

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
3 January 2008 (03.01.2008)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2008/002550 A3

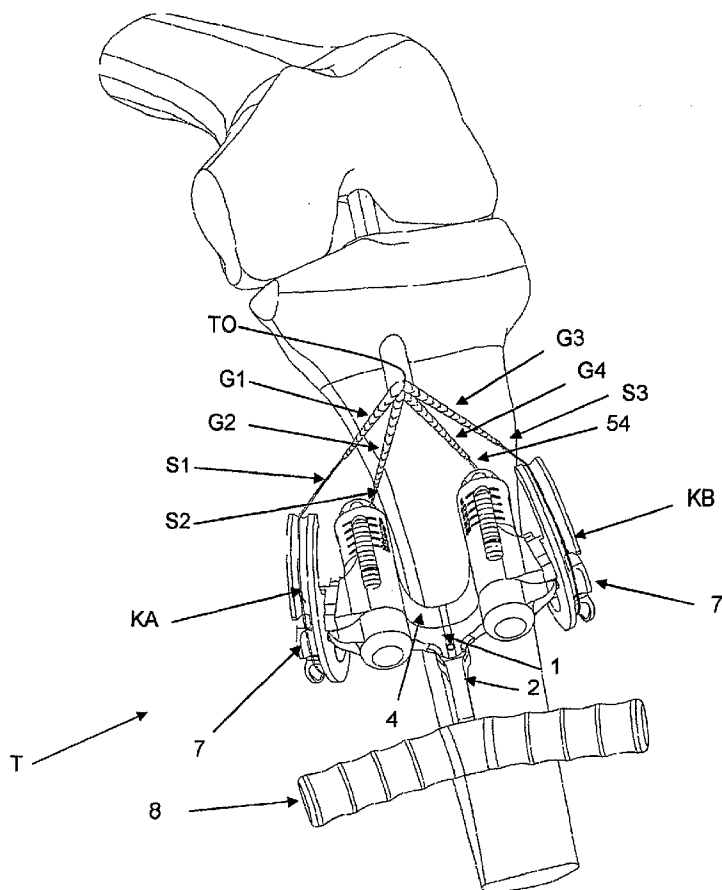
- (51) International Patent Classification:
A61B 17/56 (2006.01)
- (21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2007/014784
- (22) International Filing Date: 26 June 2007 (26.06.2007)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
60/816,407 26 June 2006 (26.06.2006) US
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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MT, 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).

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: GRAFT LIGAMENT STRAND TENSIONER



(57) Abstract: A graft ligament strand tensioner having a body and a pair of suture rails connected to the body. Each suture rail includes a grooved outer channel for receiving a suture loop and a central mandrel for receiving a suture loop. The separation of a suture loop received by the grooved outer channel is larger than the separation of a suture loop received by the central mandrel. A graft ligament strand tensioner having a body and cleats connected to the body. A graft ligament strand tensioner having a body, at least two suture-engaging elements which are connected to the body symmetrically about a center axis of the body and a handle pivotally connected to the body, such that the handle can be laterally positioned relative to the longitudinal axis of the body.

WO 2008/002550 A3



Published:

- *with international search report*
- *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:

21 August 2008

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US07/14784

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC: **A61B 17/56(2006.01)**

USPC: **606/86R**
 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. : 606/86R

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)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6,679,889 B1 (WEST, JR. et al) 20 January 2004 (20.01.2004), see whole document.	1-33
A	US 5,630,820 (TODD) 20 May 1997 (20.05.1997), see whole document.	1-33
A	US 6,001,106 (RYAN et al) 14 December 1999 (14.12.1999), see whole document.	1-33
A	US 4,712,542 (DANIEL et al) 15 December 1987 (15.12.1987), see whole document.	1-33
A	US 5,037,426 (GOBLE et al) 06 August 1991 (06.08.1991), see whole document.	1-33

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

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Date of the actual completion of the international search 22 May 2008 (22.05.2008)	Date of mailing of the international search report 24 JUN 2008
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