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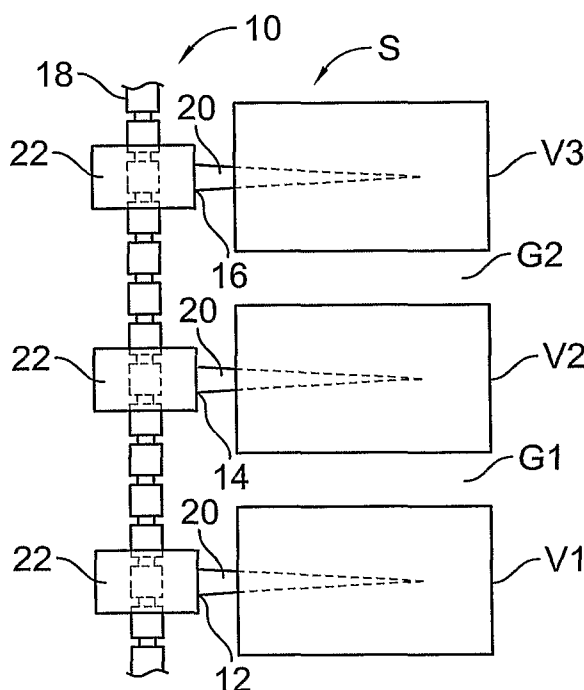
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: DYNAMIC SPINAL STABILIZER



(57) Abstract: An elongated member forming a spinal support rod is implantable adjacent the spine of a patient and includes an axial span or spans for spanning respective spinal levels to promote efficacious spinal support/stabilization. The axial span has an axially articulating geometry, and manifests an angulation mechanism along one or more transverse directions of at least seven degrees across a given spinal level. The angulation mechanism may be associated with joints between structural elements assembled in serial along the axial span, or via a common connection between such structural elements and a restraining element. Rotation between such structural elements can be global. The axial span may have a rod-like profile of a diameter similar to conventional spinal support rods used for lumbar spinal fusion, and provides for use across multiple spinal levels and with multiple adjustable attachment points for associated spine attachment devices to accommodate different patient anatomies.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US06/39694

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(8) - A61B 17/70 (2007.01)

USPC - 606/61

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(8) - A61B 17/56, 17/58, 17/70; A61F 2/30, 2/44 (2007.01)

USPC - 606/61; 623/17.11-17.16

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)

USPTO WEST System (USGPB,USPT,USOC,EPAB,JPAB), MicroPatent, IP.com, DialogPro

Search terms: spin*; rod; support; articulat*; angula*; degree; diameter; titanium

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2005/0131407 A1 (SICVOL et al) 16 June 2005 (16.06.2005) entire document	1-2, 5-9, 11, 13-20, 23-32
Y		21-22
X	US 2005/0038432 A1 (SHAOLIAN et al) 17 February 2005 (17.02.2005) entire document	1-7, 9-16, 23-28
Y	US 2005/0065516 A1 (JAHNG) 24 March 2005 (24.03.2005) entire document	21-22
A	US 2005/0113927 A1 (MALEK) 26 May 2005 (26.05.2005) entire document	1-32
A	US 6,296,644 B1 (SAURAT et al) 02 October 2001 (02.10.2001) entire document	1-32

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"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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