

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
10 April 2008 (10.04.2008)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2008/042992 A3

(51) International Patent Classification:
A61F 2/12 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2007/080356

(22) International Filing Date: 3 October 2007 (03.10.2007)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/828,006 3 October 2006 (03.10.2006) US
60/933,179 4 June 2007 (04.06.2007) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **ALURE MEDICAL, INC.** [US/US]; 675 Pleasant Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95403 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **BISHOP, Gordon** [US/US]; 675 Pleasant Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95403 (US). **LASHINSKI, Randy** [US/US]; 675 Pleasant Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95403 (US).

(74) Agent: **HILL, James, W.**; McDermott Will & Emery LLP, 18191 Von Karman, Suite 500, Irvine, CA 92612 (US).

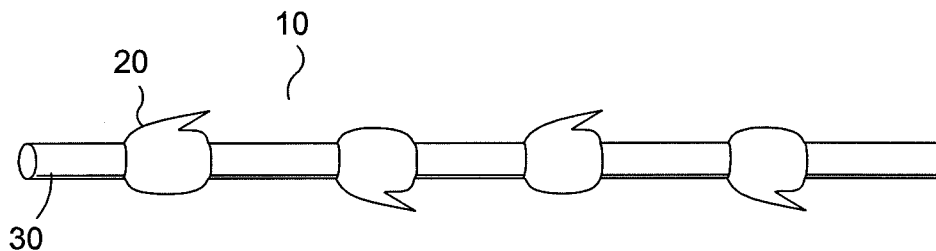
(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:
— with international search report

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
9 October 2008

(54) Title: MINIMALLY INVASIVE TISSUE SUPPORT



(57) Abstract: Embodiments of apparatus and methods for tissue lifting, or for correcting a ptosis condition caused by tissue stretching, are described. In some embodiments a tissue is supported by a support member. In some embodiments, tension is applied to a support member through at least one suspension member. The described embodiments provide examples of methods and apparatus effective for use in lifting or otherwise applying tension to various tissues, including tissues of the breast, buttock, thigh, arm, abdomen, neck and face.



WO 2008/042992 A3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US2007/080356

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(8) - A61F 2/12 (2008.01) USPC - 600/37 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(8) - A61F 2/00, 2/02, 2/12, 2/52 (2008.01) USPC - 600/30, 37; 606/151; 623/8, 902 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) PatBase, Google		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2006/0167338 A1 (SHFARAM) 27 July 2006 (27.07.2006) entire document	1-5, 8-10, 47-50, 57
Y		6-7, 11-46, 51-56, 58-59
Y	US 6,695,855 B1 (GASTON) 24 February 2004 (24.02.2004) entire document	6-7, 12
Y	US 4,372,293 A (VIJIL-ROSALES) 08 February 1983 (08.02.1983) entire document	11
Y	US 2006/0030939 A1 (FRANK) 09 February 2006 (09.02.2006) entire document	13-14
Y	US 2006/0089525 A1 (MAMO et al) 27 April 2006 (27.04.2006) entire document	15-16
Y	US 6,908,473 B2 (SKIBA et al) 21 June 2005 (21.06.2005) entire document	17-23, 51-52
Y	US 2006/0069403 A1 (SHALON et al) 30 March 2006 (30.03.2006) entire document	21
Y	US 2006/0201519 A1 (FRAZIER et al) 14 September 2006 (14.09.2006) entire document	24-33, 40-46, 53-56, 58-59
Y	US 7,081,129 B2 (CHOBOTOV) 25 July 2006 (25.07.2006) entire document	34-39, 54-55
Y	US 5,910,124 A (RUBIN) 08 June 1999 (08.06.1999) entire document	40-46, 58-59
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/>		
* 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 application or patent 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 11 February 2008		Date of mailing of the international search report 10 APR 2008
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US, Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. 571-273-3201		Authorized officer: Blaine R. Copenheaver PCT Helpdesk: 571-272-4300 PCT OSP: 571-272-7774