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Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.

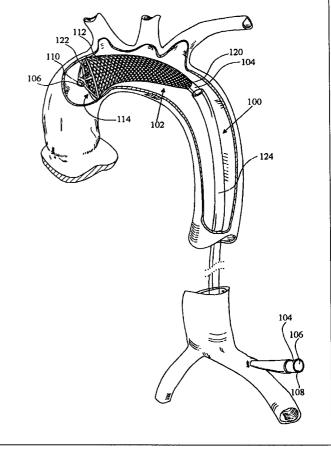
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(54) Title: PERFUSION FILTER CATHETER

(57) Abstract

A perfusion filter catheter is used to capture potential emboli within the aorta during heart surgery and cardiopulmonary bypass. An expandable embolic filter assembly having fine filter mesh for capturing macroemboli and microemboli is mounted on a catheter shaft having a perfusion lumen with perfusion ports located upstream of the filter. The embolic filter assembly can be actively or passively deployed within the ascending aortic. An optional outer tube covers the embolic filter assembly to prevent premature deployment. Radiopaque markers, sonoreflective markers and/or an aortic transillumination system are provided to monitor the position of the catheter and the deployment state of the embolic filter assembly. The embolic filter assembly is configured to maximize the effective filter surface area when deployed. Embolic filter assembly configurations described include an elongated cone, a frustum of a cone, a trumpet-shape, a modified trumpet-shape, and helically, circumferentially and longitudinally convoluted shapes, as well as configurations having standoff members for centering the filter and holding the filter mesh away from the aortic walls when deployed. Oxygenated blood is perfused through the perfusion lumen and any embolic materials that might be dislodged are captured in the deployed embolic filter assembly. Embodiments are also described that combine the perfusion filter catheter with an aortic occlusion device, which may be a toroidal balloon, an expandable balloon or a selectively deployable external catheter flow control valve. The combined device allows percutaneous transluminal administration of cardiopulmonary bypass and cardioplegic arrest with protection from undesirable embolic events.



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According t	to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classi	ification and IPC		
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^	WO 97 17100 A (EMBOL A INC) 13	may 1997	1-7, 18-23	
	see page 20, line 1 - line 32;	claims 1-5;		
	figures see page 23, line 9 - page 26,	ling 2		
	see page 14, line 14 - line 35	11110 2		
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X	US 5 662 671 A (PASTRONE GIOVAN 2 September 1997	NI ELAL)	1-5,7, 18-21,25	
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	25 January 1996		9,11,13	
	see page 17, line 12 - line 22; see page 7, line 10 - line 26	figures		
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X Fur	ther documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	Y Patent family members are listed	in annex.	
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other	means nent published prior to the international filing date but	ments, such combination being obvio in the art.		
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Date of the	e actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international sea	arch report	
	4 June 1999	1 4. 06. 1999		
ļ	mailing address of the ISA	Authorized officer		
	European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk			
	Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Neumann, E		

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Category ?	ation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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4	see column 2, line 42 - line 64; figures	3-7
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	see column 7, line 55 - line 58; figure 2	40
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inte ational application No. PCT/US 98/19777

Box	Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)
This in	itemational Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:
1. X	Claims Nos.: 42-45 because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
I	Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery
2.	Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3.	Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).
Boxi	Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)
This Ir	nternational Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
	see additional sheet
1 [x	As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international Search Report covers all searchable claims
2.	As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3.	As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos
4	No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims.
Rema	The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest. X No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. Claims: 1-31

Perfusion filter catheter comprising a catheter shaft and a porous filter mesh having a filter surface area which is at least twice as big as its expanded cross-section inlet area.

2. Claims: 32-41

Perfusion filter catheter comprising a catheter shaft and an filter assembly comprising a porous filter mesh and means for holding said filter mesh away from the inner wall of the aorta when the filter assembly is in its expanded state.

information on patent family members

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