

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, Novartis Corporation, a corporation of New York, whose principal place of business is 608 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10020, is the owner of the entire right, title and interest in:

(1) U.S. Patent 5,250,263 entitled APPARATUS FOR PROCESSING OR PREPARING LIQUID SAMPLES FOR CHEMICAL ANALYSIS, issued October 5, 1993 based on an application filed on behalf of Andreas Manz as inventor, as evidenced by an Assignment from the inventor to Ciba-Geigy Corporation recorded June 25, 1993 in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at Reel 6581, Frames 485-486, and a Change of Name from Ciba-Geigy Corporation to Novartis Corporation recorded May 11, 1998 in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at Reel 9168, Frames 672-674,

(2) U.S. Patent 5,296,114 entitled ELECTROPHORETIC SEPARATING DEVICE AND ELECTROPHORETIC SEPARATING METHOD, issued March 22, 1994 based on an application filed on behalf of Andreas Manz as inventor, as evidenced by an Assignment from the inventor to Ciba-Geigy Corporation recorded July 6, 1993 in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at Reel 6587, Frames 918-920, and the aforesaid Change of Name,

(3) U.S. Patent 5,636,017 entitled OPTICAL DETECTION ARRANGEMENT FOR SMALL VOLUME CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF FLUID SAMPLES, issued June 3, 1997 based on an application filed on behalf of Alfredo E. Bruno, Beat Krattiger, Carlo S. Effenhauser, Francois Maystre and Philippe Nussbaum as inventors, as evidenced by an Assignment from the inventors to Ciba-Geigy Corporation recorded November 12, 1996 in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at Reel 8217, Frames 470-471, and the aforesaid Change of Name,

(4) U.S. Patent 5,741,639 entitled DEVICE AND METHOD FOR COMBINED BIOAFFINITY ASSAY AND ELECTROPHORETIC SEPARATION OF MULTIPLE ANALYTES issued April 21, 1998 based on an application filed on behalf of Kees Ensing, Peter Oroszlan, Aran Paulus and Carlo S. Effenhauser as inventors, as evidenced by an Assignment from the inventors to Ciba-Geigy Corporation recorded November 4, 1996 in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at Reel 8210, Frames 881-882, and the aforesaid Change of Name, and

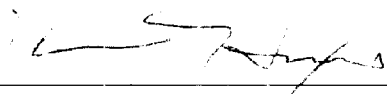
(5) U.S. Patent Application No. 08/226,605 entitled METHOD FOR CONTROLLING SAMPLE INTRODUCTION IN MICROCOLUMN SEPARATION TECHNIQUES AND

SAMPLING DEVICE, filed April 12, 1994 on behalf of Andreas Manz, D. Jed Harrison and Carlo S. Effenhauser as inventors, as evidenced by an Assignment from the inventors to Ciba-Geigy Corporation recorded October 28, 1996 in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at Reel 8196, Frames 621-623, and the aforesaid Change of Name;

WHEREAS, Zeptosens AG of Benkenstrasse 254, CH-4108 Witterswil, Switzerland is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in all of the aforesaid U.S. patents and the aforesaid U.S. patent application:

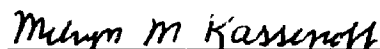
NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the sum of one dollar (\$1.00) and other good and valuable consideration paid by Zeptosens AG to Novartis Corporation, of which receipt is hereby acknowledged, Novartis Corporation, by its undersigned duly authorized representative, hereby does sell and assign its entire right, title and interest in (a) U.S. Patents 5,250,263, 5,296,114, 5,636,017 and 5,741,639, and U.S. Patent Application No. 08/226,605, (b) any and all continuations and divisions of said application (including further continuations and divisions such as, but not limited to, continuations and divisions of continuations), (c) any and all patents that may be issued and/or granted on all of said applications, (d) any and all applications for reissues of all of said patents, (e) any and all reissues of all of said patents that may be issued and/or granted, (f) any and all applications for extensions of all of said patents (including reissue patents) and for reexamination certificates for all of said patents (including reissue patents) and (g) any and all extensions of all of said patents (including reissue patents) that may be issued and/or granted and reexamination certificates that may be issued for all of said patents (including reissue patents), to Zeptosens AG, its successors and assigns, including the right to sue for past infringement.

Signed this 5th day of September 2000 for Novartis Corporation.



Thomas Hoxie
Vice-President

Witnesses:


Melvyn M. Kassenoff
Kathleen M. Zuther