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(54) **PRACTICAL SEROLOGICAL ASSAY FOR THE CLINICAL DIAGNOSIS OF LEISHMANIASIS**

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C12Q 1/69	(2006.01)
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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Methods for the diagnosis of visceral, cutaneous and canine leishmaniasis in a subject suspected of being infected with the parasitic protozoa *Leishmania* is disclosed. Disclosed are antibody-capture enzyme-linked immunosorbent assays (ELISAs) for the detection of antibodies to *Leishmania* parasite soluble antigens and antigen-capture ELISAs for the detection of *Leishmania* parasite soluble antigens in host samples. Also disclosed are immunodiagnostic kits for the detection of *Leishmania* parasite circulating antigens or IgM and IgG antibodies in a sample from subject having visceral, cutaneous or canine leishmaniasis. In these methods and kits, detection may be done photometrically or visually. The methods and kits also allow the visualization of *Leishmania* amastigotes or promastigotes in a sample.

20 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets