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(54) Title: DEVICES AND METHODS FOR OCCLUDING A FLEXIBLE TUBE

(57) Abstract: A device and method to constrict or occlude the lumen of a flexible tube (20) may include an occluder under the influence of an elastic force (140), such as a spring force, that can compress a portion of the wall of the flexible tube. The occluder can be under the influence of the elastic force, but prevented from occluding the tube by a stop (151). The stop can be connected to a tube gripping feature, so that a pulling force on the tube near the gripping feature can disengage the stop from the occluder, releasing the occluder to compress the tube. In some embodiments, the pulling force applied to the tube causes movement of the gripping feature by taking up slack in a portion of the tube held in the device. In other embodiments, the pulling force applied to the tube causes the tube to stretch elastically near the gripping feature, causing the gripping feature to move, and disengaging the stop from the occluder.
Declarations under Rule 4.17:
— of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv))
**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

INV : A61M39/28
ADD.

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. RELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
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**

<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>
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<tr>
<td>Y</td>
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- Special categories of cited documents
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Date of the actual completion of the international search: 22 October 2010
Date of mailing of the international search report: 29/10/2010

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