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Title: NaOH treatment of Chitosan films: Impact on

macromolecular structure and film properties

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## ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

- 1 HIGHLIGHTS
- 2 The significance of treatment with NaOH on Chitosan film structure was studied.
- 3 3 effects were identified deprotonation, phosphate extraction and deacetylation.
- 4 Hydrated and anhydrous polymorphs were present in the CH-NaOH films.
- 5 Films with a more compact and disordered structure were obtained.

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