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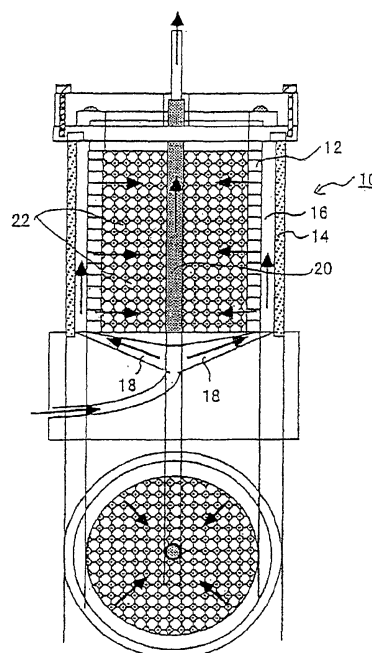
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(54) **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROLIFERATING HEPATITIS VIRUS**

(57) A method for proliferating a hepatitis virus such as HCV and an apparatus therefor. A method of proliferating cells (for example, hepatocytes), which are less adhesive to a carrier, in a large amount over a long time. More particularly, the above method comprises infecting hepatocytes, which are maintained in a radial flow type hepatocyte bioreactor consisting of a main bioreactor unit containing the hepatocytes carried on a particulate porous carrier and a liquid culture medium flown from the periphery of the main bioreactor unit toward the center thereof, with a hepatitis virus; continuously flowing the liquid culture medium from the periphery of the main bioreactor unit toward the center thereof; and thus proliferating the hepatitis virus in the hepatocytes thus infected.

FIG. 1



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