Supplementary Materials

Bioresorbable Multilayer Photonic Cavities as Temporary Implants for Tether-free Measurements of Regional Tissue Temperatures

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Supplementary Figure 1. (a) 3D schematic illustration of a bioresorbable multilayer photonic cavity. **(b)** 2D schematic illustration of the device with the corresponding thicknesses for each layer shown on the right. **(c)** Depth profile of the refractive index for the distributed Bragg reflector (DBR) of alternating layers of silicon oxides (SiO_x) and silicon nitrides (SiN_y) with one double thickness SiO_2 layer in the center to serve as the DBR defect cavity. The refractive indices of SiO_x and SiN_y are 2.03 and 1.48, respectively. **(d)** Measured stiffness of a multilayer photonic cavity as a function of oscillation frequency. **(e)** Measured stress-strain curve during bending a multilayer device.



Supplementary Figure 2. (a) Experimental measurements and simulation results of transmission spectra of the SiO_x/SiN_y multilayer layer at a 0° incidence angle. **(b)** Experimental measurements and simulation results for transmission spectra of a 1.5 µm-thick Si membrane at a 0° incidence angle. **(c)** Experimental measurements of refractive index of a Si membrane as a function of temperature (from 21 °C to 50 °C) and wavelength (from 500 nm to 1000 nm), determined using an ellipsometer. The device consists of a 1.5 µm-thick Si membrane supported on a 10 µm-thick PLGA film.



Supplementary Figure 3. (a) Measured reflection spectra, at 0° incidence angle, of a bioresorbable multilayer photonic cavity in free space as a function of environmental temperature.
(b) Measured positions of the resonant peaks as a function of temperature. The plot indicates a linear relation between these positions and temperature.



Supplementary Figure 4. (a) Measured reflection spectra at 17° incidence angle for a bioresorbable multilayer photonic cavity in free space as a function of temperature. **(b)** Measured positions of resonant peaks as a function of temperature. The plot indicates a linear relation between these positions and temperature.



Supplementary Figure 5. A flow chart for the denoising algorithm for locating each resonant peak of a measured spectrum. Specifically, a second-order butter-worth lowpass filter with a cutoff coefficient of 5 normalized by frequency resolution was applied to the spectrum once forward and backward for denoising. The local minima of the discrete spectrum were detected with minimum peak distance of 5. After locating each peak F[n], the true peak was estimated by a zero-crossing applied to a linear interpolation between the gradient of spectrum F'[n-1] and F'[n+1]



Supplementary Figure 6. (a) Measured reflection spectra of a bioresorbable multilayer photonic cavity buried underneath 4-mm thick beef slices with various compositions of fat, ranging from 10% to 60%, with the rest of the beef slices mostly composed of muscle tissue. Existence of fat tissue in the beef slices introduces heterogeneity along the optical pathways to the buried photonic cavity, which modulates the resultant reflection spectra and produces noise in measurements. **(b)** Measured temperature of a multilayer photonic cavity as a function of illumination time using a source of white light with irradiance 30 mW/cm2. The measurement is achieved by placing a NTC (Negative Temperature Coefficient) thermistor in close proximity to the multilayer photonic cavity.



Supplementary Figure 7. (a) Optical image and 3D optical image of a 10 μ m-thick PLGA film with a bottom surface structured with arrays of microscale pyramidal features. **(b)** Reflection spectra of 10 μ m-thick PLGA films with a flat surface, and with a bottom surface structured with arrays of microscale corner cubes. **(c)** Reflection spectra of devices with and without retroreflective designs for the PLGA substrates. The devices are embedded in a 5 mm-thick piece of chicken tissue at room temperature (~ 23 °C).



Supplementary Figure 8. Finite element simulation on the mechanical response of a bioresorbable multilayer photonic cavity structure to bending. (a) The stress distribution of a device (length x width, 3 mm x 3 mm) during bending to a radius of curvature of 1.5 mm. **(b)** a zoom-in view of the stress distribution at a cross-sectional area (as indicated by the dashed square in (a)) of the device. **(c)** Simulation results on the strain as a function of depth along the thickness of the device (z direction in (b)). The resultant changes in thickness of Si, SiO_x, and SiN_y are less than 0.3 nm, 0.03 nm, and 0.1 nm, respectively. **(d)** The stress exerted on each layer of a multilayer photonic cavity structure (length x width, 6 mm x 6 mm) during bending to a radius of curvature of 1.5 mm.. Error bars denote the stress range in each layer.



Supplementary Figure 9. Computed tomography (CT) images (3D-rendered, coronal, axial, and sagittal views) of mice collected over 2 weeks after implantation of a bioresorbable multilayer photonic cavity, showing gradual disappearance of the device (highlighted by red circle).



Supplementary Figure 10. Cell viability calculated as the fraction of total living cells after conditioning the culture for 24 h.



Supplementary Figure 11. Images of the surgical procedure for implanting a bioresorbable multilayer photonic cavity. (a) (e) Isoflurane vapor anesthetizes a mouse with fur around the surgically removed region. (b) (f) Surgical exposure of the subcutaneous region near the thoracic spine. (c) (g) Insertion of a biosensor into the surgically exposed region. (d) Bioresorbable suturing and gluing close the surgically exposed region. (h) Placing a fiber-coupled spectrometer allows for collection of reflection spectra from the device.



Supplementary Figure 12. 3D schematic illustration of key fabrication steps for a bioresorbable multilayer photonic cavity.



Supplementary Figure 13. (a) Experimental setup for optical characterization of the multilayer photonic cavity sensors embedded in an apple slice, in chicken breast tissue and phosphate-buffered saline. **(b)** Schematic illustration of the experimental setup.