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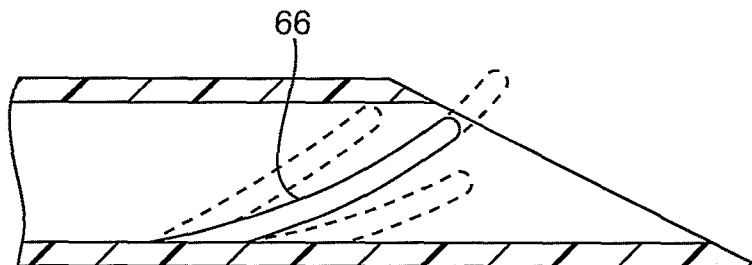
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR ASSISTED ASPIRATION



(57) Abstract: An aspiration catheter comprises a catheter body having an aspiration lumen therethrough. The distal opening of the aspiration lumen can be modified in various ways or can have the addition of structure in order to disrupt sealing between the port and material being aspirated. Examples of modifications include slots, castellations, zig-zag features, and other geometries which resist sealing of aspirated material. Blades, rollers, vibrating elements, and other structures may be provided within or around the distal end of the aspiration lumen in order to dislodge and disrupt aspirated material which can seal against the opening.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US06/34254

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(8) - A61M 5/32 (2007.01)

USPC - 604/266

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(8) - A61M 5/32 (2007.01)

USPC - 604/266, 606/159

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)

MicroPatent, IP.com, DialogPro

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5,882,329 A (PATTERSON et al) 16 March 1999 (16.03.1999) entire document	1-2, 24-28
Y		3-23, 29-32
Y	US 5,147,332 A (MOOREHEAD) 15 September 1992 (15.09.1992) entire document	3-23, 30-32
Y	US 6,596,011 B2 (JOHNSON et al) 22 July 2003 (22.07.2003) entire document	11-15, 29
A	US 6,491,660 B2 (GUO et al) 10 December 2002 (10.12.2002) entire document	1-32
A	US 6,579,298 B1 (BRUNEAU et al) 17 June 2003 (17.06.2003) entire document	1-32

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

24 January 2007

Date of mailing of the international search report

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