

[54] METHOD OF FORMING A SMALL BORE FLEXIBLE VASCULAR GRAFT INVOLVING ELUTING SOLVENT-ELUTABLE PARTICLES FROM A POLYMERIC TUBULAR ARTICLE

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[57] ABSTRACT

Novel cardiovascular prosthetic devices or implants having many useful cardiovascular applications comprise a porous surface and a network of interconnected interstitial pores below the surface in fluid flow communication with the surface pores. Tissue forms a smooth thin adherent coating of self-determining thickness on the porous surface making it resistant to the formation of the blood clots normally associated with the presence of foreign bodies in the blood stream. The device has particular utility in heart valves, pacemaker electrodes, blood pumps, blood stream filters, an artificial pancreas, vascular access tubes, small and large bore vascular grafts, blood pump diaphragms and vascular and intracardiac patches.

8 Claims, 7 Drawing Figures

