

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
6 May 2004 (06.05.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2004/037074 A3**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **A61B 17/70**

(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/US2003/035438

(22) International Filing Date: 24 October 2003 (24.10.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
10/280,489 25 October 2002 (25.10.2002) US

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(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU,  
AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU,

CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE,  
GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR,  
KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK,  
MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT,  
RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR,  
TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

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

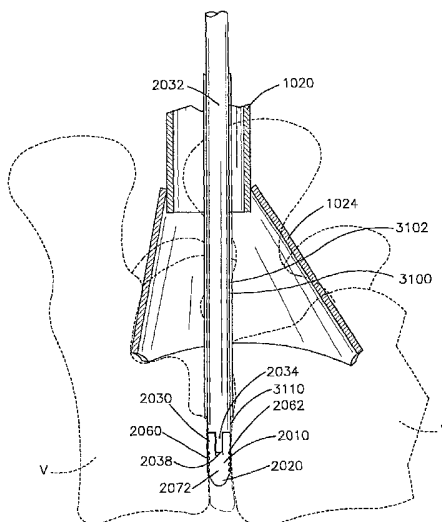
**Published:**

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the  
claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of  
amendments

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:  
22 July 2004

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

(54) Title: METHOD OF SECURING VERTEBRAE



(57) **Abstract:** A method of fixing first and second vertebrae of a patient includes inserting a first cannula (1020) into the body of the patient. A fusion device (2010, 2110) is moved through the cannula and inserted between the first and second vertebrae. First and second fasteners (4064) are moved through the cannula and secured to the first vertebra. A first fixation element (4650) is moved through the cannula and is fixed to the first and second fasteners. The fusion device (2010) has first and second ends (2070, 2072), upper and lower surfaces (2060, 2062), and first and second side surfaces (2070, 2072). The side surfaces extend along arcs from the first end of the fusion device to the second end. The upper and lower surfaces have teeth (2064, 2066) that extend between the side surfaces along secant lines of circles partially defined by the side surfaces.

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/35438

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A61B 17/70

US CL : 606/61

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. : 606/60, 61, 69-73, 90, 96, 99, 104, 190, 191, 198; 600/201, 203, 204, 206, 210, 235; 128/8989; 604/264

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)  
Please See Continuation Sheet

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2002/0065560 A1 (VARGA et al) 30 May 2002 (30.05.2002), See Figs. 1-3.	15, 16, 20, 24
A	US 6,306,170 B2 (RAY) 23 October 2001 (23.10.2001), See the entire document.	
A	US 5,171,279 A (MATHEWS) 15 December 1992 (15.12.1992), See the entire document.	

☐ 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

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"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

10 May 2004 (10.05.2004)

Date of mailing of the international search report

26 MAY 2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US

Commissioner for Patents

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/US03/35438

## Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:

EAST

search terms: spine, spinal, vertebra, vertebrae, fusion, cage, graft, implant, cannula, retractor, fastener, screw, rod