(54) Title: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR DENTAL IMPLANTATION

(57) Abstract: A method for implanting a tooth implant in an at least partially edentulous patient including the steps of anchoring at least one attachment element in a patient’s jaw bone, removably and replaceably mounting a carrier assembly bearing at least one fiducial marker onto the at least one attachment element in a precisely repeatable position with respect to the patient’s jaw bone, employing the carrier assembly for providing registration between the at least one fiducial marker and the patient’s jaw bone during planning of the tooth implant, and implanting the tooth implant by employing a tracking system which uses the registration to guide a drilling assembly.
A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
   IPC: A61C 3/00 (2006.01)

   USPC: 433/76
   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)
   U.S.: 433/75, 76, 173, 174

   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)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>US 4,325,373 A (SLIVENKO et al) 20 April 1982 (20.04.1982), see entire document.</td>
<td>1, 2, 21, 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y</td>
<td>US 5,967,777 A (KLEIN et al) 19 October 1999 (19.10.1999), see entire document.</td>
<td>31, 32, 35, 36, 38-43</td>
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<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>WO 02/096261 A2 (PERSKY) 05 December 2002 (05.12.2002), see entire document.</td>
<td>31, 32, 35, 36, 38-43</td>
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</table>

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

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

Date of mailing of the international search report
21 FEB 2007

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