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(54) **Title:** ENRICHMENT AND IDENTIFICATION OF FETAL CELLS IN MATERNAL BLOOD AND LIGANDS FOR
SUCH USE

(57) **Abstract:** The present invention relates to enrichment and/or identification of fetal cells of a maternal blood sample using fe-
tal cell specific ligands and/or fetal cell specific hybridization probes wherein the ligand or probes are directed to an endothelial/
mesenchymal marker, e.g. CD105, CD146 or CD141, in a first round of enrichment and the ligand or probes, in a second round of
enrichment, are directed to an epithelial marker, e.g. a cytokeratin, such as CK7, CK8, CK18 or CK19. Enriched or identified fetal
cells may be subjected to steps of detection or diagnosis, wherefore the present invention enables non- invasive 5 prenatal diag-
nostics.

