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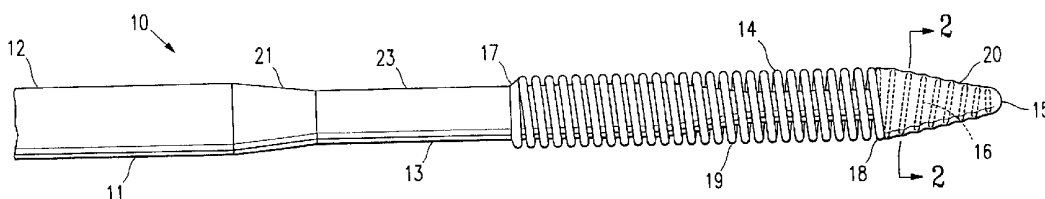
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(54) Title: GUIDEWIRE WITH TAPERED DISTAL COIL



(57) Abstract: A guidewire having a flexible coil with a tapered distal tip. Preferably, the flexible coil has a polymer coating at least at its tapered distal portion. The polymer coating may comprise polyurethanes or other suitable polymers. The guidewires of the invention provide desirable performance characteristics, particularly when used to cross relatively tight lesions such as chronic total occlusions.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61M25/01

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)

IPC 7 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

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4 748 986 A (MORRISON DAVID W ET AL) 7 June 1988 (1988-06-07) column 1, line 59 -column 4, line 31; figure 4 ---	1,8,9, 12-16
Y	US 3 973 556 A (FLEISCHHACKER JR JOSEPH F ET AL) 10 August 1976 (1976-08-10) column 2, line 17 - line 34 column 3, line 4 column 4, line 3 - line 25 ---	1-16
Y	US 5 001 825 A (HALPERN DAVID S) 26 March 1991 (1991-03-26) column 2, line 59 -column 3, line 38; figure 2 --- -/--	1,3,12, 13,16



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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