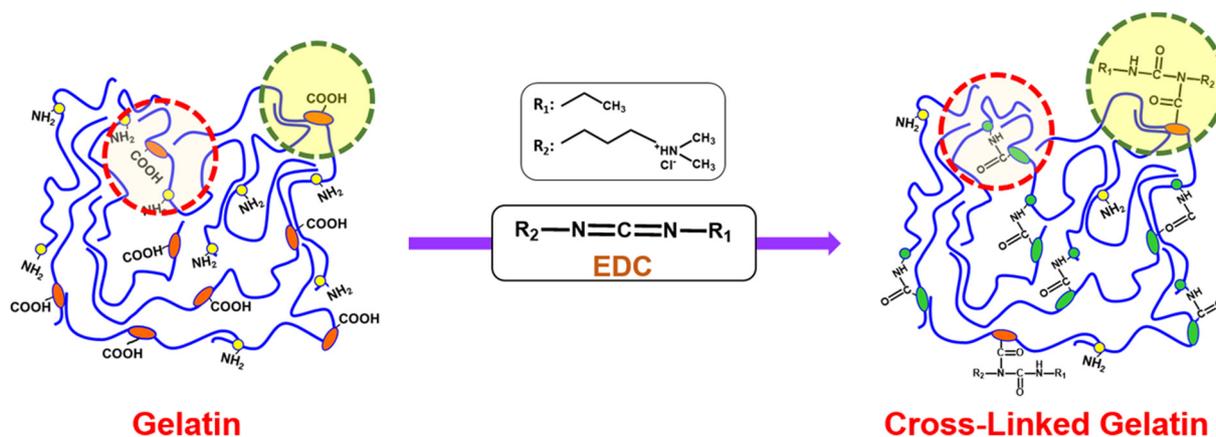


## Supplementary Information

**Figure S1.** Schematic illustration of EDC cross-linking of gelatin.



**Figure S2.** Phase-contrast micrographs of SIRC cultures after a 3-day exposure to gelatin samples cross-linked with 15 mM of EDC: (a) before and (b) after thorough washing of material samples with deionized water to remove unreacted EDC. Scale bars: 200  $\mu\text{m}$ .

