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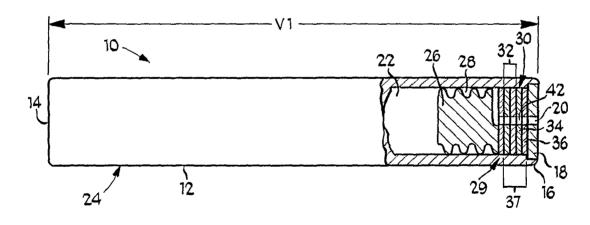
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(54) Title: FLUID DELIVERY DEVICE HAVING A THERMAL EQUILIBRATING ELEMENT



(57) Abstract: An implantable fluid-dispensing device having an improved fluid-retainment portion is disclosed as having a housing having a first end and a second end, wherein at least a portion of one of the first end and second end comprises an expandable material, and a thermally activated component associated with the elastic material within the housing wherein the thermally activated component prevents unwanted fluid flow when the housing is exposed to a temperature increase. The thermally activated component can be a shaped single or bimaterial member that expands upon exposure to a temperature increase, or a valve apparatus that halts fluid delivery. Additionally, the entire device can be made from a thermally activated material such that fluid expansion is accommodated. A method for the prevention of the inadvertent release of fluid from a fluid delivery device that is exposed to a temperature increase is also disclosed.



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Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) U.S.: 239/75,76,397.5,533.13,547; 604/890.1,891.1	
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Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)	
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	
Category * Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim	No.
X US 3,200,585 A (CLIMENT et al) 17 August 1965 (17.08.1965), see entire document. 1-9, 11-13, 15, 1	8
X US 5,984,209 A (WETH) 16 November 1999 (16.11.1999), see entire document. 1-4, 13, 15, 18	
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.	
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