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(71) Applicants (for all designated States except US): **LEADER MEDICA S.r.l.** [IT/IT]; Via Cernaia, 4, I-35100 Padova (IT). **EUROPEAN NEUROSURGICAL INSTITUTE SRL** [IT/IT]; Via Ghirada, 2, I-31100 Treviso (TV) (IT).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **BIDOIA, Gianfranco** [IT/IT]; LEADER MEDICA S.r.l., Via Cernaia, 4, I-35100 Padova (IT). **ALEXANDRE, Alberto** [IT/IT]; LEADER MEDICA S.r.l., Via Cernaia, 4, I-35100 Padova (IT).

(74) Agent: **BENETTIN, Maurizio**; Ufficio Veneto Brevetti, Via Sorio, 116, I-35141 Padova (IT).

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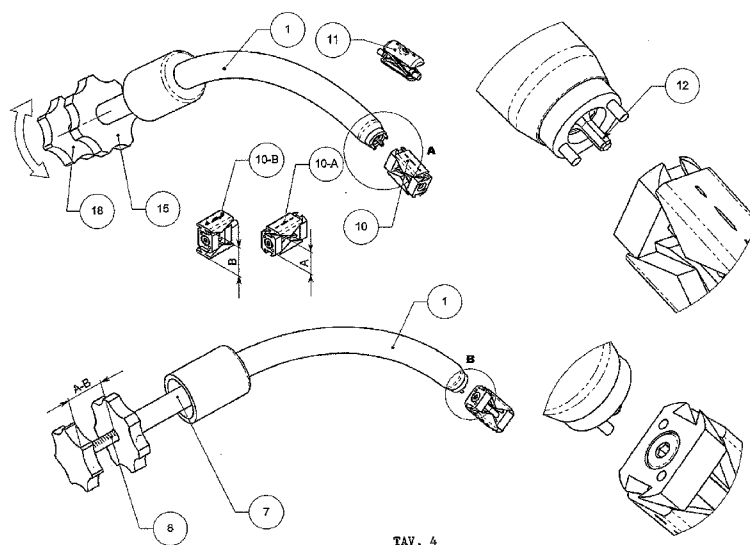
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- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))

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

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(54) Title: PERCUTANEOUS INTERSPINOUS DISTRACTION DEVICE



(57) Abstract: A new device for the application of an interspinous distraction device, comprising one or more percutaneous entry cannulae (1), of appropriate dimension and suitable for passage of the various instruments such as (2 - 3 - 7 - 9 - 13 - 14 - 15) and one or more introducer rods (2 - 3) adapted at the outset or adaptable elastically to said cannula/cannulae slightly longer than the same and terminating in a preferably ogival tip (4), from sharp, for example, to three-quarters (6C), or in other shapes which are suitable for the purpose of passing or favouring the passage through human tissue.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. A61B17/34 A61B17/70 A61B17/88
ADD. A61B17/02 A61B19/00

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)
A61B

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)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2004/162617 A1 (ZUCHERMAN JAMES F [US] - ET AL) 19 August 2004 (2004-08-19) figures 2,3a,4b,4c,10,11a,11b paragraphs [0051], [0054], [0057] - [0059], [0062], [0085], [0086] -----	1,2,4-6
X	WO 99/12481 A (UNITED STATES SURGICAL CORP [US]) 18 March 1999 (1999-03-18) figures 1,2,12,18,21,24 page 10; lines 10-14,20-28 page 15, lines 17-25 page 17, lines 9-14 -----	1,2
X	WO 96/27345 A (MICHELSON GARY K [US]) 12 September 1996 (1996-09-12) figures 1,2,16 claim 21 ----- -/--	1,2,4

☒ 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
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- * & * document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

29 May 2009

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Name and mailing address of the ISA/

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Louka, Maria

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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.
X	WO 2006/002430 A (SDGI HOLDINGS INC [US]; EMBRY JILL [US]; SERBOUSEK JON C [US]; ALBANS) 5 January 2006 (2006-01-05) figures 2,6 page 5, paragraph TWO - page 7, paragraph ONE -----	1,6
X	WO 97/30666 A (DANEK MEDICAL INC [US]) 28 August 1997 (1997-08-28) figures 12,14,15 page 2, lines 2,3 page 19, lines 1-20 page 20, line 20 - page 21, line 19 -----	1-4
X	US 2003/083688 A1 (SIMONSON ROBERT E [US]) 1 May 2003 (2003-05-01) figures 2,3 paragraphs [0030], [0033] -----	1,4

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/IB2009/050202

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:

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 reportcovers 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.:

see additional sheet(s)

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: 1-6

Device for applying an interspinous distraction device with cannulae and introducer rods.

2. claims: 7-11

Interspinous distraction device which is expandable.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/IB2009/050202

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

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