United States Patent [19]

Kelman

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[54] **INTRAOCULAR LENS WITH OPTIC OF EXPANDABLE HYDROPHILIC MATERIAL**

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** **623/6**

[58] **Field of Search** 623/6

[56] **References Cited**

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

An intraocular lens having a hydrophilic optical element. The hydrophilic material of the optical element is capable of being hydrated by the natural fluid in the eye to expand after implantation to provide an optically correct lens of suitable diameter, to permit implantation of the lens through an incision of minimal length corresponding to the diameter of the dry lens and thus restoring the vision of the patient with minimal trauma. The lens includes position-fixation members and connecting means for securing the hydrophilic optic to the position-fixation member. The position-fixation members are connected to the hydrophilic optic element in such manner that the lens can be seated in the eye prior to expansion of the hydrophilic optic and expansion after seating does not impact substantial movement to the position-fixation members. The invention also includes the improved method of implantation through an incision of minimal length.

18 Claims, 5 Drawing Figures