

2. The method of claim 1, wherein at one of the first and second surfaces is a native tissue surface.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein one of the first and second surfaces is a native tissue surface and the other of the first and second surfaces is selected from a non-native tissue surface and a surface of a synthetic implant.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein both the first and second surfaces are native tissue surfaces.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the collagen is non-fibrillar collagen.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the nonfibrillar collagen was prepared by mixing fibrillar collagen with a fiber disassembly agent in an amount sufficient to render the collagen substantially nonfibrillar at pH 7.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the fiber disassembly agent is selected from the group consisting of: a biocompatible alcohol, an amino acid, an inorganic salt, and a carbohydrate.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the fiber disassembly agent is a biocompatible alcohol selected from the group consisting of glycerol and propylene glycol.

9. The method of claim 5, wherein the nonfibrillar collagen is a chemically modified collagen.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the chemically modified collagen is methylated collagen.

11. The method of claim 5, wherein the nonfibrillar collagen is selected from the group consisting of: type IV collagen, type VI collagen, and type VII collagen.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein the collagen is fibrillar collagen.

13. The method of claim 1, wherein the collagen comprises a mixture of nonfibrillar collagen and fibrillar collagen.

14. The method of claim 12, wherein the collagen comprises a mixture of particulate crosslinked fibrillar collagen and noncrosslinked fibrillar collagen.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein the particulate crosslinked fibrillar collagen comprises glutaraldehyde-crosslinked collagen.

16. The method of claim 14, wherein the particulate crosslinked fibrillar collagen comprises between about 25% to about 95% and the noncrosslinked fibrillar collagen comprises between about 5% to about 75% by weight of the composition.

17. The method of claim 1, wherein the collagen is denatured collagen.

18. A method for effecting the nonsurgical attachment of a first surface to a second surface, comprising the steps of: providing nonfibrillar collagen and a multifunctionally activated synthetic hydrophilic polymer;

mixing the nonfibrillar collagen and synthetic polymer to initiate crosslinking between the nonfibrillar collagen and the synthetic polymer;

applying the mixture of nonfibrillar collagen and synthetic polymer to a first surface before substantial crosslinking has occurred between the collagen and the synthetic polymer; and

contacting the first surface with a second surface to effect adhesion between the first surface and the second surface.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein one of the first and second surfaces is a native tissue surface.

20. The method of claim 18, wherein one of the first and second surfaces is a native tissue surface and the other of the first and second surfaces is selected from a non-native tissue surface and a surface of a synthetic implant.

21. The method of claim 18, wherein both the first and second surfaces are native tissue surfaces.

22. The method of claim 18, wherein the nonfibrillar collagen was prepared by mixing fibrillar collagen with a fiber disassembly agent in an amount sufficient to render the collagen substantially nonfibrillar at pH 7.

23. The method of claim 22, wherein the fiber disassembly agent is selected from the group consisting of: a biocompatible alcohol, an amino acid, an inorganic salt, and a carbohydrate.

24. The method of claim 23, wherein the fiber disassembly agent is a biocompatible alcohol selected from the group consisting of glycerol and propylene glycol.

25. The method of claim 18, wherein the nonfibrillar collagen is a chemically modified collagen.

26. The method of claim 25, wherein the chemically modified collagen is methylated collagen.

27. The method of claim 18, wherein the nonfibrillar collagen is selected from the group consisting of: type IV collagen, type VI collagen, and type VII collagen.

28. A method for effecting the nonsurgical attachment of a first surface to a second surface, wherein the both of the first surface and the second surface contain nucleophilic groups, said method comprising the steps of:

applying a multifunctionally activated synthetic hydrophilic polymer to a first surface; and

contacting the first surface with a second surface, whereby the synthetic polymer will covalently bind to nucleophilic groups on the first surface and the second surface to effect adhesion between the first surface and the second surface.

29. The method of claim 28, wherein one of the first and second surfaces is a native tissue surface.

30. The method of claim 28, wherein one of the first and second surfaces is a native tissue surface and the other of the first and second surfaces is selected from a non-native tissue surface and a surface of a synthetic implant.

31. The method of claim 28, wherein both the first and second surfaces are native tissue surfaces.

32. The method of claim 28, wherein the multifunctionally activated synthetic hydrophilic polymer is a multifunctionally activated polyethylene glycol.

33. The method of claim 32, wherein the multifunctionally activated polyethylene glycol is selected from the group consisting of difunctionally activated SG-PEG and difunctionally activated SE-PEG.