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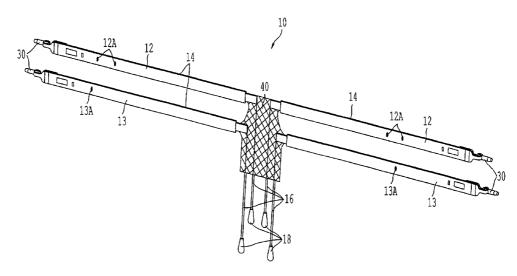
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(54) Title: APPARATUS FOR CYSTOCELE REPAIR



(57) Abstract: A method for cystocele repair comprising the steps of: establishing four pathways in tissue around a bladder of a patient, introducing a strap into of said pathways, and positioning beneath said bladder of said patient a support member having each said strap connected thereto such that said bladder of said patient is supported by said support member and a bulge of said bladder into a vagina of said patient is reduced.

#### INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int ional Application No PCT/US2005/015725

a. classification of subject matter IPC 7 A61F2/00 A61E A61B17/04 A61B17/06 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) IPC 7 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 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. χ US 2004/039453 A1 (ANDERSON KIMBERLY A ET 8,9 11-21,27AL) 26 February 2004 (2004-02-26) Α paragraph '0081! - paragraph '0089!; 26,28 figures 3,4 paragraphs '0119! - '0124!; figure 15 paragraph '0119! - paragraph '0125!; figures 15,16 X US 2003/220538 A1 (JACQUETIN BERNARD) 8,11 27 November 2003 (2003-11-27) paragraph '0079!; figure 10 X US 2002/165566 A1 (ULMSTEN ULF) 16 7 November 2002 (2002-11-07) paragraph '0015! - paragraph '0020!; figure 6 -/---Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: "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 "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "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 filing date 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) "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. "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or document published prior to the international filing date but "&" document member of the same patent family later than the priority date claimed Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 0 2. 11. 2005 12 October 2005 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31–70) 340–3016 Filali, S

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

In ational Application No PCT/US2005/015725

C.(Continua	ation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	Relevant to claim No.		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages			
A	US 2003/004395 A1 (THERIN MICHEL) 2 January 2003 (2003-01-02) paragraph '0028! - paragraph '0054!; figures 1,2	16		

# FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

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

1. claims: 8-15

Apparatus comprising support member and plurality of straps.

2. claims: 16-28

 $16\mbox{--}28$  a kit comprising two straps, a first needle and a second needle.

national application No. PCT/US2005/015725

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Box 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. X Claims Nos.: 1-7 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								
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 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. X 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 fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.								
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.  X  No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.								

# **INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

Information on patent family members

In ional Application No
PCT/US2005/015725

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US 2004039453	A1	26-02-2004	NONE		
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