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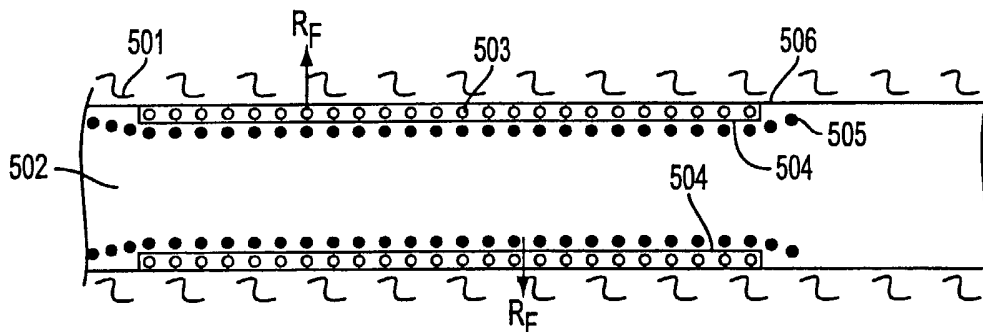
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(54) Title: COMPOSITE STENT WITH INNER AND OUTER STENT ELEMENTS AND METHOD OF USING THE SAME



(57) Abstract: A composite stent structure includes separate and distinct stent elements or members: an outer stent element and an inner stent element removably attached to the outer stent element. The outer element may be, for example, a bioabsorbable stent typically constructed of a relatively non-resilient material such that the outer bioabsorbable stent element may not be self-expanding and subject to migration within the lumen over time. In contrast, the inner element may be, for example, a removable SEMS used to urge and maintain the outer element in position in the body lumen. The temporary inner SEMS may retain the composite structure (including the underlying inner element) in position until such time as the outer element is appropriately incorporated into the surrounding tissue or some other criteria occurs such that the removal of the SEMS is indicated. The SEMS may then be detached from the outer element and removed from the body lumen.

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A61F2/06

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)

IPC 7 A61F

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, PAJ

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2002/165601 A1 (CLERC CLAUDE O) 7 November 2002 (2002-11-07)  paragraph '0025! - paragraph '0027! paragraphs '0032!, '0033!, '0035! -----	1,3,5,7, 10,11, 14,15, 20,22
X	US 5 961 547 A (RAZAVI ET AL) 5 October 1999 (1999-10-05)  column 2, line 22 - line 51 column 3, line 19 - line 28 column 5, line 42 - line 54 figure 8  ----- -/-	1,3-7, 10,11, 16,17, 23,24

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in 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
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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.
- \*G\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

1 September 2005

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08/09/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 214 040 B1 (JAYARAMAN SWAMINATHAN) 10 April 2001 (2001-04-10)  column 3, line 48 - column 5, line 33; figures 1-10	1,3,5, 7-9, 11-13, 16-18,20
X	US 5 797 949 A (PARODI ET AL) 25 August 1998 (1998-08-25) column 5, line 25 - line 40 column 6, line 26 - column 7, line 60 figures 1-5	1,2,7,9, 11
X	US 6 254 632 B1 (WU STEVEN Z ET AL) 3 July 2001 (2001-07-03)  column 4, line 43 - column 5, line 4 column 6, line 13 - line 60 column 8, line 4 - line 24 column 9, line 56 - line 61 figures 4-6	1,3,4,7, 10,11, 17,18
A		19-22
X	US 6 626 939 B1 (BURNSIDE DIANE K ET AL) 30 September 2003 (2003-09-30)  column 3, line 1 - line 34 column 6, line 52 - column 7, line 15 column 13, line 40 - line 51 figure 1	1,3, 7-11,14, 15
A	US 6 451 050 B1 (RUDAKOV LEON V ET AL) 17 September 2002 (2002-09-17) column 4, line 36 - line 49; figures 1-6	18

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

In. lional application No.  
PCT/US2004/038695

## 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.: 25-27  
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

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