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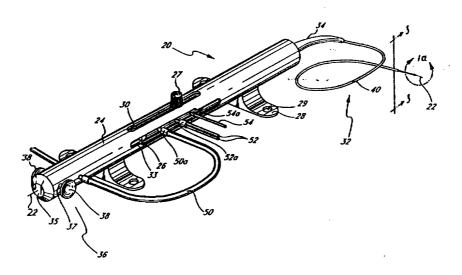
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(54) Title: ROTATIONAL ATHERECTOMY GUIDEWIRE



(57) Abstract

Disclosed is a guide wire (22) particularly suited for use in rotational atherectomy, the guide wire (22) has increased lateral flexibility in the distal region, and a substantially constant diameter throughout. The exterior diameter at any point is substantially equal to the sum of the diameter of the contral core wire (70), and twice the diameter of the wire of the spring coil (72), if any, mounted theron. At prooximal portions of the guide wire, the outer spring coil may be deleted. A rotational atherectomy device (20) is used with guide wire (22). Device (20) includes tubular body (24), catheter body (32), rotatable sleeve (42), and cutting burr (44).

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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT							
Category* Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.						
X US, A, 5,063,935, (Gambale), 12 November 1991. See	1-4, 6, 7						
entire reference. Y	5, 8-11						
Y US, A, 4,631,052, (Kensey), 23 December 1986. See Figs. 8 and 9.	10, 11						
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