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(54) Title: METHOD OF TREATING AND DEHYDRATING BONE FOR IMPLANTATION

(57) Abstract: Monolithic bone intended for implantation is treated in order to conserve its mechanical strength during dehydration and subsequent packaging and to maintain the strength of the bone during the storage period preceding the rehydration and implantation of the bone. The method of treatment comprises contacting the bone with a mechanical strength-conserving amount of at least one biocompatible mechanical strength-conserving agent, the agent being a liquid organic material which is capable of penetrating and remaining in the bone during its dehydration, packaging and storage, dehydrating the bone containing the mechanical strength-conserving agent and packaging the dehydrated bone.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
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|--|---|-----------------------|---|---|
| <b>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b><br>IPC 7 A61L27/36 A61F2/28   |   |                       |   |   |
| According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC  |   |                       |   |   |
| <b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b>  |   |                       |   |   |
| Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)<br>IPC 7 A61L 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)<br>EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ  |   |                       |   |   |
| <b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>  |   |                       |   |   |
| Category   | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages  | Relevant to claim No. |   |   |
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| -/--   |   |                       |   |   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.   |   |                       |   |   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent family members are listed in annex.   |   |                       |   |   |
| * Special categories of cited documents :  |   |                       |   |   |
| <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top; border: none;">                     *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance<br/>                     *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date<br/>                     *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)<br/>                     *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means<br/>                     *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed                 </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top; border: none;">                     *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention<br/>                     *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone<br/>                     *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.<br/>                     *&amp;* document member of the same patent family                 </td> </tr> </table> |   |                       | *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance<br>*E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date<br>*L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)<br>*O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means<br>*P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed | *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention<br>*X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone<br>*Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.<br>*&* document member of the same patent family |
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| Date of the actual completion of the international search<br><br><p style="text-align: center;">7 February 2002</p>  | Date of mailing of the international search report<br><br><p style="text-align: center;">15/02/2002</p>   |                       |   |   |
| Name and mailing address of the ISA<br>European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2<br>NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk<br>Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,<br>Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016   | Authorized officer<br><br><p style="text-align: center;">ESPINOSA, M</p>  |                       |   |   |

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International Application No  
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