MEDICAL GRASPER AND METHOD OF MAKING

(57) Abstract: A medical grasper and methods of forming the medical grasper by providing a series of flexible tubes, comprising providing a series of flexible tubes (18), a corresponding series of wires (20), each of which includes a movable wire section (22) and relatively short fixed wire section (24) integrally connected with one end of the movable wire section by a kink configured so that the wire sections extend in longitudinally coextensive relation therefrom; a series of tubular elements of thermoplastic material (28); and a series of heat shrinkable sleeves (30) assembling a distal end portion of each flexible tube with a fixed wire section, a tubular element and a heat shrinkable sleeve so that the fixed wire section extends along the exterior periphery of the flexible tube with the kink disposed outwardly of the distal end thereof.
Published:
— with international search report

Date of publication of the international search report: 18 March 2004

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the “Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations” appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

A.  CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
    IPC(7)  : A61B 17/22
    US CL  : 606/113, 114, 127, 200
    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)
    U.S. : 606/113, 114, 127, 200

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 practicable, search terms used)
    East - Snare, extractor

C.  DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A, P</td>
<td>US 6,416,519 B1 (VanDusseldorp) 09 July 2002, figs. 1-6</td>
<td>1-35</td>
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

Date of the actual completion of the international search: 12 December 2003 (12.12.2003)

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