

[54] TRANSPARENT NON-FIBRILIZED  
COLLAGEN MATERIAL BY  
ULTRACENTRIFUGATION

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[57] ABSTRACT

A transparent native, non-fibrilized collagen material is described having an absorbance at a wavelength of 900 nm of less than 5% in a sample 5 mm thick. This collagen material is useful for a prosthetic replacement of the cornea because of the high transparency and because it is a native material, and thus less susceptible to immunogenic responses. A method for forming the native, non-fibrilized, highly transparent collagen material comprises ultracentrifuging a purified solution of native collagen to form a pellet of transparent collagen material, and fixing the pellet of collagen material to form a rigid, leather-like material. The collagen material can also be used for prosthetic replacement of other bodily tissues, such as nucleus pulposus, cartilage, and vitreous body.

6 Claims, 1 Drawing Figure