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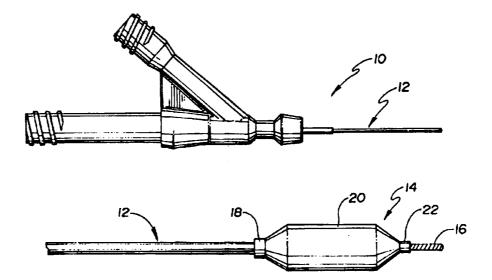
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Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.

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(54) Title: THERMOPLASTIC POLYIMIDE BALLOON CATHETER



(57) Abstract

The present invention discloses the incorporation of thermoplastic polyimide into various parts of balloon catheters such as catheter shafts and balloons. Such catheter construction may be integral or unitary in which the shaft or a portion thereof and balloon are manufactured as a single unit or the construction may be comprised of a separate shaft to which a balloon is attached, as by adhesive or other bonding.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Inten nal Application No PCT/US 94/14970

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 6 A61M25/00 C08G7 C08G73/16 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 6 A61M C08G B29B 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) C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. X DE,A,40 25 346 (BAYER AG) 13 February 1992 1-3, 18,22 see page 10, line 1 - line 20; figure 1 see page 4, line 10 - line 13 Y see page 10, line 1 - line 10; figure 1 4-17, 19-21, 23-31 Y WO, A, 93 20881 (SCIMED LIFE SYSTEMS, INC) 6,10-12,28 October 1993 24-31 see the whole document Y EP,A,O 380 102 (ADVANCED CARDIOVASCULAR 4,5,7-9, SYSTEM, INC.) 1 August 1990 13-17, 19-21,23 see page 4, line 43 - page 5, line 20; figures 1-3 -/--X Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance earlier document but published on or after the international invention filing date "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-'O' document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 9 June 1995 D 5, 07, 95 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 Ehrsam, F Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1992)

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