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(54) Title: IMPROVED CAPTURE AND DETECTION FORMAT VERSATILITY FOR DIPSTICK ASSAYS

(57) Abstract: Dipsticks for testing for the presence of a target nucleic acid in a sample solution are described the dipsticks comprise a universal capture probe immobilised at a capture zone of the dipstick. The universal capture probe is capable of hybridising to a hook capture probe which is hybridised to the target nucleic acid in the sample solution. A contact end of the dipstick is contacted with the sample solution to cause hook capture probe hybridised to the target nucleic acid to move by capillary action to the capture zone where the target nucleic acid can be detected. Use of the universal and hook capture probes allows dipsticks to be prepared which can be used to capture any target nucleic acid, thereby simplifying preparation of the dipsticks. Specificity of target nucleic acid capture is then achieved by use of an appropriate hook capture probe. Methods and kits are also described.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 C12Q1/68 G01N33/543

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C12Q

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, BIOSIS, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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Y	US 4 868 105 A (URDEA MICKEY ET AL) 19 September 1989 (1989-09-19) column 1, line 41 -column 2, line 6	1-63
Y	US 5 681 697 A (URDEA MICHAEL S ET AL) 28 October 1997 (1997-10-28) column 2, line 54 -column 3, line 29; figures 1-7	1-63
Y	EP 0 198 662 A (AMERSHAM INT PLC) 22 October 1986 (1986-10-22) page 5, line 22 -page 9, line 4; claims 1-6	1-63

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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Y	US 5 310 650 A (MCMAHON MICHAEL E ET AL) 10 May 1994 (1994-05-10) column 2, line 46 -column 3, line 46; examples 5,6 ---	1-63
Y	WO 95 27081 A (DU PONT) 12 October 1995 (1995-10-12) page 6, line 19 -page 7, line 14; figures 1-3 -----	1-63

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