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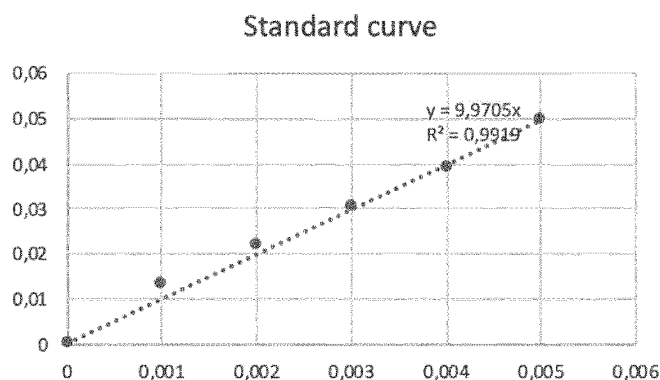


Figure 1

(57) Abstract: The present invention is directed to a method for the determination of the hyaluronic acid content of a hydrogel, the method comprising the following steps: a) preparing, as reagent A, a solution of sodium tetraborate in sulfuric acid; b) preparing reagent B by dissolving carbazole in ethanol; c) preparing test solutions by dissolving the hydrogel in an aqueous solution; d) treating the test solution with ultrasounds for a period of time sufficient to obtain a macroscopically homogeneous solution; e) preparing a reference stock solution by dissolving glucuronic acid, or a glucuronic acid-containing substance in an aqueous solution; f) preparing at least 3 reference solutions by dilution of the reference stock solution in aqueous solution, preferably at concentration comprised between 0.0005% w/v and 0.0100% w/v, preferably between 0.0010 % w/v and 0.0050 % w/v; g) preparing the test tubes by admixing reagent A, reagent B and one of the following: reference solution, test solution, aqueous solution (blank), and optionally solution for interference (crosslinker sample or additive sample); placing each test tube on a water bath for at least 5 min, then cool them to room temperature; h) reading the absorbance at a wavelength comprised between 500 and 580 nm, preferably at about 530 nm, against the blank and optionally the sample for interference.

[Continued on next page]

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