Abstract

An endoprosthesis includes a brittle layer, e.g., a ceramic and an underlayer to accommodate dimensional changes as the endoprosthesis is flexed.
A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. A61L31/08 A61L31/10 A61L31/16 A61L31/18

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)
A61F A61L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic database consulted during the international search (name of database and, where practical, search terms used)
EPO-Internal, BIOSIS, INSPEC, EMBASE

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>
</table>
| X        | US 6 099 561 A (ALT ECKHARD [DE])
8 August 2000 (2000-08-08)
column 4, lines 7-26
column 5, lines 11-30, 59-61
column 6, lines 25-32
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page 2, lines 30, 31
page 3, lines 6-18
page 4, lines 29-31
page 5, lines 1-7, 30, 31
page 10, lines 7-30 | 1,6-11 |

Special categories of cited documents:
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*P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

Date of the actual completion of the international search: 1 February 2010
Date of mailing of the international search report: 08/02/2010

Name and mailing address of the ISA/
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Authorized officer
Laurent, Antoine

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patent document cited in search report</th>
<th>Publication date</th>
<th>Patent family member(s)</th>
<th>Publication date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>US 6099561</td>
<td>08-08-2000</td>
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<td>WO 2008061017</td>
<td>22-05-2008</td>
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