

Supplementary data

Table S1: Silica hydrogel compositions

Silica hydrogel formulation (Final percentage of silica in hydrogel – Ratio Sodium silicate:Ludox in final gel)	Sodium Silicate (diluted 10 times) in μL	Ludox (pure) in μL	HCl (1.15 M) in μL	Phosphate Buffer (0.5 M, pH 8) in μL	H ₂ O in μL
3 % - 1:10	173	101	45	300	881
3 % - 1:20	87	107	23	300	984
4 % - 1:10	231	135	60	300	774
4 % - 1:20	115	143	30	300	912
5 % - 1:10	288	169	75	300	668
5 % - 1:20	144	178	38	300	840
6 % - 1:10	346	203	90	300	561
6 % - 1:20	173	214	45	300	768
7 % - 1:10	404	236	105	300	455
7 % - 1:20	202	249	53	300	696
8 % - 1:10	462	270	120	300	348
8 % - 1:20	231	285	60	300	624
9 % - 1:10	519	304	135	300	242
9 % - 1:20	260	321	68	300	552
10 % - 1:10	577	338	150	300	136
10 % - 1:20	288	356	75	300	480