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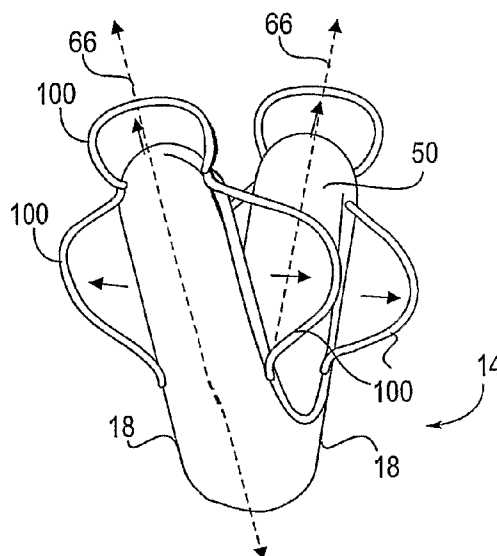
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: FIXATION DEVICES FOR VARIATION IN ENGAGEMENT OF TISSUE



(57) Abstract: Devices, systems and methods are provided for tissue approximation and repair at treatment sites, particularly in those procedures requiring minimally-invasive or endovascular access to remote tissue locations. Fixation devices are provided to fix tissue in approximation with the use of distal elements. In some embodiments, the fixation devices have at least two distal elements and an actuatable feature wherein actuation of the feature varies a dimension of the at least two distal elements. In other embodiments, the fixation devices have at least two pairs of distal elements wherein the pairs of distal elements are moveable to engage tissue between opposed pairs of distal elements. Systems are also provided comprising fixation devices and accessories.

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RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US05/38843

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC: A61M 29/00(2006.01)

USPC: 606/198

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : Please See Continuation Sheet

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

Please See Continuation Sheet

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X, E --- Y	US 2003/0158604 A1 (Cauthen III et al) 21 August 2003 (21.08.2003), entire document.	1 ----- 19-23
Y	US 5,662,681 A (Nash et al) 02 September 1997 (02.09.1997), Figures 2-3, column 2, lines 59-61.	19-23
X	US 4,007,743 A (Blake) 15 February 1977 (15.02.1977), Figures 3 and 7-9, column 2, lines 37-52.	13-16
X	US 5,849,019 A (Yoon) 15 December 1998 (15.12.1998), Figures 1-3, column 6, lines 20-27.	26-28

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

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document member of the same patent family

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Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 1:

606/151, 153, 157, 158, 198, 205, 206, 207, 213, 215, 216, 232; 604/104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 174. 164.3; 600/215; 24/328, 335, 336

Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:

EAST

search terms: pontoon, flap, loop, clip, clamp, grasp, jaws, arms