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(54) Title: INGESTIBLE DEVICE PLATFORM FOR THE COLON

(57) Abstract: An ingestible pill platform for colon imaging is provided, designed to recognize its entry to the colon and expand in the colon, for improved imaging of the colon walls. On approaching the external anal sphincter muscle, the ingestible pill may contract or deform, for elimination. Colon recognition may be based on a structural image, based on the differences in diameters between the small intestine and the colon, and particularly, based on the semilunar fold structure, which is unique to the colon. Additionally or alternatively, colon recognition may be based on a functional image, based on the generally inflammatory state of the vermiform appendix. Additionally or alternatively, pH, flora, enzymes and (or) chemical analyses may be used to recognize the colon. The imaging of the colon walls may be functional, by nuclear-radiation imaging of radionuclide-labeled antibodies, or by optical-fluorescence-spectroscopy imaging of fluorescence-labeled antibodies. Additionally or alternatively, it may be structural, for example, by visual, ultrasound or MRI means. Due to the proximity to the colon walls, the imaging in accordance with the present invention is advantageous to colonoscopy or virtual colonoscopy, as it is designed to distinguish malignant from benign tumors and detect tumors even at their incipient stage, and overcome blood-pool background radioactivity.



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	SIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER			
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Documentation	on searched other than minimum documentation to the	extent that such documents are included in	the fields searched	
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C. DOC	JMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where a	ppropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.	
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Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or pridate and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand particular relevance "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of principle or theory underlying the invention		tion but cited to understand the		
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tegory *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No
Y	US 2002/0072784 A1 (SHEPPARD, JR. et al) 13 June 2002 (13.06.2002), abstract; Figures 1-3; paragraphs 26-53; Examples 1-5.	1-39
Y	US 2003/0191430 A1 (D'ANDREA et al) 09 October 2003 (09.10.2003), abstract; Figures 1-4; paragraphs 18-59.	1-39

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