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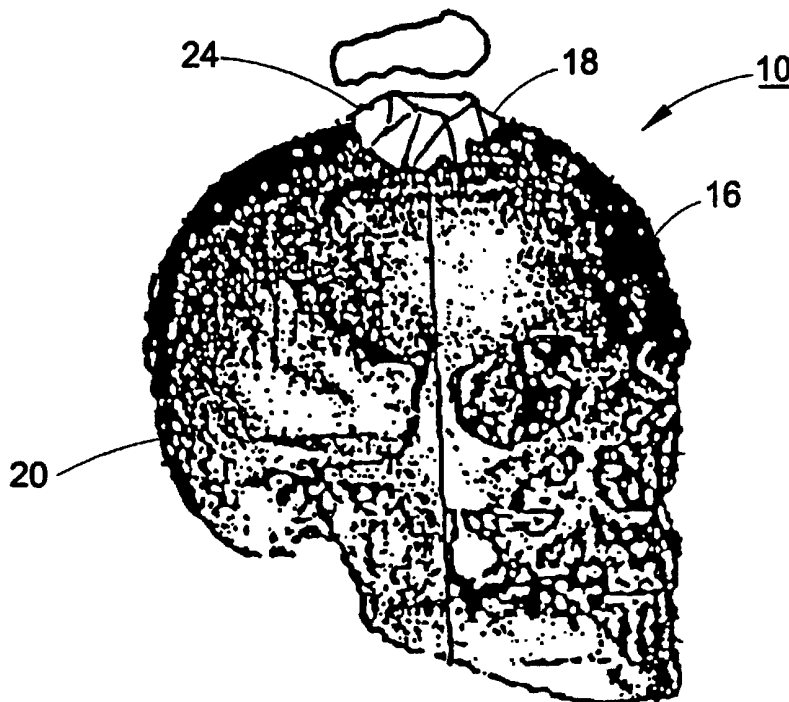
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PRODUCING AN IMPLANT



(57) Abstract: Images are captured from CT scanner (12), stored in a processor (14) which segments the data extracting a portion the image including a target region (16) of interest. The non-defective tissue (20) and the defective tissue are identified and an external surface region is mapped (16). After the image is segmented and mapped, a template (24) is superimposed to an external surface of a normative shape of the target tissue (16).



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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.
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A61B 5/00
US CL : 600/425

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)

U.S. : 600/407, 410, 425; 128/920, 922; 382/131, 132; 623/11-23

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 practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5,682,886 A (DELP et al) 4 November 1997, see entire document.	1-20
Y	US 5,813,984 A (HAAGA et al) 29 September 1998, see entire 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 document 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
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O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
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