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- (71) Applicant and
- (72) Inventor: BELSON, Amir [IL/US]; 1916 Fallen Leaf Lane, Los Altos, CA 94024 (US).
- (74) Agent: LEARY, James, J.; 6419 Ellenwood Ave., Clayton, MO 63105 (US).
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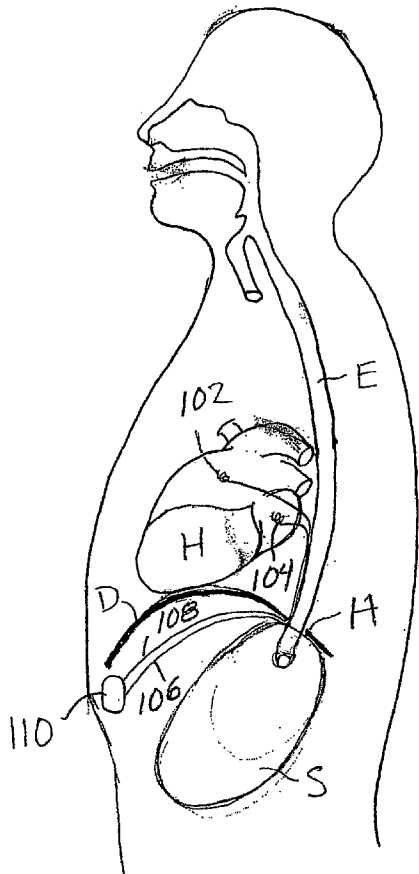
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(54) Title: TRANSESOPHAGEAL IMPLANTATION OF CARDIAC ELECTRODES



(57) Abstract: The present invention provides for transesophageal implantation of cardiac electrodes (102) and (104) for pacing and/or defibrillation. The electronic module (110) could be implanted in the abdomen or thorax using a transesophageal, transgastric, thoracoscopic or open surgical approach. In another aspect, the invention provides for transesophageal delivery of other cardiac therapies including ablation, phototherapy, radiation therapy and implantation or injection of therapeutic substances into the heart. The transesophageal approach takes advantage of the proximity between the esophagus and the chambers of the heart, allowing surgical access to the heart with very low morbidity and risk of complications.

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 IPC: A61N 1/00(2006.01)

 USPC: 607/124
 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. : 607/124

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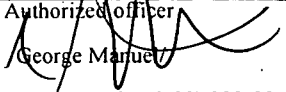
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 6,689,062 A (MESALLUM) 10 February 2004 (10.02.2004), See entire document.	1-33
A	US 5,551,439 A (HICKEY) 03 September 1996 (03.09.1996), See entire document.	1-33
A	US 5,197,491 A (ANDERSON et al) 30 March 1993 (30.03.1993), See entire document.	1-33

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

* Special categories of cited documents:	"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
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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
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Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (571) 273-3201	Authorized officer  George Manuel Telephone No. (703) 308-0858
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