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Title: DEVICES CONTAINING A CHEMONUCLEOLYSIS AGENT AND METHODS FOR TREATING AN INTERVERTEBRAL DISC OR SPINAL ARACHNOIDITIS

Abstract: Effective devices and methods using a chemonucleolysis agent are provided for treating an intervertebral disc or treating spinal arachnoiditis. The devices and methods comprise a chemonucleolysis agent to degrade or to shrink at least a portion of the intervertebral disc. In some embodiments, the methods and devices are configured to immediately release an effective amount of the chemonucleolysis agent within 24 hours and provide sustained release of the chemonucleolysis agent over a period of up to one year to treat the intervertebral disc. In some embodiments, the chemonucleolysis agent in the device is administered in or near the intrathecal space and/or thecal sac to treat spinal arachnoiditis.

Fig. 1
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/US2011/057816

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

A61B 17/70(2006.01)i, A61F 2/44(2006.01)i, A61M 37/00(2006.01)i, A61L 27/50(2006.01)i, A61L 27/14(2006.01)i

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)
A61B 17/70; A61K 38/47; A61C 19/00; A61M 35/00; A61K 38/18; A61B 17/08

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
Korean utility models and applications for utility models
Japanese utility models and applications for utility models

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
eKOMPASS(KIPO internal) & Keywords: chemonucleolysis agent, hyaluronidase, biodegradable, shrink, release, implant, intervertebral disc, drug depot

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
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<td>A</td>
<td>US 7163545 B2 (YASZEMSKI, MICHAEL J. et al.) 16 January 2007 See abstract; fig. 1a; column 4, lines 46-50; column 7, lines 65-67; claims 1, 4, 5.</td>
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☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☒ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:
  "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
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Telephone No. 82-42-48 1-8264

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