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(54) Title: JOINT SPACE INTERPOSITIONAL PROSTHETIC DEVICE WITH INTERNAL BEARING SURFACES

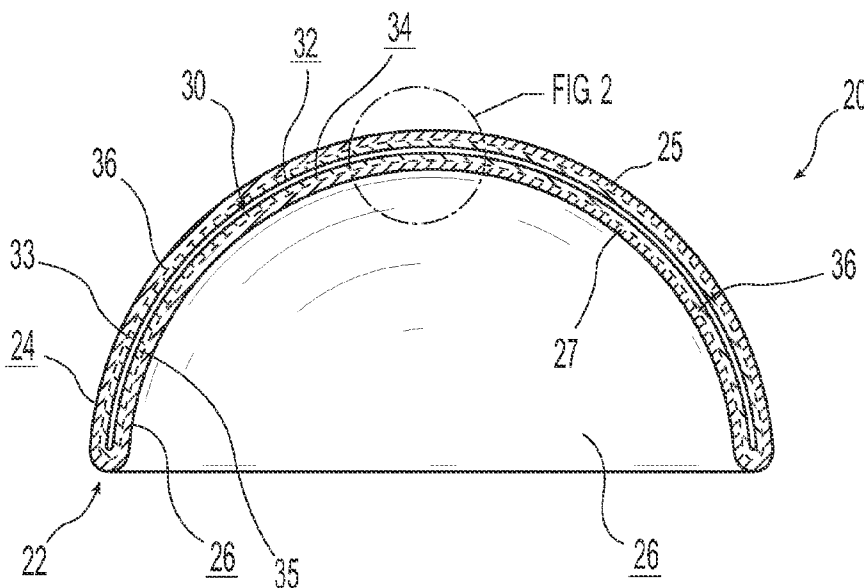


Fig. 1

(57) Abstract: Joint space interpositional prosthetic devices for positioning between surfaces of a joint in a patient are disclosed. The prosthetic device may have exterior surfaces (24, 26) affixed to the joint surfaces and may have internal surfaces (32, 34) which provide bearing surfaces. In an exemplary embodiment, the bearing surfaces are encapsulated within the device. The exterior surfaces of the device may include bone securement features to facilitate attachment of the prosthetic device to the joint surfaces.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/US2008/071141

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. A61F2/30

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

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	DE 25 01 080 A1 (PATZER GEORG DR MED) 15 July 1976 (1976-07-15) figure 1 pages 1,2	1,2,15
X	FR 2 803 190 A (WIRTH BERNARD [FR]) 6 July 2001 (2001-07-06) figures 1,2,6 page 12, line 19 - page 14, line 13	1,2,15
P,X	WO 2007/125060 A (ZIMMER GMBH [CH]; HOWALD RALPH [CH]; HEUBERGER PETER [CH]; TROMMSDORFF) 8 November 2007 (2007-11-08) figure 1 page 8, line 4 - line 28 ----- -/--	1,2,15



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
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- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

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- *8* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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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.
A	US 4 467 479 A (BRODY GARRY S [US]) 28 August 1984 (1984-08-28) figures 6-9 -----	1,15
A	EP 0 507 645 A (BOUVET JEAN CLAUDE [FR]) 7 October 1992 (1992-10-07) figure 1 -----	1,4,15, 19

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2008/071141

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.: 28-32
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
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: 1-14, 15-27

An interpositional prosthetic device for positioning between a first joint surface and a second joint surface of a joint, comprising:
a first prosthetic component,
a second prosthetic component, and
a containment means for containing debris produced from articulation between said first and second prosthetic components.

2. claims: 33-35

An interpositional prosthetic device for positioning between a first joint surface and a second joint surface of a joint, comprising:
a first prosthetic component including a first external region having a first bone securement feature,
a second prosthetic component,
wherein said first bone securement feature has a surface area smaller than all of the natural articular surface associated with the first joint surface.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/US2008/071141

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
DE 2501080	A1	15-07-1976	NONE
FR 2803190	A	06-07-2001	NONE
WO 2007125060	A	08-11-2007	NONE
US 4467479	A	28-08-1984	NONE
EP 0507645	A	07-10-1992	DE 69231921 D1 16-08-2001 FR 2674743 A1 09-10-1992