## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

## Antifouling hydrogel coating magnetic nanoparticles for selective isolation and recovery of circulating tumor cells

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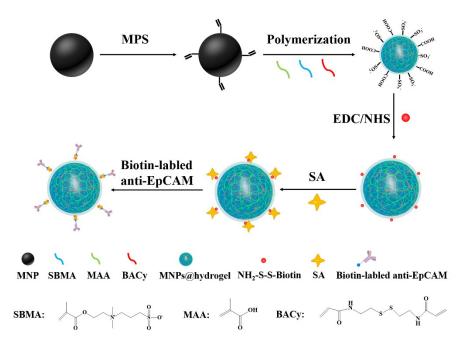
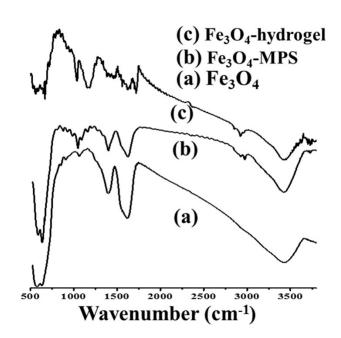
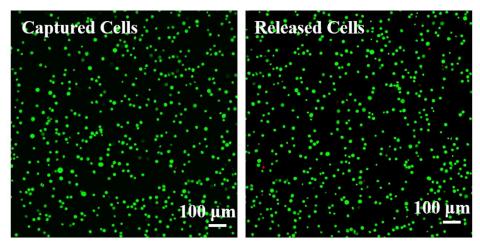


Fig. S1 Schematic illustration of the preparation of anti-EpCAM antibody modified MNPs@hydrogel.



**Fig. S2** FT-IR spectra of MNPs, MNPs-MPS, MNPs@hydrogel. The FTIR spectrum of hydrogel was shown in Figure 2d, displaying the vibrations of C=O (1635 cm<sup>-1</sup>) and N-H (1535 cm<sup>-1</sup>) bands of BACy crosslinker, the C=O stretching vibration (1720cm<sup>-1</sup>) and the O=C-OH stretching vibration (2440 cm<sup>-1</sup>) bands of MAA, and the

O-C=O stretching vibration (1720cm<sup>-1</sup>) and the -SO<sub>3</sub> stretching vibration (1184cm<sup>-1</sup>, 1039 cm<sup>-1</sup>) bands of SBMA, which suggested that the hydrogel were successfully modified by BACy crosslinker, SBMA monomer and MAA monomer.



**Fig. S3** Fluorescence imaging of cell viability of captured MCF-7 cells as well as released cells using a live/dead staining (green: live; red: dead). The viability percentages were presented in Figure 3d.

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Sample	Gender	Age	Туре	Volume of	CTCs
No.				Blood (mL)	Number
1	Female	31	N/A	1	0
2	Female	35	N/A	1	0
3	Female	25	N/A	1	0
4	Male	29	N/A	1	0
5	Female	27	N/A	1	0
6	Female	56	Breast cancer	1	6
7	Female	66	Breast cancer	1	7
8	Female	55	Breast cancer	1	5
9	Male	85	Prostate cancer	1	12
10	Male	74	Prostate cancer	1	1

Table S1. Clinical information of patients and healthy donors enrolled in this study.