## **Supplementary Information**

## Digital image colorimetric detection of ceftazidime based on azo compound formation on polyethyleneimine modified cotton sponge

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Fig. S1 A proposed reaction for ceftazidime detection based on azo dye formation using chromotropic acid as the coupling reagent.



**Fig.S2** Schematic of colorimetric detection of ceftazidime in solution and absorption spectra of ceftazidime (125 mg L<sup>-1</sup>), chromotropic acid (25  $\mu$ M), diazotized ceftazidime, and the azo dye product prepared in 0.125 M HCl. (inset: photo of the solutions)

## **1.** Fabrication of cotton sponge

To fabricate a cotton sponge with high porosity, the quantity of cotton fibers used is particularly crucial and should be optimized. Various amounts of neat cotton fiber (1, 1.5, 2, 3, 4 wt%) were used to fabricate cotton sponges. By using 1 wt% cotton fiber, the gelation of cellulose took a long time and it hardly produced aerogels. On the contrary, the solution containing 4 wt% cotton was highly viscous and not homogeneous to regulate the shape. Using 1.5 - 3 wt% cotton fiber resulted in aerogels with higher porosity and lower density. In this study, 2 wt% cotton fiber was selected as the obtained cotton sponge was durable for further surface modification. The method was adopted for the fabrication of APTES-sponges.



cotton fibers





Non-modified sponge





PEI-sponge

Fig. S3 Color of materials after performing ninhydrin test.



Fig.S4 Water uptake of the unmodified sponge and PEI-sponge observed at 0-120 minutes.



**Fig.S5** Effect of reaction time on the detection of ceftazidime using the obtained PEI-sponges (reagent containing 0.5 M HCl, 30 mM sodium nitrite, and 25 μM chromotropic acid).







Fig. S7 The relationship between  $\Delta E$  intensity and ceftazidime concentration in a range from 0.5 to 10 mg L<sup>-1</sup> and the photo of the obtained materials.