Apparatus for Ascertaining Blood Characteristics and Probe for Use Therewith

Claim

Apparatus for Ascertaining Blood Characteristics and Probe for Use Therewith

Abstract

An apparatus (10) for use with a patient having a vessel carrying blood to ascertain characteristics of the blood. The apparatus includes a display module (12) and a probe (18) having a distal extremity adapted to be inserted into the vessel of the patient and having a proximal extremity coupled to the display module. The probe includes a sensor (24) in the distal extremity for providing an electrical signal to the display module when the probe is disposed in the blood. The probe can have an antithrombogenic surface treatment (38) for inhibiting the adhesion of blood components to the probe when disposed in the blood.
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC:  A61B 5/05( 2006.01), 5/00( 2006.01), 5/02( 2006.01)

USPC:  600/364,353,481
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.:  600/300,301,309,345,348-350,352-355,357-361,364,481,483,585

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)
EAST

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

Date of the actual completion of the international search: 08 March 2007 (08.03.2007)

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US
Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
Facsimile No. (571) 273-3201

Date of mailing of the international search report: APR 2007

Authorized officer: Slavin Nathithiradh</ref>

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**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

**Box No. II** Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 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:

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 No. III** Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 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 additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fees.

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. [X] 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.: 1-14

**Remark on Protest**

[ ] The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant’s protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.

[ ] The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant’s protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.

[ ] No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.