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## **Electronic Supporting Information (ESI)**

## Synthesis of nickel hydroxychloride microspheres via a facile template-free

## process and their conversion to β-Ni(OH)<sub>2</sub> microspheres

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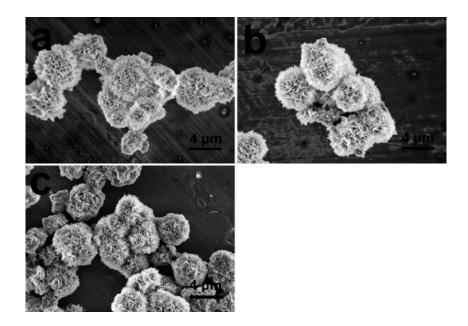


Figure S1. FE-SEM images of the samples prepared for (a) 9 h, (b) 12 h and (c) 18 h.

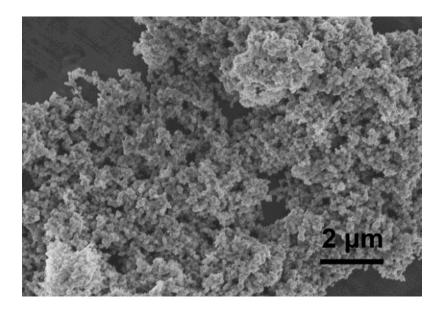


Figure S2. FE-SEM image of the sample prepared by nickel hydroxychloride

microspheres after heat treatment at 350 °C

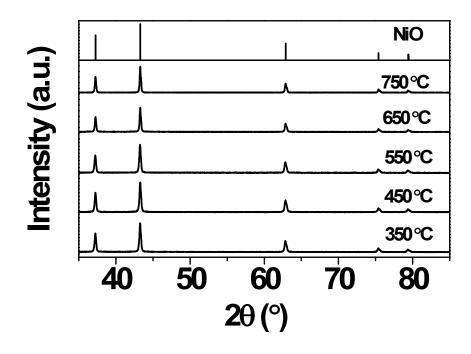


Figure S3. XRD patterns of the samples prepared by nickel hydroxychloride microspheres after the heat treatment at various temperature.

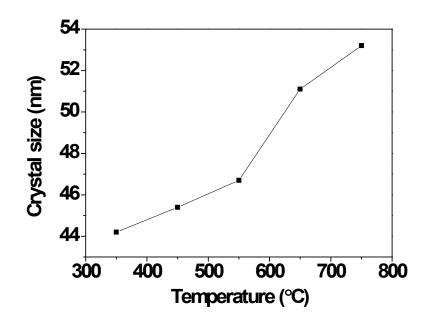


Figure S4. Crystal sizes of the samples prepared by nickel hydroxychloride microspheres after the heat treatment at various temperature.

No.	d (Å)	I (%)
1	5.6774	100.0
2	2.8258	0.9
3	2.6854	16.3
4	2.1782	6.7
5	1.8923	1.8
6	1.8441	2.6
7	1.6333	7.6
8	1.5701	3.2
9	1.4178	1.0
10	1.3952	1.1

Table 1 X-ray diffraction powder data of the sample prepared with 5.1 M  $\mathrm{H_{2}O}$