Abstract: A method of sterilizing a polymeric material that is sensitive to radiation. The method includes the steps of applying at least one radiosensitizer to the polymeric material and irradiating the polymeric material with a suitable radiation at an effective dose and time to sterilize the polymeric material. Also disclosed is a method of enhancing the ability of a medical device to withstand sterilization by radiation and a bioabsorbable polymeric medical device.
Published: (88) Date of publication of the international search report: 31 July 2008
— 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
A CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC(8) - A61 L 20/08 (2008.04)
USPC - 422/22
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)
USPC - 422/22

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
USPC - 422/22, S
Search Terms Below

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
PubWEST (USPT, PGPB, EPAB, JPAB), google com
Search Terms Used - polymer, sterilize, sterilizing, sterilized, riboflavin, gelatin, collagen, methylene blue, bioabsorbable, absorbable, irradiating, irradiated, dose, gamma, e-beam, UV, medical

C Documents considered to be relevant

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category*</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5-7 and 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y</td>
<td>US 6,051,648 A (Rhee et al.) 18 April 2000 (18 04 2000) entire document, especially Abstract, col 12, In 43-46</td>
<td>5-7 and 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>US 5,688,900 A (Cooper et al.) 18 November 1997 (18 11 1997) entire document, especially Abstract</td>
<td>1-20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>US 5,258,423 A (Crabb et al.) 02 November 1993 (02 11 1993) entire document, especially Abstract</td>
<td>1-20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>US 5,357,967 A (Kelley et al.) 03 November 1970 (03 11 1970) entire document, especially Abstract</td>
<td>1-20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

D Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C

* 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 application or patent 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 oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
  "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed
  "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
  "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
  "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
  "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search
25 April 2008 (25 04 2008)

Date of mailing of the international search report
2 O WIAY 2008

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US
Mail Stop PCT, Attn ISA/US, Commissioner for Patents
P O Box 1450, Alexandria VA, Virginia 22313-1450
Facsimile No 571-273-3201

Authorized officer Lee W Young
PCT MIPS 571 272-4300
PCT OSP 571 272 7774

Form PCT/ISA/2 10 (second sheet) (April 2007)