Highly structured polyvinyl alcohol (PVA) porous carriers. Tuning inherent stability and release kinetics in water.

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**Supporting Information** 



Figure S1. FESEM images frozen at 5.5 mm min<sup>-1</sup>. Scale bar placed at the upper right

corner represents 500 nm for all images.



**Figure S2.** Freeze dried samples 5.0L0% (left) and 5.0L100% (right) frozen inside a 15 mm diameter mould at 5.5 mm min<sup>-1</sup>. Scale between minor lines corresponds to 1 mm.



Figure S3. PXRD patterns of samples frozen in liquid  $N_2$  at 5 mm min<sup>-1</sup>. A control sample slowly frozen overnight at 263 K, labeled as 5.0L100%-HT, is also presented.



**Figure S4.** Dependence of  $t_{50}$  with PVA 16kD mass fraction for PVA carriers with total content of 7.5 % ( $\mathbf{\nabla}$ ), 5.0 % ( $\mathbf{\circ}$ ) and 2.5 % ( $\mathbf{\bullet}$ ). Carriers were prepared by straight immersion of parent PVA solution drops into liquid N<sub>2</sub>.



**Figure S5.** Attenuance recorded at 700 nm as a function of time for carriers with total PVA content of 5% m/v and increasing percentage of PVA 16 kD (samples 5.0L0% to 5.0L100%).