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— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))*

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28 March 2013

(54) Title: METHOD COMPOSITIONS AND DEVICE FOR PREPARING CYTOLOGICAL SPECIMENS

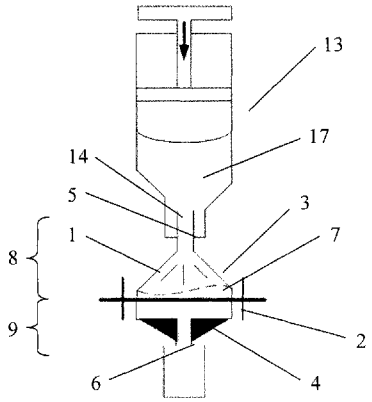


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a method for preparing specimens from tissue samples for cytology microscopic examination, and includes inventive compositions and a device used in said method. The invention also includes a diagnostic kit comprising the inventive compositions and device.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/IB2012/001261

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. G01N1/30 G01N1/31 G01N1/36
ADD.

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)
G01N

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)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, BIOSIS, EMBASE, FSTA, INSPEC, MEDLINE

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2004/137551 A1 (MARKOVIC NENAD S [US] ET AL) 15 July 2004 (2004-07-15) paragraphs [0068] - [0119] paragraphs [0147], [0148] paragraph [0393] paragraphs [0410], [0411] paragraphs [0420] - [0427] paragraphs [0468] - [0488] -----	1-19
Y	WO 99/10723 A1 (MONOGEN INC [US]; GUIRGUIS RAOUF A [US]; YORK FREDERICK J [US]; STAFFO) 4 March 1999 (1999-03-04) page 2, line 18 - page 5, line 8 page 7, last paragraph - page 8, line 28 page 25, line 5 - page 27, line 13 page 24, lines 4-25; figures 1-5 -----	1-19
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[X] Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

[X] 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

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

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Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
23 November 2012	25/01/2013

Name and mailing address of the ISA/	Authorized officer
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Michalitsch, Richard

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
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C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	WO 01/59164 A1 (STRECK LAB [US]; RYAN WAYNE L [US]) 16 August 2001 (2001-08-16) examples 1,3	1-19
Y	US 2007/134798 A1 (MCCORMICK PATRIC [US] ET AL MCCORMICK PATRICK [US] ET AL) 14 June 2007 (2007-06-14) paragraphs [0027] - [0037]	1-19
Y	WO 2010/134073 A1 (ZETIQ TECHNOLOGIES LTD [IL]; IDELEVICH PAVEL [IL]; ELKELES ADI [IL]; T) 25 November 2010 (2010-11-25) page 17, lines 19-30 page 19, lines 6-14 page 25, lines 15-27 page 29, lines 17-24	1-19

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/IB2012/001261

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 all searchable 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.:

1-19

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: 1-19

   A method for preparing specimen from a tissue sample for cytology microscopic examination.

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2. claims: 20-23(completely); 28(partially)

   A cell preservative composition.

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3. claims: 23-26(completely); 28(partially)

   A fixative composition

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4. claims: 27(completely); 28(partially)

   A transparent thermoplastic polymer-based mounting medium.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No
PCT/IB2012/001261

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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