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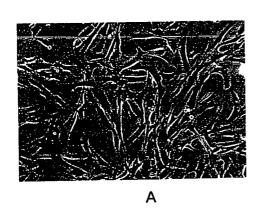
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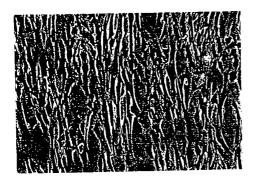
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(54) Title: APPLICATION OF SHEAR FLOW STRESS TO SMOOTH MUSCLE CELLS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF IMPLANTABLE STRUCTURES



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to methods for the growth of smooth muscle cells in culture for the production of tissue-engineered grafts or other implantable replacement structures. More specifically, the invention relates to the application of shear flow stress to smooth muscle cells in culture, wherein the cells align perpendicular to the direction of flow, thus more closely approximating the orientation of the cells *in vivo*. The resulting cultures and methods are useful for the production of improved vascular grafts, vessels and other implantable structures for the correction of defects or abnormal tissues in the body.







(AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 C12N5/08 C12N C12N5/06 C12N5/22 C12N15/63 C12N5/16 C12M3/00 C12N11/02 C12N11/16 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) C12N C12M IPC 7 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Ejectronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, BIOSIS, EMBASE C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Category ' Relevant to claim No. ZIEGLER, T. ET AL.: "Co-culture of X 1-3,25endothelial cells and smooth muscle cells in a flow environment: an improved culture model of the vascular wall?" CELLS AND MATERIALS, vol. 5, no. 2, 1995, pages 115-124, XP000864797 cited in the application Υ abstract 21,29 page 117, column 1, line 16 -page 119, column 1, line 24 page 124, column 2, line 33 - line 35 WO 95 25547 A (UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON) Υ 21,29 28 September 1995 (1995-09-28) abstract page 3, line 27 -page 5, line 13 page 20; claim 1 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. ΧI X Patent family members are listed in 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 "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention filing date cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to "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) 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. "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 27 July 2000 21/08/2000 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 ni, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 Fuchs, U

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Int tional Application No PCT/US 99/29257

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT						
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Information on patent family members

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