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(54) Title: SALIVA COLLECTION APPARATUS AND METHOD

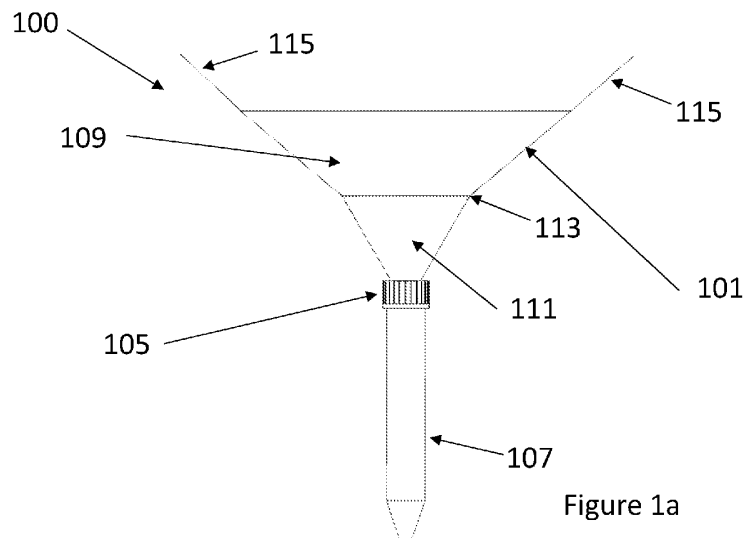


Figure 1a

(57) Abstract: An apparatus for collecting a saliva sample is described herein. In a described embodiment, the apparatus comprises a filter; and a pressure generator operable to generate pressure to cause the saliva sample to be transferred through the filter, the filter being configured to reduce a viscosity of the saliva sample as the saliva sample is transferred through the filter. A method collecting a saliva sample from a user is also described, among other aspects. In a preferred embodiment, the pressure generator can be a compressible funnel to generate pressure to cause the saliva to be transferred through the filter. Alternative embodiments of the pressure generator include a plunger operable to generate positive and/or negative pressure or a suction device operable to generate draw air out of a collection vessel.

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