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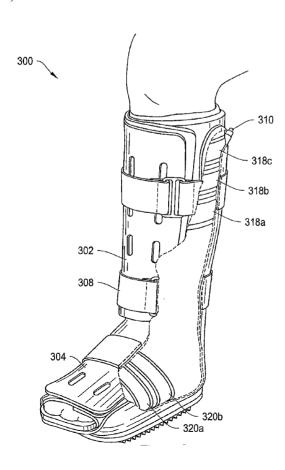
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SYSTEMS AND METHODS APPLYING REVERSED SEQUENCE PRESSURE TO CONTROL EDEMA FLOW



(57) Abstract: The systems and methods described herein, include, among other things, orthopedic appliances and methods of applying therapy to limb of a patient for the purpose of reducing edema. In one aspect, the invention provides a therapy system that may be fitted over a patient's limb about a joint for the purposes of treating limb injury by reducing or milking edema. In other aspects, the invention provides for systems and methods that may be adapted to provide intermittent massaging of lymph fluid through the lymphatic vessels in a direction toward the heart, which is toward the center of a patient's torso and away from the patient's affected limb.



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FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No PCT/US2006/047744

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. A61F5/01 A61F5/058

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 practical, search terms used)

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EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUM	ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 92/04880 A (HABERMEYER PETER [DE]) 2 April 1992 (1992-04-02)	1-8,10, 12-21
Α	page 3, line 31 - page 11, line 27; figure 2	9,11
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X	US 2004/111048 A1 (JENSEN JEFFREY L [US] ET AL) 10 June 2004 (2004-06-10)	17
A	paragraphs [0043] - [0053]; figures 1,2,6	1-16, 18-21
	-/	

X Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.	X 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 document but published on or after the international filling 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 filling 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. "&" document member of the same patent family
Date of the actual completion of the international search 19 July 2007	Date of mailing of the international search report 02/08/2007
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Cuiper, Ralf

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
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tion). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	
Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Box II	Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)
This Inte	rnational Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:
1. χ	Claims Nos.: 22–43 because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
	Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by therapyAs stated in the very beginning of claim 22, the method is a treatment by therapy.
2.	Claims Nos.: 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:
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 III	Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)
This Inte	rnational Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
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 fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
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.:
Remark	on Protest
	No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No PCT/US2006/047744

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