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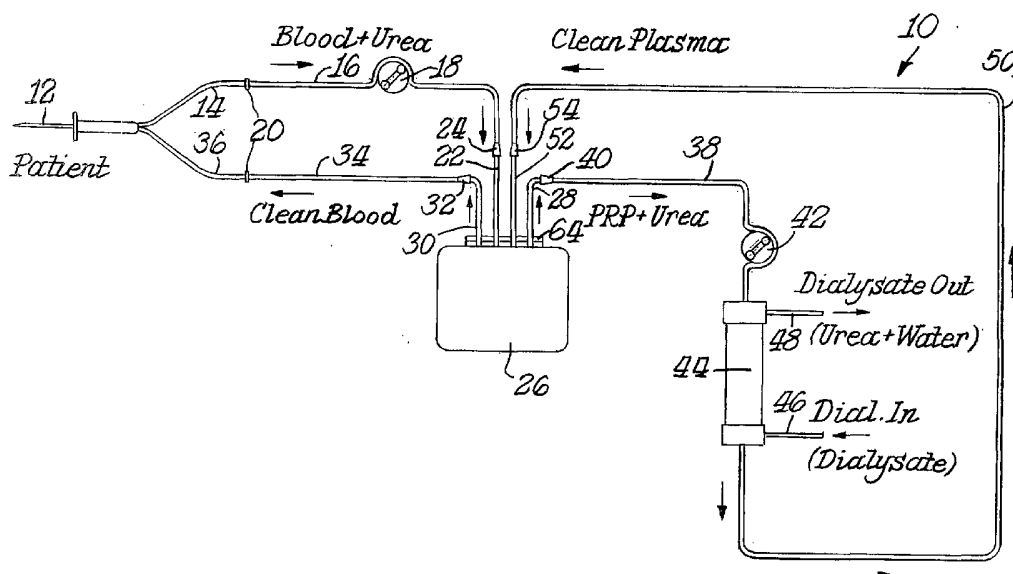
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: HEMODIALYSIS ASSEMBLY AND METHOD



(57) Abstract: A multi-stage cell segregation from the plasma by staged separation and rinsing processes is performed while the plasma is diverted to the dialyzer and de-watering steps are completed without the cells being present. Cleaning the plasma of the urea and other life threatening toxins and pathogens permits a faster and more thorough cleaning of the plasma and cells which in turn reduces the therapy time.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US02/26288

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A61M 37/00; C02F 1/44; B01D 11/00; B04B 13/00, 1/06
US CL : 604/5.01, 6.09; 210/321.71, 646, 782; 494/11, 43

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. : Please See Continuation Sheet

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)
Please See Continuation Sheet

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 4,486,282 A (BIER) 04 December 1984, entire document.	1-13
Y	US 4,844,871 A (POLASCHEGG) 04 July 1989, entire document.	1-13
Y	US 5,217,618 A (MURAKOSHI) 08 June 1983, entire document.	1-13
Y	US 5,858,238 A (McREA et al.) 12 January 1999, entire document.	1-13
A	US 5,955,353 A (AMIOT) 21 September 1999, entire document.	1-13

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

* Special categories of cited documents:	"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
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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
"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"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
"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)	"&"	document member of the same patent family
"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		

Date of the actual completion of the international search

24 February 2003 (24.02.2003)

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

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Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 1:

604/5.01, 6.09, 4.01, 5.02-.04, 6.01-6.08, 6.1, 6.11, 6.16; 210/321.71, 646, 782, 645, 647, 650-52, 781, 739, 252, 257.1, 257.2, 258, 348, 321.6, 321.72; 494/11, 43, 37, 36, 45, 46, 56, 1, 2, 5-7, 60; 128/898

Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:

EAST

plasma separation/separating, filter, dialyzer, centrifuge, stages, tubing, blood