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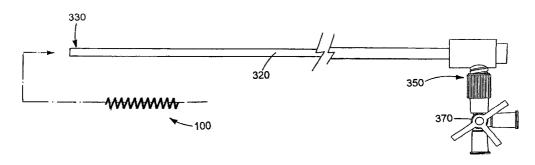
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(54) Title: IMPLANTABLE MEDICAL DEVICES



(57) Abstract: A medical device includes a balloon catheter having an expandable member, e.g., an inflatable balloon, at its distal end and a stent or other endoprosthesis. The stent is, for example, an apertured tubular member formed of a polymer and is assembled about the balloon. The stent has an initial diameter for delivery into the body and can be expanded to a larger diameter by inflating the balloon.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 A61L31/14 A611 A61L29/04 A61F2/06 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) A61L A61F 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 C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category ° Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. WO 00/33770 A (GORE ENTERPRISE HOLDINGS Α 1,21, INC) 15 June 2000 (2000-06-15) 34 - 105claims WO 01/56641 A (BARD INC C R ; JACQUES Α 1,21, STEVEN L (US)) 9 August 2001 (2001-08-09) 34 - 105Α US 5 954 744 A (FROIX MICHAEL ET AL) 1,21, 21 September 1999 (1999-09-21) 34-105 claims Α US 5 163 952 A (FROIX MICHAEL) 1 17 November 1992 (1992-11-17) claims WO 00/10485 A (UNSWORTH JOHN; WARAM Α 1 THOMAS (CA)) 2 March 2000 (2000-03-02) claims Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in 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 filing date cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "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) *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the O' document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or document is combined with one or more other such docu-ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed in the art. "&" 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 May 2004 03/06/2004 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, Deraedt, G Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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