# United States Patent [19]

**Scantlebury et al.**

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[54] **DENTAL IMPLANT WITH EXPANDED PTFE GINGIVAL INTERFACE**


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[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... **433/173;** 433/176

[58] **Field of Search** ..... 433/201, 173, 174; 128/1 R



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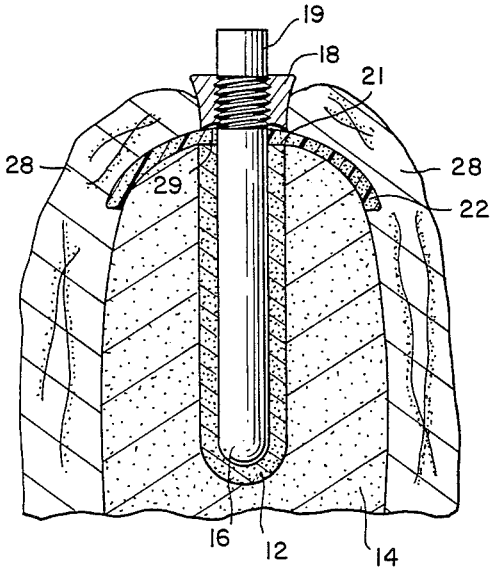
[57] **ABSTRACT**

A dental implant device. A dental implant device having: (a) a root structure made of a biocompatible, mechanically suitable prosthetic material; (b) a cervical segment projecting above the root structure, made of a biocompatible, nonporous material and having smooth surfaces and together with the root structure forming a member; and (c) a gingival interface made of expanded polytetrafluoroethylene having a porous structure for the ingrowth of connective tissue, located adjacent to the juncture of the root structure and the cervical segment attached to the member and forming a border around the apical end of the cervical segment. The expanded polytetrafluoroethylene provides for an interlocking between the gingival tissue and the pergingival portion of the dental implant preventing bacterial penetration and infection where the implant extends into the oral cavity.


**24 Claims, 7 Drawing Figures**