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(54) Title: MEDICAL DEVICES VISIBLE UNDER MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING

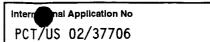
(57) Abstract: Disclosed is an implantable or insertable medical device comprising (a) a substrate and (b) a hydrogel polymer coating at a least a portion of the surface of the substrate, wherein the hydrogel polymer is adapted to render the medical device visible under magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) upon insertion or implantation of the medical device into a patient. Also disclosed is the use of such a hydrogel coated implantable or insertable medical device in a medical procedure, wherein during or after insertion or implantation of the medical device in a patient, the position of the medical device is viewed under MRI. The use of a hydrogel polymer for coating a medical device wherein the hydrogel polymer is adapted to render a medical device coated with the hydrogel polymer visible under MRI and a hydrogel polymer adapted to render a medical device coated therewith visible under MRI are also disclosed.

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PCT7US 02/37706 CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER PC 7 A61L29/18 A61L G01R33/28 A61K49/08 A61L31/18 A61M25/01 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) GO1R A61K A61L A61M IPC 7 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, WPI Data, PAJ C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages WO 99 60920 A (WISCONSIN ALUMNI RES FOUND) 1-68 X 2 December 1999 (1999-12-02) claims; examples 1 - 68WO 01 81460 A (LAURENT ALEXANDRE ; LABARRE X DENIS (FR); X BIO (FR)) 1 November 2001 (2001-11-01) claims; examples WO 02 22186 A (SCHACHTER DEBORAH ; FAN YOU 1 - 68P,X LING (US); RUTAR VENCESLAV (US); UNION) 21 March 2002 (2002-03-21) claims; examples WO 94 08629 A (STERLING WINTHROP INC) 1 - 68Υ 28 April 1994 (1994-04-28) claims; examples -/--Patent family members are listed in annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. X X Special categories of cited documents: "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 "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention filing date cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "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 docu-*O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search 30/05/2003 16 May 2003 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2

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