Abstract

This invention uses "targeted apheresis" to treat rheumatoid arthritis patients. "Targeted Apheresis" is a process whereby the RF and immune complexes responsible for causing the disease symptoms are selectively removed from the blood by passing the blood through a cartridge containing immobilized IgG. The RF and immune complexes are bound out and the cleaned blood is returned to the patient. Removal of circulating RF and immune complexes will ameliorate the symptoms of rheumatoid arthritis.
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
   IPC: A61K 39/44(2006.01)
   USPC: 435/2; 424/140.1
   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.: 435/2; 424/140.1

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

   Electronic database consulted during the international search (name of database and, where practicable, search terms used)
   Please See Continuation Sheet

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>US 5,782,792 A (JONES et al.) 21 July 1998, see entire document.</td>
<td>1-3, 5, 6</td>
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<td>X</td>
<td>US 2002/00119603 A1 (STRAHILEVITZ) 14 February 2002, see entire document.</td>
<td>1-5, 7</td>
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[ ] Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.  [ ] See patent family annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

Date of mailing of the international search report
09 NOV 2006

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Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (April 2005)
Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:
MEDICINE/BIOTECH (DIALOG), WEST 2.1, search term: inventor names, targeted apheresis, apheresis, ra, rheumatoid, Ig, Igg, antibody, immobil?, matrix, column, substrate?, rf