**APPENDIX / SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

Figure S1a displays the typical angular shape of ground frit particles which were of fully amorphous nature (Figure S1b) as determined by X–ray diffraction (XRD) (Advance diffractometer, Bruker Theta–theta, Germany).



Figure S1. Particles morphology (a) and XRD spectrum (b) of the bioactive glass (45S5 BG) feedstock used.