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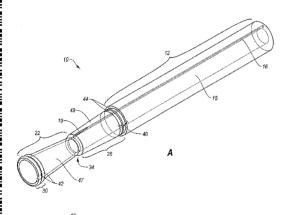
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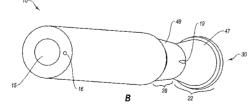
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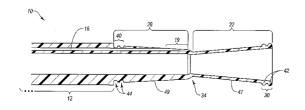
with international search report

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(54) Title: FEEDING DEVICE INCLUDING BALLOON TIP AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURE







(57) Abstract: A feeding tube device for delivering a substance into a stomach of a patient is disclosed, comprising a feeding tube, an overlapping segment integrally formed with and extending from the distal end of the feeding tube, and an inflation lumen defined within the feeding tube. The overlapping segment may be configured to surround at least a portion of the distal end of the feeding tube to form a balloon structure in communication with the inflation lumen. The overlapping segment may also be sealed against at least a portion of the distal end of the feeding tube device. A second overlapping segment may also be integrally formed with and extend from the proximate end of the feeding tube, with the second overlapping segment configured to surround at least a portion of the proximate end of the feeding tube to form a second balloon structure. A corresponding method of manufacturing is also disclosed.

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International application No PCT/US2006/022020

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER INV. A61J15/00 ADD. A61M25/10 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) A61J A61M 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 C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. Category* 1 - 16X WO 02/087492 A (NUTRICIA HEALTHCARE S A [CH]; KLIEM MICHAEL [DE]; WOLKENSTOERFER REINH) 7 November 2002 (2002-11-07) page 8, line 6 - page 12, line 2 figures 1-3,5,6 US 2004/103518 A1 (TRIEBES THOMAS GREGORY 1,2,4,5, χ [US] ET AL TRIEBES THOMAS GREGORY [US] ET 8-14,16 AL) 3 June 2004 (2004-06-03) paragraph [0045] - paragraph [0051] figures 4-6,6A US 5 234 454 A (BANGS ROGER G [US]) 10 August 1993 (1993-08-10) 1,6,8-12 X column 4, line 35 - line 61 figures 2,8,9 -/--Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex. Special categories of cited documents: "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 "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to filing date "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) involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone document of particular relevance; the claimed invention accument 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. document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means document published prior to the international filling date but later than the priority date claimed *&* document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 25/01/2007 11 January 2007 Name and 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 Schiffmann, Rudolf

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