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(54) Title: METHOD FOR DETERMINING SUSCEPTIBILITY TO PRION DISEASE

(57) Abstract: This invention relates to a method of determining the susceptibility of a subject to prion disease comprising the steps of: (a) providing a sample from said subject; and (b) determining the human leucocyte antigen specificity of said sample; wherein if said sample has DQ7 human leucocyte antigen specificity, this indicates that said subject has a decreased susceptibility to prion disease; and if said sample does not have DQ7 human leucocyte antigen specificity, this indicates that said subject has an increased susceptibility to prion disease.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

 Interna Application No
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 C12Q1/68 G01N33/48 G01N33/68		
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) IPC 7 C12Q G01N		
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) MEDLINE, EPO-Internal, PAJ, EMBASE, BIOSIS, CHEM ABS Data		
C. 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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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. ☒ Patent family members are listed in 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 document 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 another 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 15 July 2003		Date of mailing of the international search report 05/08/2003
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 Mossier, B

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Internat Application No
PCT/GB 02/03423

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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A	KOVANEN J ET AL: "Histocompatibility antigens in familial Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease." JOURNAL OF THE NEUROLOGICAL SCIENCES. NETHERLANDS MAR 1980, vol. 45, no. 2-3, March 1980 (1980-03), pages 317-321, XP009013905 ISSN: 0022-510X the whole document	1-7
A	US 5 908 749 A (MACAUBAS CLAUDIA I P ET AL) 1 June 1999 (1999-06-01) the whole document	1-7
A	WO 98 16834 A (COLLINGE JOHN ;IMPERIAL COLLEGE (GB)) 23 April 1998 (1998-04-23) abstract	1-7
A	STEPHENSON D A ET AL: "Quantitative trait loci affecting prion incubation time in mice" GENOMICS, ACADEMIC PRESS, SAN DIEGO, US, vol. 69, no. 1, 1 October 2000 (2000-10-01), pages 47-53, XP002236787 ISSN: 0888-7543 the whole document	1-7
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Internat Application No

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	COLLINGE J: "Variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease" LANCET, XX, XX, vol. 354, no. 9175, 24 July 1999 (1999-07-24), pages 317-323, XP004266648 ISSN: 0140-6736 cited in the application the whole document ----	1-7
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int lonal application No.
PCT/GB 02/03423

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 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.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

Although claims 1 - 7 can be regarded as claims directed to a diagnostic method practised on the human/animal body and although said claims do not exclude a surgical treatment, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compound/composition.
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 II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 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.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

Internat Application No

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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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