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(54) Title: IMPLANTABLE TISSUE STRUCTURE MODIFIERS AND METHODS FOR USING THE SAME

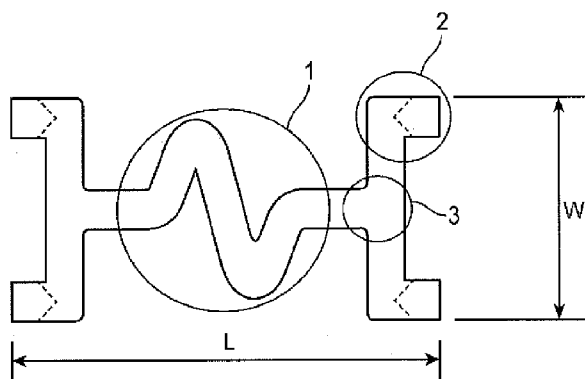


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: Implantable tissue structure modification devices are provided. Aspects of the tissue structure modification devices include first and second tissue securers separated by a contraction region, wherein the device is configured to be implanted at a cardiac location and assume a first constrained length that is longer than a second relaxed length. Also provided are methods of using the devices for tissue structure modification, as well as delivery systems and kits that find use in the methods. The devices and methods of the invention find use in a variety of different applications, including valve (e.g., mitral valve) structure modification.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2010/057510**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER***A61F 2/24(2006.01)i, A61L 27/54(2006.01)i, A61M 25/01(2006.01)i, A61M 25/09(2006.01)i*

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 2/24; A61F 2/02; A61B 19/00; A61B 17/00; A61B 17/08

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Korean utility models and applications for utility models
Japanese utility models and applications for utility models

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

eKOMPASS(KIPO internal) & Keywords: tissue,modification,contraction

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 2005-0080454 A1 (DREWS et al.) 14 April 2005 See the whole document.	1-16, 21, 23
A	US 2007-0073274 A1 (CHIN et al.) 29 March 2007 See the whole document.	1-16, 21, 23
A	KR 10-2001-0041654 A (THE UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI) 25 May 2001 See the whole document.	1-16, 21, 23
A	US 2003-0045893 A1 (GINN) 06 March 2003 See the whole document.	1-16, 21, 23

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

* Special categories of cited documents:

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"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

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"&" document member of the same patent family

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US2010/057510**Box No. 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.: 17-20
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Claims 17-20 are the methods for treatment of the human body by surgery or therapy as well as diagnostic methods [Article 17(2)(a)(i), Rule 39.1(iv) PCT].
2. Claims Nos.: 18,20,22,24-26
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:
Claim 22, dependent claim of 20, claims the system although the claim 20 is the method of modifying the tissue. Claims 18,20, dependent claims of 16, claim the method although the claim 16 is the device. Claims 24-26, dependent claims of 22, claim the kit although the claim 22 is the system. Therefore, those claims do not comply with PCT Article 6.
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 No. 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 and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
 - The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
 - No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

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International application No.

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