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Comprehensive mechanical characterization of PLA fabric combined
with PCL to form a composite structure vascular graft

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Abstract:

Vascular grafts made by tissue engineering processes are prone to buckling and twisting, which can impede blood flow and lead to collapse of the vessel. These vascular conduits may suffer not only from insufficient tensile strength, but also from vulnerabilities related to compression, torsion, and pulsatile pressurization. Aiming to develop a tissue engineering-inspired blood conduit, composite vascular graft (cVG) prototypes were created by combining a flexible polylactic acid (PLA) knitted fabric with a soft polycaprolactone (PCL) matrix. The graft is to be populated in-situ with cellular migration and proliferation into cells ~~migrating to and proliferating in the device, and it was designed to match the morphology and mechanical features of natural blood vessels.~~

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