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- (81) **Designated States** (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM,

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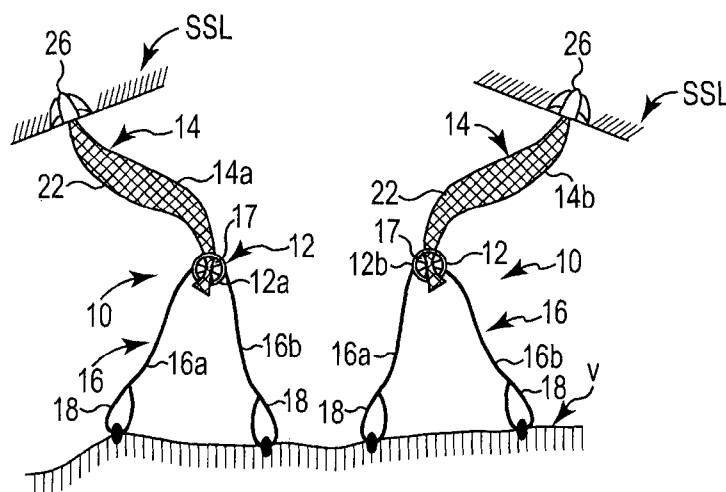
- (84) **Designated States** (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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- (88) **Date of publication of the international search report:**
30 January 2014

(54) **Title:** VAGINAL VAULT SUSPENSION SYSTEM AND METHOD

**Fig. 8**

(57) **Abstract:** Repair implant systems for treating pelvic prolapse including vaginal vault suspension devices and methods are provided. Embodiments of the system can include one or more eyelet and/or locking eyelet devices and one or more spanning members, e.g., suture members, attached thereto. Ends of the suture members are attached to the vaginal vault. An extension member can be provided with a corresponding anchor, with the extension member adjustably engaged with an eyelet to provide the desired vault suspension.



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/IB2013/001260

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC: **A61B 17/04** (2006.01) , **A61F 2/04** (2013.01)

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)

IPC: A61B 17/04 (2006.01) , A61F 2/04 (2013.01)

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

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

Epoque, Canadian Patents Database, Internet

Keywords: prolapse, eyelet, teeth, anchor, mesh, suture, grommet

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO2009/017680 A2 (O'HERN, J. et al.) 5 February 2009 (05-02-2009) *Whole document*	1-11 and 17-20
X	WO2010/028242 A1 (ENRIQUEZ, A. J.) 11 March 2010 (11-03-2010) *Whole document*	12-16
A	WO2011/063412 A2 (JAGGER, K. A. et al.) 26 May 2011 (26-05-2011) *Whole document*	1-20

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

☒ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"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)	"&" document member of the same patent family
"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	

Date of the actual completion of the international search

04 November 2013 (04-11-2013)

Date of mailing of the international search report

06 November 2013 (06-11-2013)

Name and mailing address of the ISA/CA
Canadian Intellectual Property Office
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50 Victoria Street
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0C9
Facsimile No.: 001-819-953-2476

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORTInternational application No.
PCT/IB2013/001260**Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of the 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. ☐ Claim Nos. :
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely :
2. ☐ Claim 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. ☐ Claim Nos. :
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. 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 :

Group A: Claims 1-11 and 17-20

A prolapse repair system comprising: an eyelet portion; first and second flexible spanning members extending from the eyelet portion and including at least one loop operatively engageable with vaginal vault tissue; and an extension arm having at least a mesh portion and a tissue anchor adjustably engageable with the eyelet portion.

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 additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
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 claim 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 claim Nos. :

- Remark on Protest** ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

Continuation of Box III

Group B: Claims 12-16

A prolapse repair system comprising: a first tissue anchor having at least two suture members extending therefrom having end portions engageable with vaginal vault tissue; and a second tissue anchor having at least two suture members extending therefrom having end portions engageable with vaginal vault tissue.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
Information on patent family members

International application No.
PCT/IB2013/001260

Patent Document Cited in Search Report	Publication Date	Patent Family Member(s)	Publication Date
WO2009017680A2	05 February 2009 (05-02-2009)	AU2008282864A1	05 February 2009 (05-02-2009)
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		WO2011072148A4	07 July 2011 (07-07-2011)
		WO2011072148A8	18 August 2011 (18-08-2011)