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The evidence is insufficient to prove or disprove the claim that patent protection promotes inventive effort.

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Generation of an aerosol. The particles are formed at the edge of a spinning disk by 
shearing action and centrifugal force on the fluid. The fluid is fed onto the disk with 
a hypodermic needle (right). [William F. Hetrick and John N. Schutz, Naval Biological 
Laboratory, School of Public Health, University of California, Berkeley]