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(54) **MEDICAL DEVICES, DRUG COATINGS AND METHODS FOR MAINTAINING THE DRUG COATINGS THEREON**

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(52) **U.S. Cl.** **623/1.12**; 623/1.43; 623/1.46; 623/1.49; 428/421; 427/2.25

(58) **Field of Classification Search** ..... None
See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Medical devices, and in particular implantable medical devices, may be coated to minimize or substantially eliminate a biological organism's reaction to the introduction of the medical device to the organism. The medical devices may be coated with any number of biocompatible materials. Therapeutic drugs, agents or compounds may be mixed with the biocompatible materials and affixed to at least a portion of the medical device. These therapeutic drugs, agents or compounds may also further reduce a biological organism's reaction to the introduction of the medical device to the organism. Various materials and coating methodologies may be utilized to maintain the drugs, agents or compounds on the medical device until delivered and positioned.

24 Claims, 19 Drawing Sheets