

CHASE & YAKIMO, L.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

4400 COLLEGE BOULEVARD

SUITE 130

OVERLAND PARK, KANSAS 66211

TELEPHONE (913) 339-9666

FAX (913) 339-6061

WWW.USAPATLAW.COM

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D.A.N. CHASE*
MICHAEL YAKIMO, JR., P.C.*
GINNIE CHASE DERUSSEAU**
JAMES J. KERNELL*
SEAN T. BRADLEY***

* ADMITTED IN KANSAS AND MISSOURI
** ADMITTED IN KANSAS, VIRGINIA AND D.C.
*** ADMITTED IN MISSOURI

MISSOURI OFFICE
1220 WASHINGTON, SUITE 300
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64105

September 7, 2001

Dr. Troy R. Norred
4511 Royal Lythem
Columbia, Missouri 65203

Re: Application for U. S. Letters Patent
PERCUTANEOUS AORTIC VALVE REPLACEMENT
Docket 2745

Dear Dr. Norred:

We have received and are enclosing a copy of the first office action from the examiner relating to the above-identified application, together with the prior art cited initially rejecting claims 1, 2, 5-7, 9-14 and 16-18, and objecting to claims 3, 4, 8 and 15. We would suggest that you review the enclosed materials so that we may have the benefit of your input as to the applicability of the prior art teachings.

The primary references used by the examiner to reject these claims are the Quijano, Baykut, Leonhardt and Andersen patents. To overcome these rejections and objections, we may be able to amend the claims to avoid these references.

A response to this office action is due November 9, 2001. Please provide us with your comments at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

CHASE & YAKIMO, L. C.

By: 
James J. Kernell

JJK/ljk

Enclosures

NORRED EXHIBIT 2129 - Page 1
Medtronic, Inc., Medtronic Vascular, Inc.,
& Medtronic Corevalve. LLC