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(54) Title: ELECTROCOMPETENT CELLS PREPACKAGED FOR ELECTROPORATION

(57) Abstract: Electrocompetent cells are prepackaged in a sterilized cuvette, and the cell contents frozen, such that electroporation can be performed simply by first thawing the cuvette contents, then electrically connecting the cuvette to a power source suitable for electroporation. The cuvette contains, in addition to the cells, a suspending medium, and optionally also a cryoprotectant for the cells. This invention also resides in a process for preparing electroporation cells for use, or alternatively for shipping or transport, comprising forming a suspension of the cells in a suspending medium preferably comprising a cryoprotectant, placing the cell suspension in a sterilized electroporation cuvette, and quickly freezing the cells while in the cuvette. The cells are then stored, and/or shipped or transported under subzero (Celsius) temperatures for subsequent use.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US05/16432

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(8): C12M 1/42(2007.01)

USPC: 435/285.2

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. : 435/285.2

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)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5,186,800 (DOWER) 16 February 1993 (16.02.1993), column 5, lines 6-9, and column 6, line 18, through column 7, line 7.	1-18
Y	US 5,663,048 (WINKFEIN et al) 2 September 1997 (02.09.1997), column 10, line 53, through column 11, line 17.	1-18
E	US 2005/0214946 A1 (BEBEE) 29 September 2005 (29.09.2005), paragraphs 0019, 0034-0036, and 0040-0042.	1-18

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