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(54) Title: NUCLEIC ACID EXTRACTION

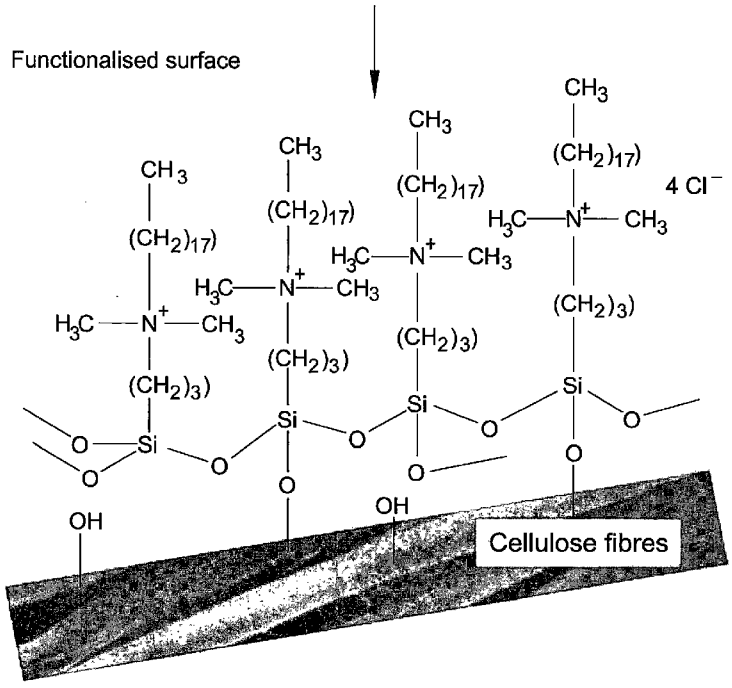


Fig.2

(57) Abstract: A method and device for extracting nucleic acids from a biological sample is described. The device includes a substrate, such as a cellulose filter, functionalised with a biocidal agent having multiple functional groups including a binding moiety, which is involved in binding the agent to the substrate; a hydrophobic moiety; and a charged moiety. The various functional groups serve to bind the agent to the substrate, weaken or lyse the cell wall or membrane of the sample, and retain nucleic acids on the substrate. A preferred biocidal agent is a silylated quaternary ammonium compound (SiQAC), for example 3-(trimethoxysilyl) propyldimethyloctadecyl ammonium chloride.

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