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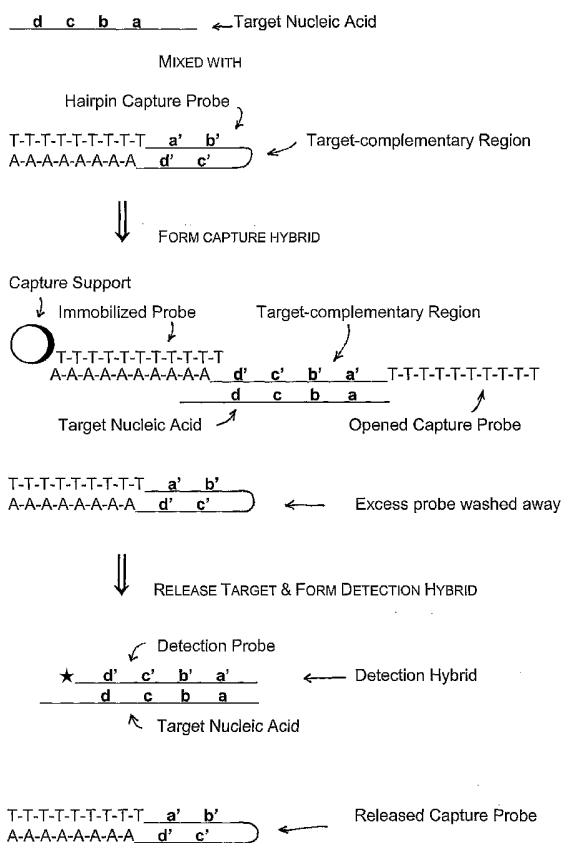
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Declaration under Rule 4.17:

— as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted
a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS TO DETECT NUCLEIC ACIDS IN A BIOLOGICAL SAMPLE



(57) Abstract: Methods of the invention separate a target nucleic acid from a sample by using at least one capture probe oligonucleotide that contains a target-complementary region and a member of a binding pair that attaches the target nucleic acid to an immobilized probe on a capture support, thus forming a capture hybrid that is separated from other sample components before the target nucleic acid is released from the capture support and hybridized to a detection probe to form a detection hybrid that produces a detectable signal that indicates the presence of the target nucleic acid in the sample. Compositions for practicing the methods of the invention include a capture probe oligonucleotide made up a target-complementary region sequence and a covalently linked capture region sequence that includes a member of a binding pair.

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C12Q1/68

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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, WPI Data, PAJ, BIOSIS, MEDLINE

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 00/01850 A (GEN-PROBE INCORPORATED; BECKER, MICHAEL, M; SCHROTH, GARY) 13 January 2000 (2000-01-13) care particularly for the paragraph on "Target Binding domain:Target Sequence Hybrid", pg 13; page 3 - page 20	1-20
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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
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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

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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 Botz, J
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C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
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Y	c.f. paragraphs on "C. Array of oligonucleotide probes containing hairpin structure" page 21, "Immobilization of Hairpin Probes", page 23, "Microarray formation", pg.25, pg. 26; page 5 - page 30	1-12
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