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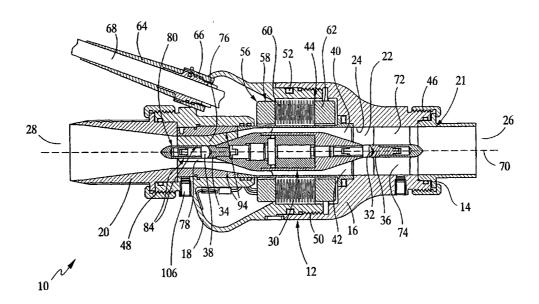
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(54) Title: BLOOD PUMP WITH PROFILED OUTFLOW REGION



(57) Abstract: The invention provides an axial flow blood pump (10) with slanting outflow components. Specifically, the invention provides a blood pump (10) having an angling outer stator blade edge structure (76, 78, 82, 92) in combination with a blood flow conduit (21, 22) having a constricting inner diameter. After constricting, the blood flow conduit (21, 22) can expand such that the inner diameter of the conduit increases. In addition, the blood pump (10) can have an angling inner stator blade edge structure and a tapering stator blade hub or tapering rotor element (30).

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 A61M1/10 A61M A61M1/12F04B17/03 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) A61M F04B IPC 7 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) C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Category 1 - 58US 5 527 159 A (SVEJKOVSKY PAUL A ET AL) Α 18 June 1996 (1996-06-18) column 3, line 60 -column 4, line 24 column 5, line 65 -column 8, line 31 figures 1,3,10 US 5 112 200 A (ISAACSON MILTON S ET AL) 1 - 58Α 12 May 1992 (1992-05-12) column 3, line 4 -column 4, line 3 figure 1 1-58 US 5 588 812 A (LE BLANC PIETER W J C ET A AL) 31 December 1996 (1996-12-31) abstract column 3, line 3-44 figures -/--Patent family members are listed in annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. X X 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 "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the 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 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 document is combined with one or more other such docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled other means "P" document published prior to the international filing 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 27/07/2000 4 July 2000 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Lager, J Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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