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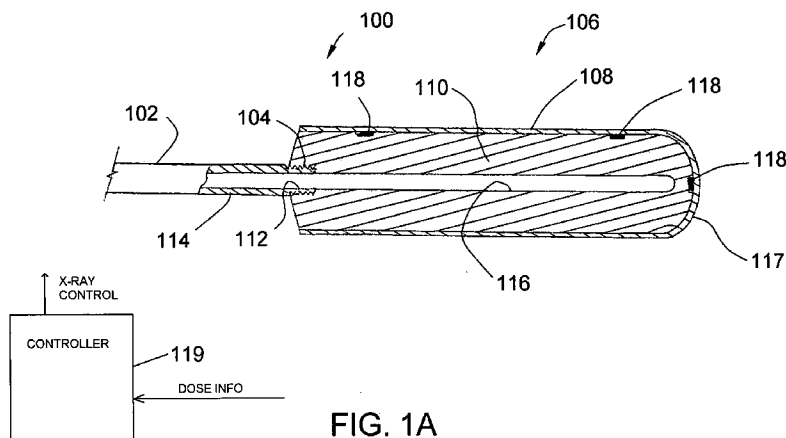
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(54) Title: VAGINAL APPLICATOR FOR BRACHYTHERAPY TREATMENT OF VAGINAL AND ENDOMETRIAL DISEASE



(57) Abstract: A vaginal brachytherapy applicator has an insertable tip section, preferably rigid or at least firm enough to retain its shape when inserted, and a tubular handle section extending proximally from the tip section. A common lumen extends from the handle into and through most of the length of the tip section. In one embodiment the tip section is made of a flexible open-celled foam material with a substantially impermeable outer skin, and in this case the tip section can be contracted, or stretched lengthwise to reduce its diameter, for ease of insertion, then re-expanded to its nominal and working configuration prior to insertion of a radiation source into the lumen and irradiation of tissue surrounding the tip section.



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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 09/01447

<b>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b> IPC(8) - A61N 5/00 USPC - 600/6 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
<b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b> Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC (8) - A61N 5/00 USPC - 600/6		
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched USPC - 600/1, 3		
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) PubWEST (USPT,PGPB,EPAB,JPAB); Google Scholar Search Terms: polymer, noryl, radiation, polyurethane, brachytherapy, vagina, tip, applicator, x-ray, handle, gynecological, tip, lumen		
<b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 7,338,430 B2 (LIM et al.) 4 March 2008 (04.03.2008), abstract, Fig. 1, 8a, 8b, col 1, ln 4-12, ln 33-44, ln 50-56; col 2, ln 8-16; col 3, ln 63-67; col 4, ln 1-14, ln 23-38, ln 41-45; col 5, ln 11-15; col 6, ln 18-26; col 7, ln 22-29, ln 30-43.	14, 15, 17, 21 & 22-26
Y		1-13, 16, 18-20 & 27-34
Y	US2008/0009659 A1 (SMITH et al.) 10 January 2008 (10.01.2008), Fig 1c	6, 8 and 27
Y	US 5,040,546 A (DELUHERY) 20 August 1991 (20.09.1991), abstract, Fig. 5, col 2, ln 27-30; col 5, ln 35-40, col 9, ln 13-22	1-13 & 27-34
Y	US 2007/0173680 A (RIOUX) 26 July 2007 (26.07.2007), para [0032], [0033]	7, 9, 10, 12, 16, 19 & 20
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/>		
* Special categories of cited documents: "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "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 "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 "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 "&" document member of the same patent family		
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Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US, Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. 571-273-3201		Authorized officer: Lee W. Young PCT Helpdesk: 571-272-4300 PCT OSP: 571-272-7774