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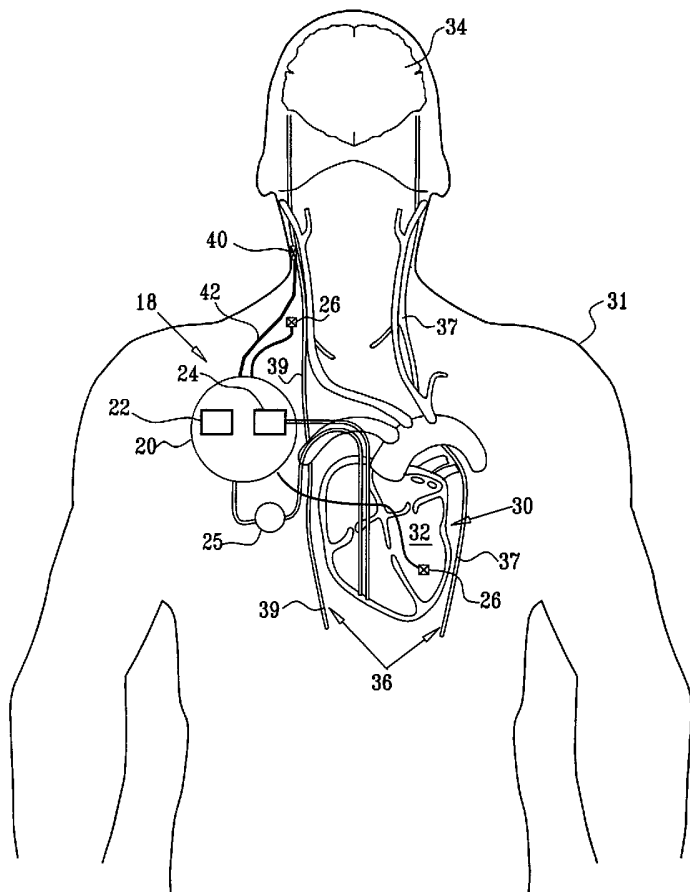
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SELECTIVE NERVE FIBER STIMULATION FOR HEART TREATMENT



(57) Abstract: Apparatus (18) is provided that includes an electrode device (40), adapted to be coupled to a vagus nerve (36) of a subject (31), and a control unit (20), adapted to drive the electrode device (40) to apply to the vagus nerve (36) a current that reduces heart rate variability of the subject (31). Also provided is a method comprising applying to a vagus nerve (36) of a subject (31) a current that reduces heart rate variability of the subject (31).

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**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International application No.

PCT/IL04/00440

<p><b>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b>                  IPC(7) : A61N 1/36, 1/362, 1/365                  US CL : 607/4, 5, 9,14, 17                  According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC</p>							
<p><b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b>                  Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)                  U.S. : 607/4, 5, 9,14, 17, 25, 63, 118</p> <p>Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched</p> <p>Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)                  Please See Continuation Sheet</p>							
<p><b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b></p> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width:10%;">Category *</th> <th style="width:70%;">Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th> <th style="width:20%;">Relevant to claim No.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td align="center">X</td> <td>US 6,341,236 B1 (OSORIO et al) 22 January 2002 (22.01.2002), Figs. 4, 6, 7, 12A, 12B, col.9, lines 39-55; col. 10, lines 25-26.</td> <td align="center">1,2,4,31,33-35,37,41,42,44,51,71,74-77</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.	X	US 6,341,236 B1 (OSORIO et al) 22 January 2002 (22.01.2002), Figs. 4, 6, 7, 12A, 12B, col.9, lines 39-55; col. 10, lines 25-26.	1,2,4,31,33-35,37,41,42,44,51,71,74-77
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<p><input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.      <input type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.</p>							
<table border="0" style="width:100%;"> <tr> <td style="width:50%;"> <p>* Special categories of cited documents:</p> <p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"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)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p> </td> <td style="width:50%;"> <p>"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</p> <p>"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</p> <p>"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</p> <p>"&amp;" document member of the same patent family</p> </td> </tr> </table>		<p>* Special categories of cited documents:</p> <p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"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)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p>	<p>"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</p> <p>"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</p> <p>"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</p> <p>"&amp;" document member of the same patent family</p>				
<p>* Special categories of cited documents:</p> <p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"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)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p>	<p>"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</p> <p>"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</p> <p>"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</p> <p>"&amp;" document member of the same patent family</p>						
<p>Date of the actual completion of the international search</p> <p>07 October 2004 (07.10.2004)</p>	<p>Date of mailing of the international search report</p> <p align="center">16 NOV 2004</p>						
<p>Name and mailing address of the ISA/US</p> <p>Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US                  Commissioner for Patents                  P.O. Box 1450                  Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450                  Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230</p>	<p>Authorized officer</p> <p>Carl H. Layno</p> <p>Telephone No. (703) 308-3694</p>						

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International application No.  
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Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:

EAST

vagal, vagus, electrode, heart rate variability