cells that had been seeded at a density of 10^4 cells/well. Cytotoxicity was
907 assessed using the Cell Counting Kit-8 (CCK8; BS350B, Biosharp, China) after
908 incubation for different times (24, 48, and 72 h). A live/dead double staining kit
909 (Calcein-AM/PI, 40747ES76, Yeasen, China) was used to evaluate the effect of the
910 extract of $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -P on the cells. Untreated L929 cells served as blank
911 controls.

912

913 In vivo toxicity assay: To assess the toxicity of $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -P *in vivo*, rats (n =
914 3) were administered with $\text{CaCO}_3@\text{CSF}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -P orally for 7 days. Rats were weighed
915 daily during the 7 d trial. On day 8, after blood collection for biochemical analysis, all
916 rats were euthanized. Next, the gastrointestinal tract and vital organs (the heart, liver,
917 spleen, lungs, and kidneys) were collected for histological analysis. Furthermore,

918 calcium accumulation in the major organs was measured. Rats (n = 3) orally
919 administered with PBS were used as blank controls.

920

921 **4.12 Hemostasis in gastric mucous**

922 Acidity regulation in stomach: Rats (n = 3) were administered with CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺-
923 P (0, 10, 20, 30, 50, 70 and 100 mg) orally, and sacrificed to collect their stomachs. The
924 acidity of the gastric fluid was measured. Time-dependent acquisition (at 0, 3, 5, 10, 30,
925 60, 120, and 180 min) in the stomach followed a similar approach, except that the dose
926 of CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺-P was 30 mg.

927

928 Hemostasis: Rats (n = 9) were fasted for 24 h before conducting the experiments while
929 still being able to freely access water. To induce acute gastric ulcer bleeding, rats
930 received an oral ethanol-HCl mixed solution (0.6 M HCl in absolute ethanol) (0.01
931 mL/g). After 10 min, the rats with acute gastric ulcer bleeding were randomly assigned
932 to three groups: Group 1, administered PBS (1 mL); Group 2, administered the
933 CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺-P dispersion (30 mg/mL, 1 mL); and Group 3, without treatment.
934 Subsequently, the rats were provided access to food and water. Fresh fecal samples were
935 collected daily for the fecal occult blood assay using an assay kit (O-toluidine method,
936 JLC0144, Jingkang Bio, China). Furthermore, a rat fecal occult blood ELISA kit
937 (JLC7418, Jingkang Bio, China) and Rat TRF ELISA kit (JLC4154, Jingkang Bio,
938 China) were used to determine the concentrations of ferroheme and transferrin in the
939 feces.

940

941 Distribution of CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺-P in gastric tissues Upon oral administration of PBS
942 or CaCO₃@CSF/Ca²⁺-P (FITC labeling CSF), rats (n = 3) with acute gastric ulcer
943 bleeding for 30 min, were euthanized to collect gastric tissues. The gastric tissues were
944 then opened along the greater curvature and washed with PBS. The gastric tissues were
945 stretched out to capture images and imaged by an IVIS Lumina In Vivo Imaging System
946 (IVIS Lumina Series III10899, PerkinElmer, USA). Thereafter, the gastric tissues were
947 stained with hematoxylin (and) for histological analysis.

948

949 Immunofluorescence staining: Platelet-specific marker, CD41, was used to track
950 platelet plugs in hemostatic clots from the injured gastric tissue. The staining involved
951 the use of a CD41 Antibody (PA5-79527, Thermo Fisher Scientific, USA) and a Goat
952 anti-Rabbit IgG (H+L) Cross-Adsorbed Secondary Antibody, Alexa Fluor™ 568 (A-
953 11-11, Thermo Fisher Scientific, USA). The paraffin sections of the gastric tissues were
954 deparaffinized and rehydrated. Antigen retrieval buffer (EDTA, pH 9.0, 1:50 dilution
955 of 1:50) was used to retrieve antigens in the sections with microwave assistance.
956 Nonspecific binding sites were blocked by incubating the sections with 10% of sheep
957 serum for 40 min. These sections were incubated with the CD41 primary antibody
958 (dilution factor: 200) at 4 °C overnight, followed by incubation with the secondary
959 antibody (dilution factor: 200). After staining the sections with DAPI (4',6-diamidino-
960 2-phenylindole, R20278, Yuanye Bio, China) (dilution factor: 1,000),
961 immunofluorescence images of the sections were captured by a Vectra Polaris

962 Automated Quantitative Pathology Imaging System (PerkinElmer, USA). ImageJ J was
963 employed to analyze the CD41 staining semi-quantitatively analyze CD41 staining.

964

965 **4.13 Statistical analysis**

966 Statistical analyses were performed using GraphPad Prisma 8. Data were analyzed
967 using the Student's unpaired *t*-test, one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA), or two-
968 way ANOVA. Results are expressed as means \pm standard deviation. Statistical
969 significance was set at $*P < 0.05$, $**P < 0.01$, $***P < 0.001$, and $****P < 0.0001$.

970

971 **Conflicts of interest**

972 There are no conflicts of interest to declare.

973

974 **Acknowledgments**

975 This work was supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (No.
976 52103096), Fundamental Research Funds for the Central Universities (grant number
977 SWU-KT22004), and Ernst Mach Grant Scholarship (financed by the Austrian Federal
978 Ministry of Education, Science and Research, No. MPC-2022-04099).

979

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