

1. General introduction	3
1.1 Supramolecular Chemistry	5
1.2 Hybrid materials.....	9
1.3 Porous materials	10
1.3.1 Mesoporous silica materials	12
1.3.2 Calcium phosphates	22
1.4 Characterization of porous materials	30
1.4.1 Techniques for the study of textural properties	30
1.4.2 Techniques for evaluation of organic matter	35
1.5 Application of porous materials	36
1.5.1 Bone regeneration applications	37
1.5.2 Gated materials	45
2 Objectives	67
3 Design of gated systems for the prevention and treatment of bone infection	69
3.1 Introduction	71
3.2 Molecular gates in mesoporous bioactive glasses for the treatment of bone tumors and infection	75
3.3 Mesoporous bioactive glasses equipped with stimuli-responsive molecular gates for the controlled delivery of levofloxacin	103
3.4 Gated mesoporous silica materials for the treatment of bone infection by <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	123
4 Functionalization of calcium phosphates for the prevention of bone infection	137
4.1 Introduction	139
4.2 Antimicrobial activity of commercial calcium phosphate based materials functionalized with vanillin	141
5 Experimental section	163
5.1 Molecular gates in mesoporous bioactive glasses for the treatment of bone tumours and infection	165
5.2 Mesoporous bioactive glasses equipped with stimuli-responsive molecular gates for the controlled delivery of levofloxacin	173

5.3 Gated mesoporous silica materials for the treatment of bone infection by <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	179
5.4 Antimicrobial activity of commercial calcium phosphate based materials functionalized with vanillin	183
6 Conclusions and perspectives	193