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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.*

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US 01/46725

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A61F2/06 A61M25/10

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 A61M

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

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
P,X	WO 01 78627 A (SCIMED LIFE SYSTEMS INC) 25 October 2001 (2001-10-25) page 11, line 21 -page 12, line 20; figure 12	1-3
Y	---	4-13, 15-17
Y	US 6 059 813 A (SMITH SCOTT R ET AL) 9 May 2000 (2000-05-09) cited in the application column 3, line 32 - line 39; claims 25,30,41,42; figures column 3, line 51 - line 55 column 8, line 42 - line 51 column 9, line 39 - line 40 --- -/--	4-13, 15-17



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
- \*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)
- \*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.
- \*Z\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

22 August 2002

Date of mailing of the international search report

28/08/2002

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US 01/46725

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 690 644 A (HEALY STEVEN J ET AL) 25 November 1997 (1997-11-25) cited in the application abstract; figures -----	1.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/US 01/46725

### Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 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.: 14  
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 II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 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

International Application No

PCT/US 01/46725

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 0178627	A	25-10-2001	WO 0178627 A1	25-10-2001
US 6059813	A	09-05-2000	EP 1124504 A1	22-08-2001
			WO 0027309 A1	18-05-2000
			US 6238410 B1	29-05-2001
US 5690644	A	25-11-1997	US 6380457 B1	30-04-2002
			CA 2149887 A1	21-07-1994
			DE 9321003 U1	10-08-1995
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			JP 8500757 T	30-01-1996
			WO 9415549 A1	21-07-1994