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(71) Applicant: **CANARY MEDICAL INC.** [CA/CA];
2090-1055 West Georgia Street, Vancouver, British Colum-
bia V6E 3R5 (CA).

(72) Inventors; and

(71) Applicants: **ADLER, Mark, A.** [US/US]; 2710 Loker Ave
W, Ste. 350, Carlsbad, California 92010 (US). **SCHILLER,
Peter, J.** [US/US]; 2710 Loker Ave W, Ste. 350, Carlsbad,
California 92010 (US).

(72) Inventor: **GROSS, Jeffrey, M.**; 2710 Loker Ave W, Ste.
350, Carlsbad, California 92010 (US).

(74) Agent: **PARKER, David, W.**; BioMed IP, 2400 NW 80th
Street, PMB 138, Seattle, Washington 98117 (US).

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(54) Title: PROVIDING MEDICAL DEVICES WITH SENSING FUNCTIONALITY

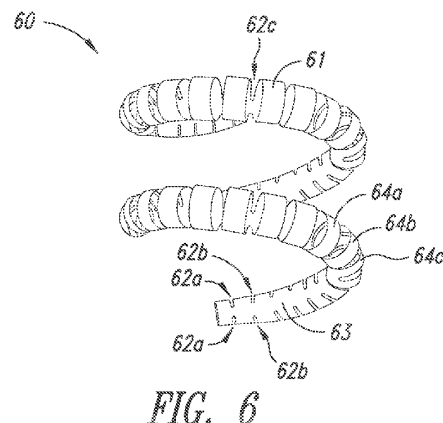


FIG. 6

(57) Abstract: Auxiliary components for medical devices, and more specifically, sensing constructs that may be added to a medical device such as an implantable medical device to provide the medical device with sensing functionality. The auxiliary component is not a part of the medical device, but rather is associated with an existing medical device in a secure manner, and provides information about the medical device and/or the environment around the medical device when the device is implanted in a patient, and then transmits that information to a location outside of the patient for evaluation.