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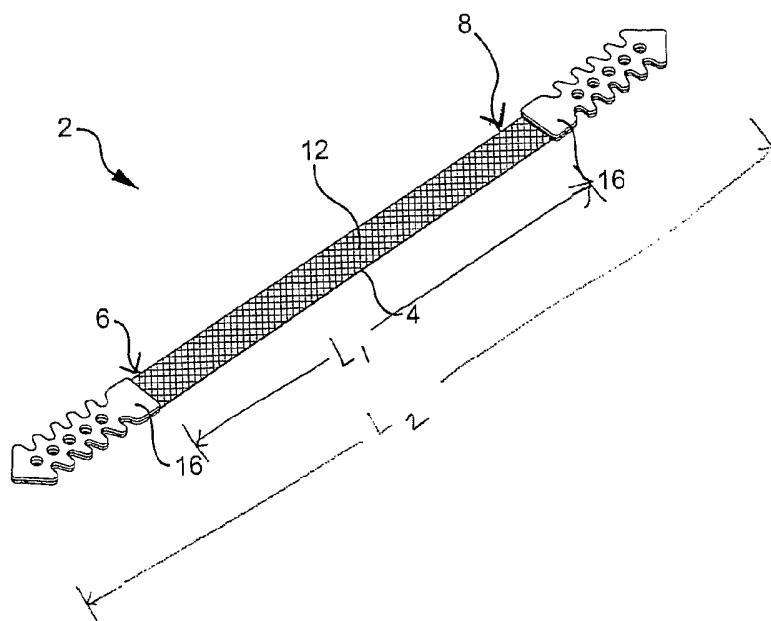
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: MINIMALLY INVASIVE MEDICAL IMPLANT AND INSERTION DEVICE AND METHOD FOR USING THE SAME



(57) Abstract: A medical implant and method for implantation of the same. One embodiment is an implant for use in the treatment of stress urinary incontinence that includes an implantable, elongated tape having a multiplicity of openings formed through the thickness thereof, the tape having a first end region and a second end region longitudinally opposite the first end region, and first and second bio-compatible fixation elements attached to the first and second end regions of the tape respectively. Each bio-compatible fixation element has a tissue adherence property greater than that of the tape.



**(88) Date of publication of the international search report:**

18 May 2006

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/US2005/026614

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

A61F2/00

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)

A61F

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)

EP0-Internal

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 03/086205 A (GYNE IDEAS LIMITED; BROWNING, JAMES) 23 October 2003 (2003-10-23) page 35, line 23 - page 37, line 9; figures 1-4 page 50, line 2 - page 52, line 18 page 16, line 27 - page 17, line 5 page 33, line 29 - line 32 page 34, line 23 - line 29 page 44, line 9 - line 14	1,3,6,7, 12,13, 26,30,37
A	-----	2,9,27
X	US 2003/191480 A1 (ULMSTEN ULF ET AL) 9 October 2003 (2003-10-09) paragraph [0027]; figures 1,2 paragraph [0023] ----- -/--	1,3,5, 13,26

☒ 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

"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

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International application No

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C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>US 2002/156488 A1 (GELLMAN BARRY N ET AL)  24 October 2002 (2002-10-24)  paragraph [0176]; figures  -----</p>	4,7

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/US2005/026614

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 03086205	A	23-10-2003	AU 2003229899 A1	27-10-2003
			CA 2481275 A1	23-10-2003
			EP 1492459 A2	05-01-2005
			GB 2402343 A	08-12-2004
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US 2003191480	A1	09-10-2003	WO 02069781 A2	12-09-2002
			US 2002128670 A1	12-09-2002
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US 2002156488	A1	24-10-2002	NONE	
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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/US2005/026614

## 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.: 23-25  
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:
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:

see additional sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers allsearchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of 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.:  
1-13, 26-30, 37

### 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.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-13,26-30,37

An implant comprising an elongated tape and fixation elements attached to the end regions of the tape wherein the fixation elements have an adherence property greater than that of the tape  
(problem: to avoid physical attachment means such as anchoring mechanisms for securing the implant to surrounding tissue)

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2. claims: 14-22,31-36,38

An implant comprising an elongated tape and fixation elements attached to the end regions of the tape wherein the fixation elements have a stiffness greater than that of the tape  
(problem: enabling the fixation elements to be firmly held on to the insertion device)

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