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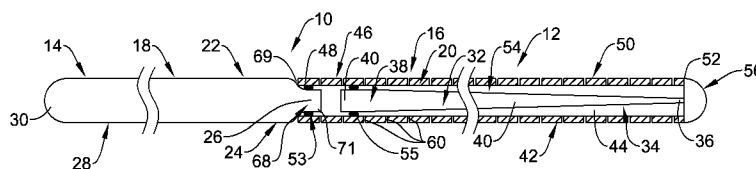


Figure 3

(57) Abstract: An intracorporeal device includes a shaft having a proximal section including a first elongate member and a distal section including a tubular member and a second elongate member. A proximal region of the tubular member is attached to the distal region of the first elongate member. The second elongate member is disposed within the lumen of the tubular member, and a proximal region of the second elongate member is attached to the proximal region of the elongate tubular member. As such, in some embodiments, the tubular member can function both as a member joining the first and second elongate members, and as a structural element in the distal section of the shaft providing for desired flexibility, torqueability, and/or pushability characteristics. The lateral flexibility of the tubular member can be increased by including less material in the tubular member, while maintaining a good degree to torqueability and/or pushability characteristics. For example, the tubular member can include a plurality of apertures in it.



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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
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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)  
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, WPI Data, PAJ

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2004/087876 A1 (ESKURI ALAN D [US]) 6 May 2004 (2004-05-06) paragraphs [0024], [0028], [0036], [0037]; figure 3	1, 3-9, 14-20
X	US 2002/156397 A1 (CORNISH WAYNE E [US] ET AL CORNISH WAYNE E [US] ET AL) 24 October 2002 (2002-10-24) abstract; figure 5	1, 2, 17
A	EP 0 917 885 A (SARCOS INC [US] PRECISION VASCULAR SYSTEMS INC [US]) 26 May 1999 (1999-05-26) paragraph [0014]; figures	1, 10-13, 17
A	US 6 379 369 B1 (ABRAMS ROBERT M [US]) 30 April 2002 (2002-04-30) abstract; figures	1, 17

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

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Information on patent family members

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