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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: OCULAR IMPLANTS AND METHODS

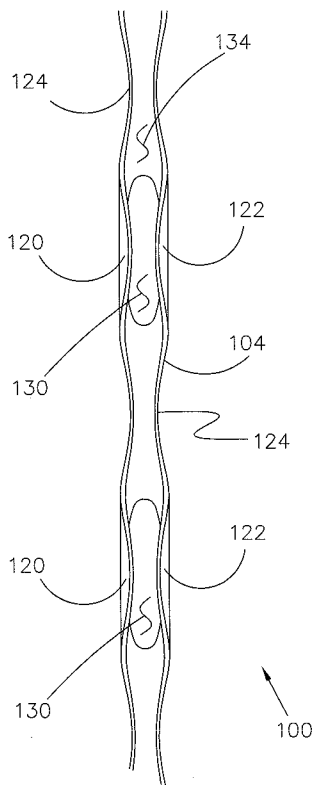


FIG. 3

(57) Abstract: An ocular implant (100) adapted to reside at least partially in a portion of Schlemm's canal (38) of an eye (20). In some embodiments the implant has a body (104) extending in a curved volume whose longitudinal axis forms an arc of a circle, and a plurality of open areas and strut areas formed in the body (104), the open areas extending over more than 50% of a surface defining the curved volume, the strut areas surrounding the open areas, the body having a diameter of between 0.005 inches and 0.04 inches. The application also provides a method of treating glaucoma including the steps of supporting tissue forming Schlemm's canal in an eye with an implant extending at least partially in the canal along an axial length within the canal; and contacting with the implant less than 50% of the tissue forming the canal along the axial length.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
A61F

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 practical, search terms used)
EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X A	US 2004/260228 A1 (LYNCH MARY G [US] ET AL) 23 December 2004 (2004-12-23) paragraph [0032] - paragraph [0034]; figure 3	1, 2, 5 31, 65, 66, 92
X A	DE 198 40 047 A1 (NEUHANN THOMAS [DE]) 23 March 2000 (2000-03-23) column 4, line 33 - line 45; figure 1	1, 2, 5 31, 65, 66, 92
A	US 2002/013546 A1 (GRIESHABER HANS R [CH] ET AL) 31 January 2002 (2002-01-31) paragraph [0057] - paragraph [0060]; figures 7-12	1, 31, 65, 66, 92
A	US 2006/195187 A1 (STEGMANN ROBERT [ZA] ET AL) 31 August 2006 (2006-08-31) paragraph [0040] - paragraph [0041]; figures 4-6	1, 31, 65, 66, 92

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

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- *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
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- *Z* document member of the same patent family

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
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Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of 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. Claims Nos.: 54-64
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery
2. Claims 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. Claims 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:

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 an 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 claims 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 claims 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.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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