

11-12-1998



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ER SHEET

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REF. 13738

To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks: Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party(ies): MRD
11-5-98

F. HOFFMANN-LA ROCHE AG

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):

Name: ROCHE VITAMINS INC.

Internal Address: _____

Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? ___ Yes X No

3. Nature of conveyance:

X Assignment ___ Merger

___ Security Agreement ___ Change of Name

___ Other _____

Street Address: 45 WATERVIEW BLVD.

City: PARSIPPANY State: NJ Zip: 07054

Execution Date: OCTOBER 29, 1998

Additional name(s) & address(es) attached: ___ Yes X No

4. Application number(s) or patent number(s):

If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is:

A. Patent Application No.(s) B. Patent No.(s)

USSN: 09/136,251 FILED: AUGUST 19, 1998

Additional numbers attached? ___ Yes X No

11/10/1998 SBURNS 00000064 002525 09136251
01 FC:581 40.00 CH

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:

Name: GEORGE W. JOHNSTON

Internal Address:

HOFFMANN-LA ROCHE INC.

PATENT LAW DEPARTMENT

Street address: 340 KINGSLAND STREET

City: NUTLEY State: NJ Zip: 07110

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: ONE

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41).....\$ 40.00

Authorized to be charged to deposit account

Authorized any deficiencies to be charged to deposit account

8. Deposit account number:

08-2525

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9. Statement and signature.

To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document.

CATHERINE ROSEMAN SMITH
Name of Person Signing


Signature

November 3, 1998
Date

CONTACT: Lou Ann Donatoni
TELEPHONE: (973) 235-4389
FAX: (973) 235-2363

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments and document: 3

Assignment

We,

F.HOFFMANN-LA ROCHE AG (Assignor), a Swiss Company
of 124 Grenzacherstrasse, CH-4070 Basle (Switzerland)

hereby assign to

ROCHE VITAMINS INC. (Assignee)

a corporation organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Delaware,
and having its principal place of business at 43 Waterview Blvd., Parsipanny, New Jersey,
U.S.A.,

all of our right, title and interest within the United States of America and its territorial
possessions in and to the invention described and claimed in a patent application entitled

D-SORBITOL DEHYDROGENASE GENE

which is about to be filed in the U.S. Patent Office in the name(s) of the inventor(s)

Tatsuo **Hoshino**, Setsuko **Ojima**, Masako **Shinjo**, Noribumi **Tomiya**,
Taro **Miyazaki**

and in respect of which a declaration and Power of Attorney was executed on:

August 6 and 10, 1998

and in and to said patent application and Letters Patent that may issue thereon.

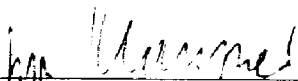
Said U.S. Patent Application is based upon the following foreign application(s):

In Europe on August 21, 1997 under No. 97114432.4

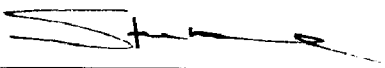
and was assigned to F.HOFFMANN-LA ROCHE AG, Basle, Switzerland, by the said
inventor(s) by an assignment dated October 22, 1998.

Basle, Switzerland, this 29th day of October 1998.

F.HOFFMANN-LA ROCHE AG



Fridolin Klausner
Holder of procuration



Denise Strebelle
Mandatory

ON 11/05/98
FILED