

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE WORKS

5.1 Conclusions

The influences of ZrO_2 contents on the leucite crystallization and microstructural evolution of the ZrO_2 -modified dental porcelain ceramic-nanocomposites have been investigated. It was found that the amount of ZrO_2 additive is a key factor to controlling leucite crystallization and microstructural arrangement in dental porcelain ceramics. Significant reduction of both amount and size of the leucite crystals is observed for ZrO_2 content above 10 wt%. A small amount of ZrO_2 (< 35 wt%) was added to dental porcelains could improve the sintered density; more content of ZrO_2 would decrease the density.

5.2 Suggestions for Future Work

For better understanding and verifying the attractiveness of this nanocomposite further, the effect of ZrO_2 content on the change of the suitable heat treatment schedules is required. Moreover, the success of the ZrO_2 -modified dental porcelain ceramic nanocomposites depend on clinical applications. Thus, further work with attention paid on the mechanical properties of these nanocomposites should also be very helpful.