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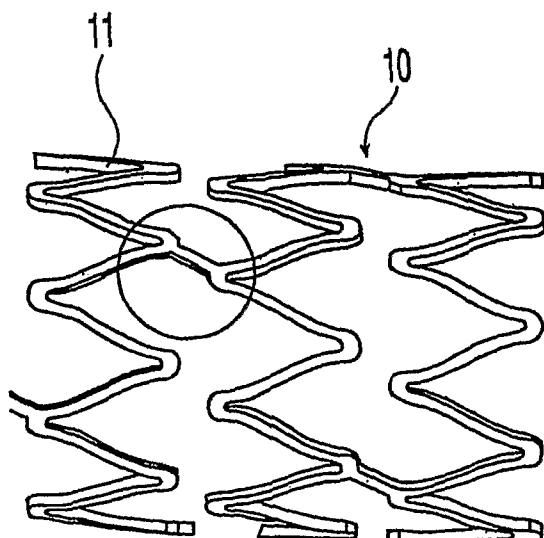
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(54) Title: COATED MEDICAL DEVICE AND METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING THE SAME



(57) Abstract: A medical device in the form of a stent (10) having struts (11) is disclosed. The stent (10) includes an outermost portion (43) having plurality of depressions (45) on the struts (11). The depressions (45) occupy at least about 80% of the surface area of the surface. The depressions (45) contain a coating material (77) that preferably includes a biologically active material and/or polymer where the outermost portion (43) is free of coating material (77).

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US05/04982

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC: A61F 2/06(2007.01)

 USPC: 623/1.15
 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. : 623/1.15, 1.42-1.46; 604/890.1; 424/424, 425

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 4,229,838 A (MANO) 28 October 1980 (28.10.1980), Figures 1 and 7, column 3, line 50 to column 4, line 16, column 2, line 54 to column 3, line 49.	1-15
X	US 6,365,149 B2 (VYAKARNAM et al) 02 April 2002 (02.04.2002), Figures 6 and 9C, column 17, lines 45-68.	1-3 and 5-10

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

* Special categories of cited documents:	
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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
"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"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
"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 documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search: 08 November 2006 (08.11.2006)
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US05/04982

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 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.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

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 No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
Please See Continuation Sheet

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 additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fees.
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.: 1-15

- Remark on Protest**
- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

BOX III. OBSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION IS LACKING

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. In order for all inventions to be examined, the appropriate additional examination fees must be paid.

Group I, claim(s) 1-15, drawn to a medical device.

Group II, claim(s) 16-35, drawn to a system for coating a medical device.

The inventions listed as Groups I and II do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: The common feature of these claims is a coated medical device. However, US 6,099,562 shows that coating medical devices was known at the time the invention was made. For this reason, there is no corresponding technical feature.

This application contains claims directed to more than one species of the generic invention. These species are deemed to lack unity of invention because they are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In order for more than one species to be examined, the appropriate additional examination fees must be paid. The species are as follows:

Species Set 1 (depression shapes)

- W. Figure 5A
- X. Figure 5B
- Y. Figure 5C
- Z. Figure 5D

Species Set 2 (coating systems)

- A. Figures 8A to 8C
- B. Figures 9A and 9B
- C. Figure 9C
- D. Figure 9D
- E. Figure 9D (second occurrence)
- F. Figure 10
- G. Figure 11.

The species listed above do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, the species lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: They are mutually exclusive and do not have any obvious features in common.