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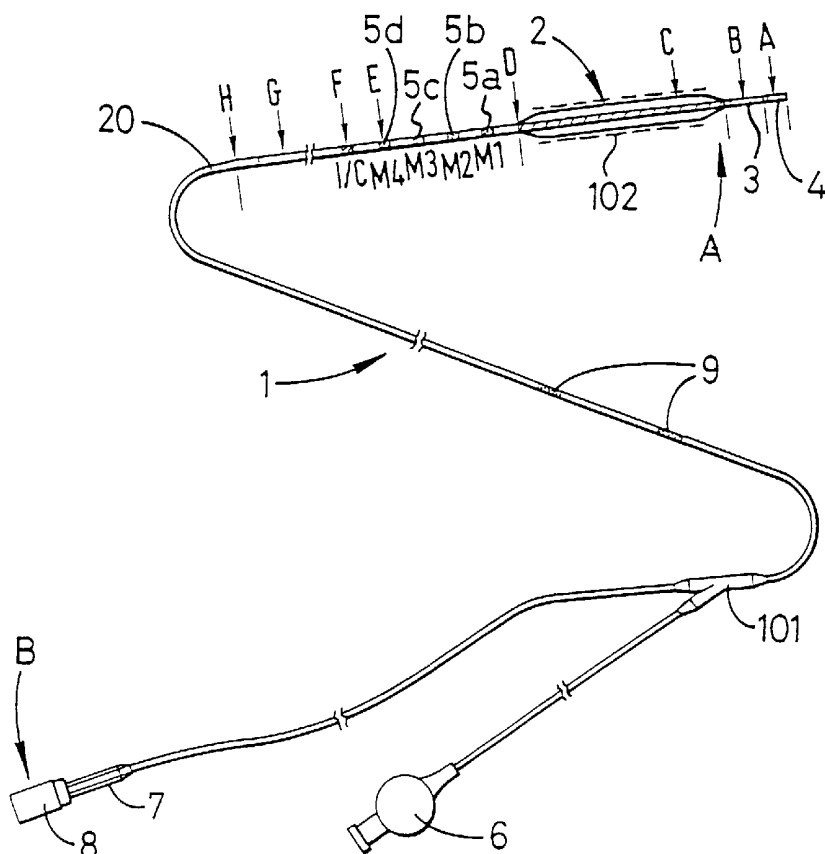
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(54) Title: ULTRASONIC IMAGING CATHETERS



(57) Abstract: An intravascular ultrasonic imaging catheter is provided with a flexible circuit electrically coupled to a transducer array mounted on the distal end of the catheter, a portion of the flexible circuit being helically wound about the catheter in order to enhance the flexibility of the circuit. The catheter may be a balloon catheter which is also provided with a stent mounted on the balloon, the stent carrying one or more drugs designed to be eluted or washed into a patient's blood stream after the stent has been delivered, by a the balloon catheter, into a target area within the patient's vascular system.

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SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

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X	US 5 163 445 A (CHRISTIAN JEFFREY J ET AL) 17 November 1992 (1992-11-17)	1-7, 12, 13
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X	abstract	23, 24
A	column 2, line 23 -column 5, line 1; table 1	26-28
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

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X	WO 99 16500 A (BARD INC C R) 8 April 1999 (1999-04-08) abstract page 6, line 6 -page 9, line 2; tables 1-4 -----	23, 25

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