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(71) Applicant *(for all designated States except US)*: **NORCHIP A/S** [NO/NO]; Industriveien 8, N-3490 Klokkarstua (NO).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants *(for US only)*: **KARLSEN, Frank** [NO/NO]; c/o Norchip A/S, Industriveien 8, N-3490 Klokkarstua (NO). **WHITE, Nina, Louise** [GB/GB]; c/o Boult Wade Tennant, Verulam Gardens, 70 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8BT (GB).

(74) Agents: **WHITE, Nina, Louise** et al.; Boult Wade Tennant, Verulam Gardens, 70 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8BT (GB).

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(54) Title: DETECTION OF HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to *in vitro* methods of screening human subjects for the presence of human papillomavirus (HPV) which exhibits loss of regulation of E6/E7 mRNA expression and loss of replication and/or expression of a stabilized pre-mRNA encoding full length E6 protein. In particular, the invention provides *in vitro* methods of screening for persistent cell abnormalities or persistent CIN III lesions, cancer in situ or high-grade squamous intraepithelial lesions (HSIL). The methods are useful in the context of cervical cancer screening.

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