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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **JOHNS HOPKINS SINGAPORE PTE LTD** [SG/SG]; 41 Science Park Road, #03-18 The Gemini, Singapore Science Park II, Singapore 117610 (SG).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **MAO, Hai-Quan** [CN/US]; 6505 Copper Ridge Drive, Apt. 101, Baltimore, MD 21209 (US). **YIN, Chao** [CN/CN]; Key Laboratory of

Biomedical Polymer Materials of, the Ministry of Education, Department of Chemistry, Wuhan University, Wuhan, Hubei Province 430072 (CN). **ZHUO, Ren-Xi** [CN/CN]; #6 North 3 District, Apt. 301, Wuhan University, Luojia Hill Wuchang, Wuhan, Hubei Province 430072 (CN). **LEONG, Kam, W.** [US/US]; 10242 Breconshire Road, Ellicott City, MD 21042 (US).

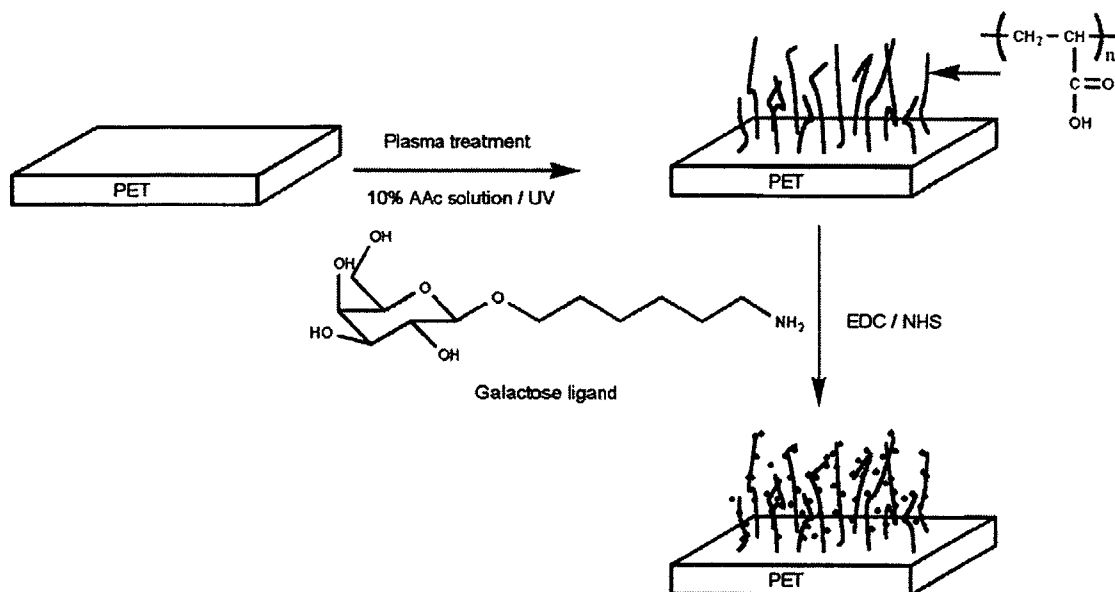
(74) Agent: **NAMAZIE, Mirza, Khaleel**; c/o Tan Rajah & Cheah, 9 Battery Road #15-00, Straits Trading Building, Singapore 049910 (SG).

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(54) Title: METHOD OF IMMOBILIZATION OF CLUSTERS OF LIGANDS ON POLYMER SURFACE AND USE IN CELL ENGINEERING



(57) Abstract: The present invention describes a method to immobilize high density of cell-specific ligands on polymeric surface for cell engineering applications. This method combines a surface-grafting polymerization procedure to yield high density of functional groups, and a chemical conjugation step to link cell-specific ligands to the surface functional groups. This surface functionalization scheme can be applied to polymeric materials in various forms, such as polymer membrane, film, fiber, hollow fiber, foam, etc. Tissue-engineering scaffolds can be functionalized with cell specific ligand in the same manner.



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