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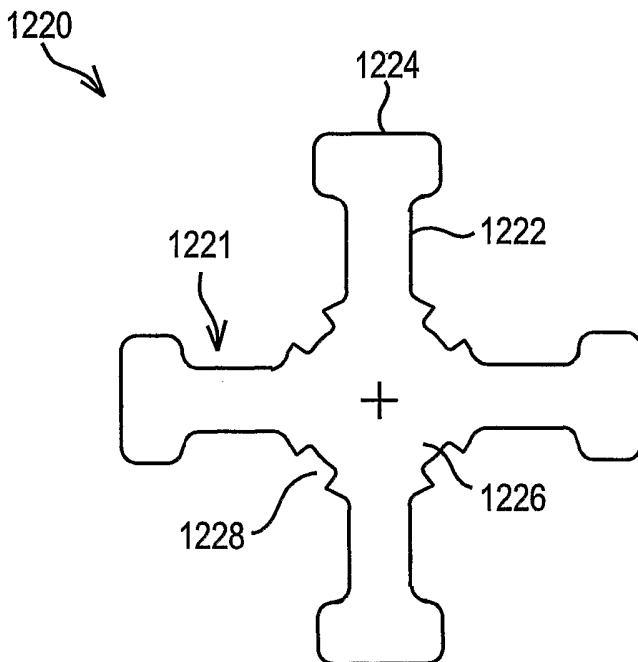
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: ADVANCED WOUND SITE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS AND METHODS



(57) Abstract: A pledget (1210, 1240) is provided
for use with a surgical staple having a plurality of
prongs (1212). The pledget includes a central region
(1226) that is configured to be retained adjacent to a
wound site by the surgical staple. The pledget may
promote hemostasis by stemming the flow of blood
from a wound that is being closed by the staple
(1100). Additionally, the pledget may be provided
including physiologically active agents that may
inhibit infection, promote extraluminal clotting, and
inhibit intraluminal clotting.

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International application No.
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
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US CL : 606/216, 219, 232
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)
U.S. : 606/216, 219, 232, 151

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)
EAST: pledget, staple, therapeutic agent,


C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6,325,810 A (HAMILTON et al) 04 December 2001(04.12.2001), column 3-4, line 20.	1, 4 - 18, 20 - 29, 39-40

Y		2-3, 19
X	US 5,893,856 A (JACOB et al) 13 April 1999 (13.04.1999), column 1, lines 51-62.	30, 31,
Y	US 5,282,829 A (HERMES) 01 February 1994 (01.02.1994), column 5, lines 35-61.	32-38, 40-47

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

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