(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
3 January 2008 (03.01.2008)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2008/002461 A3

(51) International Patent Classification:
A61C 19/04 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2007/014518

(22) International Filing Date: 22 June 2007 (22.06.2007)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
11/476,987 27 June 2006 (27.06.2006) US

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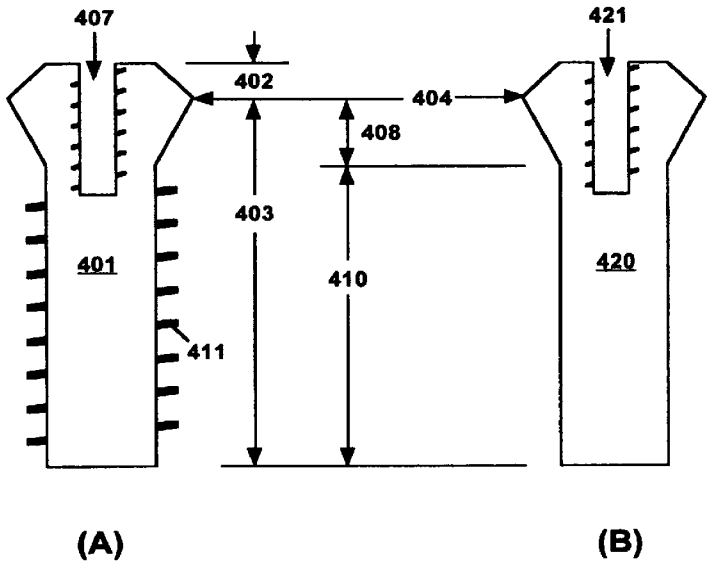
(81) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, 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:
14 August 2008

(54) Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR VERTICAL POSITIONING OF DENTAL IMPLANTS



(57) Abstract: A positioning device is used to place an implant in the proper vertical position within the soft tissue and bone, provide space for subsequent procedures, and create a proper emergence profile for the final restoration. The lower portion of the positioning device has substantially the same outer shape as that of the implant but without external screw threads or other mechanical features for anchoring the implant in the jawbone. After the hole is countersunk, the depth of the hole in the jawbone is increased incrementally and checked with the positioning device for collar engagement and location of the margin within the gum tissue and bone. After the proper vertical position is attained, a special countersink bur may be used to create needed space around the implant margin and provide a proper crown emergence profile.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US07/14518

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC: **A61C 19/04**(2006.01)

USPC: 433/72
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. : 433/72, 173, 600/590, 33/514

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 5,538,424 (Gelb) 23 July 1996 (23.07.1996), column 2, line 64. Figs. 1-2.	1-2, 7-8, 10 and 12-14
Y	US 7,090,495 B1 (Rosen) 15 August 2006 (15.08.2006) Figure 10	3
Y	US 7,172,416 B2 (Lin) 6 February 2007 (06.02.2007) column 2, lines 50-51	4-6
Y	US 5,741,267 (Jorneus et al) 21 April 1998 (21.04.1998). Figure 5.	9
Y	US 7,008,227 B2 (Carmicheal et al) 7 March 2006 (07.03.2006) column 7, ll. 30-33.	11

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

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Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
03 April 2008 (03.04.2008)	01 MAY 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 John J Wilson Telephone No. 571-272-3700

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (April 2007)