

Electronic Supplementary Information

**Design of thermoresponsive hydrogels by controlling the chemistry
and imprinting of drug molecules within the hydrogel for
enhanced loading and smart delivery of drugs**

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| Sample name | Drug (mmol) | NIPAAm (mmol) | AAc (mmol) | DVB (mmol) | DW (μ L) |
|-------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|
| NIH | 0 | 1.07 | 0.06 | 0.06 | 500 |
| ACVIH | 0.0119 | 1.07 | 0.06 | 0.06 | 500 |
| DCFIH | 0.0119 | 1.07 | 0.06 | 0.06 | 500 |
| DXRIH | 0.0119 | 1.07 | 0.06 | 0.06 | 500 |

Table S1. Molecularly imprinted hydrogel samples prepared with different feeding amounts of drug templates.

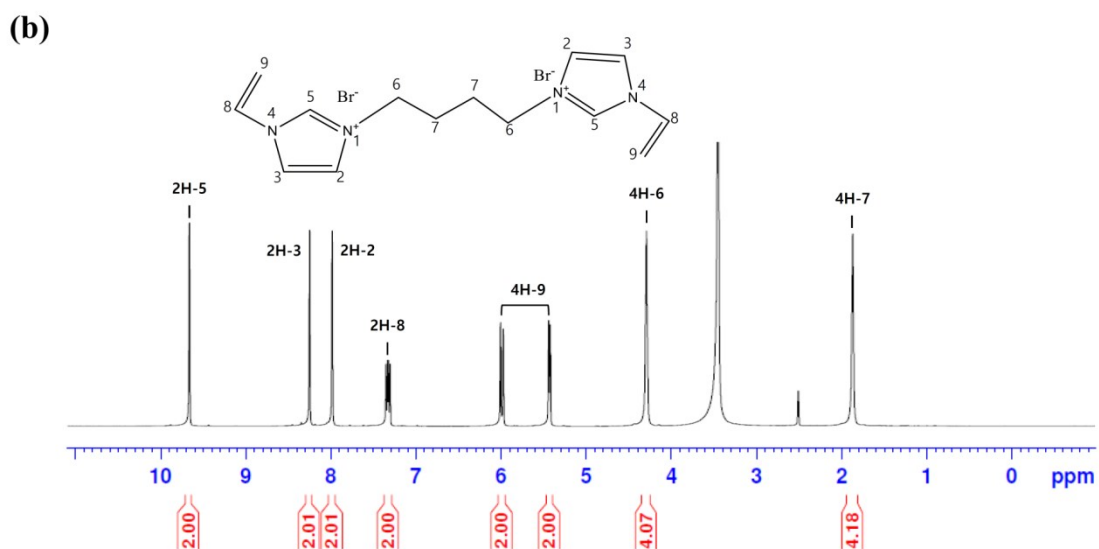
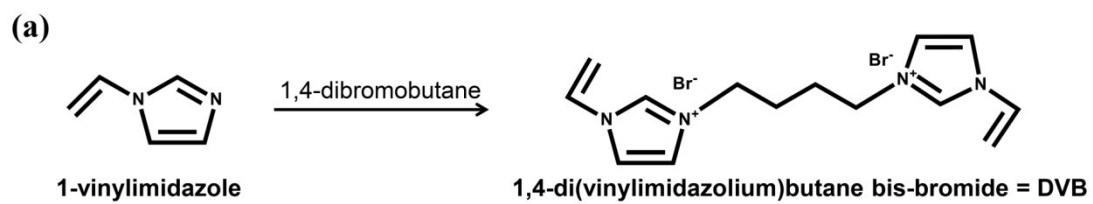


Figure S1. (a) Synthesis and (b) $^1\text{H-NMR}$ spectra of cationic crosslinker (1,4-di(vinylimidazolium)butane dis-bromide; DVB).

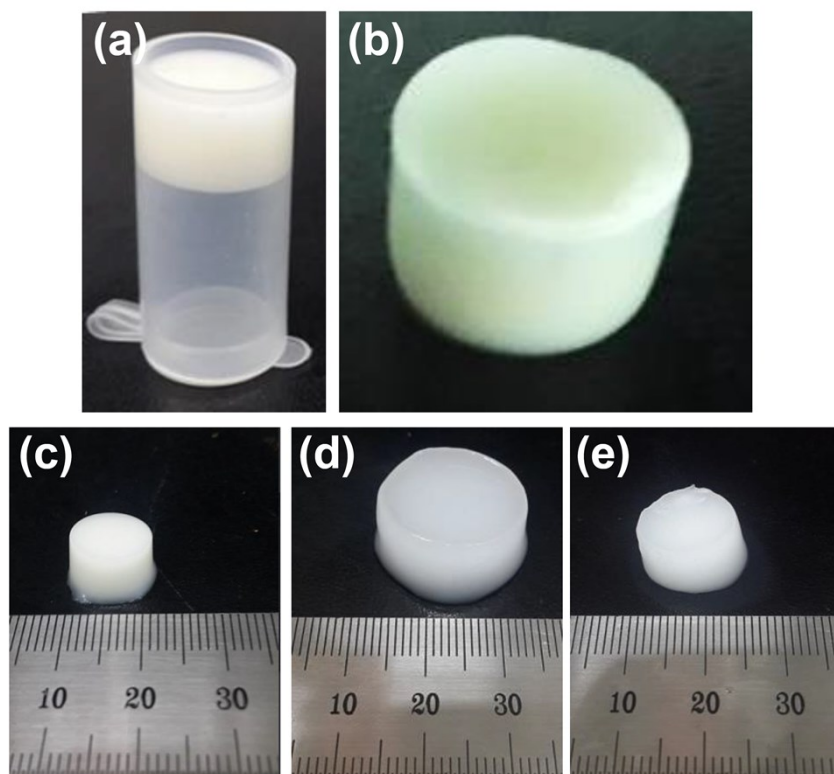


Figure S2. Photographs for (a, b) typical images of NIH, and demonstrating different state of MIH (b) freshly prepared hydrogel at 25 °C, (c) at equilibrium swelling (25 °C), and (d) at equilibrium shrunken state (50 °C).

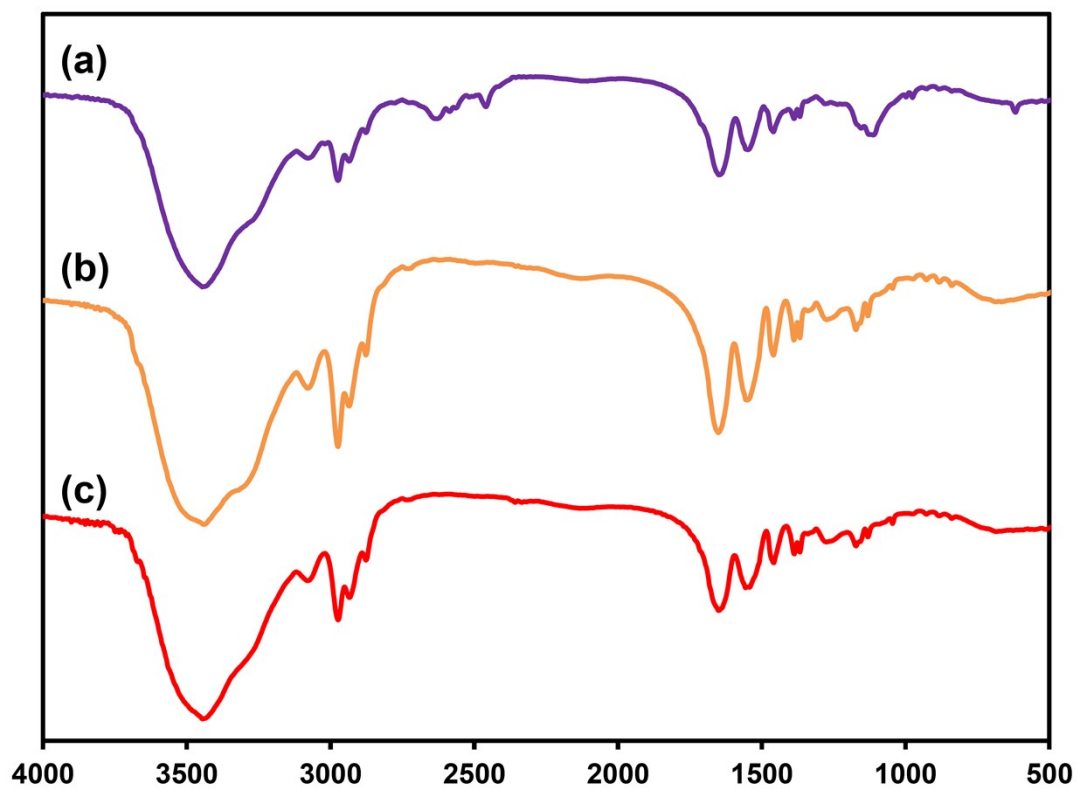


Figure S3. FT-IR spectra of the MIHs. (a) ACVIH, (b) DFNIH and (c) DXRIH.