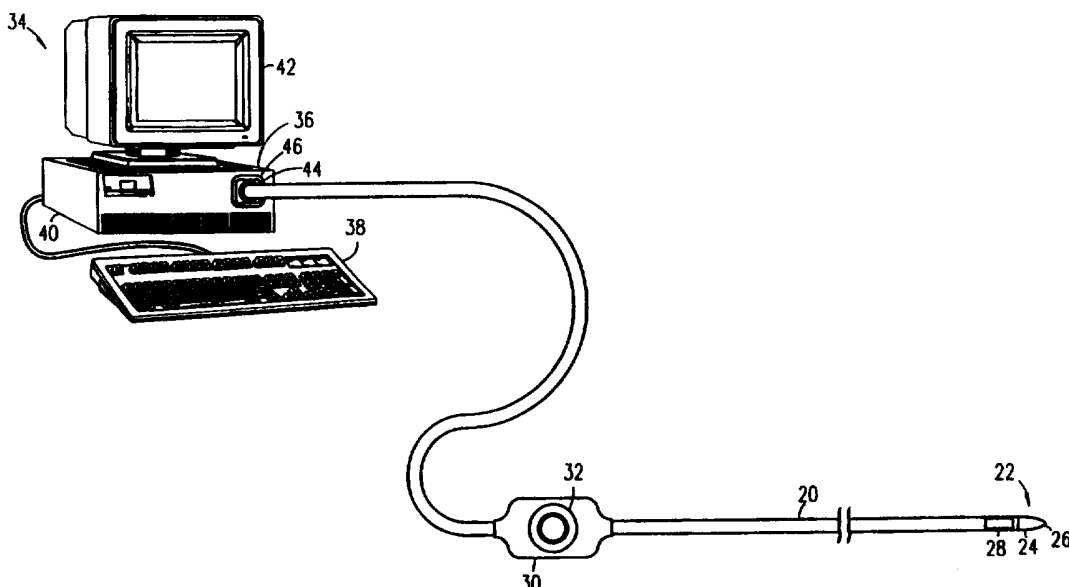




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(54) Title: CATHETER CALIBRATION AND USAGE MONITORING SYSTEM



(57) Abstract

A probe (20) for insertion into the body of a subject, the probe (20) having distal (22) and proximal ends, and including an electronic microcircuit (90), which stores information relating to calibration of the probe (20). Preferably, the microcircuit (90) stores a calibration code, which is encrypted. Alternatively or additionally, the microcircuit (90) stores a usage code, which controls availability of the probe (20) to a user thereof. Preferably, the probe (20) includes access control circuitry (90) that allows the usage code to be changed so as to reduce the availability of the probe (20), but not to increase the availability thereof.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/IL97/00060

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(6) : Please See Extra Sheet.

US CL : Please See Extra Sheet.

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)

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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 practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5,617,857 A (Chader et al) 8 April 1997, see entire document.	1-68
Y	US 5,577,502 A (Darrow et al) 26 November 1996, see entire document.	1-68
Y	US 5,377,678 A (Dumoulin et al) 3 January 1995, see entire document.	1-68

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER:

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER:

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched

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