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FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, NL, PL, PT,
RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA,
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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

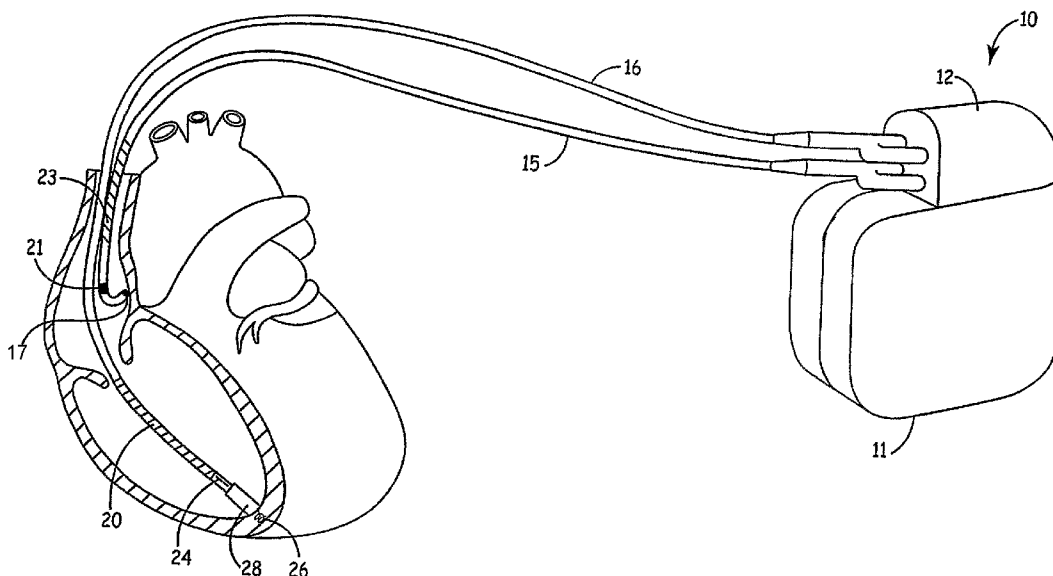
- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a
patent (Rule 4.17(ii))
- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the
earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))

Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the
claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SUPPRESSION OF HIGH RATE PACING FOR REDUCING MYOCARDIAL ISCHEMIC IRRITABILITY



(57) Abstract: An implantable cardiac stimulation device capable of delivering automatic rate-adjusting pacing therapies is provided having an adjustable upper rate limit responsive to an indication of myocardial irritability. The implantable device, which may be embodied as a pacemaker, a pacemaker/cardioverter/defibrillator, or the like, responds to the detection of an arrhythmia as an indicator of myocardial irritability by adjusting an upper rate limit. The adjusted upper rate limit is applied as the maximum allowable pacing rate during delivery of any pacing therapies previously defined as "long-term" pacing therapies.

WO 2006/118846 A3



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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.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/US2006/015397

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 INV. A61N1/362 A61N1/39
 ADD. A61N1/37 A61B5/0464

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)
A61N

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

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 216 035 B1 (STAHL WYATT K [US] ET AL) 10 April 2001 (2001-04-10)	10
A	column 3, lines 18-28; figure 3	1-9
A	US 4 944 298 A (SHOLDER JASON A [US]) 31 July 1990 (1990-07-31) abstract; figures 4a-4b	1-10
A	US 5 978 709 A (BEGEMANN MALCOLM J S [NL] ET AL) 2 November 1999 (1999-11-02) cited in the application column 12, lines 29-52; figure 9	1-10
A	US 5 282 465 A (VAN DER VEEN JOHANNES S [NL] ET AL) 1 February 1994 (1994-02-01) column 3, lines 11-47	1-10
	-/--	

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

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"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

"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

"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.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

14 December 2006

Date of mailing of the international search report

27/12/2006

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
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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.
A	US 5 792 193 A (STOOP GUSTAAF A P [NL]) 11 August 1998 (1998-08-11) abstract	1-10

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2006/015397

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

Although claims 1-9 are directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body by therapy, the search has been carried out and based on corresponding device features.
2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No PCT/US2006/015397

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