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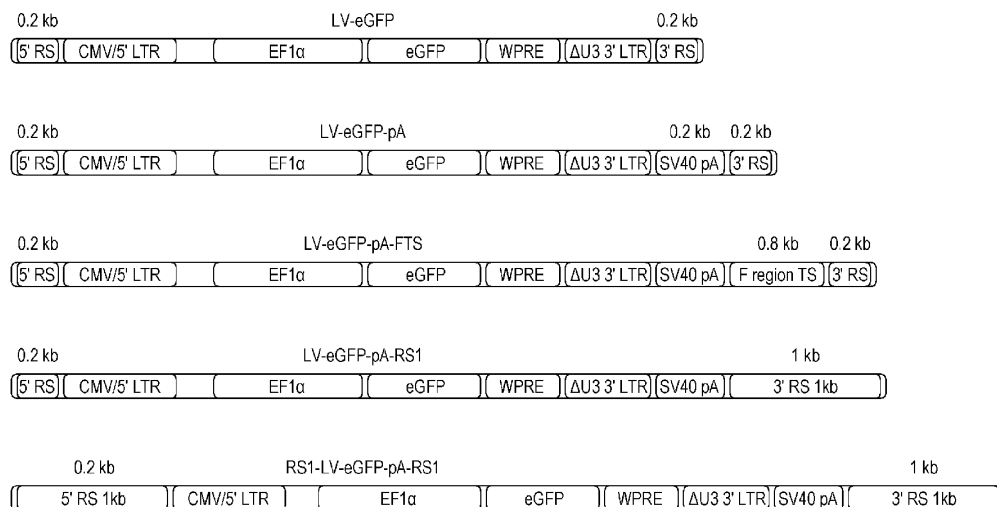


FIG. 5

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a novel closed linear DNA vector, which is suitable for use in the production of lentiviral particles. Notably, the present invention relates to a new configuration of the vector including the transgene (often termed the "payload" vector), which enables a greater yield of infectious lentiviral particles, notably a greater yield of lentiviral particles carrying a transgene, to be prepared when compared to closed linear DNA vectors lacking this configuration. Further, the inventors have developed improvements in lentiviral production with closed linear DNA, through optimisation of vector input quantities and construct ratios. The invention furthermore relates to a method of generating infectious lentiviral particles using the construct, optionally in conjunction with improved production vectors and/or optimised methodology.

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