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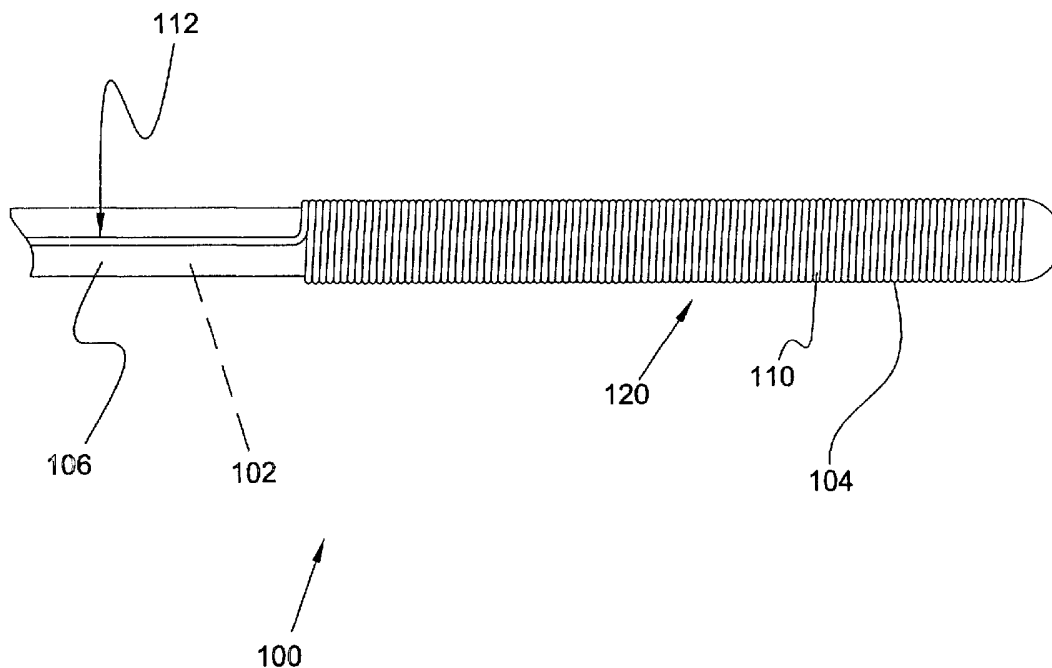
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(54) Title: METHODS AND DEVICES FOR DETECTING VULNERABLE PLAQUE



(57) Abstract: Device and methods for detecting vulnerable plaque within a blood vessel are disclosed. A system in accordance with the present invention includes a first wire (102) having a distal end coupled to a voltage source (140) and a proximal end coupled to an instrument capable of measuring voltage. A distal end of a second (104) wire is also coupled to the voltage source (140) and a proximal end of the second wire is coupled to the instrument. The amplitude of the electromotive force produced by the voltage source preferably varies with the temperature of a tissue proximate the voltage source.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
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| <b>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b><br>IPC 7 A61B5/00 G01K7/04  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC  |   |  |
| <b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b>  |   |  |
| Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)<br>IPC 7 A61B G01K   |   |  |
| 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)<br>EPO-Internal, WPI Data, INSPEC   |   |  |
| <b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>  |   |  |
| Category °   | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages  | Relevant to claim No.  |
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent family members are listed in annex   |   |  |
| ° Special categories of cited documents :  |   |  |
| *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance<br>*E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date<br>*L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)<br>*O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means<br>*P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed<br>*T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention<br>*X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone<br>*Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.<br>*&* document member of the same patent family |   |  |
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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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Information on patent family members

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