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(74) Agents: **REINER, Kevin** et al.; Darby & Darby P.C., 805 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10022-7513 (US).

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(71) Applicant and

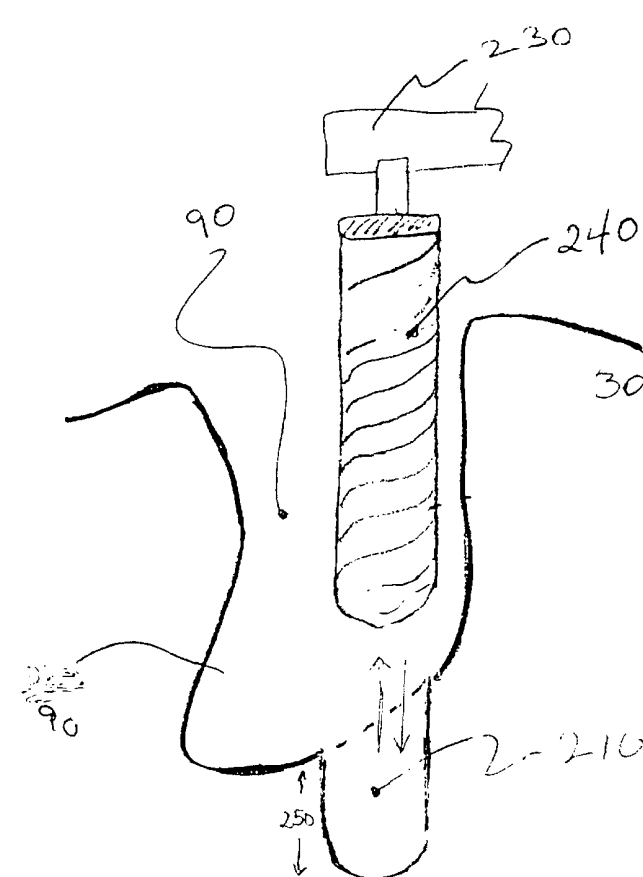
(72) Inventor: **ASHMAN, Arthur** [US/US]; 153 Bayberry Lane, Westport, CT 06880 (US).

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(54) Title: A METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PERFORMING RIDGE PRESERVATION AND IMPLANT TREATMENT



(57) Abstract: A method for preserving the alveolar ridge surrounding a presently extracted root socket by backfilling the socket with bone graft material and installing an implant (240) in the root socket area either immediately before backfilling or after backfilling and a delay in which new bone is allowed to grow into the bone graft material. In one embodiment, the dental implant (240) is installed apically into the root socket (90) immediately following root extraction. The open area of the root socket surrounding the implant is then backfilled with bone graft material immediately after implant placement. The implant (240) is preferably a threaded implant (but it can be a cylinder-type) which is placed approximately three to six millimeters apically to said root socket.



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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A61C 8/00

US CL : 433/175, 201.1

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. : 433/175, 201.1, 172, 173, 174, 176

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
none

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

none

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4,536,158 A (BRUINS ET AL) 20 August 1985, col. 8, lines 18-66	19-23,32-36
A	US 6,132,214 A (SUHONEN ET AL) 17 October 2000, entire document.	1-36
A	US 4,244,689 A (ASHMAN) 13 January 1981, entire document.	1-36



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

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"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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
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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
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Name and mailing address of the ISA/US
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Box PCT
Washington, D.C. 20231

Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230

Authorized officer

NICK LUCCHESI

Telephone No. (703) 308 2698