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(54) Title: GASTRIC RETAINING DEVICES AND METHODS

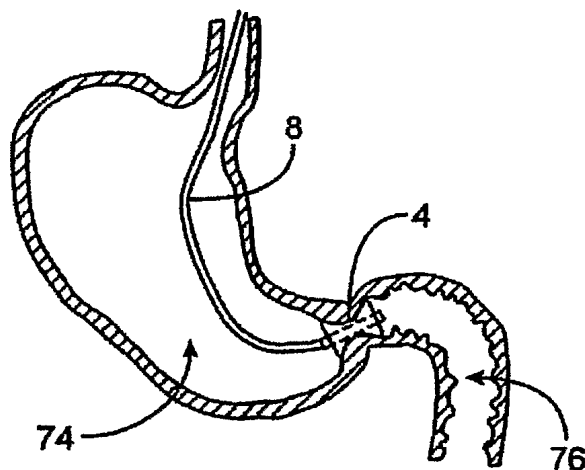


FIG. 6B

(57) Abstract: Devices and methods are disclosed that facilitate gastric retention. In one embodiment of the present invention, a gastric device includes a support portion for preventing the device from passing through the pyloric valve or esophagus, and an optional retaining member for maintaining a position in the stomach. The device may be deliverable into the stomach through the esophagus, either by swallowing or through a delivery tube or catheter, and may be fully reversible. In another embodiments, a gastric device according to the present invention self-expands within the stomach, while in still another embodiments a gastric device is inflatable or otherwise expandable.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC: **A61F 2/04**(2006.01),**2/00**(2006.01);**A61B 17/08**(2006.01)

USPC: 623/23.64,23.65,23.71;606/151,157;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)

U.S. :

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 --- Y	US 5,976,174 A (Ruiz) 2 November 1999 (02.11.1999), column 3, lines 16,17, column 4, lines, 6,46	14-17 ----- 4-8
X --- Y	US 6,675,809 B2 (Stack et al.) 13 January 2004 (13.01.2004), column 3, lines 40,41,55-60, column 4, lines, 14,17,19,24-27,56	1-7,9,10,12,14-17,21,22
Y	US 2004/0158331 A1 (Stack et al.) 12 Aug. 2004 (12.08.2004), entire document.	4,8,11,13,18-20,23,24
Y	US 6,371,974 B1 (Brenneman et al.) 16 April 2002, col. 7, lines 50-52, 62-64	24
Y	US 6,600,953 B2 (Flesler et al.) 29 July 2003, entire document.	18-20
Y		11, 13

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