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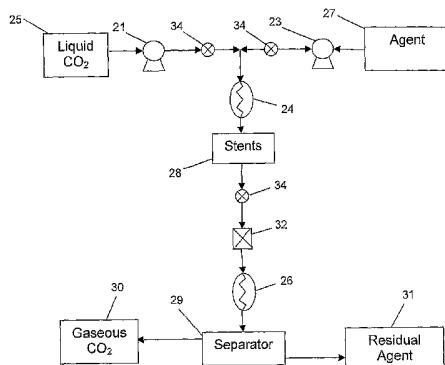
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: USE OF SUPERCRITICAL FLUIDS TO INCORPORATE BIOLOGICALLY ACTIVE AGENTS INTO NANOPOROUS MEDICAL ARTICLES



(57) Abstract: The present invention is directed to a method in which a supercritical fluid that comprises a carrier fluid and a biologically active agent is brought into contact with medical article that comprises a nanoporous surface region. A variety of medical articles may be used in the practice of the present invention, including implantable or insertable medical devices such as bone plates, joint prostheses, vascular grafts, stent grafts, stents, catheters, guide wires, balloons, filters, vascular patches, shunts, and coils, among others. The nanoporous surface region may be, for example, metallic, ceramic, or polymeric in nature. Examples of biologically active agents include antirestenotic agents and agents that promote tissue adhesion, among others. Carbon dioxide is one of many carrier fluids that may be employed.

WO 2006/063158 A3

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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PCT/US2005/044462A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
INV. A61L27/54 A61L31/16

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, COMPENDEX, INSPEC

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 2003/044514 A1 (RICHARD ROBERT E) 6 March 2003 (2003-03-06) cited in the application the whole document	1-20
Y	WO 94/18264 A (MINNESOTA MINING AND MANUFACTURING COMPANY; PERMAN, CRAIG, A; BARTKUS,) 18 August 1994 (1994-08-18) claims; examples	1-20
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 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

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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.
Y	<p>GERCKENS ULRICH ET AL: "Evaluation of a Tacrolimus-eluting coronary stent with nanoporous ceramic coating in treatment of native coronary artery lesions: Phase I and II of the present study." JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF CARDIOLOGY, vol. 41, no. 6 Supplement A, 19 March 2003 (2003-03-19), page 7A, XP002381361 &amp; 52ND ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC SESSION OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF CARDIOLOGY; CHICAGO, IL, USA; MARCH 30-APRIL 02, 2003 ISSN: 0735-1097 abstract</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p>	1-20

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/US2005/044462

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