

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
19 November 2009 (19.11.2009)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2009/138408 A3

(51) International Patent Classification:
G01N 33/573 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/EP2009/055731

(22) International Filing Date:
12 May 2009 (12.05.2009)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
08305167.2 14 May 2008 (14.05.2008) EP

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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,

AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declarations under Rule 4.17:

— of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv))

Published:

— with international search report (Art. 21(3))

— before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))

— with sequence listing part of description (Rule 5.2(a))

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:

14 January 2010

(54) Title: METHODS AND KITS FOR THE DIAGNOSIS OF RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to the identification and use of proteins with clinical relevance to rheumatoid arthritis (RA). In particular, the invention provides the identity of marker- proteins like the BRAF catalytic domain that specifically react with RA-associated autoantibodies. Also provided are methods, arrays and kits for using these proteins in the diagnosis of RA, and in the selection and/or monitoring of treatment regimens.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/EP2009/055731

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. G01N33/573

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)
G01N

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, EMBASE, BIOSIS, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	FENSTERLE JOACHIM ET AL: "B-Raf specific antibody responses in melanoma patients" BMC CANCER, BIOMED CENTRAL, LONDON, GB, vol. 4, no. 1, 12 September 2004 (2004-09-12), page 62, XP021004664 ISSN: 1471-2407	10-12, 14-15
Y	the whole document ----- -/--	1-9, 13, 16

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☐ See patent family annex.

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O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

26 October 2009

Date of mailing of the international search report

04/11/2009

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/EP2009/055731

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	KIM TAE YONG ET AL: "The BRAF mutation is useful for prediction of clinical recurrence in low-risk patients with conventional papillary thyroid carcinoma. CLINICAL ENDOCRINOLOGY SEP 2006, vol. 65, no. 3, September 2006 (2006-09), pages 364-368, XP002498677 ISSN: 0300-0664 the whole document	14-15
Y	SUZUKI A ET AL: "Functional haplotypes of PADI4, encoding citrullinating enzyme peptidylarginine deiminase 4, are associated with rheumatoid arthritis" NATURE GENETICS, NATURE PUBLISHING GROUP, NEW YORK, US, vol. 34, no. 4, 1 August 2003 (2003-08-01), pages 395-402, XP002979063 ISSN: 1061-4036 the whole document	1-9,13, 16
Y	DE VRIES-BOUWSTRA J K ET AL: "Progression of joint damage in early rheumatoid arthritis: association with HLA-DRB1, rheumatoid factor, and anti-citrullinated protein antibodies in relation to different treatment strategies." ARTHRITIS AND RHEUMATISM MAY 2008, vol. 58, no. 5, May 2008 (2008-05), pages 1293-1298, XP002498678 ISSN: 0004-3591 the whole document	1-9,13, 16