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(54) Title: A HIGH RESOLUTION TYPING SYSTEM FOR PATHOGENIC *MYCOBACTERIUM TUBERCULOSUM*

(57) Abstract: MLVA methods for strain discrimination among *Mycobacterium tuberculosum strains* are disclosed. Nine VNTR loci have been identified from genomic sequences of *Mycobacterium tuberculosum* strains and primer pairs suitable for amplifying the VNTR by PCR are disclosed. Polymorphisms at these loci were used to resolve genotypes into distinct groups. This sub-typing scheme is useful for the epidemiological study of *Mycobacterium tuberculosum* and may be applied to the local detection of the pathological causative agent of tuberculosum.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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PCT/US03/22950

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC: **A61K 39/00**(2007.01),**39/02**(2007.01),**39/04**(2007.01);**C12Q 1/00**(2007.01),**1/68**(2007.01);**C12P 19/34**(2007.01);**C07H 19/00**(2007.01),**21/02**(2007.01),**21/04**(2007.01)

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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. : 424/184.1,190.1,234.1,248.1;435/4,6,91.2;536/22.1,23.1,24.3

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)

biosis caba caplus embase japio lifesci medline scisearch uspatfull

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6,228,371B1 (NANO) 8 May 2001, entire reference.	1-17
X	US 6,294,328B1 (FLEISCHMANN et al) 25 September 2001, entire reference.	1-17
X	WO 97/44463 (MENOZZI et al) 27 November 1997, entire reference.	1-17
X	WO 01/02568A2 (WILLIAMS et al) 11 January 2001, see entire reference.	1-17
X	WO 99/09186 (GICQUEL et al) 25 February 1999, see entire reference.	1-17
X	WO 01/35317A1 (EISENBERG et al) 17 May 2001, see entire reference.	1-17

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