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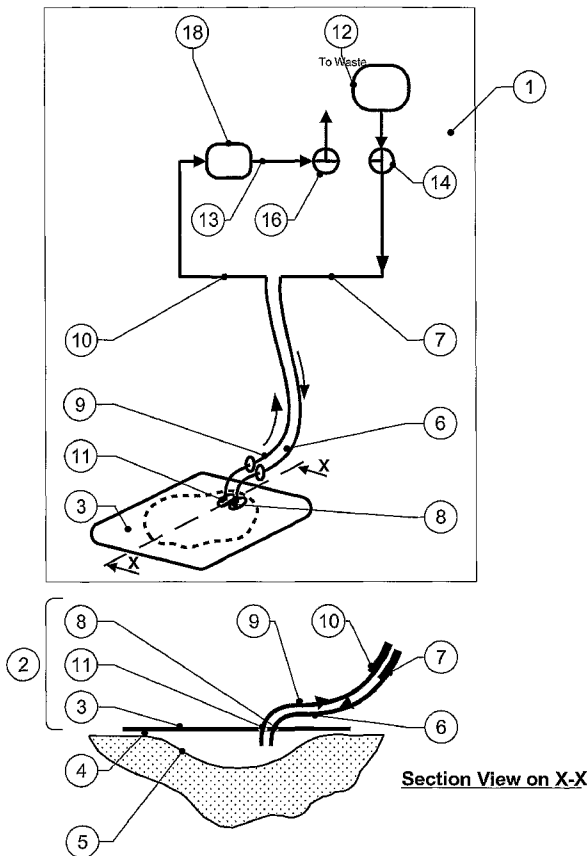
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- (71) **Applicant (for all designated States except US):** SMITH & NEPHEW, PLC [GB/GB]; 15 Adam Street, London WC2N 6LA (GB).
- (72) **Inventors; and**
- (75) **Inventors/Applicants (for US only):** BLOTT, Patrick, Lewis [GB/GB]; 16 Hodsow Fields, Barmby Moor, York YO42 4ER (GB). HARTWELL, Edward, Yerbury [GB/GB]; 3 Haven Garth, Brough, Hull HU15 1EP (GB). LEE-WEBB, Julian [GB/GB]; 37 Moor Lane, Copmanthorpe, York YO23 3TJ (GB). NICOLINI, Derek [GB/GB]; 38 Castle Rise, South Cave, Brough HU15 2ET (GB).
- (74) **Agent:** CONNORS, Martin; Smith & Nephew Research Centre, York Science Park, Heslington, York YO10 5DF (GB).
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[Continued on next page]

(54) **Title:** WOUND TREATMENT APPARATUS AND METHOD



(57) **Abstract:** An apparatus for cleansing wounds in which irrigant fluid from a reservoir connected to a conformable wound dressing and wound exudate from the dressing are moved by a device (which may be a single pump or two pumps) for moving fluid through a flow path which passes through the dressing and a means for providing simultaneous aspiration and irrigation of the wound, and means for stressing the wound bed and optionally tissue surrounding the wound. The former removes materials deleterious to wound healing, while distributing materials that are beneficial in promoting wound healing over the wound bed. The latter promotes wound healing. The dressing and a method of treatment using the apparatus.

WO 2006/114637 A3



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).

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.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER INV. A61M1/00 A61M3/02		
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) A61M		
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, PAJ		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 2004/037334 A (SMITH & NEPHEW [GB]; BLOTT PATRICK LEWIS [GB]; GREENER BRYAN [GB]; HAR) 6 May 2004 (2004-05-06) The whole document, and in particular: page 27, line 26 - page 28, line 15 page 50, line 33 - page 51, line 23; figure 1 page 31, line 23 - line 26 page 57, line 14 - line 18; figure 6ab	1-41
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 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. *&* document member of the same patent family	
Date of the actual completion of the international search <p style="text-align: center;">12 January 2007</p>	Date of mailing of the international search report <p style="text-align: center;">19/01/2007</p>	
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 <p style="text-align: center;">Lakkis, Angeliki</p>	

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

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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.
X	US 2001/029956 A1 (ARGENTA LOUIS C [US] ET AL) 18 October 2001 (2001-10-18) paragraphs [0010], [0037], [0046] - [0048]; figures 1,6 -----	1,4,40
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P,X, L	WO 2005/051461 A (SMITH & NEPHEW [GB]; BLOTT PATRICK LEWIS [GB]; GREENER BRYAN [GB]; HAR) 9 June 2005 (2005-06-09) the whole document, and in particular embodiments of figures 5 and 6 -----	1-41
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/GB2006/001551

Box 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.: 42-50
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 surgery
Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body 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 International 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

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No
PCT/GB2006/001551

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