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(54) Title: IN VITRO MODEL FOR HEPATITIS C VIRION PRODUCTION

(57) Abstract: The invention is related to a construct comprising a hepatitis C virus (HCV) nucleic acid sequence that comprises from 5' to 3' on the positive-sense nucleic acid a 5' untranslated region (UTR), a full-length open reading frame (ORF) encoding an HCV polyprotein whose cleavage products form functional components of HCV virus particles and RNA replication machinery, and a 3' untranslated region (UTR), said sequence being infectious, and additionally, a ribozyme pair positioned to generate the 5' and 3' ends of said sequence when cleaved, and related methods of making and methods of using.



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**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

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**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
INV. C07K14/18 C12N15/11

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)  
C07K C12N

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, BIOSIS, CHEM ABS Data, EMBASE, 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	EP 1 454 524 A1 (TOKYO METROPOLITAN ORGANIZATIO [JP]; CHUGAI PHARMACEUTICAL CO LTD [JP]) 8 September 2004 (2004-09-08)	1, 3, 4, 7-10, 12, 15, 21, 23, 24
Y	the whole document	2, 5, 6, 11
X	EP 1 090 996 A1 (CHUGAI PHARMACEUTICAL CO LTD [JP]) 11 April 2001 (2001-04-11)	1, 3, 4, 7-10, 12-17, 19, 21, 23, 24
Y	the whole document	2, 5, 6, 11
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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	*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
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*O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	*Z* document member of the same patent family
*P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

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Name and mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer  <b>Armando Ia, Elena</b>
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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

 International application No  
 PCT/US2005/035487

C(Continuation). 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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