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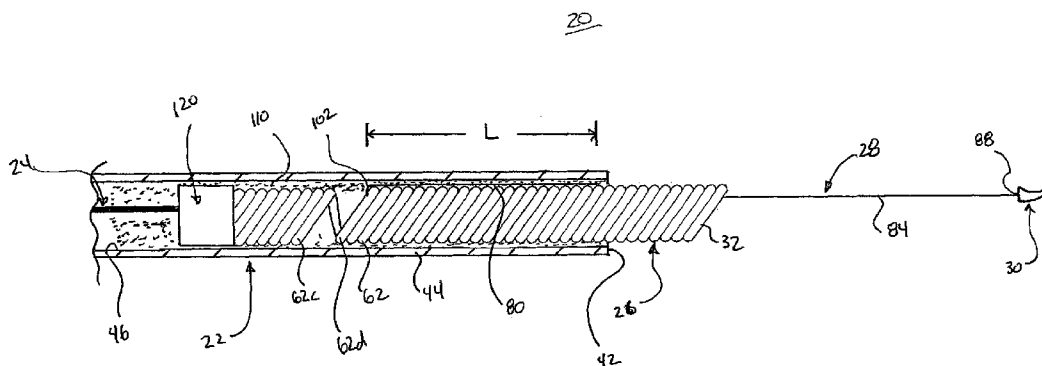
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: IMPLANTABLE MEDICAL LEAD ASSEMBLIES WITH DELIVERY TETHER



(57) Abstract: Implantable lead assembly including a lead body, an elongated conductor, a coiled electrode, and a tether line. The lead body maintains the conductor. The electrode is coupled to the conductor, defining proximal and distal ends. The tether line defines a trailing segment and a leading segment terminating in a leading end. The tether line is coupled to the coiled electrode at a point proximal the distal end, and the leading end extends distal the distal end. With this configuration, a pulling force applied to the leading segment is transferred to the electrode at a point proximal the distal end as a pushing force, thereby minimizing an opportunity for overt stretching of the coiled electrode during implantation. The lead assembly can further include a needle connected to the tether line.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. A61N1/05

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)

A61N

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 practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 086 787 A (GRANDJEAN PIERRE-ANDRE [BE] ET AL) 11 February 1992 (1992-02-11) abstract; figures 2,5,6 column 2, line 46 - column 4, line 29	1-26
A	EP 0 657 185 A2 (MEDTRONIC INC [US]) 14 June 1995 (1995-06-14) abstract; figure 2 column 3, line 16 - column 5, line 30	1-26
A	US 2005/033394 A1 (SEIFERT KEVIN R [US] ET AL) 10 February 2005 (2005-02-10) abstract; figure 2 paragraph [0013] - paragraph [0025]	1-26
A	US 6 434 431 B1 (CAMPS ANTOINE [NL] ET AL) 13 August 2002 (2002-08-13) the whole document	1-26

☐ 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

E earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

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)

O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

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

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

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.

& document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

15 October 2007

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29/10/2007

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
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Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.: ²⁷
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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