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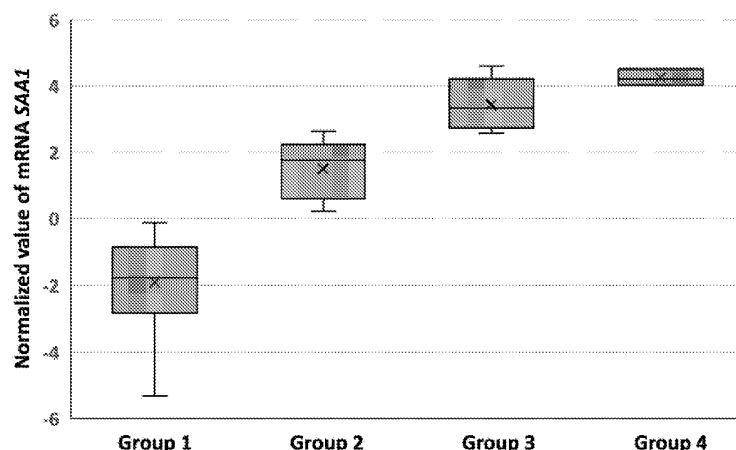
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(54) Title: METHOD FOR PREDICTING A SEVERITY OF AN INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND BIOMARKER FOR USE IN CARRYING OUT THE METHOD AND MONITORING A THERAPY OF AN INFECTIOUS DISEASE

[Fig. 1]



(57) Abstract: Method for predicting a severity of an infectious disease and biomarker for use in carrying out the method and monitoring a therapy of an infectious disease using an RT-qPCR method, while the method is being performed on a nasopharyngeal swab sample determining the amount of serum amyloid A mRNA, preferably SAA1, and the amount of serum amyloid A mRNA is normalized to the amount of mRNA of a constitutively expressed gene, which is preferably UBC. Based on the determined normalized value of the amount of SAA1 mRNA in the sample, the severity of the course of an infectious disease, which may be of viral, bacterial, or fungal origin, is predicted, and the effectiveness of a therapy of the given disease is further monitored.

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