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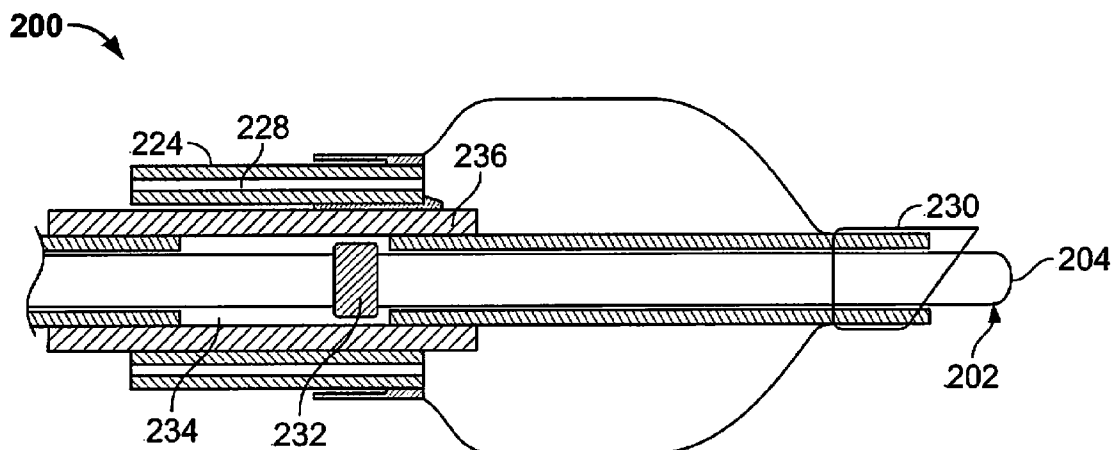
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(54) Title: DEVICES FOR CREATING PASSAGES AND SENSING BLOOD VESSELS



(57) Abstract: Devices and methods are disclosed for creating passages in tissue and detecting blood vessels in and around the passages. The devices may be used to create channels for altering gaseous flow within a lung to improve the expiration cycle of an individual, particularly individuals having Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD). In addition, the devices may be used to sample tissue during biopsy or other medical procedures where perforating a blood vessel could result in injury to a patient.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US07/70442

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(8) - A61B 18/18 (2007.10)

USPC - 606/46

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)

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USPC - 606/46, 623/1.11

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, DialogPro, Google Scholar, Google Patents

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2006/0116749 A1 (WILLINK et al) 01 June 2006 (01.06.2006) entire document	1-10, 14-19, 22-38
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Y		11-13, 20-21
Y	US 6,692,494 B1 (COOPER et al) 17 February 2004 (17.02.2004) entire document	11-13, 20-21

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