

Zdeno Špitalský, PhD is a senior researcher and deputy head of the Department of composite materials at the Polymer Institute of the Slovak Academy of Sciences. From 2021, he is a member of the Presidium of the Slovak Plastic Cluster. He is the author of more than 90 CC publications, the co-author of 4 book chapters (including one chapter about carbon quantum dots), and several non-CC publications, with more than 4 000 citations, HI 27 (WOS). He is a co-author of 1 patent application (carbon quantum dots polymer composites and their usage) and 1 utility model (materials for 3D printing). In 2015 he was awarded the Gold medal of “Incheba at Slovmedica 2015” for Superhydrophobic biodegradable polymer materials for medical application. He was and/or currently is the principal investigator of several international projects such as Horizon (from 2022), ERA-Net, Qatar Foundation, and a member of the research teams FP5, FP6, and FP7, COST, and the DAAD. In addition he was and or is the principal investigator of the national VEGA and APVV projects, the principal investigator of 5 bilateral projects (Portugal, Czech, China and 2x Serbia), one multilateral Danube Strategy, and the scientist in charge of the SASPRO (a post-doctoral program of the Slovak Academy of Sciences for excellent scientist). He collaborates with several national companies (VUTCH-Chemitex Žilina, MYMEDIA, NOVPLASTA). His research is focused at the surface modification of carbon nanoparticles, the preparation of carbon nanoparticle polymer composites, and the antibacterial properties of quantum dots and their polymeric composites.