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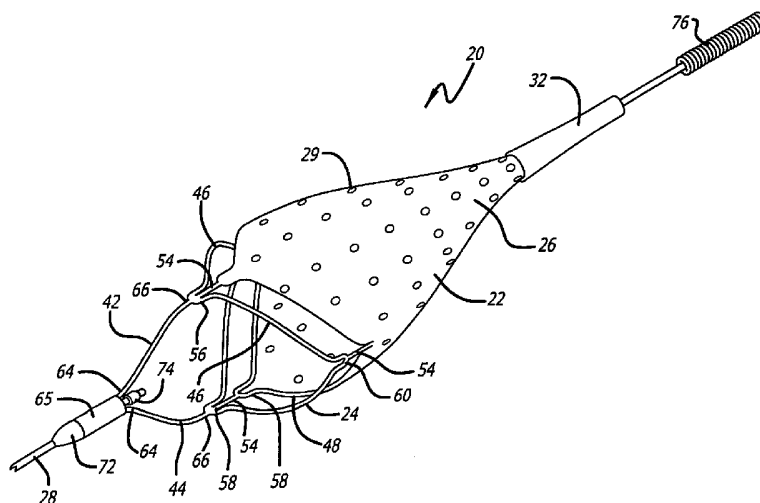
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: FLEXIBLE AND CONFORMABLE EMBOLIC FILTERING DEVICES



(57) Abstract: A self-expanding cage (24) for use in conjunction with an embolic filtering device (20) includes one or more circumferential members (46,48) adapted to expand from an unexpanded position to a expanded position within the patient's body vessel. At least one proximal strut (42,44) and at least one distal strut are attached to the circumferential member (46,48) to form the basket. The circumferential member (46,48) may include a plurality of bending regions (56,58) which enhance the ability of the circumferential member (46,48) to move between the unexpanded and expanded positions. The proximal and distal struts can be attached to one of the bending regions. When two or more circumferential members are utilized, each member may be connected by a connecting strut which may be connected at a bending region. The connecting strut can be a straight segment or may have a non-linear shape to provide additional flexibility. The expandable cage can be mounted to a elongated member, such as a guide wire (28), and can be either permanently mounted or rotatably mounted thereto.

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 99 16382 A (CARDEON CORP) 8 April 1999 (1999-04-08) page 25, line 19 -page 26, line 3 page 26, line 19 - line 39 claims; figures 32,34 ---	1,2,4,5
X	US 2001/012951 A1 (HOGENDIJK MICHAEL ET AL) 9 August 2001 (2001-08-09) paragraphs '0068!-'0097! claims; figures 5A-12 ---	1,2,4,5
A	WO 99 22673 A (BARD INC C R) 14 May 1999 (1999-05-14) page 7, line 36 -page 8, line 8 claims; figure 6 --- -/--	1-61

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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