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(71) Applicant: **ALZA CORPORATION**
Palo Alto CA 94303-0802 (US)

(72) Inventors:
• **Wong, Patrick S.L.**
Palo Alto, CA 94306 (US)
• **Rosen, Howard B.**
Los Gatos, CA 95030 (US)
• **Roth, Nathan**
San Francisco, CA 94133 (US)
• **Gardner, Phyllis I**
Stanford, CA 94305 (US)

(74) Representative:
Crump, Julian Richard John et al
FJ Cleveland,
40-43 Chancery Lane
London WC2A 1JQ (GB)

(54) **An oral active agent delivery system**

(57) An oral active agent delivery system for delivering discrete units of active agent formulation in admixture with a fluid is disclosed. Said system comprises:

a hollow active agent formulation chamber (10) having a first end (16) and a second end (18) and containing an active agent formulation in the form of a plurality of discrete units, said ends being adapted to pass fluid during delivery of the active agent formulation; and

a fluid passing active agent retainer for preventing release of the discrete units from the first end (16) of the chamber while permitting fluid entry into the chamber; and is characterised in that said fluid passing active agent retainer comprises a restriction in the cross-sectional area of said first end of said chamber, and each of said discrete units has a diameter greater than said restriction.

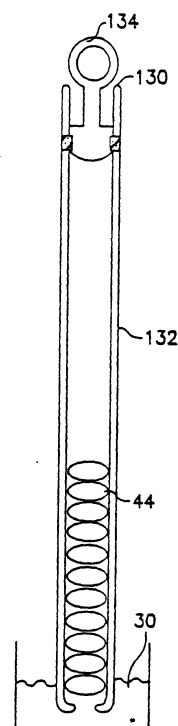


Figure 2

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 00 20 0063

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. CL7) A61J A47G
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 24 March 2000	Examiner Baert, F
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82