Title: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR INTRA-URETHRAL INCONTINENCE

Abstract: An intra-urethral device that can be used to inhibit leakage of urine due to incontinence is provided. The intra-urethral device can include a urethral plug (430) made from a biocompatible, flexible material, and can be formed into an oblong shape so as to better correspond to the contours of the female urinary tract. In some instances, the intra-urethral device can also include an insertion element (436) that can facilitate self-insertion and the ability of a fluid seal to form between the urethral plug (430) and the walls of the urethra. Furthermore, in some instances, various mechanisms can be provided to keep the intra-urethral device substantially sterile throughout the insertion process.
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC(7) : A61F 2/00
US CL.: 300/930
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. : 600:29-32; 198 Dig 25

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

<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>Y</td>
<td>US 5,813,974 A (GUARDIA) 29 September 1998, see entire document.</td>
<td>1-9,15,26-27,35-38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y,P</td>
<td>US 6,142,928 A (ZUNKER ET AL) 07 November 2000, see entire document.</td>
<td>1-9,15,26-27,35-38</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

Date of the actual completion of the international search 16 JUNE 2001

Date of mailing of the international search report 10 SEP 2001

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