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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: SCREENING METHOD

(57) Abstract: A screening method is disclosed which enables the identification of biologically active agents which mediate their effects through the activation of genes. The method utilises promoter trap, enhancer trap and gene trap constructs, comprising a reporter molecule, which are transfected into cells which are then cloned into a cell array. The cell array is exposed to an agent(s) to be tested and the response of the cell array to the agent monitored. The method enables both the identification of agents and the genes through which the agents act.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Intern Application No  
PCT/GB 02/01946

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
IPC 7 G01N33/50 C12N5/10 C12N15/09 C12N15/12

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)  
IPC 7 G01N C12N

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)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 98 38490 A (BIODX INC ;DUNLAY R TERRY (US); GOUGH ALBERT H (US); GIULIANO KENN) 3 September 1998 (1998-09-03)	1-4, 9-14, 25-27, 29, 30
Y	p. 10, lines 7 - 28, p. 24, line 21 - p. 26, line 15, examples 5, 7, 8, claims 1 - 3, 5	15
Y	WO 01 19855 A (AMERICAN HOME PRODUCTS CORPORATION; BODINE PETER V.) 22 March 2001 (2001-03-22) p. 36, lines 1 - 15	15
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in 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 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

3 June 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

29 SEP 2003

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internal	Application No
	PCT/GB 02/01946

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 01 07891 A (ADAMS TERRI ;CELLOMICS INC (US); KAPUR RAVI (US)) 1 February 2001 (2001-02-01)	1-4, 9-14, 25-27, 29,30
Y	p. 11, lines 15 - 22, p. 79, line 11 - p. 81, line 21, p. 84, line 11 - p. 86, line 15	15
Y	----- BAFICO ANNA ET AL: "Interaction of frizzled related protein (FRP) with Wnt ligands and the frizzled receptor suggests alternative mechanisms for FRP inhibition of Wnt signaling." JOURNAL OF BIOLOGICAL CHEMISTRY, vol. 274, no. 23, 4 June 1999 (1999-06-04), pages 16180-16187, XP002243190 ISSN: 0021-9258 abstract, p. 16181, col. 1, lines 4 - 8, p. 16186, col. 2, last paragraph -----	15
X	WO 97 45730 A (BIODX) 4 December 1997 (1997-12-04)  13, lines 12 - p. 14, line 11, p. 27, line 5 - p. 28, line 6, claims 1 - 8 -----	1-9, 25-27, 29,30

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/GB 02/01946

## Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 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.: 24  
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 II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 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 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.:  
1-19, 25-27, 29, 30 (all partially)

### 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

Continuation of Box I.2

Claims Nos.: 24

Present claim 24 relate to a compound defined in terms of the screening method by which it may be identified, i.e. by generating in a cell based screening method a change in the activity/expression of a reporter molecule.

An attempt is made to define the compound by reference to a result to be achieved. This lack of clarity in the present case is such as to render a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope impossible. Consequently, in the absence of further limitations no the search has been carried out for this claim

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims, or parts of 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.

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PCT/GB	02/01946

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