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(54) **Title:** METHODS FOR THE GENERATION OF HEPATOCYTE-LIKE CELLS FROM HUMAN BLASTOCYST-DERIVED STEM (hBs)

(57) **Abstract:** The present invention relates to methods for obtaining endodermal progenitor cells and further differentiating these to hepatocyte-like cells. Knowledge about the cell composition prior to the initiation of terminal differentiation is used to select one of two different protocols and one of two type of intermediate progenitors depending on the purpose for which the resulting hepatocyte-like cells are needed. Protocol A of the present invention relates to differentiation of extraembryonic-resembling endodermal progenitor cells to hepatocyte-like cells and may be selected when yield and purity of the obtained hepatocyte-like cells is important. Protocol B of the present invention relates to differentiation of mesendodermal-resembling progenitor cells to hepatocyte-like cells and may be selected when quality of the obtained hepatocyte-like cells is important.

WO 2006/034873 A1