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(54) Title: APPARATUS, METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR INTRAVASCULAR PHOTOGRAPHIC IMAGING

(57) Abstract: An apparatus, system and method for providing a photographic image of a target region within an intravascular environment. The apparatus has a plurality of different embodiments, each of which reduces the ambient "noise" detected along with the light reflected from the target region in order to increase the signal/noise ratio, thereby to enhance the quality of the image produced.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER		
IPC(7) : A61B 1/04, 1/06; G02B 6/06		
US CL : 600/ 101, 109, 160, 178, 181; 385/ 117, 118, 119		
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) U.S. : 600/ 101, 109, 160, 178, 181; 385/ 117, 118, 119		
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched NONE		
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) NONE		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 4,569,335 A (TSUNO) 11 February 1986 (11.02.1986), entire document	1-121
A	US 4,576,146 A (KAWAZOE et al.) 18 March 1986 (18.03.1986), entire document	1-121
A	US 4,827,907 A (TASHIRO) 9 May 1989 (09.05.1989), entire document	1-121
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