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Abstract of the Disclosure

A method of decreasing the NMR relaxation times (T_1 or T_2) of water protons in contact with a biological tissue, the method involving administering to a human patient an NMR contrast agent comprising a paramagnetic ion complexed with a chelating substance, the contrast agent being characterized in that it is capable of binding non-covalently and non-immunologically to a component of the tissue, and as a result of such binding is capable of enhancing relaxivity of the water protons by a factor of at least 2, compared to the relaxivity induced by the paramagnetic substance alone free in solution, and subjecting the patient to NMR imaging.

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22 FEB 1996