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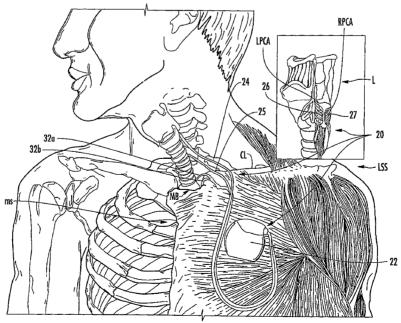
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(54) Title: RESPIRATORY TRIGGERED, BILATERAL LARYNGEAL STIMULATOR TO RESTORE NORMAL VENTILATION IN VOCAL FOLD PARALYSIS



(57) Abstract: A laryngeal stimulation system including a sensor for detecting an occurrence of a respiratory signal in a subject and a laryngeal stimulator adapted for coupling to a laryngeal muscle and operable to stimulate the laryngeal muscle in response to the sensor detecting the occurrence of the respiratory signal is provided. A method for laryngeal stimulation including detecting an occurrence of a respiratory signal in a subject and then stimulating a laryngeal muscle in response to detecting the occurrence of the respiratory signal is also provided.



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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

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Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

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

WEST (USPT, USOC, EPAB, JPAB; PLUR) and Google Patents (http://www.google.com/patents). Please see Form 300 for a more comprehensive list of actual search terms and searches performed on WEST. However, an example of a search performed on Google Patents would have included search terms such as "laryngeal stimulate nerve."

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. Category* 32-33, 39-47, 53-54 Χ "The Biocompatibility, Integrity, and Positional Stability of an Injectable Microstimulator for Reanimation of the Paralyzed Larynx" (ZEALEAR ET AL.), August 2001 (08.08.2001): page Υ 890, para 1, 2, 5; page 891, para. 5. 17-18, 20-22, 34-38, 48-52 1-5, 19, 28, 30 US 6,572,543 B1 (CHRISTOPHERSON ET AL.) 3 June 2003 (03.06.2003): col 36, ln 24; col 2, Х In 34; col 1, In 27; col 2, In 39; col 8, In 60-62; col 1, In 65-67; col 13, In 44; col 4, In 48 6-18, 20-27, 29, 31, 37, 48-52 US 2004/0215290 A1 (ZEALEAR) 28 October 2004 (28.10.2004): para [0086] 6-10, 34-37 US 6,030,350 A (JIANG ET AL.) 29 February 2000 (29.02.2000): col 10, ln 27; col 10, ln 15-18; 11,38 col 4, In 6 US 5,897,579 A (SANDERS) 27 April 1999 (27.04.1999): col 3, ln 30; col 4, ln 4; col 4, ln 49 12 13-16, 23, 25-27, 29, 31, "Reanimation of the Paralyzed Human Larynx with an Implantable Electrical Stimulation Device" (ZEALEAR ET AL.), July 2003 (07.2003): page 1, para. 1; page 2, para. 5 49-51 US 6,205,361 B1 (KUZMAR ET AL.) 20 March 2001 (20.03.2001); col 1, ln 10-11; col 4, ln 2-3 21-22 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. Special categories of cited documents: later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance the principle or theory underlying the invention earlier application or patent but published on or after the international "X" filing date 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" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other 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 special reason (as specified) document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed document member of the same patent family

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