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[54] **PREPARATION OF DIAGNOSTIC TEST STRIPS CONTAINING TETRAZOLIUM SALT INDICATORS**

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

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Disclosed is an improved procedure for the manufacture of a diagnostic test device comprising a matrix having uniformly dispersed a tetrazolium salt and a reagent system designed to convert the tetrazolium to its colored formazan upon contacting the matrix with a fluid containing an analyte whose presence and/or concentration is being sought. The procedure involves applying the tetrazolium salt to the matrix from its solution in an organic solvent and, after drying, applying the reagent system to the matrix from its aqueous solution to which has been added hexanesulfonate as wetting agent.

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[51] **Int. Cl.⁵** G01N 21/00

[52] **U.S. Cl.** 422/56; 422/58; 436/166

[58] **Field of Search** 422/56, 58, 61; 436/164, 166

[56] **References Cited**

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17 Claims, 2 Drawing Sheets