Supplementary information

Preparation of "pomegranate"-like QDs/SiO₂/Poly(St-co-MAA) fluorescent nanobeads with two steps to improve stability and biocompatibility

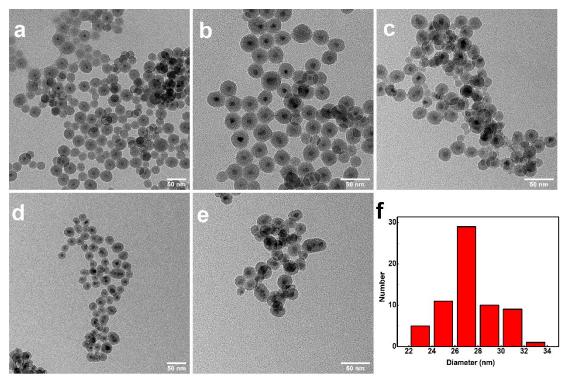


Figure S1 TEM images of QSI-C=C nanobeads with different volume in reverse microemulsion method (a) 200μL; (b) 400μL; (c) 600μL; (d) 800μL; (d) 1000μL; (f) Size distribution of (b) 400μL.

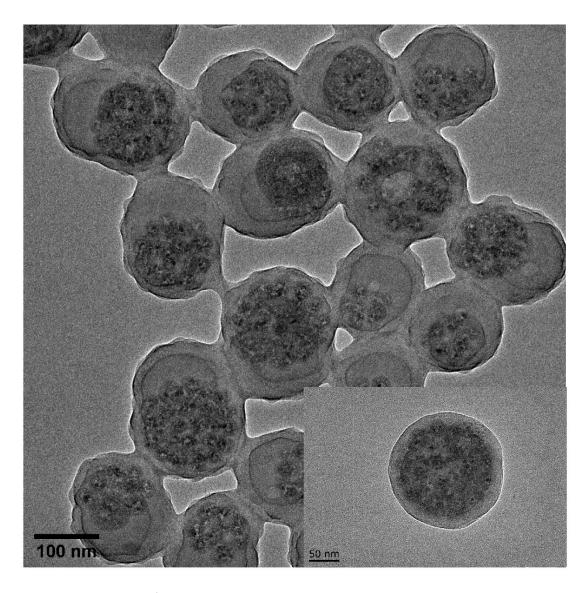


Figure S2 TEM images of QSIP-COOH nanobeads.

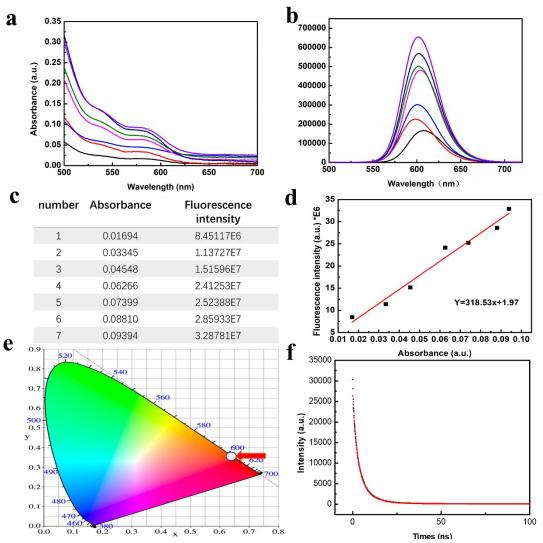


Figure S3 (a) Absorbance and **(b)** Fluorescence intensity of QDs; **(c)** Data and **(d)** Analysis of a and b; **(e)** The chromaticity diagram of QDs; **(f)** The fluorescence lifetime of QDs.

Table S1 Test results of different levels of the inter-assay coefficient of variation and intra-assay coefficient of variation of the ICTS based on QSIP-COOH nanobeads.

| the concentration of HCG antigen (ng/mL) | the inter-assay coefficient of variation (inter-CV%, n=3) | intra-assay coefficient of variation (intra-CV%, n=3) |
|--|---|---|
| 1000 | 7.80 | 7.45 |
| | 8.13 | |
| | 6.41 | |
| 500 250 | 8.47 | 10.16 |
| | 11.35 | |
| | 10.68 | |
| | 10.84 | |
| | 12.57 | |
| | 13.33 | |