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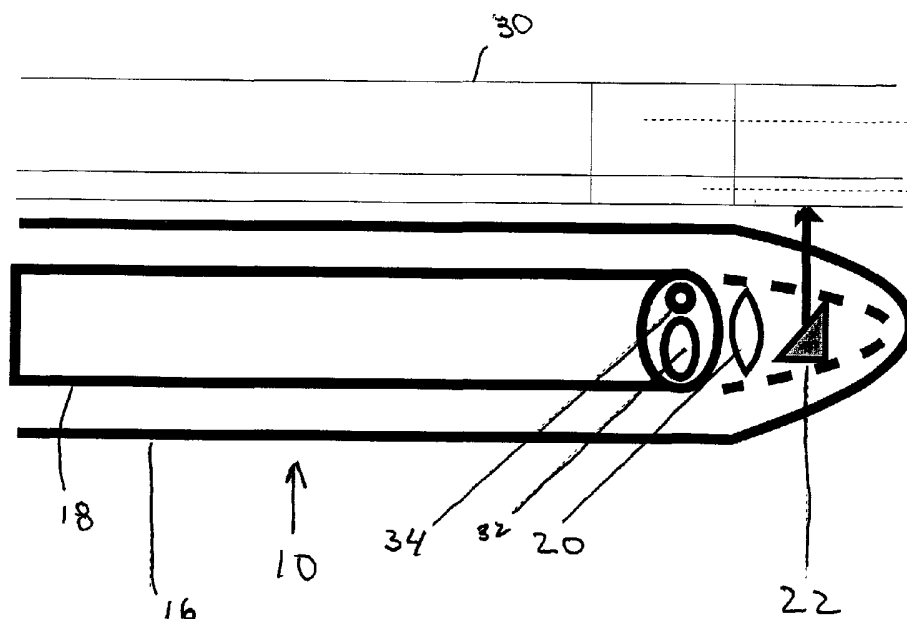
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DETERMINATION OF ATHEROSCLEROTIC PLAQUE TYPE BY MEASUREMENT OF TISSUE OPTICAL PROPERTIES



(57) Abstract: Methods for diagnosing vulnerable atherosclerotic plaque using optical coherence tomography to measure tissue optical properties, including backreflectance of heterogeneous layers, such as plaque cap, lipid pool composition and macrophage presence. Methods also include measurement of spatially and temporally dependent reflectance, measurement of multiple wave-length reflectance, low coherence interferometry, polarization and quantification of macrophage content.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internat Application No
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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)

IPC 7 A61B

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

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 97 32182 A (TEARNEY) 4 September 1997 (1997-09-04) page 8, line 13 -page 10, line 20	11, 12
A	page 19, line 14 -page 20, line 13	13
Y	page 2, line 15 - line 29 ---	1
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A	US 5 353 790 A (JACQUES & AL) 11 October 1994 (1994-10-11) column 2, line 40 -column 4, line 22 --- -/--	2, 4



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Application No

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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