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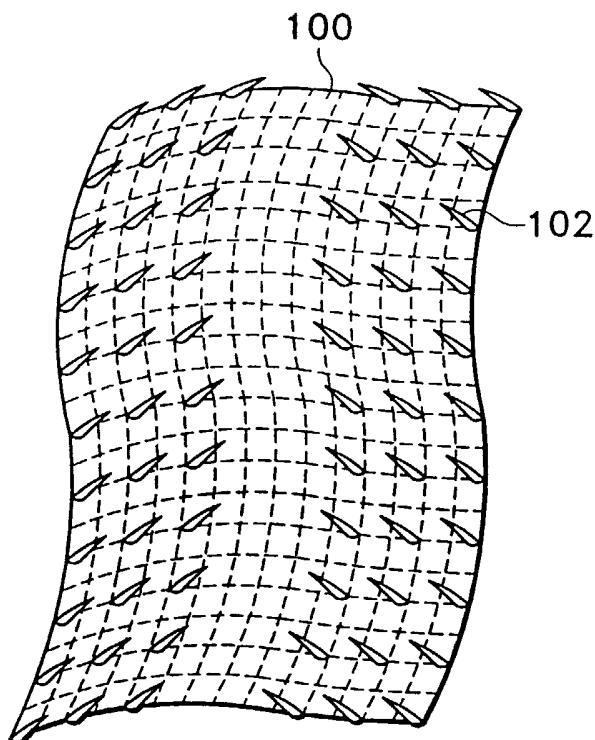
(43) International Publication Date
24 December 2003 (24.12.2003)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2003/105703 A3

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **A61B 17/08**
- (21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2003/018753
- (22) International Filing Date: 12 June 2003 (12.06.2003)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
10/170,530 12 June 2002 (12.06.2002) US
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- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:**
— with international search report
- (88) Date of publication of the international search report:
1 April 2004
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: MULTI-POINT TENSION DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM DEVICE AND METHOD OF TISSUE APPROXIMATION USING THAT DEVICE TO IMPROVE WOUND HEALING



(57) Abstract: A tissue approximation device and processes for using the device are provided. The device is an implantable, biodegradable construct that has attachment points (102) emanating from a supportive backing (100). The device improves the mechanical phase of wound healing and evenly distributes tension over the contact area between the device and tissue. Processes for using the device include wound closure, vascular anastomoses, soft tissue attachment and soft tissue to bone attachment.

WO 2003/105703 A3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US03/18753

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(7) : A61B 17/08 US CL : 606/213-215 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) U.S. : 606/213-215 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched NONE Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) NONE		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4,259,959 A (WALKER) 07 April 1981, figures 1-5.	1, 7-9
Y	US 2,421,193 A (GARDNER) 27 May 1947, figures 6-9.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.		
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"O"	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	
Date of the actual completion of the international search		Date of mailing of the international search report
20 OCTOBER 2003		21 NOV 2003
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