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(54) **Polymer backbone element tags**

(57) Element tags based on novel metal-polymer conjugates are provided for elemental analysis of analytes, including ICP-MS. A polymer backbone is functionalized to irreversibly bind metals that are selected prior to use by the user. The polymer is further functionalized to attach a linker which allows for attachment to antibodies or other affinity reagents. The polymer format allows attachment of many copies of a given isotope, which lin-

early improves sensitivity. The metal-polymer conjugate tags enable multiplexed assay in two formats : bulk assay, where the average biomarker distribution in the sample is diagnostic, and single cell format to distinguish a rare (for example a diseased) cell in a complex sample (for example, blood).

EP 2 444 804 A3



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
A,D	BARANOV V I ET AL: "A SENSITIVE AND QUANTITATIVE ELEMENT-TAGGED IMMUNOASSAY WITH ICPMS DETECTION", ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY, AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY, US, vol. 74, no. 7, 1 April 2002 (2002-04-01), pages 1629-1636, XP001115851, ISSN: 0003-2700, DOI: 10.1021/AC0110350 * EXPERIMENTAL SECTION */RESULTS AND DISCUSSION *; page 1630, left-hand column - page 1635, right-hand column -----	1-15	INV. G01N33/53 C08F8/42 C08F220/36
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 13 March 2014	Examiner Hutton, David
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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摘要(译)

基于新型金属 - 聚合物缀合物的元件标签被提供用于分析物的元素分析，包括ICP-MS。聚合物主链被官能化以不可逆地结合在使用者使用之前选择的金属。进一步官能化聚合物以连接接头，该接头允许连接抗体或其他亲和试剂。聚合物形式允许附着给定同位素的许多拷贝，其线性地改善灵敏度。金属 - 聚合物缀合物标签能够以两种形式进行多重测定：批量测定，其中样品中的平均生物标记物分布是诊断性的，以及单细胞形式以区分复杂样品中的稀有（例如患病）细胞（例如，血液）。



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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims					
1	Name of inventor Nurlich	Date of completion of the search 13 March 2014	Name of applicant Hutton, David		
<table border="0"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS C prior art document relevant to the invention D document of the applicant or another applicant or of a person to whom the application is filed A non-patent literature document E non-written document F electronic document </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> 1 theory or principle underlying the invention 2 prior art document, book, publication, or other technical source 3 document cited in the application 4 document cited to the examiner 5 member of the same patent family, corresponding document </td> </tr> </table>				CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS C prior art document relevant to the invention D document of the applicant or another applicant or of a person to whom the application is filed A non-patent literature document E non-written document F electronic document	1 theory or principle underlying the invention 2 prior art document, book, publication, or other technical source 3 document cited in the application 4 document cited to the examiner 5 member of the same patent family, corresponding document
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS C prior art document relevant to the invention D document of the applicant or another applicant or of a person to whom the application is filed A non-patent literature document E non-written document F electronic document	1 theory or principle underlying the invention 2 prior art document, book, publication, or other technical source 3 document cited in the application 4 document cited to the examiner 5 member of the same patent family, corresponding document				