

Detecting Heparin Induced Thrombocytopenia

Published date: Aug. 20, 2012

Technology description

Heparin induced thrombocytopenia (HIT) and thrombosis is a serious side effect of heparin therapy cause by antibodies that recognize complexes consisting of heparin and platelet factor four (PF4), a platelet alpha granule protein. These patents cover detection of HIT antibodies using 1) complexes made up of PF4 and polyvinyl sulfonate (a linear polyanion) and 2) PF4 complexed with heparin immobilized linked covalently at its reducing end to a solid phase. Foreign country applications currently in prosecution. Heparin is given to millions of patients annually. About 5% are at risk for HIT. Any patient receiving heparin who develops unexplained thrombocytopenia should be tested for antibody.

Application area

Diagnosing heparin-induced thrombocytopenia.

Advantages

Improved stability of the targets complexes and better preservation of target epitopes.

Institution

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