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(12) United States Patent Jiao et al.

(54) DEVICE FOR ASSISTING VISUALLY IMPAIRED PATIENTS

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(57) ABSTRACT

The invention pertains to devices and methods that allow a subject having a diseased retina to see a more complete image of the subject's field-of-view. The invention provides a device comprising one or more windows comprising a plurality of optical components that redirect the light transmitting through the regions of the windows corresponding to the non-functional areas of the retina onto the functional areas of the retina in a manner such that the subject perceives a more complete field-of-view through the functional areas of the retina. The invention also provides a device comprising one or more cameras, a microprocessor, and one or more display screens, wherein the microprocessor comprises an algorithm programmed to remove portions of the image corresponding to non-functional areas of the subject's retina and compressing the portions so removed into the areas of the image corresponding to the functional areas of the subject's retina.

19 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets

