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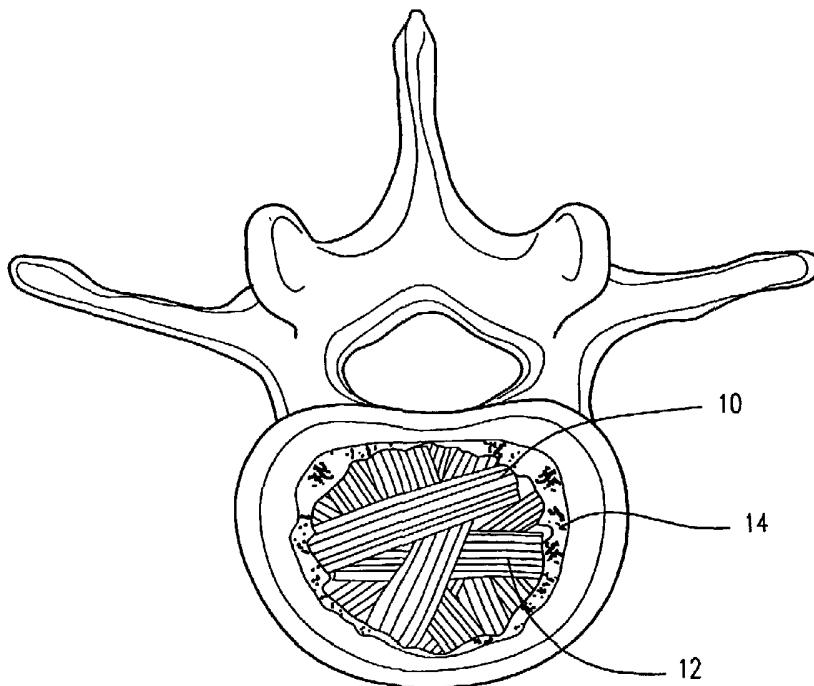
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(54) Title: A SEMI-BIOLOGICAL INTERVERTEBRAL DISC REPLACEMENT SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: The present invention is a system for a partially biological disc replacement that stimulates natural fibrous, cartilaginous or other tissue growth in the DDD cavity (24), resulting in a partial biological disc replacement (10). Multiplicities of fibrous pieces of fibro-cartilaginous tissue promoting material (26) are inserted into the DDD cavity (24) inducing tissue growth. The fibro-cartilaginous tissue

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
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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)
 East

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6,183,518 B1 (ROSS ET AL) 06 February 2001 (06.2.2001), see Figures 3 and 4; column 2, lines 45-66.	1
A	US 5,549,679 A (KUSLICH) 27 August 1996 (27.08.1996), see Figures 5-7b.	1-52
A	US 2002/0147496 A1 (BELEF ET AL) 10 October 2002 (10.10.2002), see Figures 1a-10c.	1-52
A,P	US 2002/0026195 A1 (LAYNE ET AL) 28 February 2002 (28.02.2002), see Figures 22-27.	1-52

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

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