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[54] **INTRAOCULAR LENS STRUCTURE WITH POLYIMIDE HAPTIC PORTION AND METHODS FOR FABRICATION**

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[58] **Field of Search** 264/1.1, 1.7, 2.6, 278, 264/2.5, 221, 317; 425/808; 623/6

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

The invention provides improved intraocular lens structures for surgical placement in the eye, the unique structures comprise an optical zone portion substantially centrally disposed with an integral outer haptic portion. In one embodied form, the haptic portion is composed of materials having relatively high temperature resistance such as polyimide material, and can be fabricated in a wide variety of engineered configurations. In a presently preferred embodiment, the haptic portion includes an anchoring strut in an arcuate configuration having an oblique face directed to the center of the optical zone portion. The invention further provides methods for insert molding of haptic portions to optical zone portions of the lens structures without conventional secondary operations such as drilling sites in the optic for insertion and welding of haptics. Accordingly, the unique structures and methods provide haptic portions of an infinite variety of engineered shapes which, together with the optical zone portion, are autoclavable and provide a comfortable fit for the eye. The novel lens structure combination permits a wide variety of haptic portions and optical zone portions to be conveniently assembled, thereby providing a lens structure combination which possesses appropriate haptic configuration and optical characteristics custom-fitted to a patient's individual requirements.

10 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets