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The hierarchical assembly ...

... of multifunctional materials is challenging. In their Communication on page 15809 ff., Z. H. Nie, X. Y. Chen, and co-workers report the stepwise assembly of block-copolymer-tethered gold nanoparticles into strings that subsequently fold into vesicles with chain-like ordering of the nanoparticles in the membrane. The resulting vesicular assemblies can be used for photoacoustic imaging and drug delivery owing to their strong absorption in the near-infrared region.

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