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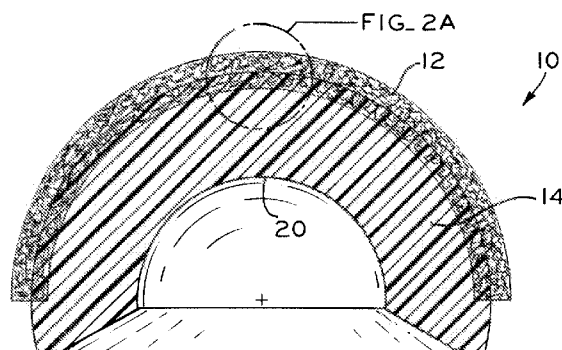


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: Medical implants, such as orthopedic implants of the type used in partial or total joint replacement procedures, for example. The implants include a porous substrate, and a bearing portion of a polymeric material, for example, which is at least partially molded within the porous substrate. The bearing portion includes a bearing surface that is exposed to an articulating component of another medical implant, and the porous metal substrate contacts the bone for osseointegration of the bone tissue into the porous substrate to anchor the implant. The porous substrate may include biodegradable carrier materials, in the form of one or more layers, that carry biologically active agents such as antibiotics and bone growth factors, for example. The layers of biodegradable carrier materials may be tailored such that, after implantation of the implants, the biologically active agents are released sequentially and/or over time into the surrounding tissue to reduce the chances of infection and/or to promote osseointegration of the implant, for example.



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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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X	EP 1 647 242 A1 (BENOIST GIRARD SAS [FR]) 19 April 2006 (2006-04-19) paragraph [0032] - paragraph [0035]; figure 5	1-3
X	EP 0 395 187 A2 (INTERPORE INTERNATIONAL [US]) 31 October 1990 (1990-10-31) page 8, lines 1-6 page 8, line 42 - line 44 page 3, line 17 - line 25 claims 18-19	1-2
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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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