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(54) Title: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR THE DETECTION AND VALIDATION OF MICRORNAS

(57) Abstract: The present invention provides methods and apparatus for detecting, sequencing, cloning and otherwise validating nucleic acids, including microRNAs. The methods make use of a plurality of sequence--specific recognition reagents which can also be used for classification of biological samples, and to characterize the expression of certain microRNAs.

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. C12Q1/68

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)
C12Q

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, EMBASE, MEDLINE, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|---|---|---|
| X | KRICHEVSKY ANNA M ET AL: "A microRNA array reveals extensive regulation of microRNAs during brain development." RNA (COLD SPRING HARBOR), vol. 9, no. 10, October 2003 (2003-10), pages 1274-1281, XP002354608 ISSN: 1355-8382 the whole document | 10 |
| X | WO 03/062394 A2 (GENETICA INC [US]; COLD SPRING HARBOR LAB [US]; BEACH DAVID H [US]; BE) 31 July 2003 (2003-07-31) the whole document | 1-10 |
| P,X | WO 2004/057017 A2 (THIRD WAVE TECH INC [US]; DAHLBERG JAMES E [US]; ALLAWI HATIM T [US];) 8 July 2004 (2004-07-08) the whole document | 1-10 |

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☒ See patent family annex.

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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