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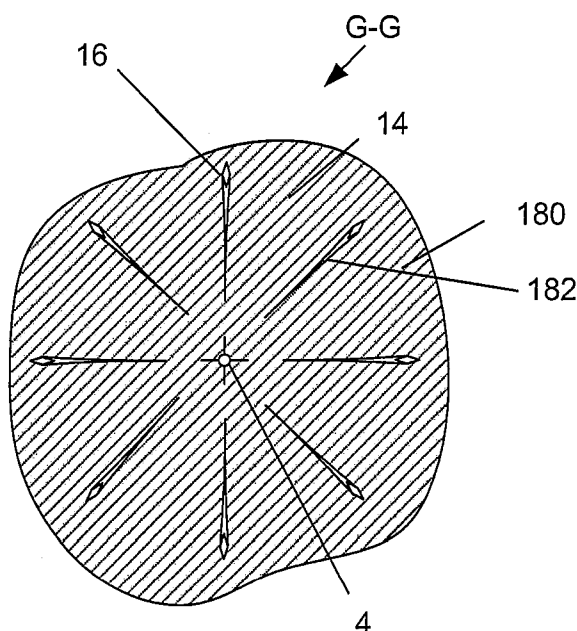
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(54) Title: EXPANDABLE SUPPORT DEVICE AND METHOD OF USE



(57) Abstract: An expandable support device for tissue repair is disclosed. The device can be used to repair hard or soft tissue, such as bone. The expandable support device can have interconnected struts. A method of repairing tissue is also disclosed. The expandable support device can be inserted into a damaged bone and radially expanded. The radial expansion of the expandable support device struts can cause the struts to cut mechanically support and/or the bone.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC: A61F 2/44(2006.01)

USPC: 623/17.11

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. : 623/17.11

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

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| X | US 6,585,770 B1 (WHITE et al) 01 July 2003 (01.07.2003), see whole document. | 1-22 |
| A | US 6,743,255 B2 (FERREE) 01 June 2004 (01.06.2004), see whole document. | 1-22 |
| A | US 5,026,373 (RAY et al) 25 June 1991 (25.06.1991), see whole document. | 1-22 |
| A | US 6,409,765 B1 (BIANCHI et al) 25 June 2002 (25.06.2002), see whole document. | 1-22 |

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Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

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See patent family annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

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