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(54) Methods and materials for cleaning soft contact lenses.

(57) A cleaning solution for soft contact lenses is described. The solution differs from previously known solutions in that it includes a lipolytic enzyme together with a buffering substance, such as a phosphate. The cleaning solution removes any lipids present on the surface of the lens by splitting them into fatty acids and esters for removal by subsequent rinsing and, optionally, boiling in physiological saline solution.

A supplementary cleaning solution comprises, in addition to the lipolytic enzyme, a proteolytic enzyme, such as papain or bromelain, such solution providing for complete removal of all deposits from the surface of the lens. The solution of the invention is preferably hypertonic and it is applied either by using a droplet technique or by introducing the lens fully into the solution.

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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.?)
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.?)
X	<p>CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS, vol. 83, no. 14, published on October 6, 1975. abstract 120913k Columbus, Ohio, USA</p> <p>Y. MIZUTANI et al. "Soft contact lens cleaners containing protein-decomposing enzymes". page 439, column 2.</p> <p>& JP - A - 75 64303 (NIHON CONTACT LENS SEIZO K.K) published on May 31, 1975.</p> <p>---</p>	1,4-12, 14-21	C 11 D 7/42 G 02 C 7/04 7/02
P	<p><u>US - A - 4 096 870</u> (J.A. MANFUSO)</p> <p>* Column 4, lines 2-3; column 6, claims *</p> <p>---</p>	1,4- 12,14- 21	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.)
A	<u>US - A - 3 910 296</u> (H.L. KARAGEO-ZIAN)	4,5	C 11 D 7/42
A	<u>US - A - 3 855 142</u> (M. PADER)	1-3	

			CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS
			<p>X: particularly relevant A: technological background O: non-written disclosure P: intermediate document T: theory or principle underlying the invention E: conflicting application D: document cited in the application L: citation for other reasons</p>
			&: member of the same patent family, corresponding document
<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</p>			
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
The Hague	02-08-1979	PELTRE	