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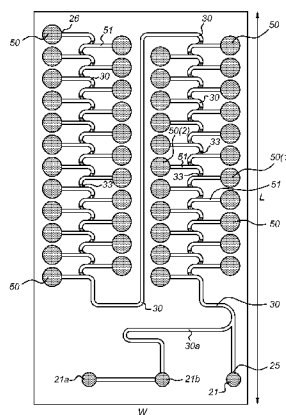
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(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: SAMPLING DEVICE FOR IN VIVO SAMPLING OF LIQUIDS FROM THE GASTROINTESTINAL TRACT, PROCESS FOR THE PRODUCTION THEREOF AND MOULD OR MASK FOR USE IN THE PRODUCTION PROCESS



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a sampling device (1) suitable for in vivo sampling of liquid (s) from the gastrointestinal tract, comprising a body (10), the body comprising a channel (30) and an opening (21) for entrance of the liquid (s) at one end (25) of the channel, and a cover (40) bonded to at least part of the body and arranged such that the channel in the body is at least partially covered by the cover, the channel having a length of 2 mm - 25 mm and a perimeter of 2.4-8600 µm, the channel further comprising one or more side compartments (50), and the channel with the optional one or more side compartments having a volume of 5 nl - 4500 µl.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. A61B10/00 B01L3/00

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 B01L

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.
X Y	<p>EP 1 240 945 A2 (KYOTO DAIICHI KAGAKU KK [JP] ARKRAY INC [JP]) 18 September 2002 (2002-09-18)</p> <p>paragraph [0010] - paragraph [0011] paragraph [0027] - paragraph [0051] claims 1,3,6,10; examples 1,2,9 ----- -/--</p>	<p>1-5, 8-15,20, 21 6,7</p>

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

* Special categories of cited documents :

<p>*A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>*E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>*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)</p> <p>*O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>*P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p>	<p>**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</p> <p>*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</p> <p>*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.</p> <p>*&* document member of the same patent family</p>
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Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
15 February 2007	19/06/2007

<p>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</p>	<p>Authorized officer Nistor, Loredana</p>
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/NL2006/050295

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>WO 97/36681 A (PERKIN ELMER CORP [US]) 9 October 1997 (1997-10-09)</p> <p>page 2, line 29 - page 4, line 2 page 4, line 26 - page 5, line 9 page 6, line 13 - page 8, line 12 page 12, line 14 - page 18, line 17 page 28, line 11 - line 25 page 29, line 22 - page 30, line 9; figures</p> <p>-----</p>	1-5,10, 11, 13-15, 20,21
A	<p>WO 2004/059299 A (CYTODISCOVERY INC [US]; MODLIN DOUGLAS N [US]; CHAZAN DAVID [US]) 15 July 2004 (2004-07-15)</p>	1
Y	<p>paragraph [0015] - paragraph [0020] paragraph [0022] - paragraph [0029] paragraphs [0060], [120.122]; figures 64,65</p> <p>-----</p>	6,7
X	<p>US 5 744 366 A (KRICKA LARRY J [US] ET AL) 28 April 1998 (1998-04-28)</p> <p>column 7, line 66 - column 12, line 17 column 15, line 29 - line 44 column 16, line 9 - line 19; figures 9b,13</p> <p>-----</p>	1-5,10, 11, 13-15, 20,21
X	<p>WO 99/46045 A (MICROPARTS GESELLSCHAFT FUER MIKROSTRUKTURTECHNIK MBH; MERLIN GESELLSC) 16 September 1999 (1999-09-16) page 1, lines 1-4 page 4, line 33 - page 6, line 30 page 17, line 5 - page 20, line 32 page 21, line 33 - page 27, line 20 figures</p> <p>-----</p>	1-5,14, 15,20,21
X	<p>WO 2005/020817 A (INVERNESS MEDICAL SWITZERLAND GMBH; TROKE, JAMES; HOWELL, STEVEN) 10 March 2005 (2005-03-10)</p>	14,15
A	<p>the whole document</p> <p>-----</p>	1,2,20, 21

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/NL2006/050295

Box 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.: 17-19, 22-25
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery
Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by therapy
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 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 fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
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.:

see annex

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- 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: 1-15, 20, 21

a sampling device comprising a body having a channel, an opening and a cover which covers at least partially the channel.

2. claim: 16

A mould or a mask for use in a process for the production of a sampling device.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/NL2006/050295

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