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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): MI-CROVENTION, INC. [US/US]; 75 Columbia, Suite A, Aliso Viejo, CA 92656 (US).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): CRUISE, Gregory, M. [US/US]; 74 San Bonifacio, Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688 (US). CONSTANT, Michael, J. [US/US]; 4 Bolero, Mission Viejo, CA 92692 (US). KEELEY, E., Michael [US/US]; 9581 Onset Circle, Huntington Beach, CA 92646 (US). TERRANCE, Tran, T. [US/US]; 100351 Mast Avenue, Westminster, CA 92683 (US).
- Agents: CULLMAN, Louis, C. et al.; K & 1 Gates LLP, 1900 Main Street, Suite 600, Irvine, CA 92614-7319 (US).

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(54) Title: HYDROGEL FILAMENTS FOR BIOMEDICAL USES

(57) Abstract: Described herein are apparatus, compositions, systems and associated methods to occlude structures and malformations with radiopaque hydrogel filaments with delayed controlled rates of expansion permitting the repositioning of the device once inside the structure or malformation. Further described is a device for implantation in an animal comprising a diffunctional, low molecular weight ethylenically unsaturated shapeable macromer; an ethylenically unsaturated monomer; and a radiopaque element, wherein said device contains no support members. Methods of forming such devices are also disclosed.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No PCT/US2008/087846

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER INV. A61L31/04 A61L3 Ä61E31/14 A61L31/18 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) A61L 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. X WO 03/043552 A1 (BIOCURE INC [US]; CHAOUK 1-6,11, HASSAN [US]; ASFAW BRUKTAWIT [US]) 14-16 30 May 2003 (2003-05-30) page 4, line 10 - line 29 page 5, line 31 - line 32 page 6 page 7, lines 4, 10 - line 12 page 14, line 28 - line 30 page 15, line 25 - line 30 page 17, line 7 page 17, line 20 - line 21 page 19, line 19 page 20, lines 17, 26 example 1 -/--Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex. Special categories of cited documents: "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 "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "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 "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 "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 11 February 2010 17/02/2010 Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 Sierra Gonzalez, M

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