Anion-exchange membranes based on poly(arylene ether ketone)s with pendant imidazolium groups for alkaline fuel cell

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Anion exchange membranes for alkaline fuel cell were prepared by poly(arylene ether ketone)s (PAEKs) with pendant imidazolium groups that were synthesized. PAEKs with carboxylic acid groups activated reacted with 1–(3–Aminopropyl)imidazole which was employed. The pendant imidazolium groups were introduced and alkalinized to enhance ion conductivity of the membranes. The chemical structure of imidazolium poly(arylene ether ketone)s hydroxide (ImPAEKs–OH) synthesized was confirmed by 1H NMR and FT–IR. DSC was used to characterize the thermal properties of the membranes. The anion conductivity , water uptake, ion–exchange capacity (IEC), mechanical properties of the ImPAEKs–OH membranes were investigated for their applications in alkaline fuel cells.