



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : G01N 33/573, 33/68, 33/569, 33/80		A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 98/40746
			(43) International Publication Date: 17 September 1998 (17.09.98)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/GB98/00656 (22) International Filing Date: 3 March 1998 (03.03.98) (30) Priority Data: 9704876.3 ✓ 8 March 1997 (08.03.97) ✓ GB 60/067,520 ✓ 4 December 1997 (04.12.97) ✓ US (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): THE UNIVERSITY OF DUNDEE [GB/GB]; 11 Perth Road, Dundee DD1 4HN (GB). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): BURCHELL, Ann [GB/GB]; University of Dundee, Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Ninewells Hospital and Medical School, Dundee DD1 9SY (GB). HUME, Robert [GB/GB]; University of Dundee, Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Ninewells Hospital and Medical School, Dundee DD1 9SY (GB). (74) Agent: BASSETT, Richard; Eric Potter Clarkson, Park View House, 58 The Ropewalk, Nottingham NG1 5DD (GB).		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, GM, GW, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published With international search report.	

(54) Title: PRENATAL DIAGNOSTIC METHODS

(57) Abstract

A method of identifying embryonic or fetal red blood cells in a sample containing maternal blood cells and embryonic or fetal red blood cells or both, the method comprising determining which cell or cells contain or express an adult liver component. A method of isolating embryonic or fetal red blood cells from a sample containing maternal blood cells and embryonic or fetal red blood cells or both, the method comprising isolating the cells which contain or express an adult liver component. A method of determining a fetal abnormality the method comprising identifying or isolating embryonic or fetal cells according to the above methods and analysing said embryonic or early fetal cells for said abnormality. Use of a means for determining whether a cell contains or expresses an adult liver component for identifying or isolating an embryonic or fetal red blood cell.

