[0009] ~~In one embodiment, the invention encompasses an implantable device for delivery of a pharmaceutical substance to a patient, comprising a core comprising a core polymeric material, where the core optionally comprises a core pharmaceutical substance, surrounded by a first layer comprising a first-layer pharmaceutical substance and a first-layer polymeric material, optionally surrounded by one or more additional layers comprising an additional pharmaceutical substance and an additional polymeric material, where the core, first-layer, and additional polymeric materials may be the same or different, and where the core, first-layer, and additional pharmaceutical substances are the same or different.~~According to an aspect of the present invention, there is provided an implantable device for delivery of a pharmaceutical substance to a patient, comprising: a core comprising a core polymeric material and optionally comprising a core pharmaceutical substance; and a first layer comprising a first-layer pharmaceutical substance and a first-layer polymeric material surrounding the core; and optionally comprising one or more additional layers comprising an additional pharmaceutical substance and an additional polymeric material, where the core polymeric material, first-layer polymeric material, and additional polymeric materials are the same or different, and where the core pharmaceutical substance (if present), first-layer pharmaceutical substance, and additional pharmaceutical substances are the same or different; wherein the first-layer pharmaceutical substance and additional pharmaceutical substances are selected from the group consisting of buprenorphine, fentanyl, L-triiodothyronine, L-thyroxine, and ropinirole.

[0009a] In one embodiment, the core does not have a core pharmaceutical substance. In another embodiment, the core does have a core pharmaceutical substance.

[0010] In one embodiment, the device is generally rod-shaped and comprises a core comprising a core polymeric material, where the core optionally comprises a core pharmaceutical substance, surrounded by one or more layers comprising a first-layer polymeric material, and, if more than one layer is present, a second-layer polymeric material, a third-layer polymeric material, through an Nth-layer polymeric material when N layers are present (where N is a positive integer), where said layer or layers may or may not be identical to the core polymer, and where each layer comprises a pharmaceutical substance. The core and layers can comprise the same pharmaceutical substance. The core and layers can all comprise different pharmaceutical substances. In one embodiment, the core does not have a core pharmaceutical substance. In another embodiment, the core does have a core pharmaceutical substance.

[0011] In one embodiment, the invention encompasses an implantable device for delivery of a pharmaceutical substance to a patient, comprising: a core comprising a core polymeric material, where the core optionally comprises a core pharmaceutical substance; and a first layer comprising a first-layer pharmaceutical substance and a first-layer polymeric material surrounding the core; and optionally comprising one or more additional layers comprising an additional pharmaceutical substance and an additional polymeric material, where the core, first-layer, and any additional polymeric materials are the same or different, and where the core, first and any additional pharmaceutical substances are the same or different. In one embodiment, the core does not have a core pharmaceutical substance. In another embodiment, the core does have a core pharmaceutical substance.

[0012] In one embodiment, the device comprises a core comprising a core polymeric material and multiple layers comprising a layer polymeric material and at least one pharmaceutical substance, where the core polymeric material and the layer polymeric