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(54) Title: THYROID FINE NEEDLE ASPIRATION MOLECULAR ASSAY

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to methods, compositions and articles directed to diagnosing thyroid carcinoma, differentiating between thyroid carcinoma and benign thyroid diseases, testing indeterminate thyroid fine needle aspirate samples of thyroid nodules, and determining patient protocols and outcomes.

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International application No.

PCT/US06/19615

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
 IPC(8): C12Q 1/68( 2006.01);G01N 33/53( 2006.01)

USPC: 435/6,7.1  
 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. : 435/6,7.1

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)  
 STN, WEST, MEDLINE

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y --- A	Gould-Rothberg et al (US 6,436,642 B1; 8/20/02)	37, 40, 42, 43 ----- 35, 41
Y --- A	Gordon et al (US 2003/0219760; 11/27/03)	37, 40, 42, 43 ----- 35, 41
A	Golub et al (US 2003/0225526 A1; 12/4/03)	35, 37, 40-43

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

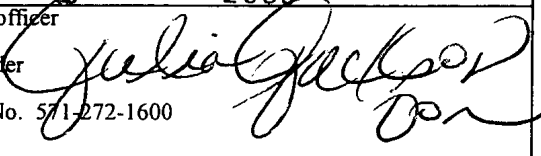
See patent family annex.

* 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
"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"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
"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 documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"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	

Date of the actual completion of the international search  
 30 January 2008 (30.01.2008)

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**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.: 39 and 44  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:  
The patent reports of claims 39 and 44 encompass non-statutory matter that do not fall into one of the statutory classes of 35 U.S.C. 101.
2.  Claims Nos.: 1-34,36,38 and 45-68  
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:  
Please See Continuation Sheet
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.  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 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.