

inside the sleeve, a tissue-engaging element of a respective attachment means or anchor through the sleeve-site and into the respective tissue site. In at least one application, affixing/anchoring involves using 2-20 attachment means or anchors to affix/anchor 2-20 parts of the implant and/or sleeve to 2-20 tissue sites.

5 Apparatuses and/or implants provided or used herein, e.g., for treating a heart of a subject) can include any of the features or components described with respect to implants in this disclosure, including, for example, a flexible sleeve having a first-end portion and a second-end portion. The flexible sleeve can include a circumferential wall that circumscribes and defines a longitudinal lumen between the first-end portion and the second-end portion.

10 An apparatus or implant can also include an elongate contraction member.

 The elongate contraction member can be configured to define a first region and a second region. The first region can be designed/configured to extend along the sleeve from the first-end portion to the second-end portion, and the second region can be designed/configured to extend, outside of the sleeve, back from the second-end portion to
15 the first-end portion. Optionally, the first region is disposed within the lumen of the sleeve. Alternatively, the first region can weave along the sleeve forming a part of the wall of the sleeve. Optionally, the first region of the contraction member can include a first end of the contraction member, and the second region of the contraction member can include a second end of the contraction member, and the first end of the contraction member can be attached
20 to the first-end portion of the sleeve.

 An apparatus or implant herein can optionally include, and in at least one application does include, a housing. The housing can be coupled to the first-end portion of the sleeve and to the contraction member. The housing can be configured to define an eyelet or other opening. The contraction member can be configured to extend through the eyelet or opening
25 such that pulling of the contraction member through the eyelet or opening draws the second-end portion toward the first-end portion by reducing a length of the second region in a manner that reduces a direct distance between the first-end portion and the second-end portion.

 An apparatus or implant herein can optionally include, and in at least one application does include, a locking component or a locking mechanism. If the apparatus or implant
30 includes a housing (e.g., similar to the housing described above), the locking component or locking mechanism can be coupled to the housing. The locking component or locking mechanism can have an unlocked state and a locked state. The unlocked state can be a state in which the contraction member is moveable or tensionable (e.g., pullable through the eyelet

CLAIMS

1. An apparatus for treating a heart of a subject, the apparatus comprising:
 - a flexible sleeve having a first-end portion and a second-end portion, and comprising a circumferential wall that circumscribes and defines a longitudinal lumen between the first-
 - 5 end portion and the second-end portion;
 - an elongate contraction member, defining:
 - a first region that extends along the sleeve from the first-end portion to the second-end portion, and
 - a second region that extends, outside of the sleeve, back from the second-end
 - 10 portion to the first-end portion;
 - a housing:
 - coupled to the first-end portion of the sleeve and to the contraction member,
 - and
 - defining an eyelet, the contraction member extending through the eyelet such
 - 15 that pulling of the contraction member through the eyelet draws the second-end portion toward the first-end portion by reducing a length of the second region in a manner that reduces a direct distance between the first-end portion and the second-end portion; and
 - a locking component, coupled to the housing, and having an unlocked state in which
 - 20 the contraction member is pullable through the eyelet, and a locked state in which the locking component inhibits pulling of the contraction member through the eyelet.
2. The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising an adjustment component coupled to the contraction member, and configured such that actuation of the adjustment component pulls the contraction member through the eyelet and into the housing.
- 25 3. The apparatus according to any one of claims 1 and 2, further comprising a plurality of anchors, each anchor of the plurality of anchors defining an anchor head and a tissue-engaging element, and being advanceable through the lumen to a respective sleeve-site of the sleeve, wherein the tissue-engaging element of each anchor is configured to be driven through the circumferential wall and into tissue of the heart.
- 30 4. The apparatus according to any one of claims 1-3, wherein the first region is slidably coupled to the sleeve, and wherein the pulling of the contraction member through the eyelet slides the first region through the sleeve.

5. The apparatus according to any one of claims 1-4, wherein the housing and the contraction member are arranged with respect the sleeve such that the pulling of the contraction member through the eyelet longitudinally compresses the sleeve.
6. The apparatus according to any one of claims 1-5, wherein the contraction member is slidably coupled to the second-end portion of the sleeve, and wherein the pulling of the contraction member through the eyelet slides the contraction member with respect to the first portion of the sleeve.
7. The apparatus according to any one of claims 1-6, wherein the housing is coupled to the second region of the contraction member, and the second region of the contraction member extends through the eyelet.
8. The apparatus according to any one of claims 1-7, wherein the first region is disposed within the lumen.
9. The apparatus according to any one of claims 1-7, wherein the first region forms part of a weave of the circumferential wall of the sleeve.
10. The apparatus according to any one of claims 1-9, wherein the first region of the contraction member includes a first end of the contraction member, and the second region of the contraction member includes a second end of the contraction member, and wherein the first end of the contraction member is attached to the first-end portion of the sleeve.
11. The apparatus according to claim 10, wherein:
 - the second region of the contraction member is pullable through the eyelet such that the second-end portion is drawn toward the first-end portion;
 - the housing comprises an adjustment mechanism coupled to the second region of the contraction member, and configured such that actuation of the adjustment mechanism pulls the second region of the contraction member through the eyelet and into the housing.
12. The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the locking component, in the locked state, inhibits actuation of the adjustment mechanism.
13. The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the adjustment mechanism comprises a spool, configured such that rotation of the spool pulls the second region of the contraction member through the eyelet and into the housing.
14. A system for treating a heart of a subject, the system comprising:

a flexible sleeve having a first-end portion and a second-end portion, and comprising a circumferential wall that circumscribes and defines a longitudinal lumen between the first-end portion and the second-end portion;

an elongate contraction member; and

5 a locking component having an unlocked state in which the contraction member is pullable to shorten a length of the sleeve between the first-end portion and the second-end portion in a manner that reduces a direct distance between the first-end portion and the second-end portion, and a locked state in which the locking component inhibits movement of the contraction member relative to the locking component.

15. The system of claim 14, wherein the elongate contraction member defines:

a first region that extends along the sleeve from the first-end portion to the second-end portion, and

15 a second region that extends, outside of the sleeve, back from the second-end portion to the first-end portion.

16. The system according to claim 15, wherein the first region is disposed within the lumen.

17. The system according to claim 15, wherein the first region forms part of the circumferential wall of the sleeve.

20 18. The system according to any one of claims 15-17, wherein the first region of the contraction member includes a first end of the contraction member, and the second region of the contraction member includes a second end of the contraction member, and wherein the first end of the contraction member is attached to the first-end portion of the sleeve.

25 19. The system according to any one of claims 15-18, wherein the first region is slidably coupled to the sleeve, and wherein the pulling of the contraction member through the opening slides the first region through the sleeve.

30 20. The system according to any one of claims 14-19, further comprising a housing coupled to the first-end portion of the sleeve and to the contraction member, and defining an opening, the contraction member extending through the opening such that pulling of the contraction member through the opening draws the second-end portion toward the first-end portion to shorten the length of the sleeve.

21. The system according to claim 20, further comprising an adjustment component coupled to the contraction member, wherein the adjustment component is configured such that actuation of the adjustment component pulls the contraction member through the opening and into the housing.

5 22. The system according to any one of claims 14-20, further comprising an adjustment component coupled to the contraction member to shorten the length of the sleeve.

23. The system according to any one of claims 21 and 22, wherein the locking component, in the locked state, inhibits actuation of the adjustment component.

24. The system according to claim 23, wherein the adjustment component comprises a
10 spool, configured such that rotation of the spool pulls the second region of the contraction member through the opening and into the housing.

25. The system according to any one of claims 20, 21, and 22, wherein the housing is coupled to the second region of the contraction member, and the second region of the contraction member extends through the opening.

15 26. The system according to claim 15, further comprising a housing coupled to the first-end portion of the sleeve and to the contraction member, and defining an opening, the contraction member extending through the opening such that pulling of the contraction member through the opening draws the second-end portion toward the first-end portion to shorten the length of the sleeve, and wherein:

20 the second region of the contraction member is pullable through the opening such that the second-end portion is drawn toward the first-end portion;

the housing comprises an adjustment mechanism coupled to the second region of the contraction member, and configured such that actuation of the adjustment mechanism pulls the second region of the contraction member through the opening and into the housing.

25 27. The system according to claim 26, wherein the locking component, in the locked state, inhibits actuation of the adjustment mechanism.

28. The system according to claim 27, wherein the adjustment mechanism comprises a spool, configured such that rotation of the spool pulls the second region of the contraction member through the opening and into the housing.

29. The system according to any one of claims 14-28, further comprising a plurality of attachment means each advanceable through the lumen to a respective sleeve-site of the sleeve and configured to pass through the circumferential wall and into tissue of the heart.

5 30. The system according to any one of claims 14-28, further comprising a plurality of anchors, each anchor of the plurality of anchors defining an anchor head and a tissue-engaging element, and being advanceable through the lumen to a respective sleeve-site of the sleeve, wherein the tissue-engaging element of each anchor is configured to be driven through the circumferential wall and into tissue of the heart.

10 31. The system according to any one of claims 14-30, further comprising a delivery catheter for advancing the sleeve into a chamber of the heart.

32. The system according to any one of claims 14-31, further comprising three steerable catheters for positioning the sleeve within the heart.