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(54) **Title:** METHODS FOR PRODUCING BIOMATERIALS WITH VARIABLE STIFFNESS

(57) **Abstract:** This invention relates to the production of biomaterials with variable stiffness by subjecting a gel which varies in at least one dimension to plastic compaction. These biomaterials may be useful, for example, for the directional control or guidance of cells within tissue equivalent implants.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/GB2008/002307

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. A61L27/50 A61L27/24

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)
A61L

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, 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	BROWN ET AL: "Ultrarapid engineering of biomimetic materials and tissues: fabrication of nano- and microstructures by plastic compression" ADVANCED FUNCTIONAL MATERIALS, WILEY VCH, WIENHEIM, DE, vol. 15, 1 January 2005 (2005-01-01), pages 1762-1770, XP007909595 ISSN: 1616-301X the whole document	1-24
A	WO 2006/003442 A (UCL BIOMEDICA PLC [GB]; BROWN ROBERT [GB]; NAZHAT SHOWAN [GB]; MUDERA) 12 January 2006 (2006-01-12) claims 1-55	1-24
A	US 4 689 399 A (CHU GEORGE [US]) 25 August 1987 (1987-08-25) column 2, lines 30-50; claims 1-7	1-24

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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