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(54) Title: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR DETECTION AND ISOLATION OF A NUCLEOTIDE SEQUENCE

(57) Abstract: A method for isolating nucleic acid molecules having a repeating nucleotide sequence or a homopolymeric nucleotide sequence, e.g. a poly A stretch, is described. In particular, the method uses oligomeric capture probes spiked with various amounts of locked nucleic acid (LNA). The invention further describes methods for the isolation of RNA molecules, for example polyadenylated mRNA molecules, which overcome the problems of rapid RNA degradation during isolation and analysis of such nucleic acid molecules. This is of major clinical and diagnostic importance, especially when dealing with RNA viruses, such as retroviruses or when analyzing rare or low-abundant mRNAs or mRNAs from biopsies or tissues enriched with RNases.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No -ci/IB 03/06354

a. classification of subject matter IPC 7 C12N15/10 C12Q1/68

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) IPC 7 C12N C12Q

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, WPI Data, PAJ, CAB Data, Sequence Search, BIOSIS

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 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 document but published on or after the international filing date "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 4 October 2004	Date of mailing of the international search report $20/10/2004$
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31–70) 340–3016	Authorized officer Hornig, H

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