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# United States Patent [19]

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Wells

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[54] **IMMUNOBEAD ASPIRATOR AND METHOD OF USE**

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

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The immunobead aspirator reduces the amount of carry over liquid which remains within a test tube or other immunoassay vessel after an aspiration procedure. When the immunobead aspirator lifts up the immunobead during the aspiration procedure, the immunobead contacts an array of protuberances within an inverted bowl from which a vacuum is drawn. The array of protuberances define a hollow which exceeds the size of the immunobead. Accordingly, at any given time, the immunobead makes limited contact with only a portion of the protuberances. This reduces the amount of liquid which is trapped within points of contact between the lifted immunobead and the aspiration device and reduces the amount of carry over liquid.

[51] Int. Cl.<sup>5</sup> ..... **G01N 1/14**

[52] U.S. Cl. .... **436/180; 422/99; 422/100; 435/287**

[58] Field of Search ..... 435/291, 288, 7.1, 287; 436/180; 422/100, 63, 99; 134/21, 22.1, 25.4, 102, 182; 15/302; 73/863.21, 864, 864.01, 864.11

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**5 Claims, 1 Drawing Sheet**

