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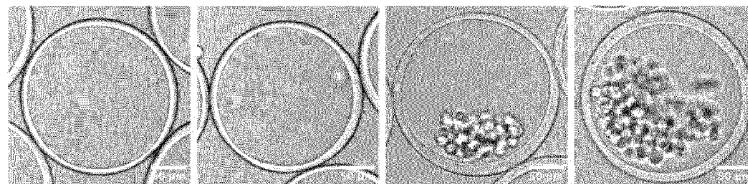
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Fig. 2



(57) Abstract: Approaches for the gentle formation of microcapsule populations are disclosed. Encapsulation is effected while reducing or eliminating negative impacts of hydrogel crosslinking in microcapsule contents, and using hydrogel reagents that may allow release of contents under physiological conditions. Also disclosed are the resultant microcapsule populations, which harbor contents such as various cell populations at proportions that reflect their relative proportions prior to encapsulation, such that encapsulation does not differentially select for one or another cell population.

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