(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
14 October 2004 (14.10.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/086945 A3

(51) International Patent Classification[7]: A61K 38/00, C07K 14/00, C12N 9/02, 9/22, 11/04, C12Q 1/68, G01N 33/53, 33/563, 33/559, 33/544

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2004/009437

(22) International Filing Date: 26 March 2004 (26.03.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
10/404,879 31 March 2003 (31.03.2003) US

(71) Applicant *(for all designated States except US)*: **CYTYC CORPORATION** [US/US]; 85 Swanson Road, Boxborough, MA 01719 (US).

(72) Inventors; and
(75) Inventors/Applicants *(for US only)*: **LAPEN, Daniel** [US/US]; P.O. Box 11, Lancaster, MA 01523 (US). **SOULE, Norman** [US/US]; 380 Hillberg, Brockton, MA 02301 (US). **LIM, Somthouk** [US/US]; 10 Michaud Drive, Framingham, MA 01701 (US).

(74) Agent: **BURSE, David, T.**; Bingham McCutchen LLP, Three Embarcadero Center, Suite 1800, San Francisco, CA 94111-4067 (US).

(81) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available)*: ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:
— *with international search report*
— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
26 May 2005

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: PAPANICOLAU STAINING PROCESS

(57) Abstract: A method for treating a biological sample with a Papanicolaou staining process is provided. The method comprises incorporating a detergent treatment into the staining process at any of various steps. The method has been found to advantageously reduce the number of artifacts produced during Papanicolaou staining. Also provided is a sample stained by such a process.

WO 2004/086945 A3