

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention relates to *in vitro*-methods of expanding a population of cells such as lymphocytes, comprising contacting a sample comprising a population of cells with a
5 multimerization reagent. The multimerization reagent has reversibly immobilized thereon (bound thereto) a first agent that provides a primary activation signal to the cells and optionally, a second agent that provides a co-stimulatory signal. The invention also provides multimerization reagents, kits, arrangements and an apparatus for expanding cells.

10 (NO SUITABLE FIGURE)