

[54] PROSTHESIS COMPRISING AN EXPANSIBLE OR CONTRACTILE TUBULAR BODY

[75] Inventor: Hans I. Wallstén, Denens, Switzerland

[73] Assignee: Shepherd Patents S.A., Switzerland

[21] Appl. No.: 330,975

[22] Filed: Mar. 28, 1989

Related U.S. Application Data

[63] Continuation of Ser. No. 219,800, Jul. 15, 1988, abandoned, which is a continuation of Ser. No. 946,064, Dec. 24, 1986, abandoned, which is a continuation of Ser. No. 571,549, filed as PCT SE83/00131 on Apr. 11, 1983, Pat. No. 4,655,771.

Foreign Application Priority Data

[30] Apr. 30, 1982 [SE] Sweden 8202739
Apr. 11, 1983 [WO] PCT Int'l Appl. ... PCT/SE83/00131

[51] Int. Cl.5 A61F 2/04; A61F 2/06; A61M 29/00

[52] U.S. Cl. 600/36; 606/191; 606/198; 623/1

[58] Field of Search 128/343, 344, 345; 623/1, 12; 600/36; 606/191, 198

[56] References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

4,503,569 3/1985 Dotter 128/343 X
4,610,688 9/1986 Silvestrini et al. 623/1

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

1602513 1/1971 France .
1205743 9/1970 United Kingdom 128/343

Primary Examiner—Alan W. Cannon
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Burns, Doane, Swecker & Mathis

[57] ABSTRACT

A prosthesis for transluminal implantation comprising a flexible tubular body which has a diameter that is variable by axial movement of the ends of the body relative to each other and which is composed of several individual rigid but flexible thread elements each of which extends in helix configuration with the center line of the body as a common axis, a number of elements having the same direction of winding but being axially displaced relative to each other crossing a number of elements also axially displaced relative to each other but having the opposite direction of winding; and method for transluminal implantation.

6 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets

