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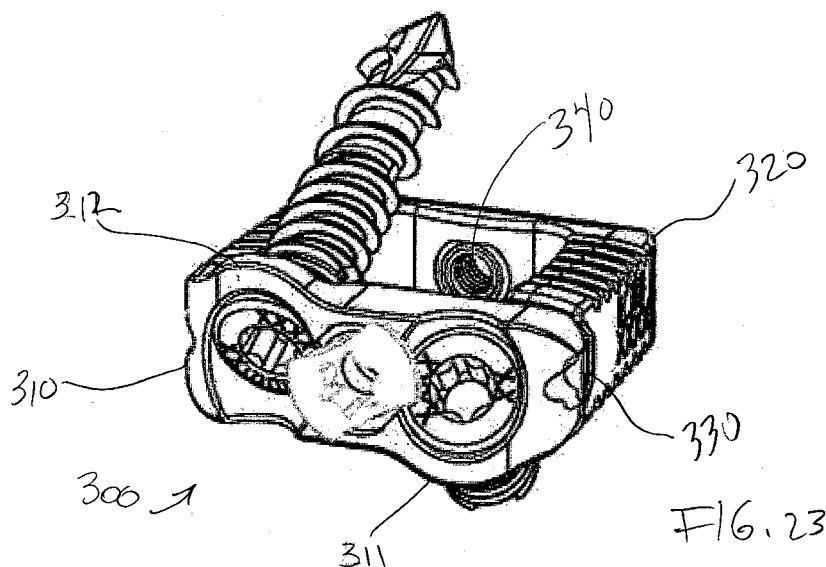
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(54) Title: INTERBODY FUSION DEVICE WITH SNAP ON ANTERIOR PLATE AND ASSOCIATED METHODS



(57) Abstract: A method and apparatus is provided for use in spinal fusion procedures. An interbody fusion device has a first piece that is a load bearing device designed to bear the axial loading from the end plates of adjacent vertebrae. A second piece of the interbody fusion device is a retention device whose function is to prevent migration of the load bearing device. One or more fasteners secure the retention device to the vertebrae above and below the load bearing device. The fasteners cause the end plates of the vertebrae to compress the end plates to the load bearing device to facilitate proper fusion. The device includes a snap in mechanism for coupling the first piece to the second piece.



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 12/00223

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(8) - A61F 2/44 (2012.01)

USPC - 623/17.16; 606/246

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: 623/17.16; 606/246

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
USPC: 623/17.11

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

PubWEST (PGPB, USPT, EPAB, JPAB); Google Scholar

Search terms: Spacer, implant, interbody, cage, prosthesis, plate, pivot, rotat, flex, snap, push fit, protru, project, tongue, lip, groove, recess, opening, bore, indent, coupling, attach, mat

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X --- Y	US 2010/0070037 A1 (PARRY et al.) 18 March 2010 (18.03.2010), Fig 1-12, para[0011], [0021], [0051]-[0068], [0080]	1-9, 12-13 --- 11
X --- Y	US 2010/0312346 A1 (KUEENZI et al.) 09 December 2010 (09.12.2010), Fig 4A, 5, abstract, para[0004], [0042]	1 and 10 --- 11
X	US 2004/0193269 A1 (FRASER et al.) 30 September 2004 (30.09.2004), Fig 1-5, para[0022]-[0032]	1, 12-13
A	US 2009/0234455 A1 (MOSKOWITZ et al.) 17 September 2009 (17.09.2009), Fig 2A-4F, para[0022], [0025], [0026], [0049]-[0062]	1, 12-13

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

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