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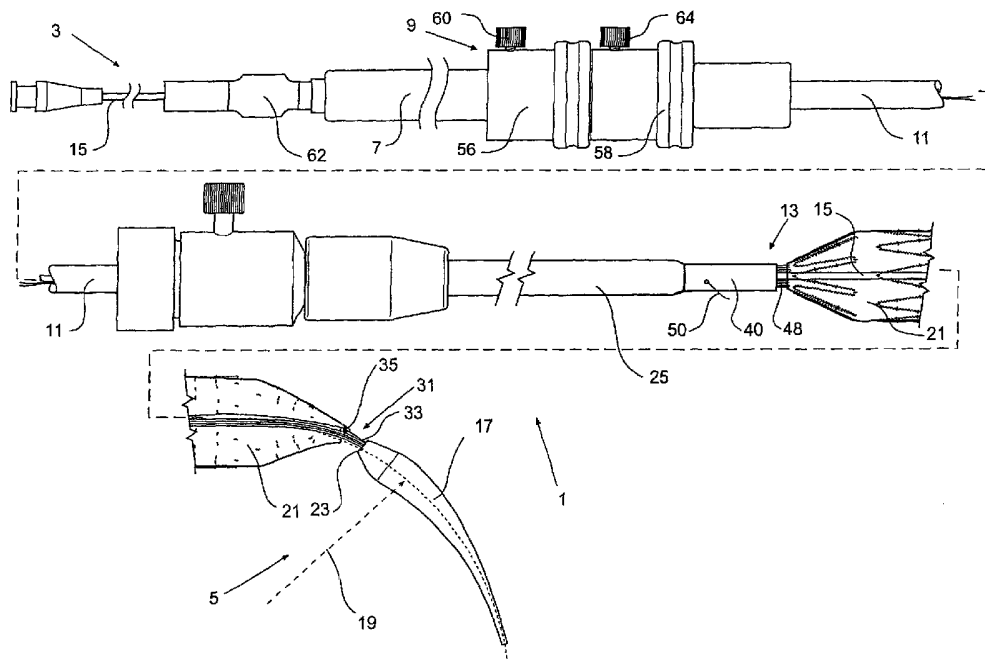
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: THORACIC STENT-GRAFT INTRODUCER



(57) Abstract: A stent graft deployment apparatus (10) which has a deployment catheter (11) with a proximal end (5) to be introduced into a patient and a distal end (3) to remain outside a patient and at a proximal end thereof a region to contain a stent graft (21). A sheath (25) extends over and covers the stent graft and can be moved to expose the stent graft to enable deployment of the stent graft. A nose cone dilator (17) is positioned at the proximal end of the deployment catheter and can be curved. A capsule (40) provides a distal retention arrangement for the stent graft.



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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A61F2/06

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 A61F

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)

WPI Data, EP0-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 6 346 118 B1 (BAKER ET AL) 12 February 2002 (2002-02-12)	1,2,5-7, 9,10, 12-16, 18,25, 26,31,32
A	the whole document	19,20
Y	US 5 147 334 A (MOSS) 15 September 1992 (1992-09-15)	1,2,5-7, 9,10, 12-16, 18,25, 26,31,32
	figures	



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

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- *G* document member of the same patent family

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