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Cupertino, CA 95014-2380 (US). **POUTIATINE, Andrew** [US/US]; 20195 Stevens Creek Boulevard, Suite 120, Cupertino, CA 95014-2380 (US). **SHADDUCK, John, H.** [US/US]; 20195 Stevens Creek Boulevard, suite 120, Cupertino, CA 95014-2380 (US). **TRUCKAI, Csa-ba** [US/US]; 20195 Stevens Creek Boulevard, Suite 120, Cupertino, CA 95014-2380 (US).

- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US):
REVENT MEDICAL, INC. [US/US]; 20195 Stevens Creek Boulevard, Suite 120, Cupertino, CA 95014-2380 (US).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **GILLIS, Edward, M.** [US/US]; 20195 Stevens Creek Boulevard, Suite 120,

(74) Agents: **LIMBACH, Douglas, C.** et al.; Shay Glenn LLP, 2755 Campus Drive, Suite 210, San Mateo, CA 94403 (US).

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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR TREATMENT OF SLEEP APNEA

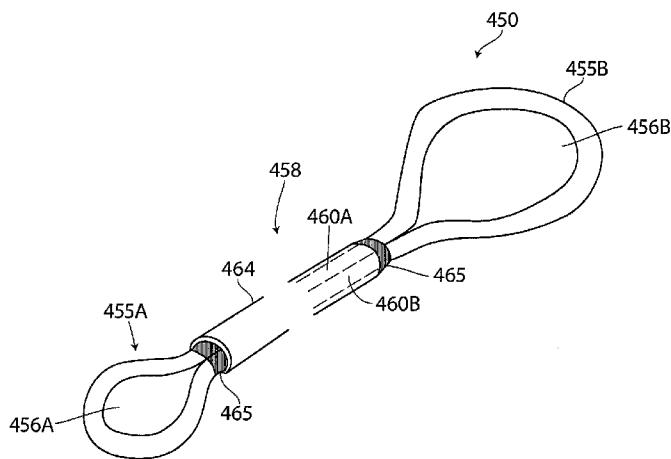


FIG. 19

(57) Abstract: A system for treating an airway disorder is provided with an implant body configured to conform to an airway-interface tissue site in a manner compatible with normal physiological function of the site. In some embodiments, the implant body includes an adjustment element configured to allow in-situ adjustment of the implant body between first and second tensioning forces applied to the site. Methods of using such systems are also provided.

WO 2011/116384 A3



EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU,
LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK,
SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ,
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER*A61F 5/56(2006.01)i, A61F 2/00(2006.01)i*

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)

A61F 5/56; A01K 29/00; A61F 2/02; A61B 19/00; H02J 7/00

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Korean utility models and applications for utility models

Japanese utility models and applications for utility models

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

eKOMPASS(KIPO internal) & Keywords: sleep, apnea, airway disorder

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 2008-0188947 A1 (SANDERS) 07 August 2008 See the whole document.	1-8
A	US 2004-0045556 A1 (NELSON et al.) 11 March 2004 See the whole document.	1-8
A	US 2004-0112390 A1 (BROOKS et al.) 17 June 2004 See the whole document.	1-8
A	US 2009-0038623 A1 (FARBARIK et al.) 12 February 2009 See the whole document.	1-8

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

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"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

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Authorized officer

HAN, SANG SOO

Telephone No. 82-42-481-8648



Box No. 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.: 9-18
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Claims 9-18 are the methods for treatment of the human body by surgery or therapy as well as diagnostic methods [Article 17(2)(a)(i), Rule 39.1(iv) PCT].
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 No. 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 and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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