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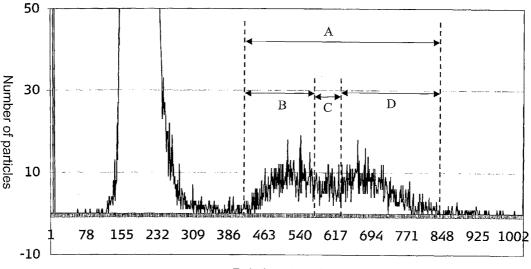
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(54) Title: LYSING REAGENT FOR SIMULTANEOUS ENUMERATION OF DIFFERENT TYPES OF BLOOD CELLS IN A BLOOD SAMPLE

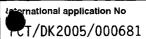


Relative size of particles

(57) Abstract: A combined diluent and lysing reagent for simultaneously counting or analysis of various blood cells such as thrombocytes, leukocytes and leukocyte subpopulations, as well as analysis of hemoglobin. The reagent comprises a hemoglobin stabilizing/methemoglobin ligand compound selected from the group consisting of imidazole, imidazole derivatives, and combinations thereof, at least two quaternary ammonium salts, 1,3-dimethylurea and/or salts thereof; and an organic buffer. Accordingly, the reagent can be used in a method for determining the content of blood cells in a blood sample comprising: mixing a blood sample with a reagent according to the invention; and analyzing the content of the blood sample by employment of the Coulter principle and optionally an spectrophotometric analysis of the hemoglobin content.



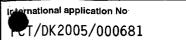
#### INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT



A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER INV. G01N33/50 G01N1 G01N15/12 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) GO1N 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 C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Category\* Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages US 4 962 038 A (J. H. CARTER ET AL.) 1 - 32Υ 9 October 1990 (1990-10-09) cited in the application column 3, line 17 - line 26
column 1, line 10 - line 22; claims 1,14 1 - 32US 5 227 304 A (S.-C. WONG) Y 13 July 1993 (1993-07-13) cited in the application claims 1,2,5,8,11 US 4 745 071 A (J. D. LAPICOLA ET AL.) 1 - 32Y 17 May 1988 (1988-05-17) cited in the application column 3, line 3 - line 22 column 3, line 49 - line 55; claims 1,6 See patent family annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. Special categories of cited documents: "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 "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention filing date cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "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) "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 docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled other means in the art. document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed \*&\* document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 26/04/2006 19 April 2006 Authorized officer 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, Griffith, G Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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