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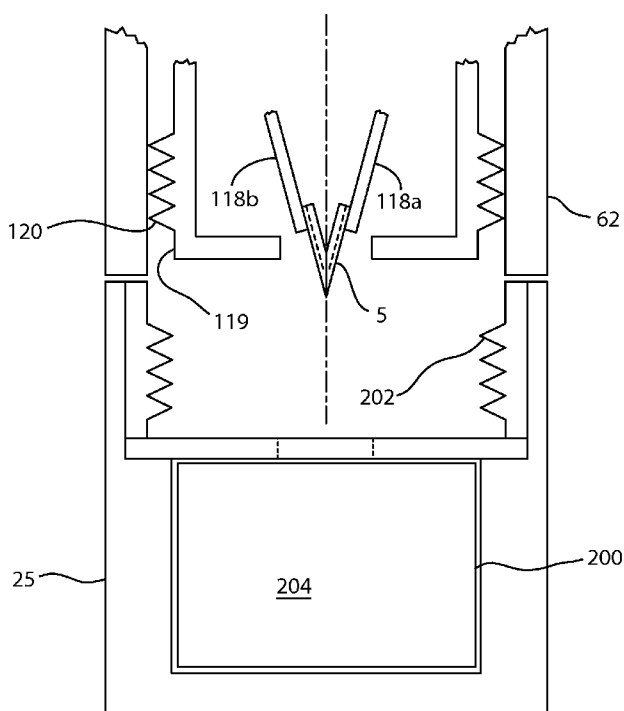
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: KIT AND METHOD FOR EXTRACTING AND STORING A SKIN TISSUE SAMPLE

FIG. 5



(57) Abstract: A kit of components for extracting and storing a skin tissue sample includes an extraction cartridge with a plurality of blades, an actuator cartridge, and a cap with an aqueous preservative. The actuator cartridge is removably attached to the extraction cartridge and causes the plurality of blades of the extraction cartridge to extract a skin tissue sample from the person. After the skin tissue sample is extracted, the cap is attached to the extraction cartridge to store and suspend the skin tissue sample in an aqueous preservative preloaded in a container in the cap. A liquid-tight seal prevents bodily fluids from contaminating the actuator cartridge and this enables the actuator cartridge to be removed from the extraction cartridge and to be reused. The extraction cartridge and the attached cap, which store the skin tissue sample, are sent to medical laboratory so that the skin tissue sample can be analyzed.

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

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER***A61B 10/02(2006.01)i, C12M 1/28(2006.01)i***

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)

A61B 10/02; A61B 10/00; A61B 17/32; A61M 5/31; G01N 1/10; A61B 5/00

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

Korean utility models and applications for utility models

Japanese utility models and applications for utility models

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

eKOMPASS(KIPO internal) & Keywords: tissue sampling kit, cartridge, actuator, extraction, reusable.

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 2006-0047220 A1 (SAKATA, TETSUYA et al.) 02 March 2006 See abstract; fig. 7; paragraphs 70, 85, 87; claims 1-4.	1-18
A	US 2007-0073186 A1 (DECKER, DAVID et al.) 29 March 2007 See abstract; figs. 1, 2; paragraph 43; claims 1, 11-14.	1-18
A	US 2002-0082522 A1 (DOUGLAS, JOEL S. et al.) 27 June 2002 See abstract; fig. 1; paragraph 89; claim 1.	1-18
A	US 2010-0030111 A1 (PERRIERE, BERNARD) 04 February 2010 See abstract; fig. 2; paragraphs 44, 48; claim 1.	1-18
A	US 2011-0092855 A1 (LIST, HANS et al.) 21 April 2011 See the whole document.	1-18



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of citation or other special reason (as specified)

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

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US2012/042464**Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)**

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.: 19-27
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Claims 19-27 pertain to methods for treatment of the human body by surgery or therapy (PCT Article 17(2)(a)(i) and Rule 39.1(iv)).
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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