

# Exhibit 4

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**O'Brien et al.**

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(54) **PREPARATION OF NANOPARTICLE MATERIALS**

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(58) **Field of Classification Search**

None  
See application file for complete search history.

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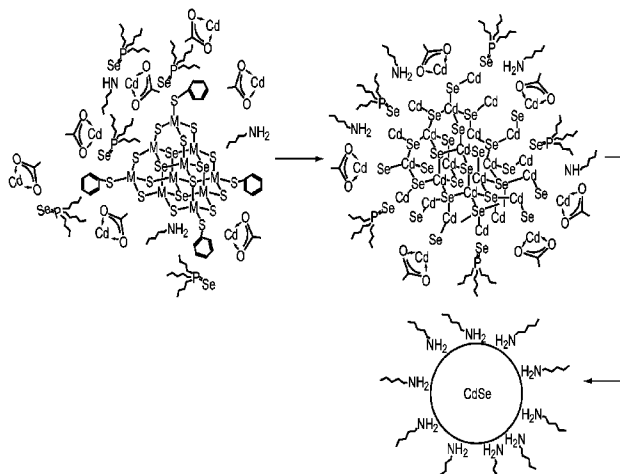
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A method of producing nanoparticles comprises effecting conversion of a nanoparticle precursor composition to the material of the nanoparticles. The precursor composition comprises a first precursor species containing a first ion to be incorporated into the growing nanoparticles and a separate second precursor species containing a second ion to be incorporated into the growing nanoparticles. The conversion is effected in the presence of a molecular cluster compound under conditions permitting seeding and growth of the nanoparticles.

**23 Claims, 18 Drawing Sheets**





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