

Supplemental Information

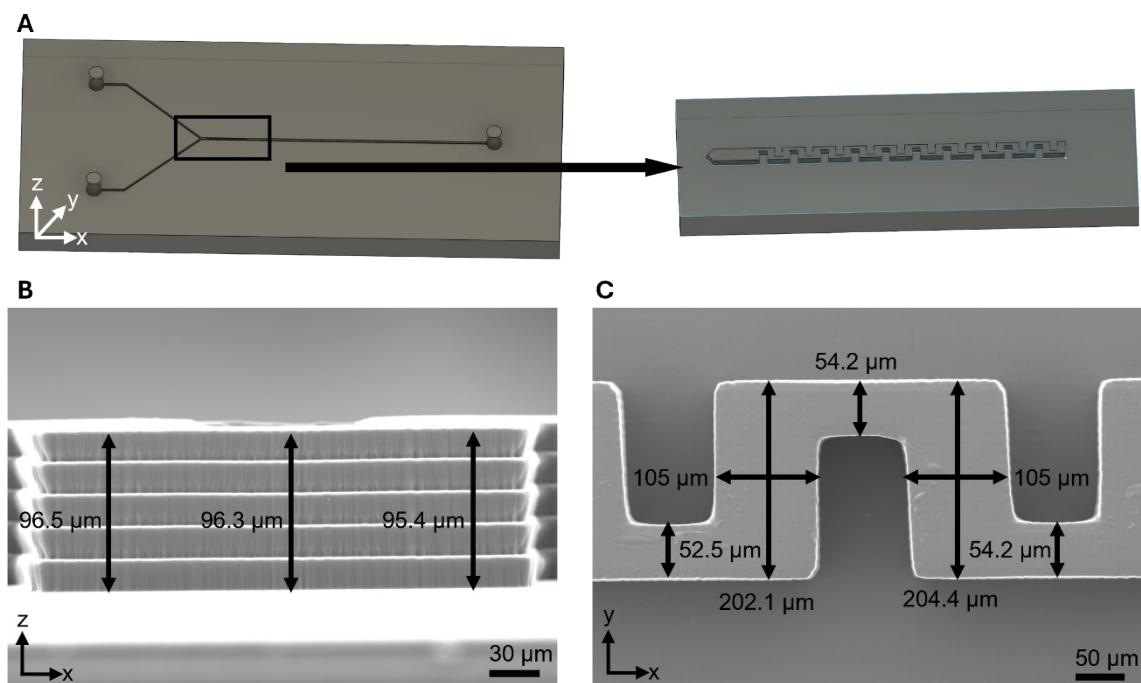
***In situ* imaging of fluid dynamics and nanocarrier nucleation inside  
microfluidic mixing devices**

Christopher Hauss <sup>a</sup>, Alexander Erb <sup>b</sup>, Johannes Most <sup>a</sup>, Johanna Steinmann <sup>b</sup>, Robert W. Stark <sup>b</sup>, Stefanie Gier <sup>a</sup>, and Maike Windbergs <sup>a,\*</sup>

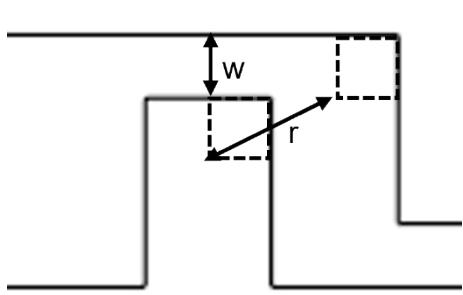
<sup>a</sup> Institute of Pharmaceutical Technology, Goethe University Frankfurt, Max-von-Laue-Str. 9, 60438 Frankfurt am Main, Germany

<sup>b</sup> Physics of Surfaces, Technical University Darmstadt, Peter-Grünberg-Str. 16, 64206 Darmstadt, Germany

\* Corresponding author



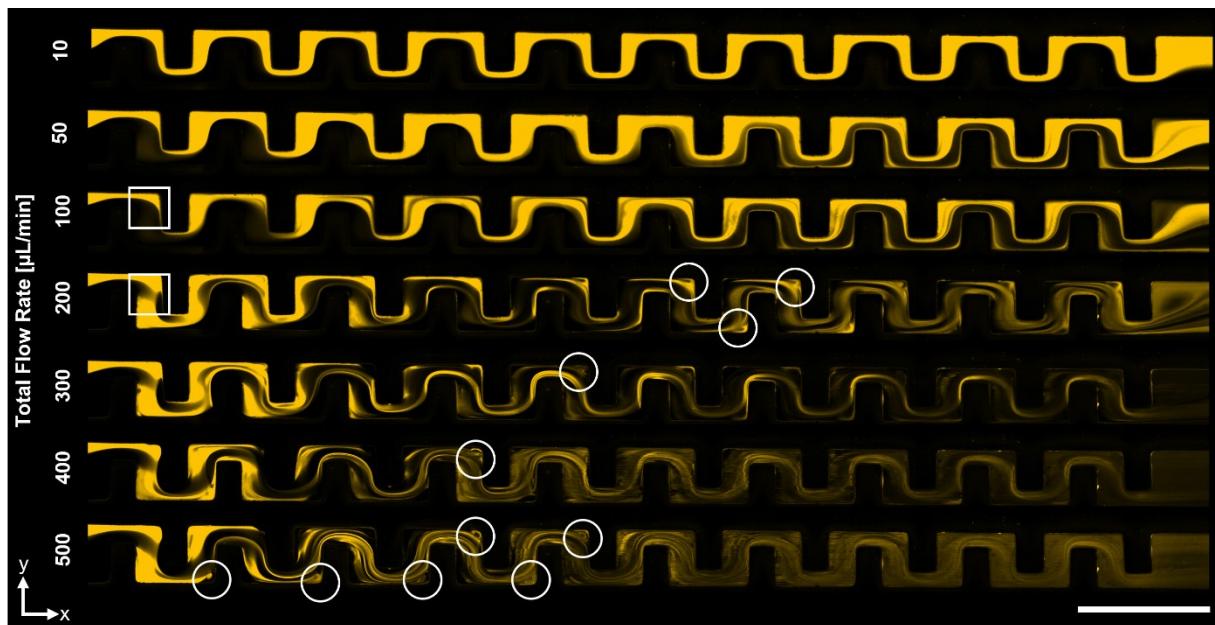
**Figure S1: Quality control of the 3D printing process via scanning electron microscopy (SEM).** **A:** Generated computer-aided design (CAD) structure of molds used for soft lithography (left) and corresponding smaller molds (right) needed for SEM-based measurements. **B:** x-z plane visualization of the small mold. **C:** Visualization of x-y plane of small mold.



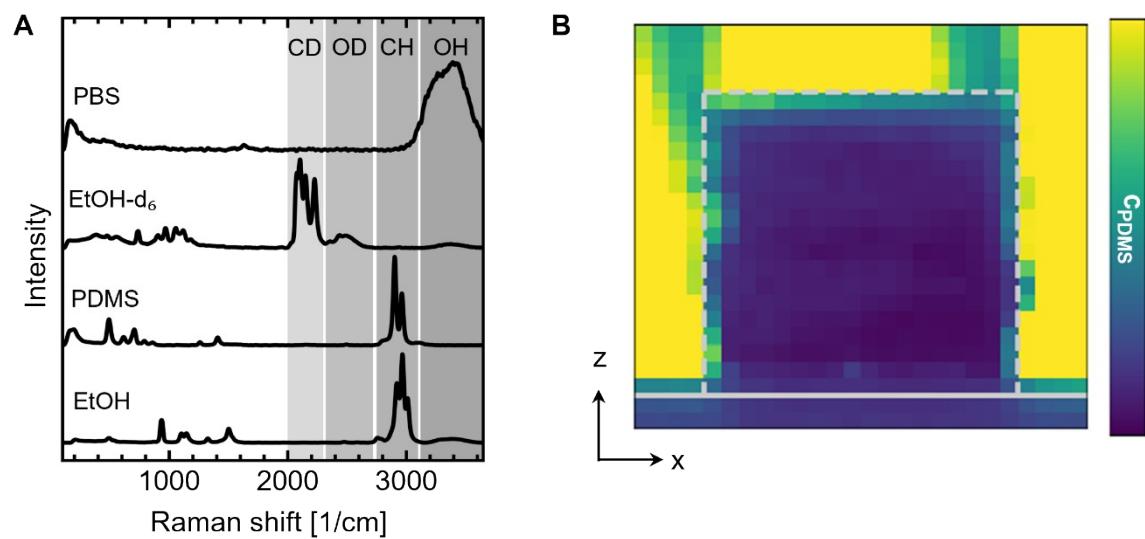
$$Re = \frac{\rho u L}{\mu} \quad De = Re \cdot \sqrt{\frac{L}{2r}}$$

$$L = \frac{4 \cdot w \cdot h}{2 \cdot (w + h)}$$

**Figure S2: Calculation of Reynolds numbers (Re) and Dean numbers (De).** Parameters used:  $\rho$  = density of the fluid [ $\text{kg}/\text{m}^3$ ],  $u$  = velocity [ $\text{m}/\text{s}$ ],  $\mu$  = dynamic viscosity  $\text{kg}/\text{m} \cdot \text{s}$ ,  $h$  = height [ $\text{m}$ ],  $r$  = radius [ $\text{m}$ ],  $L$  = characteristic length [ $\text{m}$ ]. The density and viscosity of the mixture were estimated using a weighted arithmetic mean of the pure-component values, assuming ideal mixing behavior, with volume fractions of 0.8 for water and 0.2 for ethanol. Values for water were retrieved from: *J. Kestin, M. Sokolov and W. A. Wakeham, Viscosity of liquid water in the range  $-8\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  to  $150\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ , J. Phys. Chem. Ref. Data, 1980, 7, 941–948, DOI: 10.1063/1.555581*. Values for ethanol were retrieved from: *F. A. M. M. Gonçalves, A. R. Trindade, C. S. M. F. Costa, J. C. S. Bernardo, I. Johnson, I. M. A. Fonseca, A. G. M. Ferreira, PVT, viscosity, and surface tension of ethanol: New measurements and literature data evaluation, J. Chem. Thermodyn., 2010, 42, 1039–1049, DOI: 10.1016/j.jct.2010.03.022*.



**Figure S3: Visualization of flow dynamics at different total flow rates over the entire channel structure.** CFM micrographs show the Rhodamine B-labeled ethanolic phase false-colored in yellow (20x magnification). Scale bar represents 200  $\mu\text{m}$ .



**Figure S4: Identification of microchannel boundaries via CRM cross-sections using CLS analysis.** **A:** Raman spectra of individual components. Characteristic vibrational bands are highlighted in grey: OH (PBS), CD and OD (EtOH-d<sub>6</sub>), and CH (PDMS). **B:** PDMS CLS factor heatmap from a cross-section after the fourth baffle. Channel boundaries were defined by the contrast between blue and yellow regions and are indicated by white dashed lines.