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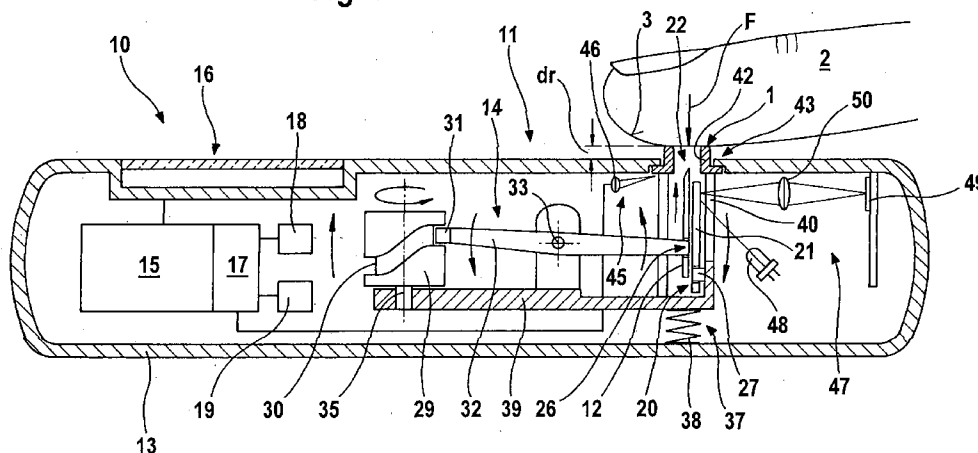
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: INSTRUMENT AND SYSTEM FOR PRODUCING A SAMPLE OF A BODY LIQUID AND FOR ANALYSIS THEREOF

Fig. 3



(57) Abstract: Instrument for producing a sample of body liquid for analysis by piercing the skin with a lancing element (12) having a skin piercing tip. The instrument (11) has a housing (13) and a lancing drive (14) for driving a lancing element (12) connected thereto in a puncturing movement. A pressure ring (1) surrounds a skin contact opening (4) and is adapted for pressing against the skin such that the skin (3) bulges into the opening (4) for promoting expression of body fluid. The skin contact opening (4) has an opening area corresponding to a circle with a diameter of at least 3 mm and at most 8 mm, and the instrument comprises a pressing force control device (37) for controlling the pressing force between the pressure ring (1) and the skin (3) at the time of triggering the puncturing movement, to be at least 3 N and at most 8 N.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
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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)
A61B

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

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Y | US 6 589 260 B1 (SCHMELZEISEN-REDEKER GUENTHER [DE] ET AL) 8 July 2003 (2003-07-08) column 6, lines 1-61 column 7, line 36 - column 8, line 15 ----- | 1-4, 14, 15, 17-21, 23, 24, 26, 27 |
| Y | EP 1 527 737 A (LIFESCAN INC [US]) 4 May 2005 (2005-05-04) paragraphs [0011], [0015] - [0022], [0025] ----- -/-- | 1-4, 9-15, 17-21, 23, 24, 26, 27 |

☒ 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

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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)

O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

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

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

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.

* & * document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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| A | EP 1 360 933 A (LIFESCAN INC [US]) 12 November 2003 (2003-11-12) paragraphs [0054], [0060] - [0066], [0087], [0088] ----- | 1,23-26 |
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/EP2008/003355

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:

see additional sheet

1. ☒ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers allsearchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of 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.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-4,14-27 (partially)

Lancing device with pressure ring with defined diameter and pressing force

2. claims: 5-27 (partially)

Lancing device with analysis element and interaction time controlling.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/EP2008/003355

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