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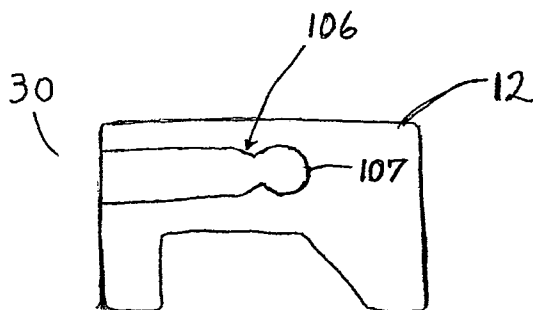
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(54) Title: EXPANDABLE IMPLANT DEVICE WITH INTERCHANGEABLE SPACER



(57) Abstract: An implantable device that is expandable in vivo includes two end pieces and a spacer configured to be inserted between the two end pieces in vivo. The two end pieces are configured to be inserted simultaneously without the spacer. After the two end pieces have been inserted and positioned as desired, the spacer is inserted between the two end pieces in vivo to maintain a desired amount of separation between the two end pieces. The two end pieces each provide contoured surfaces for engaging and holding the spacer between the end pieces.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US06/32980

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(8) - A61F 2/44 (2007.01)

USPC - 623/17.16

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)

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USPC - 623/17.16; 606/61

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 practicable, search terms used)

MicroPatent, IP.com, DialogPro

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 6,045,579 A (HOCHSCHULER et al) 04 April 2000 (04.04.2000) entire document	1-11, 13-20
Y	US 6,451,019 B1 (ZUCHERMAN et al) 17 September 2002 (17.09.2002) entire document	1-11, 13-20
Y	US 4,085,744 A (LEWIS et al) 25 April 1978 (25.04.1978) entire document	4
Y	US 5,682,890 A (KORMOS et al) 04 November 1997 (04.11.1997) entire document	5, 20
Y	US 6,156,067 A (BRYAN et al) 05 December 2000 (05.12.2000) entire document	6-7
Y	US 6,387,096 B1 (HYDE JR) 14 May 2002 (14.05.2002) entire document	14-16

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