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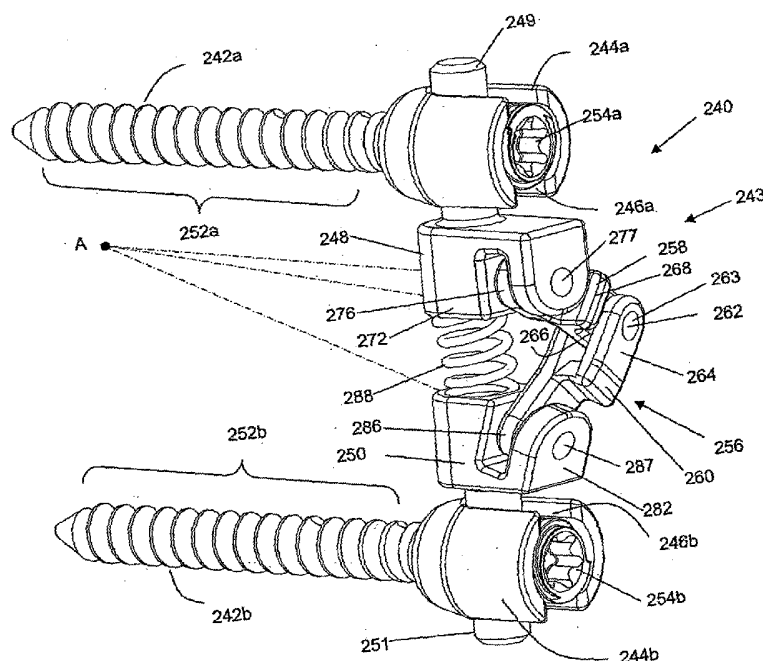
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR DYNAMIC SKELETAL STABILIZATION



(57) Abstract: A spine stabilization device (240) and methods are disclosed, the device comprising a brace (243) adapted to span between a first bone anchor (242a) and a second bone anchor (242b), the brace (243) including a first member; a second member; wherein the brace (243) allows for movement between the first member and the second member that is restricted to a three dimensional curved path having a substantially constant radius about a center of rotation positioned outside of the brace.



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**Declarations under Rule 4.17:**

- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))*
- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))*
- *of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv))*

**Published:**

- *with international search report*

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

**(88) Date of publication of the international search report:**  
20 April 2006

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No  
PCT/US2005/027996

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

A61B17/70

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)

A61B

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 practical, search terms used)

EP0-Internal

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2003/220643 A1 (FERREE BRET A) 27 November 2003 (2003-11-27) page 1, paragraph 6 - page 2, paragraph 33 figures 8-9B	1-4
X	EP 0 821 917 A (GRAF, HENRY) 4 February 1998 (1998-02-04) column 1, line 27 - column 8, line 11 figures 1,5,8	1-4
A	US 5 415 661 A (HOLMES ET AL) 16 May 1995 (1995-05-16) column 2, lines 60-68 column 5, line 40 - column 6, line 12 column 6, line 60 - column 9, line 17 figures 1A-2	1,3
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

### \* Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

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- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

24 February 2006

Date of mailing of the international search report

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## C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 672 175 A (MARTIN ET AL) 30 September 1997 (1997-09-30) column 2, line 66 - column 5, line 11 column 8, line 34 - column 10, line 8 column 14, lines 23-36 figure 2	1-4, 13
X	US 5 540 688 A (NAVAS ET AL) 30 July 1996 (1996-07-30) column 1, line 9 - column 2, line 25 column 2, line 63 - column 5, line 15 figures 5, 8-10	1-4, 13
A	US 5 375 823 A (NAVAS ET AL) 27 December 1994 (1994-12-27) column 1, lines 35-58 column 3, lines 36-65 figure 4	13

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

international application No.  
PCT/US2005/027996

### Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
  
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
  
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

### Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☒ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-12,16-20,23-31

A spine stabilization device comprising a brace which allows for three-dimensional movement.  
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2. claims: 13-15,21,22,32-35

A spine stabilization device comprising a brace which allows for two-dimensional movement.  
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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No  
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