WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A shunt implant device comprising:
one or more anchor arms; and
first and second barrel wings configured to curve to form a tubular barrel form.

2. The shunt implant device of claim 1, wherein the first and second barrel wings are configured to be inwardly deflected such that distal portions of the first and second barrel wings are circumferentially overlapped.

3. The shunt implant device of claim 1, wherein distal edges of the first and second barrel wings are curved towards one another and disposed proximate to one another when the first and second barrel wings form the tubular barrel.

4. The shunt implant device of any of claim 1, wherein the one or more anchor arms and the first and second barrel wings project from a backbone support structure of the shunt implant device.

5. The shunt implant device of any of claim 1, wherein, in a flattened configuration the one or more anchor arms project in a first dimension, and the first and second barrel wings project in a second dimension that is perpendicular to the first dimension.

6. The shunt implant device of any of claims 1–5, wherein the barrel wings each comprise a plurality of lateral struts separated by one or more lateral slit gaps.

7. The shunt implant device of any of claims 1–5, wherein the barrel wings each comprise a plurality of vertical struts separated by one or more vertical slit gaps.

8. The shunt implant device of any of claims 1–5, wherein the barrel wings comprise struts forming one or more rows of polygonal cells.

9. The shunt implant device of any of claims 1–5, wherein the tubular barrel form has an axis that is angled relative to a tissue plane associated with the shunt implant device.

10. The shunt implant device of any of claims 1–5, wherein at least one of the one or more anchor arms comprises a sensor-retention means configured to secure a sensor device to the shunt implant device.

11. A shunt implant device comprising:

a shunt barrel formed at least in part by a plurality of arcuate panels configured in an at least partially cylindrical form;

a first anchor arm projecting from a first axial side of the shunt barrel and deflected radially outward in a first radial direction; and

a second anchor arm projecting from a second axial side of the shunt barrel and deflected radially outward in the first radial direction.

12. The shunt implant device of claim 11, wherein the shunt barrel includes an axial gap formed between distal edges of the plurality of arcuate panels.

13. The shunt implant device of claim 12, wherein the plurality of arcuate panels are coupled by a backbone structure diametrically opposite the axial gap.

14. The shunt implant device of claim 13, wherein the backbone structure comprises at least one axial strut.

15. The shunt implant device of any of claims 11–14, further comprising a pressure sensor device, wherein the pressure sensor device is secured to the first anchor arm by a plurality of sensor-retention fingers projecting from the first anchor arm.

16. The shunt implant device of any of claims 11–14, wherein the plurality of arcuate panels are configured to assume a compressed delivery configuration in which a first one of the plurality of arcuate panels is deflected radially inside of, and circumferentially overlapping, a second one of the plurality of arcuate panels.

17. The shunt implant device of claim 16, wherein, in an expanded configuration, the first and second ones of the plurality of arcuate panels are radially aligned.

18. The shunt implant device of claim 17, wherein contact between edges of the plurality of arcuate panels prevents radial compression of the shunt barrel.

19. The shunt implant device of claim 16, wherein, in the compressed delivery configuration, the shunt barrel has a diameter that is less than a diameter of the shunt barrel in an expanded configuration in which the first and second ones of the plurality of arcuate panels are radially aligned.

20. A shunt implant device (50; 50a; 50b, 50c; 60) comprising:

a distal and a proximal anchor arm (56; 56a; 56b; 66);

a backbone support structure (52, 62) extending axially between the distal and the proximal anchor arm (56; 56a; 56b; 66); and

first and second barrel wings (58a; 58b; 401a; 401b; 401c; 68a; 68b) emanating from the backbone support structure (52; 62) and configured to curve to form a tubular barrel form (58; 68) defining a central flow channel (96) having a first axis (A1); wherein the distal and the proximal anchor arms (56; 56a; 56b; 66) are configured to curl outward from the backbone support structure (52; 62) to point radially away from the first axis (A1) of the central flow channel (96).

21. The shunt implant device (50; 50a; 50b, 50c; 60) of claim 20, wherein the first and second barrel wings (58a; 58b; 401a; 401b; 401c; 68a; 68b) are configured to be inwardly deflected such that distal portions of the first and second barrel wings (58a; 58b; 401a; 401b; 401c; 68a; 68b) are circumferentially overlapped.

22. The shunt implant device (50; 50a; 50b, 50c; 60) of claim 20, wherein distal edges of the first and second barrel wings (58a; 58b; 401a; 401b; 401c; 68a; 68b) are curved towards one another and disposed proximate to one another when the first and second barrel wings (58a; 58b; 401a; 401b; 401c; 68a; 68b) form the tubular barrel form (58; 68).

23. The shunt implant device (50; 50a; 50b, 50c; 60) of any of claims 20-22, wherein, in a flattened configuration the distal and proximal anchor arms (56; 56a; 56b; 66) project in a first dimension, and the first and second barrel wings (58a; 58b; 401a; 401b; 401c; 68a; 68b) project in a second dimension that is perpendicular to the first dimension.

24. The shunt implant device (50; 50a; 50b, 50c; 60) of any of claims 20-23, wherein the barrel wings (58a; 58b; 401a; 401b; 401c; 68a; 68b) each comprise a plurality of lateral struts (417; 61) separated by one or more lateral slit gaps (92).

25. The shunt implant device (50; 50a; 50b, 50c; 60) of any of claims 20-23, wherein the barrel wings (58a; 58b; 401a; 401b; 401c; 68a; 68b) each comprise a plurality of vertical struts (441; 541) separated by one or more vertical slit gaps (411; 511).

26. The shunt implant device (50; 50a; 50b, 50c; 60) of any of claims 20-23, wherein the barrel wings (58a; 58b; 401a; 401b; 401c; 68a; 68b) comprise struts forming one or more rows of polygonal cells.

27. The shunt implant device (50; 50a; 50b, 50c; 60) of any of claims 20-23, wherein the tubular barrel form (58; 68) has an axis that is angled relative to a tissue plane associated with the shunt implant device (50; 50a; 50b, 50c; 60).

28. The shunt implant device (50; 50a; 50b, 50c; 60) of any of claims 20-27, further comprising a pressure sensor device (70).

29. The shunt implant device (50; 50a; 50b, 50c; 60) of claim 28, wherein at least one of the proximal and distal anchor arms (56; 56a; 56b; 66) comprises a sensor-retention means (83) configured to secure the sensor device (70) to the shunt implant device (50; 50a; 50b, 50c; 60).

30. The shunt implant device (50; 50a; 50b, 50c; 60) of any of claims 20-29, wherein the backbone support structure (52; 62) comprises at least one axial strut.

31. The shunt implant device (50; 50a; 50b, 50c; 60) of claim 20, wherein the first and second barrel wings (58a; 58b; 401a; 401b; 401c; 68a; 68b) comprise first and second arcuate panels, wherein, in an expanded configuration, the first and second arcuate panels are radially aligned.

32. The shunt implant device (50; 50a; 50b, 50c; 60) of claim 31, wherein contact between edges of the first and second arcuate panels prevents radial compression of the tubular barrel form (58; 68).

33. The shunt implant device (50; 50a; 50b, 50c; 60) of any of claims 20-32, wherein the first and second barrel wings (58a; 58b; 401a; 401b; 401c; 68a; 68b) are configured to assume a compressed delivery configuration in which a first one of the first and second barrel wings (58a; 58b; 401a; 401b; 401c; 68a; 68b) is deflected radially inside of, and circumferentially overlapping, a second one of the first and second barrel wings (58a; 58b; 401a; 401b; 401c; 68a; 68b).

34. The shunt implant device (50; 50a, 50b; 50c, 60) of claim 33, wherein, in the compressed delivery configuration, the tubular barrel form (58; 68) has a diameter that is less than a diameter of the tubular barrel form (58; 68) in an expanded configuration in which the first and second barrel wings (58a; 58b; 401a; 401b; 401c; 68a; 68b) are radially aligned.