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(71) Applicant: MEDTRONIC, INC. [US/US]; MS LC340,  
710 Medtronic Parkway NE, Minneapolis, MN 55432  
(US).

(72) Inventors: CORBUCCI, Giorgio; via Malagodi 19/5,  
I-40042 Cento (FE) (IT). BOUTE, Willem; Hendikstraat  
19, NL-6951 AT Dieren (NL).

(74) Agents: KINGHORN, Curtis, D. et al.; MS LC340, 710  
Medtronic Parkway NE, Minneapolis, MN 55432 (US).

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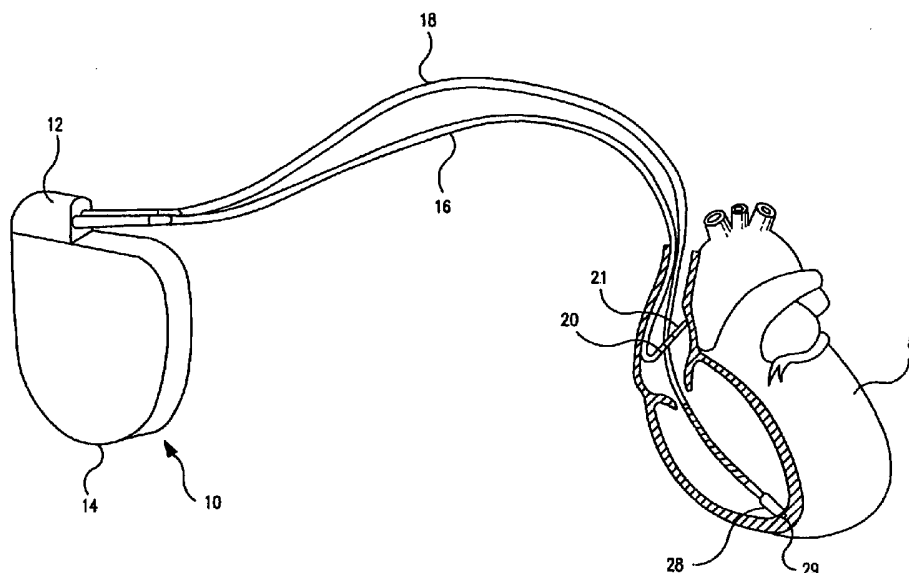
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: VENTRICULAR RATE STABILIZATION



(57) Abstract: Techniques for stabilizing the rate of a ventricle, during conducted atrial fibrillation for example, adjust the escape interval of an implantable medical device to increase or decrease the pacing rate. In some embodiments, the escape interval is adjusted to achieve and maintain a percentage of pacing. In other embodiments, the stability of the ventricular rate is quantified as a function of measured R-R intervals, and the escape interval is adjusted to achieve and maintain a level of stability. In still other embodiments, a mean compensatory pause length is determined, and the escape interval is adjusted as a function of the mean compensatory pause length, to maintain the escape interval at or near the mean compensatory pause length.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
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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)

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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 846 263 A (PETERSON ET AL) 8 December 1998 (1998-12-08) paragraph [0008] - paragraph [0054] -----	1-61
X	DE 101 19 394 A1 (MEDTRONIC, INC) 29 November 2001 (2001-11-29) paragraph [0005] - paragraph [0062] -----	1-61
Y	WO 00/78390 A (MEDTRONIC, INC) 28 December 2000 (2000-12-28)  page 2, line 7 - page 25, line 17 ----- -/--	8-18, 32-39, 49-51, 57-59

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

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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

Authorized officer

Kurze, V

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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.
Y	US 5 814 085 A (HILL ET AL) 29 September 1998 (1998-09-29)  column 1, line 47 - column 9, line 48 -----	8-18, 32-39, 49-51, 57-59
A	US 2002/004671 A1 (BORNZIN GENE A ET AL) 10 January 2002 (2002-01-10) paragraph [0008] - paragraph [0054] -----	1-61

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Information on patent family members

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