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(71) Applicant *(for all designated States except US)*: **ZILA, INC.** [US/US]; 5227 North Seventh Street, Phoenix, AZ 85014-2800 (US).

(72) Inventors; and
(75) Inventors/Applicants *(for US only)*: **BERNAL, Samuel, D.** [US/US]; 20000 Calvert Street, Woodland Hills, CA 91367 (US). **BURKETT, Douglas, D.** [US/US]; 4736 E. Euclid, Phoenix, AZ 85044 (US). **GREEN, Ralph, E.** [US/US]; 9295 E. Karen Drive, Scottsdale, AZ 85260 (US). **ROSE, Seth, D.** [US/US]; 613 E. Balboa Drive, Tempe, AZ 85282 (US).

(74) Agent: **DRUMMOND, William, H.**; Drummond & Duckworth, Suite 500, 4590 MacArthur Boulevard, Newport Beach, CA 92660 (US).

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(54) Title: METHOD FOR DETECTING AND KILLING EPITHELIAL CANCER CELLS

(57) Abstract: A diagnostic method for detecting cancerous epithelial cells by selectively marking the mitochondria of the cancer cells, by delivering to the epithelium a cationic supravital mitochondrial marking agent. Selective killing of cancerous epithelial cells in the presence of normal cells is effected by delivering a cationic supravital mitochondrial marking agent to epithelial cancer cells. The killing agent can also comprise the reaction product of the marking agent and a cancer chemotherapeutic drug or in admixture with drug.