A. CLASSIFICATION OR SUBJECT MATTER

INV. C07K14/29 C07K16/12

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)

C07K GOIN

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic database consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, BIOSIS, WPI Data, MEDLINE

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

Date of the actual completion of the international search 7 September 2009

Date of mailing of the international search report 22/09/2009

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

Authorized officer Wimmer, Georg
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>WO 2009/039414 A (IDEXX LAB INC [US]; O'CONNOR THOMAS PATRICK [US]; KRAH EUGENC REGIS [U]) 26 March 2009 (2009-03-26) the whole document</td>
<td>1-44</td>
</tr>
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<td>A</td>
<td>YABSLEY MICHAEL J ET AL: &quot;Molecular variation in the variable-length PCR target and 120-kilodalton antigen genes of Ehrlichia chaffeensis from white-tailed deer (Odocoileus virginianus).&quot; JOURNAL OF CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY NOV 2003, vol. 41, no. 11, November 2003 (2003-11), pages 5202-5206, XP002544278 ISSN: 0095-1137 cited in the application the whole document</td>
<td>1-44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Continuation of Box II.2

Claims Nos.: 32

Claim 32 relates to a method of claim 24, wherein the sample is assayed for the polypeptides having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO. 17 and SEQ ID NO. 19. However, SEQ ID NO. 17 and 19 define polynucleotides rather than peptides. Also, even if these polynucleotides were translated, incomplete peptidic sequences would result, which are moreover shorter than those of independent claim 24 and the dependent claim has therefore a broader or different scope. The intention of the limitation of claim 32 is therefore so unclear that a meaningful search of the claim is not possible.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.2), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2)PCT declaration be overcome.
# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

**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.: 32
   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:
   
   see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210

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 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.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patent document cited in search report</th>
<th>Publication date</th>
<th>Patent family member(s)</th>
<th>Publication date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>