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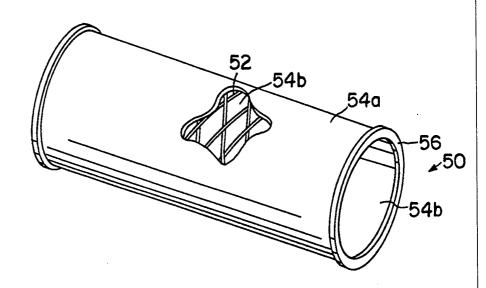
Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.

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(54) Title: COVERED EXPANDING MESH STENT

(57) Abstract

The present invention is a medical device such as a stent in the form of an expandable mesh with an expandable polymer layer thereon. The mesh is metal or plastic. The polymer may be any of a variety of expandable polymers, which either expand upon hydration, or expand without significant resistance. The invention may be used, for example, as an expandable biliary, vascular, endotracheal, esophageal, or prostatic device.



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nal Application No

PCT/US 96/02406 A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 6 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 6 A61F A61L 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 Relevant to claim No. Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages 1-8 WO,A,93 06781 (BOSTON SCIENTIFIC CORP.) 15 Υ April 1993 see the whole document 1-8 US,A,4 883 699 (LAWRENCE) 28 November 1989 Y cited in the application see abstract; figures 16-24 Χ WO,A,90 05554 (BOSTON SCIENTIFIC CORPORATION) 31 May 1990 cited in the application see page 7, line 2 - page 8, line 9; figures 16,18-22 US,A,5 089 006 (STILES) 18 February 1992 χ cited in the application see column 2, line 29 - line 64; figures -/--Patent family members are listed in annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Х * 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 "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to filing date 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) involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "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 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 mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search 1 1, 10, 96 25 September 1996 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA 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

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Steenbakker, J

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ernational application No.

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Box I Observations	s where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)
This international searc	ch report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:
1. Claims Nos.: because they r	relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. Claims Nos.: because they an extent that	relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
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Box II Observation	s where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)
This International Sea	rching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
	Please see annex
X As all require searchable class	ed additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all aims.
2. As all search: of any addition	able claims could be searches without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment onal fee.
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FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/210

MULTIPLE INVENTIONS:

1. Subject No. 1 : Claims 1-15

A stent having an expandable mesh and a hydrophilic expandable polymer coupled to said mesh which expands upon hydration.

2. Subject No. 2 : Claims 16-24

A stent having an expandable mesh and an expandable polymer coupled to said mesh, the expandable polymer is moveable between the fourt and third configuration without folding or bunching.

...formation on patent family members

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