A LUMINAL PROSTHESIS AND A GASTROINTESTINAL IMPLANT DEVICE

Abstract: A luminal prosthesis comprises a first part which is adapted to be retained in a lumen and a second part which is connected to the first part such that a force applied to the second part is at least partially isolated from the first part. The second part may be adapted for mounting of a device such as a valve. A connector between the first part and the second part may comprise at least one lumen and at least one strut and/or at least one wire. In one case the first part and the second part are formed from a single precursor such as one continuous stent which is folded to form the first part and the second part.
— before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))

(88) Date of publication of the international search report: 22 August 2013
### INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

**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.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. X Claims Nos.: 43
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:

   see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210

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 all searchable 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 report covers 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.:

   I-23 (completely) ; 44, 45 (partially)

**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.

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Form PCT/ISA/210 (continuation of first sheet (2)) (April 2005)
A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. A61F5/00
ADD.

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)
A61F

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)
EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
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<td>1-23,44, 45</td>
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:
A: document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
E: earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date
L: document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
O: document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
P: document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

*T: later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
*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
*Y: document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
*A: document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search
23 April 2013

Date of mailing of the international search report
01/07/2013

Name and mailing address of the ISA/
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL-2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer
Foged, Søren

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (April 2005)
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This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-23 (completely); 44, 45 (partially)

   A luminal prostheses comprising: a first part which is adapted to be retained in a lumen; and a second part which is connected to the first part such that a force applied to the second part is at least partially isolated from the first part, solving the problem of isolating a force applied to the second part from the first part.

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2. claims: 24-35 (completely); 44, 45 (partially)

   A luminal prostheses comprising an inner region connected to an outer region, the inner region being adapted for mounting of a device such as a valve, solving the problem of spacing apart two regions of the luminal prostheses.

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3. claims: 36-42 (completely); 44, 45 (partially)

   A luminal self expanding prosthesis having a reinforcement to facilitate radial compression during loading and to limit radial expression, solving the problem of securing the prosthesis in a lumen.

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Continuation of Box II.2

Claims Nos.: 43

The application does not meet the requirements of Article 6 PCT, because claim 43 is not clear as it refers to the description and the drawings, whereby it is unclear what is the subject-matter for which protection is sought, see PCT guidelines chapter 2, 5.10.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guidelines C-IV, 7.2), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.