



- (51) **International Patent Classification:**
A61B 5/00 (2006.01) *A61B 5/11* (2006.01)
- (21) **International Application Number:**
PCT/IB2011/054732
- (22) **International Filing Date:**
24 October 2011 (24.10.2011)
- (25) **Filing Language:** English
- (26) **Publication Language:** English
- (30) **Priority Data:**
61/410,992 8 November 2010 (08.11.2010) US
- (71) **Applicant (for all designated States except US):** KONINKLIJKE PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V. [NL/NL]; Groenewoudseweg 1, 5621 BA Eindhoven (NL).
- (72) **Inventor; and**
- (75) **Inventor/Applicant (for US only):** PATEL, Maulin, Dahyabhai [IN/US]; c/o High Tech Campus Building 44, 5656 AE Eindhoven (NL).
- (74) **Agent:** VAN VELZEN, Maaike; High Tech Campus Building 44, 5656 AE Eindhoven (NL).
- (81) **Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available):** AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, 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, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, 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, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: LOCATION BASED WIRELESS MEDICAL DEVICE

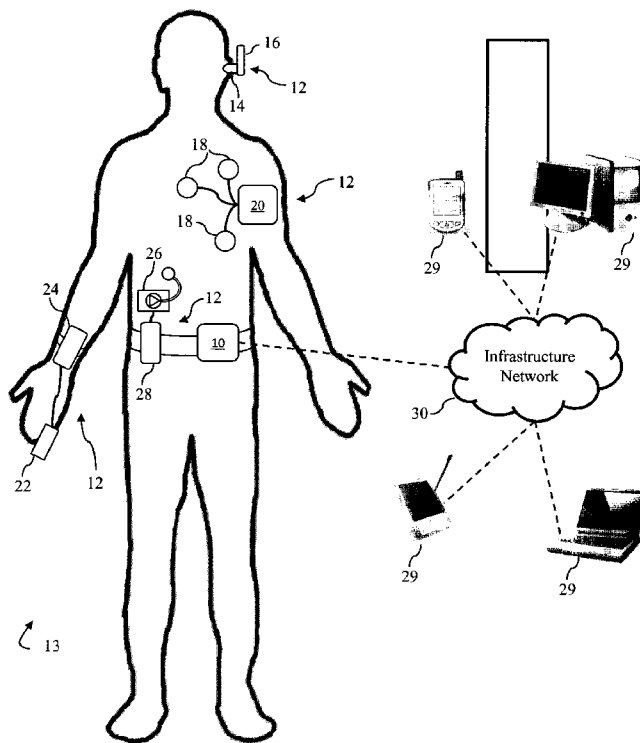


Figure 1

(57) **Abstract:** A personal area network (13) includes a plurality of wireless medical devices (12) which monitors physiological patient data and/or deliver therapy to the patient. The medical devices (12) each include a location management module (46) which controls a transceiver (40) to operate according to an operating profile associated with the geographical region in which the devices (12) currently reside. The operating profiles include at least one of transmission frequency, duty cycle, and maximum transmit power as mandated by local regulatory requirements. A wireless hub (10), as part of the personal area network (13), communicates with the wireless medical devices (12) and interfaces them with an infrastructure network (30). The hub (10) includes a location management module (46') which receives a current geographical position and determines the corresponding geographical region and retrieves an operating profile(s) associated with the region. The hub advertises the operating profile to the wireless medical devices (12).

WO 2012/063154 A1

SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

Declarations under Rule 4.17:

- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))*
- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))*

- *with international search report (Art. 21(3))*
- *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))*

LOCATION BASED WIRELESS MEDICAL DEVICE

DESCRIPTION

The present application relates to wireless devices. In particular, it relates to wireless sensor networks, such as body area networks (BANs) or patient area networks (PANs), which monitor a patient's physiological parameter and transmit a data regarding the sensed parameters to a control system.

Patients have traditionally been monitored using sensing units connected by wires to a base station. These wires inhibited the patient mobility and were labor intensive to install. To improve patient mobility, facilitate installation, and eliminate wire clutter, wireless sensing units have been developed. Certain patients require continuous monitoring of physiological parameters, such as ECG, SpO₂, blood pressure, blood sugar, or the like. Though well enough to move about the community, they were restricted to a hospital room, the hospital ward, a convalescent room, or their home to facilitate continuous monitoring of physiological parameters. To venture out of these areas, the patients would be unmonitored.

In order to continuously monitor patient physiological parameters without constraining their activities, it is desirable to be able to mount sensors on the body of the patient, which are light and compact as possible while also being capable of communicating wirelessly with each other and a base station. A body area network (BAN) includes multiple nodes which are typically sensors that can be either wearable or implantable in to the human body. The nodes monitor vital body parameters and/or movements, and communicate with each other over a wireless medium. The nodes can transmit physiological data from a body to a control unit from which the data can be forwarded, in real-time, to a hospital, clinic, or elsewhere over a local area network (LAN), wide area network (WAN), a cellular network, or the like.

Wireless technology provides convenient and unobtrusive connectivity between these devices. With the advances in energy efficient, reliable, low cost and high rate wireless technology, a variety of wireless consumer electronic devices have become integral part of our day to day life. Due to the portable nature of many of these devices, the likelihood of their proliferation beyond the regions in which they are authorized to operate has increased significantly. In particular, the wireless medical sensor devices designed to operate, in, on and around the human body to monitor and control various

physiological parameters are expected to be carried globally by humans. Average human beings are unlikely to be aware of complex regulations governing the use of wireless devices. This means that the portable wireless devices must have provisions to reconfigure themselves to comply with local regulations.

The requirements for designing wireless BANs include providing convenient and unobtrusive connectivity between the nodes while maintaining energy efficient, reliable, low cost, high rate wireless connectivity and while adhering to geopolitical regulatory requirements regarding the use of the radio spectrum. The regulatory requirements mandate the compliance with technical requirements such as frequency-band usage, duty cycle limitations, bandwidth, maximum transmit power limitations, specific absorption rate, etc. However, these regulatory requirements are not harmonized worldwide. For example, 433.05-434.79 MHz band is designated as a license-free Industrial Scientific and Medical (ISM) band in Europe but not in US. On the other hand 902-928 MHz band is designated as a license-free ISM band in US but not in Europe. Therefore, wireless devices authorized to operate in one region may not be legally authorized to operate in another region. Even if the spectrum used by the device is available worldwide, the transmit power, duty cycle and other restrictions may be different in different regions thereby inhibiting the free movement of wireless devices across the border.

Due to the portable nature of many of these devices and the expected integration into day to day life, the likelihood that the wireless BAN devices being carried globally beyond the region in which they are authorized to operate should be planned for while understanding that the average patient is unlikely to be aware of local regulations governing the use of the wireless devices in that region. This poses a severe risk for the patient because non-compliant, unauthorized use of the wireless device can be detrimental to the wireless transmission functions between the devices which can interfere with sensing and/or therapeutic functions. There exists a need for wireless BANs and wireless portable devices to adjust wireless transmission parameters to meet local regulatory requirements for wireless transmission.

The present application provides a new and improved method and system for location based wireless patient monitoring and therapy delivery which overcomes the above-referenced problems and others.

In accordance with one aspect, a wireless medical device is presented. The wireless medical device includes at least one of a sensor which monitors physiological data of a patient and an actuator which delivers therapy to the patient. A wireless transceiver, which has a plurality of selectable operating parameters, transmits and/or receives information packets related to at least one of the monitored physiological data and delivered therapy. A location management module ascertains a current geographical position of the wireless medical device and determines a corresponding geographical region associated with the current geographical position. The location management module controls the wireless transceiver to operate according to one of the plurality of operating profiles based on the determined geographical region.

In accordance with another aspect, a method for wirelessly transmitting medical information is presented. The method includes at least one of monitoring physiological data of a patient and delivering therapy to the patient. Information packets related to at least one of the monitored physiological data and delivered therapy are wirelessly transmitted and/or received via a wireless transceiver. A current geographical position of the wireless medical device is ascertained and a corresponding geographical region associated with the current geographical position is determined. The wireless transceiver is controlled to operate according to one of the plurality of operating profiles based on the determined geographical region.

One advantage is that wireless medical devices maintain compliance to local regulatory requirements for wireless transmissions regardless of geographical location.

Still further advantages of the present invention will be appreciated by those of ordinary skill in the art upon reading and understand the following detailed description.

The invention may take form in various components and arrangements of components, and in various steps and arrangements of steps. The drawings are only for

purposes of illustrating the preferred embodiments and are not to be construed as limiting the invention.

FIGURE 1 is a diagrammatic illustration of a medical wireless network;

FIGURE 2 is a detailed illustration of one of the wireless medical devices of FIGURE 1;

FIGURE 3 is a diagrammatic illustration of the hub medical device of FIGURE 1; and,

FIGURE 4 is a flow chart illustrative of a method of operation.

With reference to FIGURE 1, a plurality of wireless medical devices includes a hub medical device **10** and a plurality of other wireless medical devices **12**, which form a personal area network (PAN) or a body area network (BAN) **13**, arranged approximate to a patient's body for monitoring and recording various physiological parameters, administering therapy, or the like. The wireless medical devices **12** communicate wirelessly to the hub medical device **10**. Various wireless medical devices **12** are contemplated, such as an inner-ear sensor **14** connected to an associated electronic module **16** which is disposed at least partially in the patient's ear to measure temperature, blood pressure, pulse rate, or the like. As another example, the wireless medical devices **12** can include an ECG monitor having a plurality of ECG sensors or electrodes **18** connected to an electronic module **20** which measures and interprets the sensed signals. As another example, an SpO₂ sensor **22** senses blood oxygen and pulse rate, which are communicated by an associated electronics module **24**. As another example, an infusion pump or other actuator **26** injects or otherwise dispenses medications into the patient's body under the control of electrical signals from an associated electrical module **28**. Other wireless medical devices **12** which sense physiological parameters or deliver therapy includes pacemakers, hearing aids, vision aids, prosthetic limbs, artificial organs, and the like.

The wireless hub **10** conveys the received signals from the wireless medical devices **12** to other wireless medical devices **29**, such as computer workstations, cellular phones, personal digital assistants, tablet computers, and the like, via an infrastructure network **30**. It should be appreciated that the hub device can be a dedicated hub for the wireless medical device **12** or a multifunction device such as a cellular phone, personal

digital assistant, tablet computer, and the like. Communications between the hub and the wireless network **30** can be via a wireless local area network (LAN) based on the IEEE 802.11 standards, via a wireless wide area network (WAN) such as a cellular network, via a campus area network (CAN), via a metropolitan area networks (MAN), via relatively high power RF transmissions, or the like.

The wireless medical devices **12** and the hub **10** may interact with one another in various configurations. For example, in a star network, each of the wireless medical devices **12** communicates directly with the hub medical device **10**. The hub device receives acknowledgment signals or beacon signals from the devices **12** to, for example, synchronize the devices in anticipation of sending and receiving information packets, control signals, and the like, from the hub **10**. In a mesh network, the devices **12** communicate directly with each other and the hub **10**. Some of the devices **12** may communicate directly with the hub **10** or they may communicate with the hub **10** via other devices, such as computer, PDA's, mobile phone, or the like. These other devices may also communicate with other wireless medical devices **29** directly or via the infrastructure network **30** rather than via the hub **10**.

With reference to FIGURE 2, each wireless medical device **12** includes at least one of a sensor **14**, **18**, **22**, which monitors physiological data of the patient or an actuator **26** which delivers therapy to the patient. The electronics module **20**, **24**, **28**, associated with each sensor, actuator, or combination, includes a wireless transceiver **40** with a transmitter **42** and a receiver **44** which transmit and receive, respectively, information packets related to at least one of the monitored physiological data and/or the delivered therapy to/from at least one of the neighboring wireless medical device **12** and the wireless hub **10**. Each wireless transceiver has a plurality of selectable operating parameters, such as frequency, duty cycle, bandwidth, maximum transmit power, and the like.

Each wireless medical device **12** includes a location management module **46**. The location management module **46** ascertains a current geographical position of the wireless medical device **12** and determines a geographical region associated with the current geographical position. Tracking the geographical region, e.g. North America, Europe, Asia, South America, etc., of the wireless medical device ensures that the operation of transceiver **40** complies with the local regulatory requirements for wireless

transmission for that region. Each geographical region is associated with at least one operating profile. Each operating profile defines a plurality of operating parameters for the wireless transceiver **40** which are associated with the geographical region. For example, an operating profile is defined for the United States of America (USA) which defines a transmission frequency, duty cycle, bandwidth and maximum transmit power for the transmitter **42** as mandated by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). It should be appreciated that multiple operating profiles for a single geographical region are contemplated. Conversely, a single operating profile may be associated with multiple geographical regions.

Once the geographical region is determined, the location management module **46** controls the wireless transceiver **40** to operate according to one of the operating profiles based on the determined geographical region. In one embodiment, the operating profiles are stored in a profile memory **48** of the wireless medical device **12**. In another embodiment, the operating profiles are stored remotely and accessed wirelessly or received wirelessly by the transceiver **40**. The operating profiles may be stored in a memory unit of the hub device **10**. The hub device may transmit the operating profile or the wireless medical device **12** may request the appropriate operating profile. Alternatively, the hub device **10** and/or wireless medical device **12** may wirelessly access the stored operating profiles via the infrastructure network **30**. In this arrangement, the operating profiles are stored on a computer readable medium that is part of a computer workstation or server which is part of a LAN, WAN, CAN, MAN, or the like.

A communication module **50** receives physiological information sensed by the sensor **14**, **18**, **22** via a sensor or actuator control module **52**. The control module **52** also communicates with the actuator **26** to control its operation in accordance with received information packets. The communication module packages the sensed information and other transmission information such as acknowledgments, and the like, into information packets. The communication module controls the transceiver **40** to transmit the packets with an operating profile dictated by the location management module **46**. It should be appreciated that the wireless medical device may include multiple transmitters **42** as part of the transceiver **40**. Operating constraints may limit a single transmitter from operating at widely distinct frequencies. For example, a single transmitter may be capable of operating at the proposed 2.36 GHz MBAN frequency and the license free 2.4 GHz frequency.

However, a second transmitter may be required to operate at the license free 433.05-434.79 MHz Industrial Scientific and Medical (ISM) band in Europe.

In one embodiment, each wireless medical devices **12** includes a user input **54**, such as a switch, button, touch pad, input device, or the like, which is operated to input the corresponding geographical region to the location management module **46**. As a switch, the user input **54** includes a plurality of user selectable position each of which is associated with at least one geographical region. As a button, the user may cycle through button presses of the user input **54** to select a corresponding geographical region or the user may select one of a plurality of buttons, each being associated with at least one geographical region. It should be appreciated that other user inputs **54**, such as joystick, keypad, keyboard, touch-screen, touchpad, or the like, are also contemplated.

In another embodiment, each wireless medical device **12** includes an optional global positioning module **56** which determines a current geographical position using trilaterization of timing signals receive from global positioning satellites. The global positioning module **56** determines the current geographical location of the wireless medical device **12** and transmits the current geographical location to the location management module **46**. From the current geographical position, the location management module **46** determines the geographical region in which the wireless medical device **12** currently resides.

With reference to FIGURE 3, in another embodiment, the wireless medical device wirelessly receives the current geographical location from the hub device **10**. The hub medical device **10** includes a first transceiver **40'** which communicates with the other wireless medical devices of the body network and a second transceiver **40''** which communicates with the infrastructure network **30**. The wireless hub may be connected with a physiological data sensor and/or an actuator like the other wireless medical devices **12**, or may function merely as a central controller or coordinator and for transferring physiological and/or therapy related information to and from the network **30**. Similarly to the wireless medical devices **12**, the hub **10** includes a location management module **46'** which ascertains a current geographical position of the hub **10** and determines an associated geographical region associated with the current geographical position. The location management module **46'** controls the wireless transceivers **40'**, **40''** to operate according to one of the operating profiles based on the determined geographical region.

The location management module 46' receives the current geographical position from at least one of a user input 54', global positioning module 56', and via the infrastructure network 30. The user input 54' and global positioning module 56' function similar to that of the wireless medical devices 12. Using an input device, such as a switch (as illustrated), button, keyboard, joystick, keypad, touch-screen, touchpad, or other suitable input device, the user can select a geographical region.

As previously described, the hub 10 includes a profile memory 48' which stores the operating profiles for the wireless medical devices 12 and their transceivers 40 and the transceivers 40', 40'' of hub 10. Updated operating profiles which reflect changes in regulatory requirements can be obtain wirelessly from the infrastructure network 30 via the transceiver 40''. This is also advantageous if new frequency bands are introduced, for example the proposed MBAN band in the United States. Other changes include frequency band ranges, changes in duty cycle, changes in transmit power, or the like.

Communication modules 50', 50'' receive and transmit information packets to/from the wireless medical devices 12 and the infrastructure network 30, respectively. The communications module 50' controls the transceiver 40' to transmit the packets with an operating profile dictated by the location management module 46'. Accordingly, The communications module 50'' controls the transceiver 40'' to transmit the packets with an operating profile dictated by the location management module 46'. If the hub unit 10 is connected with a sensor or actuator, then it also includes a sensor or actuator control module 52'.

With reference to FIGURE 4, a method for selecting an operating profile and informing other wireless medical devices 12 is illustrated. In one embodiment, the hub device 10 acts as a master device, e.g. in a star network, which advertises the geographical region, current geographical position, or operating profile using information packets or beacon packets. The hub 10 determines the current geographical location (S70) from at least one of a user input 54', global positioning module 56', and via the infrastructure network 30. The location management module 46' determines a geographical region (S72) in which the hub 10 and wireless medical devices 12 currently reside according to the determined current geographical location. If a change in the geographical region is detected (S74), the location management module 46' retrieves the operation profile(s) associated with the geographical region (S76) from at least one of the profile memory 48' or from a

remote location via the infrastructure network **30**. The location management module **46'** controls the communication modules **50', 50''** (**S78**) to operate according to the operation profiles retrieved in step **S76**. The communication module **50'** controls the transceiver **40'** to transmit a beacon message to advertise the operating profile (**S80**) to the wireless medical devices **12**. In another embodiment, the operating profile is embedded as part of an information packet, e.g. in a packet/frame transmission the operating profile can be embedded in the MAC address header or the PHY layer, and advertised as such. In a further embodiment, the geographical region or current geographical position rather than the operating profile is advertised to the wireless medical devices **12**. After the wireless medical devices **12** have received the advertised operating profile or geographical region, a personal area network is created (**S82**) and monitoring of physiological data and therapy deliver may ensue (**S84**).

In another embodiment, the devices **10, 12** of the personal area network operate in a peer to peer configuration, e.g. in a mesh network. If one device detects a change in the geographical region which necessitates a change in the operating profile, then the device **10, 12** which detected that change advertises at least one of the geographical region and required operating profile. If the device includes a global position module **56, 56'**, then it may also advertise the current geographical position. Upon hearing the advertised mode switch command, the location management module **46, 46'** of the neighboring wireless devices **10, 12** controls the transceivers **40, 40', 40''** accordingly.

The invention has been described with reference to the preferred embodiments. Modifications and alterations may occur to others upon reading and understanding the preceding detailed description. It is intended that the invention be constructed as including all such modifications and alterations insofar as they come within the scope of the appended claims or the equivalents thereof

CLAIMS

Having thus described the preferred embodiments, the invention is now claimed to be:

1. A wireless medical device (12), comprising:
 - at least one of a sensor (14,18,22) which monitors physiological data of a patient and an actuator (26) which delivers therapy to the patient;
 - a wireless transceiver (40) which transmits and/or receives information packets related to at least one of the monitored physiological data and delivered therapy, the wireless transceiver (40) having a plurality of selectable operating parameters;
 - location management module (46) which ascertains a current geographical position of the wireless medical device (12), determines a corresponding geographical region associated with the current geographical position, and controls the wireless transceiver (40) to operate according to one of the plurality of operating profiles based on the determined geographical region.

2. The wireless medical device (12) according to claim 1, further including:
 - a profile memory (48) which stores the plurality of operating profiles, each operating profile defines a plurality of operating parameters for the wireless transceiver (40) which are associated with at least one geographical region.

3. The wireless medical device (12) according to claim 1, wherein the operating parameters includes at least one of frequency, duty cycle, bandwidth and maximum transmit power.

4. The wireless medical device (12) according to either one of claims 1 and 2, further including:
 - a global positioning module (56) which determines the current geographical location of the wireless medical device (12) and transmits the current geographical location to the location management module (46).

5. The wireless medical device (12) according to any one of claims 1-4, further including:

a user input (54) which is operated to input the corresponding geographical region to the location management module (46).

6. The wireless medical device (12) according to anyone of claims 1-5, wherein the location management module (46) controls the wireless transceiver (40) to transmit the determined geographical region and/or corresponding operating profile to a neighboring wireless medical device (12).

7. A wireless patient area network (13), comprising:
a plurality of wireless medical device (12) according to any one of claims 1-6; and
a wireless hub (10) which interfaces the plurality of wireless medical device (12) to an infrastructure network (30).

8. The wireless patient area network (13) according to claim 7, wherein the wireless hub (10) includes:

a wireless transceiver (40') which communicates to the plurality of wireless medical devices (12) to receive the monitored physiological data therefrom and to transmit an actuator control signal to control an actuator to deliver therapy thereto;

location management module (46') which ascertains a current geographical position of the wireless hub (10) and controls a wireless transceiver (40') to transmit at least one of the current geographical position and the operating profiles for the current geographical position to at least one of the plurality of wireless medical devices (12).

9. The wireless patient area network (13) according to claim 8, wherein the wireless hub (10) further includes:

an infrastructure transceiver (40'') which communicates with the infrastructure network (30) to transmit and receive information packets related to the wireless medical devices (12).

10. The wireless patient area network (13) according to claim 9, wherein the wireless transceiver (40') and the infrastructure transceiver (40'') are the same transceiver.

11. The wireless patient area network (13) according to any one of claims 8-10, wherein the wireless hub (10) further includes:

a global positioning module (56') which determines the current geographical location of the wireless hub (10) and transmits at least one of the current geographical location and the operating profiles for the current geographical position to the location management module (46').

12. The wireless patient area network (13) according to any one of claims 9-11, wherein the location management module (46') determines the current geographical position from the infrastructure network (30).

13. A method for a patient area network, comprising:
creating a wireless patient area network (13) which includes a plurality of wireless medical devices (12) according to any one of claims 1-6 and at least one wireless hub (10) according to any one of claims 7-12; and
interfacing the plurality of wireless medical devices (12) via the wireless hub (10) to an infrastructure network (30).

14. The method according to claim 13, further including:
determining a current geographical position of the wireless hub (10);
determining a corresponding geographical region according to the ascertained geographical position; and
controlling the wireless transceivers (40) of the wireless medical devices (12) to operate according to one of the plurality of operating profiles based on the determined geographical region.

15. A method for wirelessly transmitting medical information, comprising:
at least one of monitoring physiological data of a patient and delivering therapy to the patient;

via a wireless transceiver (40), wirelessly transmitting and/or receiving information packets related to at least one of the monitored physiological data and delivered therapy, the wireless transceiver (40) having a plurality of selectable operating parameters;

ascertaining a current geographical position of the wireless medical device (12);

determining a corresponding geographical region associated with the current geographical position; and

controlling the wireless transceiver (40) to operate according to one of the plurality of operating profiles based on the determined geographical region.

16. The method according to claim 15, further including:

storing the plurality of operating profiles, each operating profile defining a plurality of operating parameters for the wireless transceiver (40) which are associated with at least one geographical region;

17. The method according to either one of claims 15 and 16, further including:

determining the current geographical location of the wireless medical device (12) and transmitting the current geographical location; or

manually determining the corresponding geographical region and transmitting the corresponding geographical region to the location management module (46).

18. The method according to any one of claims 15-17, wherein the operating parameters includes at least one of frequency, duty cycle, bandwidth and maximum transmit power.

19. The method according to either one of claims 14 and 15, further including:

controlling the wireless transceiver (40) to transmit the determined geographical region and/or corresponding operating profile to a neighboring wireless medical device (12).

20. A wireless medical device (12) including a processor programmed to perform the method according to claims 13-19.

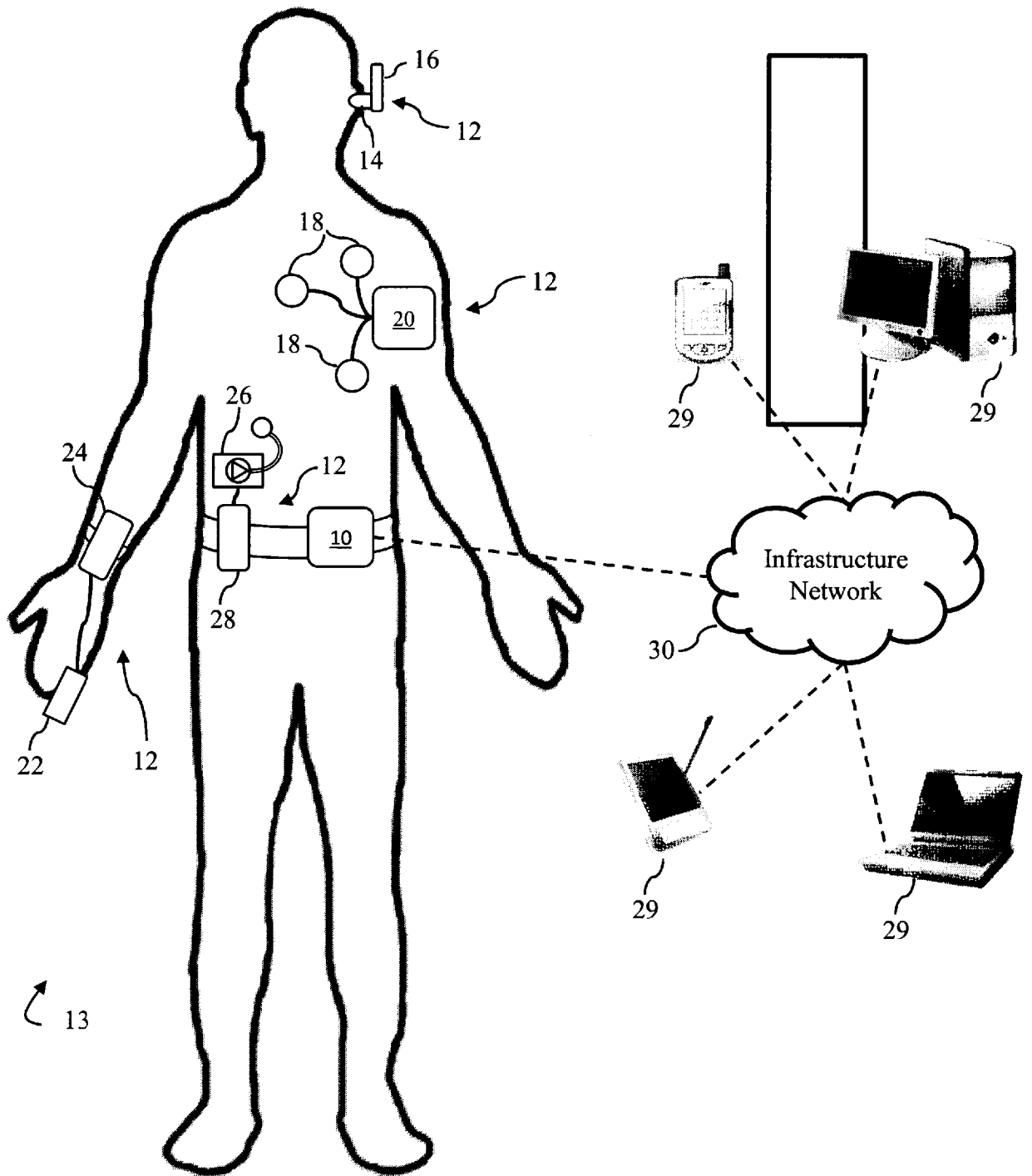


Figure 1

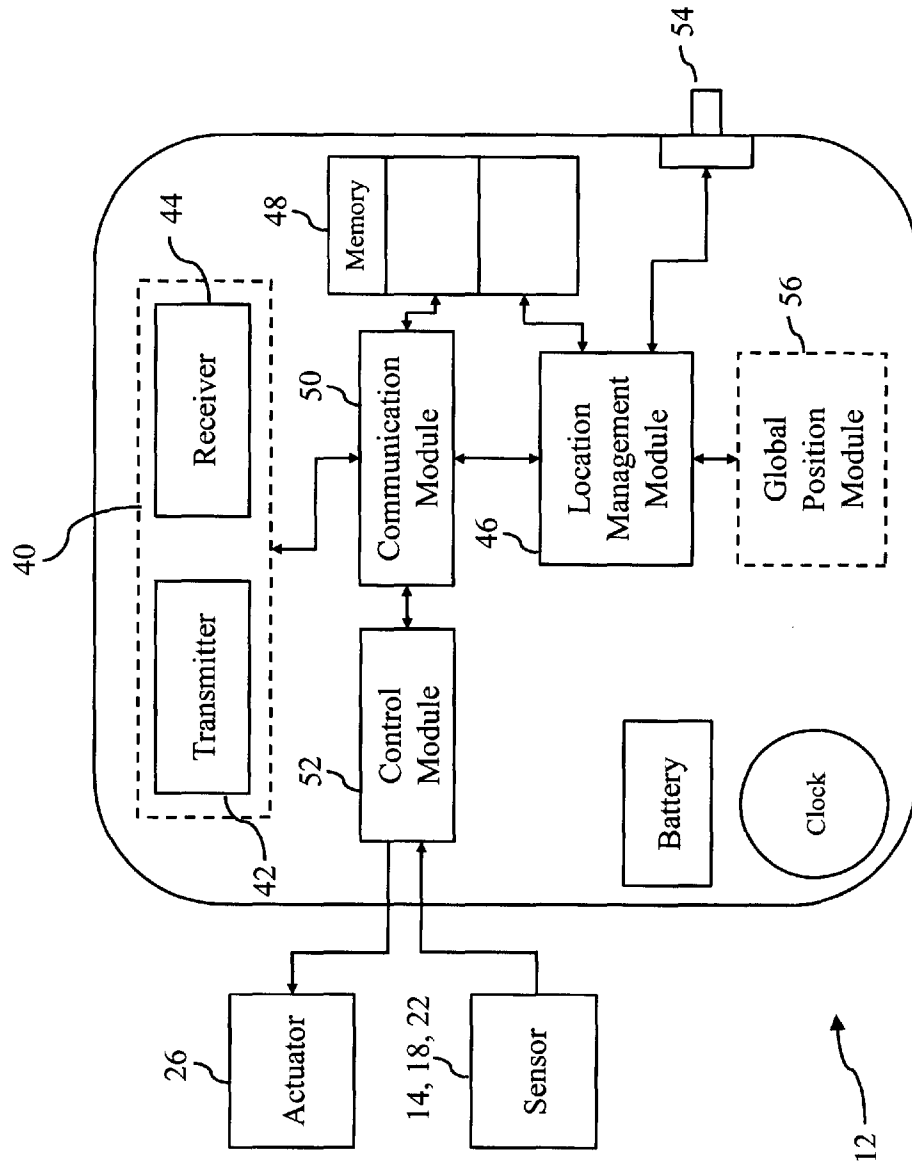


Figure 2

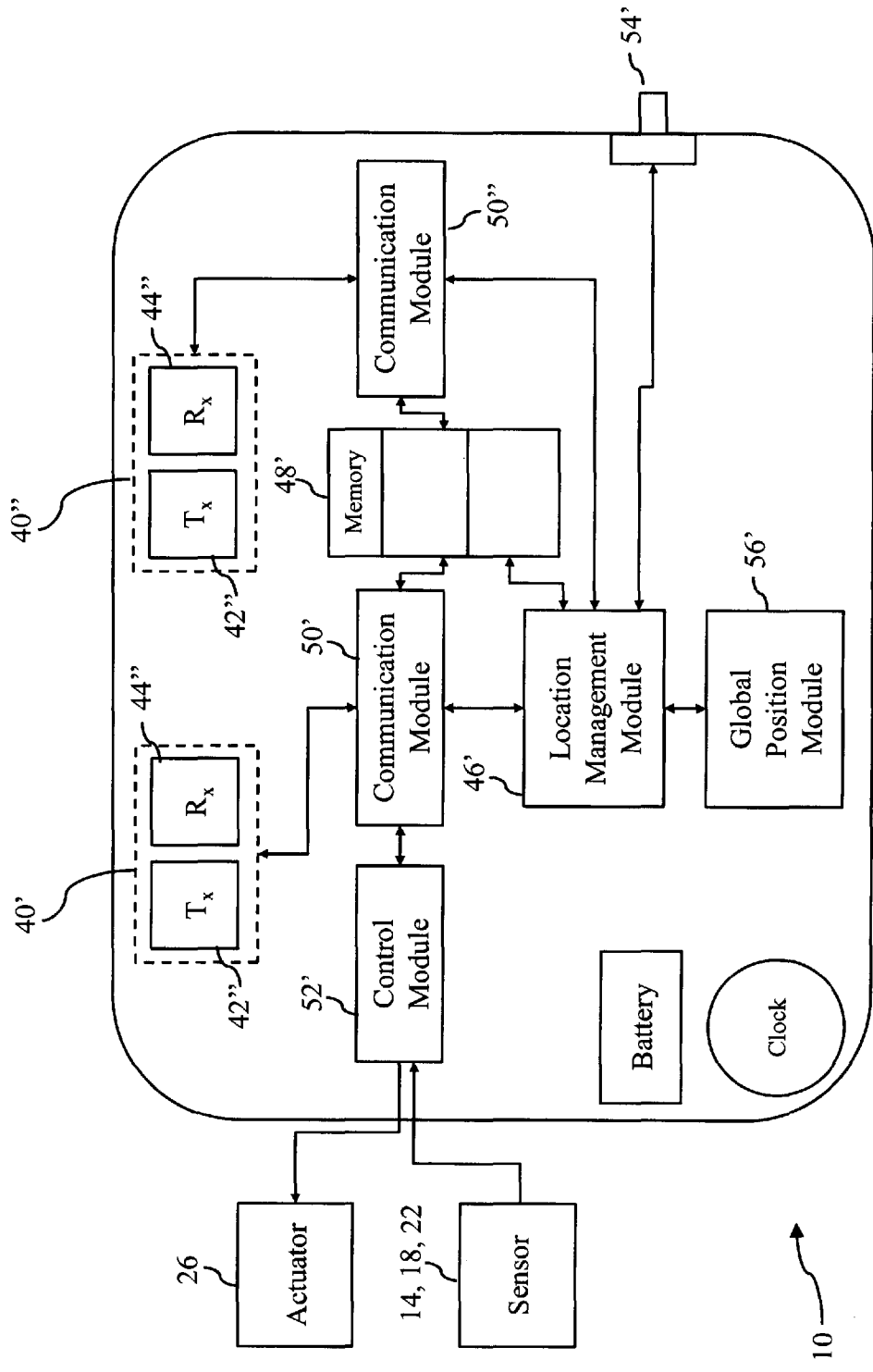


Figure 3

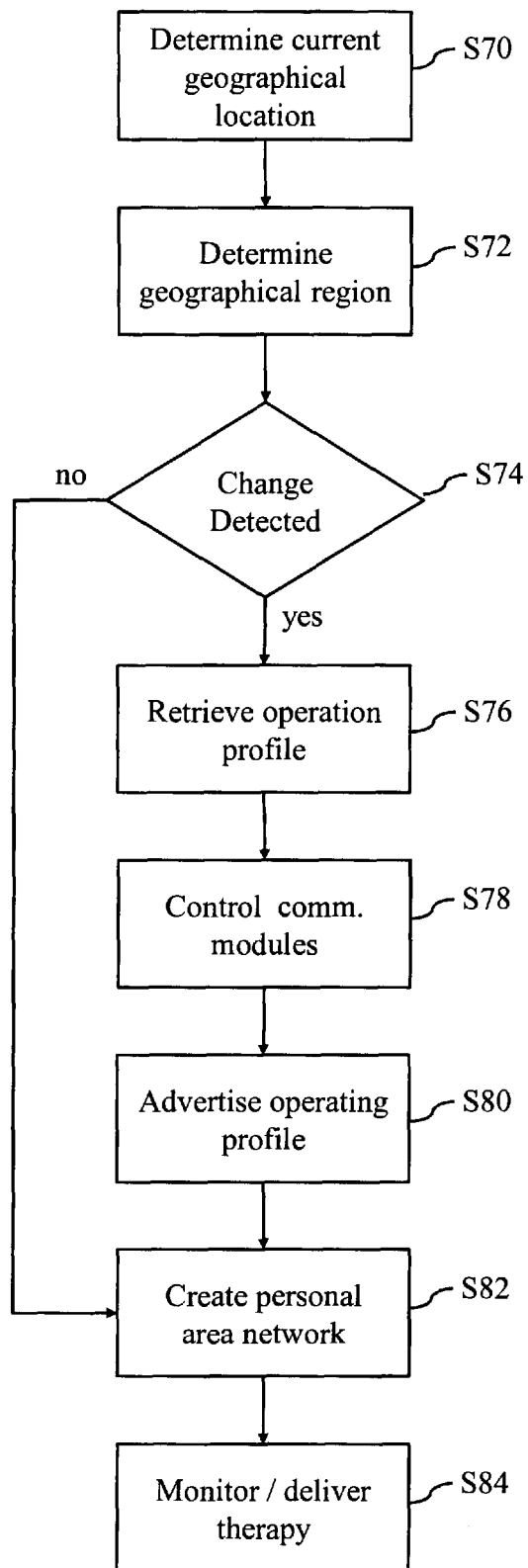


Figure 4

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No PCT/IB2011/054732

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER INV. A61B5/00 A61B5/11 ADD.				
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) A61B A61N G06F H04L				
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 practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal				
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT				
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.		
X	US 2009/063187 A1 (JOHNSON DAVID C [US] ET AL) 5 March 2009 (2009-03-05) paragraph [0007] - paragraph [0008] paragraph [0032] - paragraph [0037] paragraph [0043] - paragraph [0051] paragraph [0060] - paragraph [0086] paragraph [0104] - paragraph [0110] paragraph [0243] - paragraph [0249] figures 1A-1E,4	1-5,7-9, 11-20		
X	----- GB 2 425 601 A (BIO NANO SENSIMUM TECHNOLOGIES [GB]) 1 November 2006 (2006-11-01) page 3, line 30 - page 5, line 30 page 7, line 23 - page 11, line 13 figures ----- -/--	1-5,7-20		
<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.</td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.</td> </tr> </table>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.			
* Special categories of cited documents :				
<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;"> "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed </td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;"> "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "&" document member of the same patent family </td> </tr> </table>			"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "&" document member of the same patent family
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "&" document member of the same patent family			
Date of the actual completion of the international search		Date of mailing of the international search report		
29 March 2012		05/04/2012		
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016		Authorized officer Chen, Amy		

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No PCT/IB2011/054732

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 2009/048492 A1 (RANTALA BORJE [FI] ET AL) 19 February 2009 (2009-02-19) paragraph [0002] paragraph [0013] - paragraph [0020] figure 1	6
A	----- US 2005/137573 A1 (MCLAUGHLIN BRIAN J [US]) 23 June 2005 (2005-06-23) paragraph [0035] abstract; figure 1 -----	1,7

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No
PCT/IB2011/054732

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 2009063187	A1	05-03-2009	NONE

GB 2425601	A	01-11-2006	CN 101163441 A 16-04-2008
			EP 1874176 A1 09-01-2008
			GB 2425601 A 01-11-2006
			JP 2008538963 A 13-11-2008
			US 2007027507 A1 01-02-2007
			WO 2006114649 A1 02-11-2006

US 2009048492	A1	19-02-2009	NONE

US 2005137573	A1	23-06-2005	NONE
