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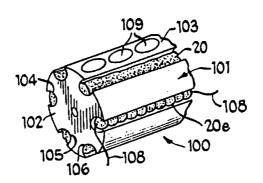
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(57) Abstract

An antibiotic eluding intramedullary nail apparatus (10) for use in the intramedullary fixation of fractured long bones, such as femurs, tibias, fibulas, humeri, ulnas and radii as well as other orthopedic and bone reconstructive procedures, and in particular, fractures associated with an open wound exposing the soft tissue and medullary canal of the fractured bone to bacteria and other infectious micro-organisms. The apparatus (10) has an intramedullary nail to which is secured an antibiotic impregnated carrier compound (20), the apparatus (10) being surgically insertable within the medullary canal of a fractured bone using conventional intramedullary nailing techniques thus providing a sustained localized release of antibiotic agents in bactericidial concentrations, and/or chemotherapeutic agents for the fractured bone and thereby serving to permit the use of intramedullary nailing to repair injuries which may be otherwise contraindicated due to the risk of deep wound and/or bone infections and/or bone tumors.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(5) :A61B 17/56						
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Category* Citation of document, with indication, where	appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.				
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