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(54) Title: A METHOD OF MONITORING THE HEALTH OF A SUBJECT

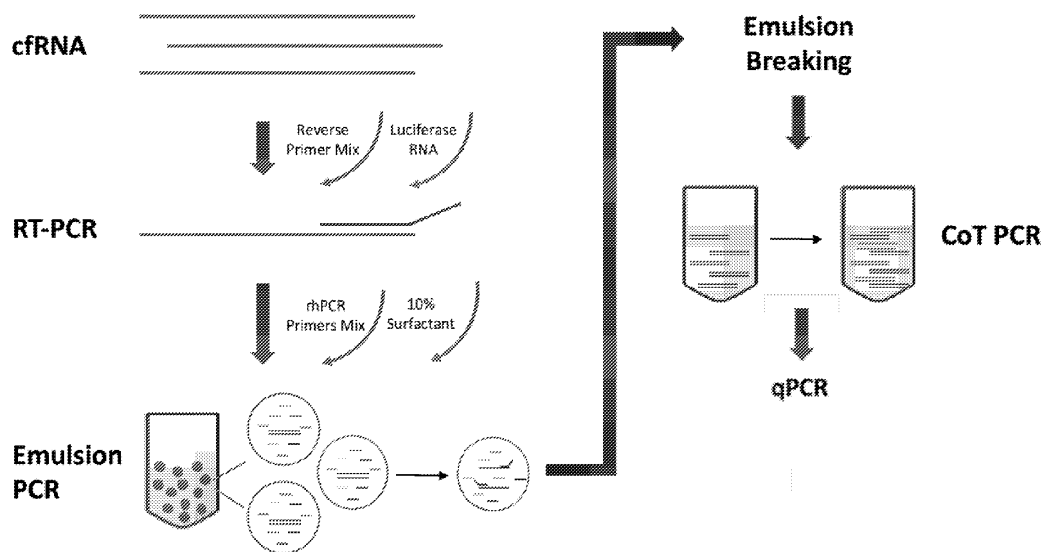


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: This disclosure relates to a method of assessing/monitoring the health of a subject, the method comprising subjecting a pancreas-associated polynucleotide to one or more amplification step in the presence of a mixture comprising a control nucleic acid, a surfactant and an oligonucleotide primer and/or probe capable of hybridizing with the target nucleic acid, wherein the oligonucleotide primer and/or probe comprises a cleavage site and a cleavable 3' end. In one embodiment, the pancreas-associated polynucleotide is cell-free RNA and the method comprises annealing the target nucleic acid and performing a reverse transcription prior to the one or more amplification step. Also disclosed are primer and/or primer sets as disclosed herein and kits for use thereof.

[Continued on next page]

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