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(54) Title: BIOMARKERS OF VULNERABLE A THEROSCLEROTIC PLAQUES AND METHODS OF USE

(57) Abstract: The present invention provides compositions suitable for use as biomarkers of vulnerable plaques as well as methods for the use of such compositions. In preferred embodiments, specific molecular imaging agents are provided that permit the selective identification of vulnerable plaques in coronary and other arteries using non-invasive imaging methods. Such specific molecular imaging agents comprise a binding partner linked to a detectable label that can be used in vivo to visualize vulnerable plaques. In certain preferred embodiments, the binding partner is a peptide that binds selectively to a component of a vulnerable plaque. In other preferred embodiments, the binding partner is an antibody that binds selectively to a component of a vulnerable plaque. In other preferred embodiments, the binding partner is a portion of a polypeptide displayed by a bacteriophage that binds selectively to a component of a vulnerable plaque. In preferred embodiments, the component of a vulnerable plaque is myeloperoxidase or a portion thereof.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC: A61K 38/00(2006.01) USPC: 514/21 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) U.S. : 514/21 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 practicable, search terms used) REGISTRY, CAPLUS, US-PGPUB, USPAT, DERWENT, EPO, JPO		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5,449,761 A (BELINKA, JR. et al) 12 September 1995 (12.09.1995). See entire document, e.g., paragraph binding columns 13-14.	1-27
A	US 6,261,537 B1 (KLAVENESS et al) 17 July 2001 (17.07.2001). See entire document.	1-27
A	US 5,811,394 A (DEAN) 22 September 1998 (22.09.1998). See entire document.	1-27
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