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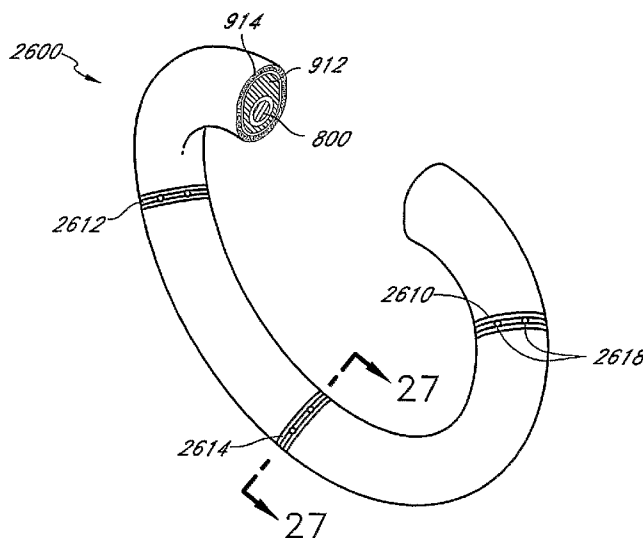
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(54) **Title:** THERMAL CONDUCTOR FOR ADJUSTABLE CARDIAC IMPLANT



(57) **Abstract:** Methods and devices are provided for support of a body structure. The devices can be adjusted within the body of a patient in a minimally invasive or non-invasive manner such as by applying energy percutaneously or external to the patient's body. The energy may include, for example, acoustic energy, radio frequency energy, light energy and magnetic energy. Thus, as the body structure changes size and/or shape, the size and/or shape of the devices can be adjusted to provide continued reinforcement. In one embodiment, an annuloplasty ring (2600) includes a body member (800) including a shape memory material. The shape memory material is configured to transform the body member 800 from a first shape to a second shape in response to being heated. The annuloplasty ring (2600) also includes a thermally insulative material (912) at least partially covering the body member (800) and a thermally conductive material (2610, 2612, 2614) extending into the thermally insulative material (912). The thermally conductive material (2610, 2612, 2614) is configured to communicate thermal energy to the body member (800).

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

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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

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6,406,493 B1 (Tu et al) 18 June 2002 (18.06.2002), see Fig. 1, abstract, col. 5, lines 3-21, lines 29-67 and col. 7, lines 1-65.	1-22
A	US 6,726,716 B2 (Marquez) 27 April 2004 (27.04.2004), see Figs. 1-4C.	1-22

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	"
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