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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: INTRAUTERINE DEPOSIT

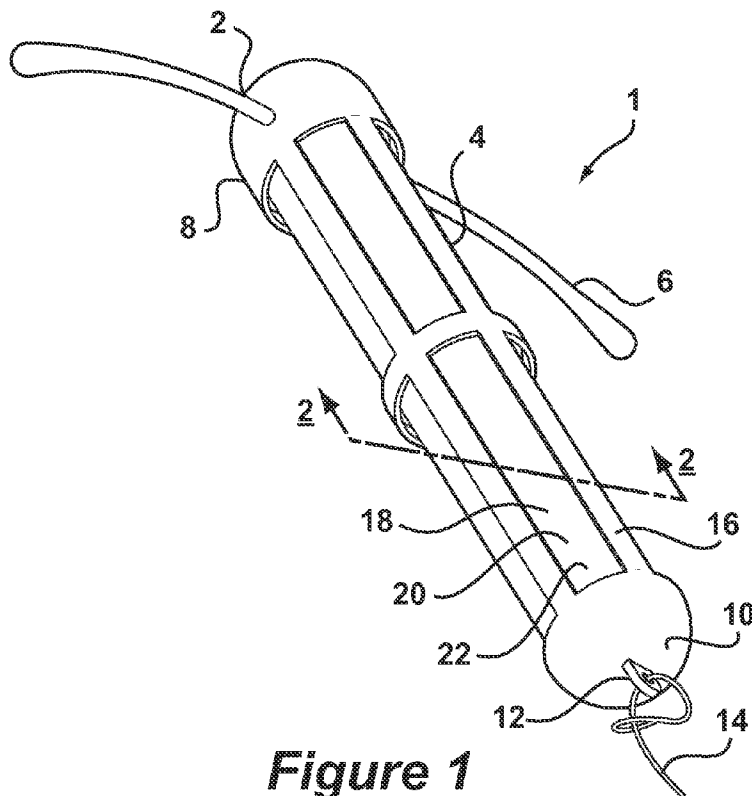


Figure 1

(57) Abstract: An intrauterine system (1) for the retention of a biologically active compound within the uterus of a female mammal is formed by a frame (16) defining an interior space (20) for receipt of a deposit of the compound (22). The frame has an open structure (18) allowing access to a substantial part of an outer surface of the deposit and the deposit has a rate controlling structure that controls a rate of release of the compound within the uterus. Retention elements (6) are provided on the frame for retaining the frame within the uterus.



NO, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. A61F6/14 A61F6/18
 ADD. A61K9/00

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 A61K

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, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	DE 21 01 533 A1 (RUDEL HARRY) 16 September 1971 (1971-09-16) the whole document -----	1-3, 5, 6, 8, 14-19
X	US 4 102 998 A (GUTNICK MORTON) 25 July 1978 (1978-07-25) column 2, line 33 - line 46 column 8, line 8 - column 14, line 9; figures 9-13 -----	1-3, 8, 9, 13, 14, 17, 18, 20, 23



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

30 January 2009

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05/06/2009

Name and mailing address of the ISA/

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/EP2008/065149

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: 1-3,5-19,20-24

An intrauterine system for the retention of a biologically active compound within the uterus of a female mammal, the system comprising a deposit of the compound comprising a rate controlling structure, a frame defining an interior space for receipt of the deposit and having an open structure allowing access to a substantial part of an outer surface of the deposit, and one or more retention elements; as well as a method of forming an intrauterine system.

2. claim: 4

An intrauterine system for the retention of a biologically active compound within the uterus of a female mammal, the system comprising a deposit of the compound comprising a generally rod shaped element, a substantially flexible frame defining an interior space for receipt of the deposit wherein the flexible frame and the rod shaped element interact to form a composite structure having greater stiffness than either the rod shaped element or the frame alone, and one or more retention elements provided on the frame.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/EP2008/065149

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
DE 2101533	A1	16-09-1971	DK 126614 B	06-08-1973
			GB 1333657 A	10-10-1973
			US 3656483 A	18-04-1972
US 4102998	A	25-07-1978	NONE	