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US 13/190,240 (CON)  
Filed on 25 July 2011 (25.07.2011)
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): BOSTON SCIENTIFIC SCIMED, INC. [US/US]; One Scimed Place, Maple Grove, Minnesota 55311-1566 (US).
- (72) Inventor; and
- (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): CHU, Michael, S.H. [US/US]; 121 Browne St, Brookline, Massachusetts 02446 (US).
- (74) Agents: FORD, Timothy, D. et al.; Brake Hughes Beller-mann LLP, c/o CPA Global, PO Box 52050, 900 2nd Ave S, Suite 1560, Minneapolis, MN 55402 (US).
- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, 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, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: ADJUSTABLE BODILY IMPLANTS

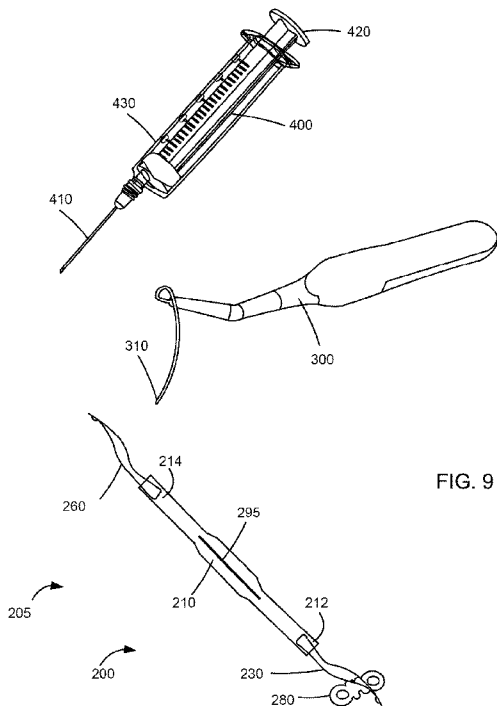


FIG. 9

(57) Abstract: A medical device (200) includes a support member (210), a tether (230), and a retainer (280). The support member is configured to be placed within a body of a patient and provide support to a portion of the body of the patient. The tether forms a loop and is coupled to the support member. The tether is configured to extend from the body of the patient when the support member is placed within the body of the patient. The retainer is configured to be coupled to the tether at a first location on the tether and at a second location on the tether different than the first location. The retainer is configured to be disposed out- side of the body of the patient when the support member is placed within the body of the patient.





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

— 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))

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

10 January 2013

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International application No  
PCT/US2011/045395

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
 INV. A61F2/00 A61B17/06  
 ADD. A61B17/04

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 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 practicable, 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	WO 2006/108145 A1 (BOSTON SCIENT SCIMED INC [US]) 12 October 2006 (2006-10-12) figures 26A-G page 36, line 17 - page 38, line 2 -----	1-5, 8-12,15
X	US 2003/065402 A1 (ANDERSON KIMBERLY A [US] ET AL) 3 April 2003 (2003-04-03) figures 6, 16 paragraph [0078] - paragraph [0085] -----	1,4,5,9, 10
Y	US 2008/210248 A1 (MAROTO JESUS ROMERO [ES] ROMERO MAROTO JESUS [ES]) 4 September 2008 (2008-09-04) the whole document -----	1-12
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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 application or patent 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  16 November 2012	Date of mailing of the international search report  26/11/2012
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  Portoni, Luisa

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/US2011/045395

## 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.: 16-20  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:  
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
  
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:

1.  As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable 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.:

### 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.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No  
PCT/US2011/045395

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	EP 1 800 619 A1 (ROMERO MAROTO JESUS [ES]) 27 June 2007 (2007-06-27) paragraph [0022] - paragraph [0023]; figures 1-3 -----	1-7,9-11
Y	US 4 938 760 A (BURTON JOHN H [US] ET AL) 3 July 1990 (1990-07-03) the whole document -----	2
Y	US 6 010 525 A (BONUTTI PETER M [US] ET AL) 4 January 2000 (2000-01-04) the whole document -----	1,3-12
A	WO 98/35616 A1 (BOSTON SCIENT IRELAND LTD [BB]; GELLMAN BARRY N [US]; BRENNEMAN RODNEY) 20 August 1998 (1998-08-20) figure 29 -----	13,14
X,P	WO 2011/060788 A1 (COLOPLAST AS [DK]; MOSCHEL MARK A [US]; NARTHASILPA PORNPIMON [US]; TH) 26 May 2011 (2011-05-26) figures 6, 7, 7A -----	1,3,5,8, 10-12

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/US2011/045395

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International application No

PCT/US2011/045395

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**FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210**

Continuation of Box II.1

Claims Nos.: 16-20

Methods of placing a medical device within a body of a patient as defined in claims 16-20 of the present international application are methods of treatment of the human or animal body by surgery. Indeed, the methods claimed in claims 16-20 includes surgical steps, as those necessary to deliver the medical device to a target location in a patient's body. Thus, claims 16-20 relate to subject-matter considered by this Authority to be covered by the provisions of Rule 39.1(iv) PCT, and no international search report will be established with respect to the subject-matter of these claims (Article 17(2)(a)(i) PCT).