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(54) Title: SOLVENT-ASSISTED LOADING OF THERAPEUTIC AGENTS

(57) Abstract: Methods are provided for loading polymeric regions of medical devices with therapeutic agents. In these methods, a polymeric region of a medical device is first pretreated with a solvent system. Subsequently, therapeutic-agent-containing particles are impacted into the pretreated polymeric region at a velocity that is effective to at least partially embed the particles within the pretreated polymeric region. The pretreatment step parameters (e.g., the particular solvent system employed, amount of time that the solvent system contacts the polymeric region, etc.) are typically selected such that the surface tack of the polymeric region is increased. Consequently, the depth, the amount, or both the depth and the amount off the particles that become at least partially embedded in the polymeric region is/are typically increased, relative to what would be achieved in the absence of the pretreatment step. Also provided are medical devices made by such methods.



WO 2006/020644 A3

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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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)

A61L

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, WPI Data, EMBASE, BIOSIS, PAJ

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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X	EP 0 850 651 A (SCHNEIDER INC) 1 July 1998 (1998-07-01)	1,2,8,9, 11,12, 14-21 1-22
Y	column 1, line 42 - column 3, line 9 column 3, line 51 - column 5, line 12 example 3 claims 1-25	
Y	----- US 2004/059409 A1 (STENZEL ERIC B) 25 March 2004 (2004-03-25) page 1, paragraph 4 - page 2, paragraph 10 page 3, paragraphs 20,21,23,26,27 page 4, paragraphs 29,31-35 page 5, paragraph 39-44 page 6, paragraphs 47,49,50,53,54 page 7, paragraphs 56,59,60 claims 1-24 ----- -/-	1-22

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

☒ See patent family annex.

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- \* & \* document member of the same patent family

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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.
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A	US 2003/054090 A1 (HANSEN HENRIK) 20 March 2003 (2003-03-20) the whole document  -----	1-22
A	WO 2004/014448 A (MEDTRONIC, INC) 19 February 2004 (2004-02-19) the whole document  -----	1-22
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Information on patent family members

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