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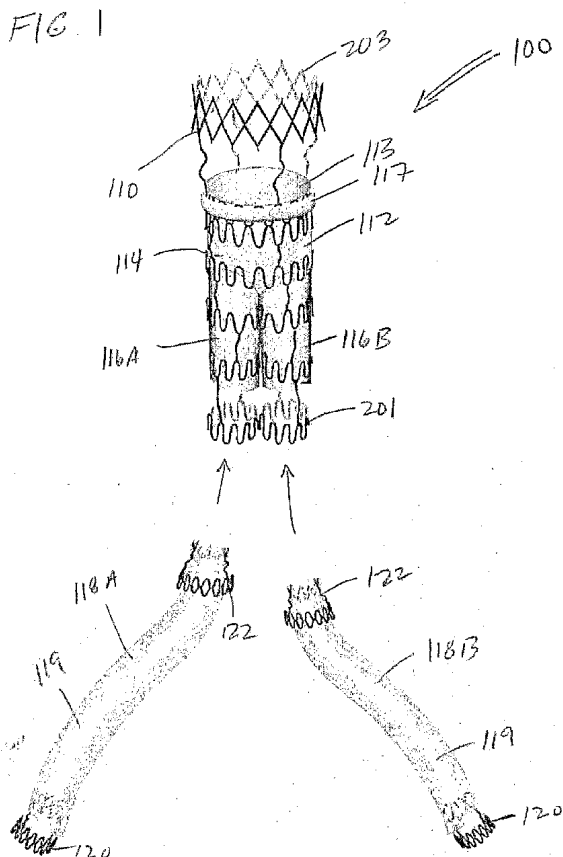
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: MODULAR STENT GRAFT EMPLOYING BIFURCATED GRAFT AND LEG LOCKING STENT ELEMENTS



(57) Abstract: A modular stent graft system and associated surgical methods are provided that incorporates an external stent-based locking mechanism to prevent disarticulation of the legs from the bifurcated graft as well as other features that overcome many of the difficulties of the prior art associated with delivering and securing the bifurcated grafts to the intended deployment site within the human aorta.

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**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

IPC: **A61F 2/06**( 2006.01)  
**A61F 11/00**( 2006.01)

USPC: 623/1.15-1.22;606/108,191-198.

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**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
 U.S. : 623/1.15-1.22; 606/108, 191-198.

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 practicable, search terms used)  
 EAST database.

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X --- Y	US 6,585,758 B1 (Chouinard et al) 01 June 2003; Figs. 11, 17, 19 and 20; col. 13, line 49 to col. 14, line 22; col. 15, lines 27-40; claim 1 and 8; col. 11, lines 9-30.	1-14, 17, 20-25, 28-37, 40, 43-48, ----- 15-16, 18-19, 26-27, 38-39, 41-42, 49-50, 51.

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

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"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)	"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
"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	"&" document member of the same patent family

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