

CONTENT

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	i
ABSTRACT	ii
ABSTRAKT	iii
LIST OF ARTICLES INCLUDED IN THESIS AND AUTHOR'S CONTRIBUTION	iv
INTRODUCTION	1
1. Antimicrobial polymers and composites	2
1.1 <i>Polymers for medical use</i>	2
1.2 <i>Compounding of polymers with antimicrobial fillers</i>	2
1.3 <i>Silver as antimicrobial filler</i>	5
1.4 <i>Zinc oxide (ZnO) as antimicrobial filler</i>	5
1.5 <i>Synergistic antimicrobial activity of Ag/ZnO nanoparticles</i>	6
1.6 <i>Decoration of biocompatible substrates by Ag/ZnO nanoparticles</i>	7
2. Advanced synthesis of fillers	7
2.1 <i>Microwave assisted synthesis</i>	7
2.2 <i>Microwave synthesis of metals and metal oxides particles</i>	10
2.3 <i>Microwave assisted synthesis of Ag nanoparticles</i>	11
2.4 <i>Microwave assisted synthesis of ZnO microstructures</i>	12
2.5 <i>Microwave assisted synthesis of Ag/ZnO microstructures</i>	13
3. Characterization of fillers	14
3.1 <i>General properties</i>	14
3.2 <i>Antimicrobial performance</i>	15
4. Characterization of antimicrobial polymer systems	17
4.1 <i>General properties</i>	17
4.2 <i>Evaluation of antibacterial properties of APS</i>	17
AIMS OF WORK	19
METHODOLOGY	20
5. Materials	20
6. Synthesis of fillers and their decoration on substrates surface	20
7. Preparation of composite systems	21
8. Characterization of prepared materials	21
9. Summary of results	23
CLOSING REMARKS	31
10. Conclusion and contribution to science and technology	31
11. Future prospective	31
REFERENCES	32
LIST OF FIGURES	44
LIST OF TABLES	45
LIST OF SYMBOLS AND ACRONYMS	46
CURRICULUM VITAE	47
LIST OF PUBLICATIONS	48