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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: EXPANDABLE CEREBROVASCULAR SHEATH AND METHOD OF USE

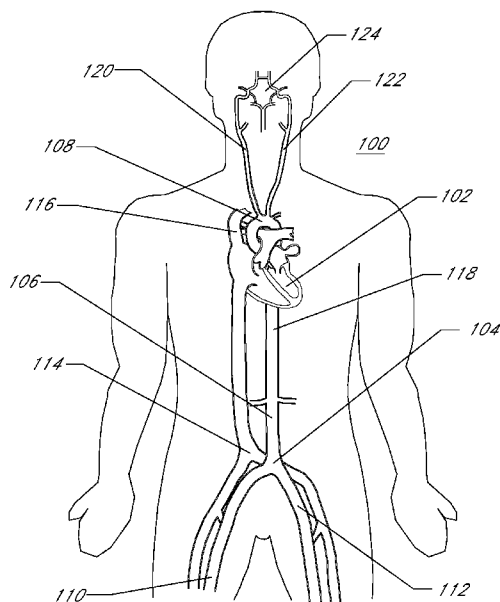


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: Disclosed is an expandable transluminal sheath, for introduction into the body while in a first, small cross-sectional area configuration, and subsequent expansion of at least a part of the distal end of the sheath to a second, enlarged cross-sectional configuration. The sheath is configured for use in the upper vascular system and has utility in the introduction and removal of therapeutic or diagnostic microcatheters. The access route-- is through the femoral arteries or the iliac arteries to the cerebrovasculature. The distal end of the sheath is maintained in the first, low cross-sectional configuration during advancement to the cerebrovasculature. The distal end of the sheath is subsequently expanded using a radial dilatation device, which is removed prior to the introduction of microcatheters. The sheath can be inserted in a first, small cross-sectional configuration, be expanded diametrically to a second, larger cross-sectional configuration, and then be reduced to a diametrically smaller size for removal.



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**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

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eKOMPASS(KIPO internal) &amp; Keywords:catheter,sheath,dilator

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 2006-031619 A2 (ONSET MEDICAL CORPORATION et al.) 23 March 2006 See claims 1-27, figures 1-17	1-72
A	US 2008-0243081 A1 (NANCE EDWARD J. et al.) 02 October 2008 See claims 1-28, figures 1-25	1-72
A	US 6436087 B1 (BRIAN DOUGLAS LEWIS et al.) 20 August 2002 See claims 1-13, figures 1-30	1-72
A	US 6929634 B2 (GERALD DORROS et al.) 16 August 2005 See claims 1-25, figures 1-11	1-72

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

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