United States Patent [19]

Eisinger et al.

[54] LATERAL FLOW, NON-BIBULOUS MEMBRANE ASSAY PROTOCOLS

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- [73] Assignee: Quidel, San Diego, Calif.
- [21] Appl. No.: 230,642
- [22] Filed: Aug. 10, 1988

Related U.S. Application Data

- [63] Continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 57,273, Jun. 1, 1987, abandoned, and a continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 57,271, Jun. 1, 1987, abandoned.
- [51] Int. Cl.⁵ G01N 33/53

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[11] Patent Number: 4,943,522

[45] Date of Patent: Jul. 24, 1990

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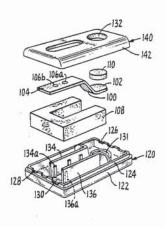
0209378	1/1987	European Pat. Off 430	6/518
8803650	5/1988	World Int. Prop. O 430	6/518

Primary Examiner—Esther M. Kepplinger Assistant Examiner—Carol A. Spiegel Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Irell & Manella

[57] ABSTRACT

A method and apparatus for conducting specific binding pair assays, such as immunoassays, is described. A porous membrane capable of non-bibulous lateral flow is used as assay substrate; a member of the binding pair is affixed in an indicator zone defined in the substrate. The sample is applied at a position distant from the indicator zone and permitted to flow laterally through the zone; any analyte in the sample is complexed by the affixed specific binding member, and detected. A novel method of detection employs entrapment of observable particle in the complex. Blood is a particularly preferred sample as the red blood cells can be used as the observable particles for detection of the complex.

46 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets

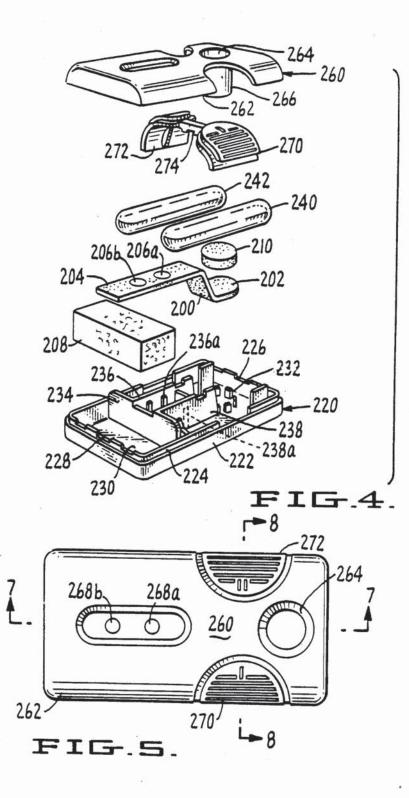


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FIG.3

4,943,522

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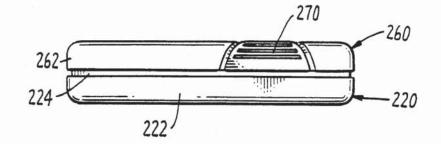


FIG.6.

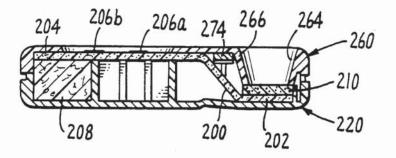


FIG.7.

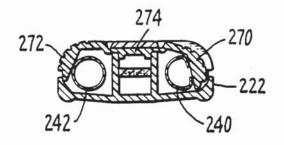


FIG.8.

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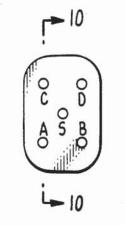


FIG.9

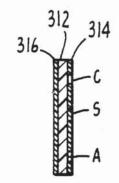


FIG.10.

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