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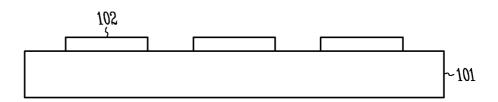
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(57) **Abstract:** A method of creating a metal nanoparticle hydrogel biological array comprises placing a plurality of metal nanopartides in each of a plurality of wells (302) on a substrate (301) and placing a biomolecular probe material into the plurality of wells (302). Hydrogel precursors are placed in each of the plurality of wells (302), and are polymerized to form hydrogel such that the metal nanoparticles are embedded in the hydrogel (303)





INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No PCT/US2008/051423

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER INV. B01J19/00 G01N G01N21/64 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) **BOIJ C12Q GOIN** 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 , WPI Data, COMPENDEX, BIOSIS C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category* Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. X WO 03/031054 A (SURMODICS INC [US]) 1-20 17 April 2003 (2003-04-17) abstract page 2, line 14 - line 29 page 6, line 3 - line 24 page 7, line 29 - page 8, line 12 page 16, line 17 - line 28 claims; figure 1; examples X US 2006/110760 A1 (KIM SU-HYEON [KR] ET 1-20 AL) 25 May 2006 (2006-05-25) abstract paragraph [0011] - paragraph [0019] paragraph [0023] paragraph [0037] - paragraph [0045] paragraph [0051] paragraph [0054]; claims; example 3 -/--X Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex. Special categories of cited documents . 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 'A' document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention ¹E¹ earlier document but published on or aflerthe international 'X¹ document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention citation or other special reason (as specified) cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docun 'O' document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. document published prior to the international filing date but *&* document member of the same patent family later than the priority date claimed Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 23 June 2008 17/07/2008 Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Authorized officer 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 Nazario, Lui s

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