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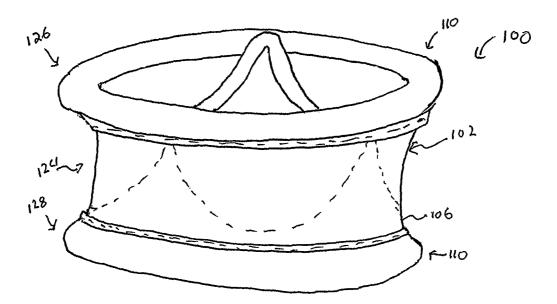
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(54) Title: UNSTENTED HEART VALVE WITH FORMED IN PLACE SUPPORT STRUCTURE



(57) Abstract: An implantable prosthetic valve (100) has an in situ formable support structure. The valve comprises a prosthetic valve (104), having a base and at least one flow occluder. A first flexible component is incapable of retaining the valve at a functional site in the arterial vasculature. The first component (126) extends proximally of the base of the valve. A second flexible component (128) is incapable of retaining the valve at a functional site in the arterial vasculature. The second component extends distally of the base of the valve. At least one rigidity component (300) combines with at least one of the first and second flexible components to impart sufficient rigidity to the first or second components to retain the valve at the site.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 A61F2/24

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)

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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 practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
US 5 554 185 A (BLOCK ET AL) 10 September 1996 (1996-09-10) cited in the application	19
column 1, line 56 - line 61 column 3, line 47 - line 52 column 5, line 28 - column 6, line 1 figures 1,1a,4a-4c	1-8, 21-27
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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. *&* document member of the same patent family
Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
20 October 2005	31/10/2005
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Franz, V
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	ation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	Debugate string No.
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 6 007 575 A (SAMUELS ET AL) 28 December 1999 (1999-12-28) figure 7 column 2, line 28 - line 29 column 5, line 17 - line 28	1-8,19, 21-27
A	US 4 592 340 A (BOYLES ET AL) 3 June 1986 (1986-06-03) figure 2	1-8,19, 21-27
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A	US 4 183 102 A (GUISET, JACQUES) 15 January 1980 (1980-01-15) figures 6,9	1-8,19, 21-27

International application No. PCT/US2005/015617

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Box II	Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)
This Inte	ernational Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:
1. χ	Claims Nos.: 9–18 20 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:
з. 🗌	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 III	Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)
This Int	ernational 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.:
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Rema	The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
	No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

Interr Alication No PCT/US2005/015617

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