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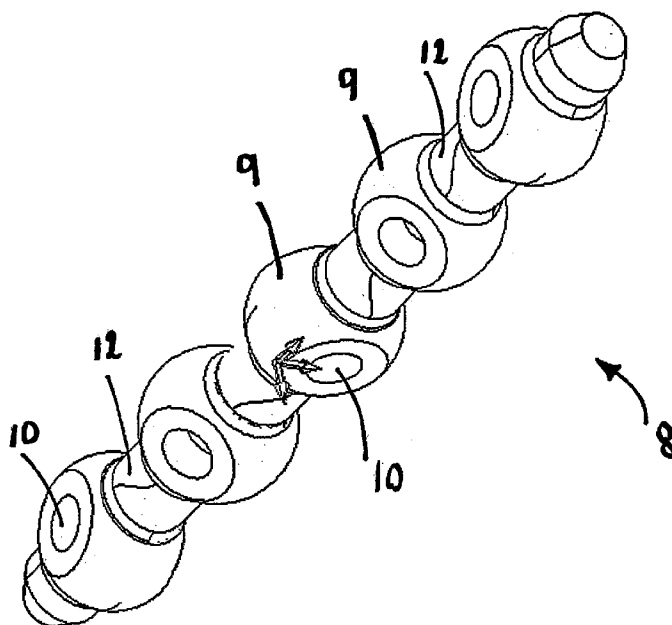
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(54) Title: A BONE FIXATION DEVICE



(57) Abstract: A bone fixation device comprising: first and second screw receiving members, each member having an aperture extending therethrough for receiving a screw; and a plastically deformable connecting arm extending between the screw receiving members along a long axis defined by the first and second screw receiving members; the arm being adapted to be more pliable than the screw receiving members such that (a) on twisting the device about its long axis the arm twists before the screw receiving members deform; and (b) on bending the device along its long axis the arm bends before the screw receiving members deform.

WO 2007/138270 A3

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
 INV. A61B17/80 A61B17/70

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)

A61B

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. |
|-----------|--|-----------------------|
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| Y         | figures 1,2  | 7-9,11                |
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| Y         | figure 16  | 7-9,11                |
|           | -----<br>-/--  |                       |

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☒ See patent family annex.

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

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\*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

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

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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. |
|-----------|--|-----------------------|
| X         | US 2005/065515 A1 (JAHNG TAE-AHN [KR])<br>24 March 2005 (2005-03-24)   | 1-3                   |
| Y         | figure 16B<br>-----  | 7-9, 11               |
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| X         | DE 90 04 960 U1 (PFEIL, JOACHIM, DR.MED;<br>VEITH, WOLFGANG, DR.-ING., 6900<br>HEIDELBERG, DE)<br>29 August 1991 (1991-08-29)<br>the whole document<br>----- | 1, 3-8                |
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| Y         | US 2003/074004 A1 (REED GARY JACK [US])<br>17 April 2003 (2003-04-17)<br>figures 5-7<br>-----  | 7-9                   |
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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/GB2007/001912

## Box No. 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.: 12  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:  
**Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery**
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 No. 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:

see additional sheet

1. ☒ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers allsearchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search reportcovers 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 and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- ☒ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

## FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1(part),2

A bone fixation device as claimed in claim 1, comprising a plurality of screw receiving members connected together in a line by connecting arms.

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2. claims: 1(part), 3, 4-6

A bone fixation device as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one connecting arm is cylindrical in cross section.  
A bone fixation device as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one screw receiving member is substantially spherical.

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3. claims: 1(part),7-11

A bone fixation device as claimed in claim 1, wherein a part of at least one aperture is threaded for receiving a screw.

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/GB2007/001912

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Information on patent family members

International application No

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