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[54] IMPLANTABLE CARDIAC PATIENT MONITOR

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[58] Field of Search ..... 128/419 PG, 696, 702, 128/642, 703-705, 710; 607/2, 32, 36, 60, 37; 364/413.06

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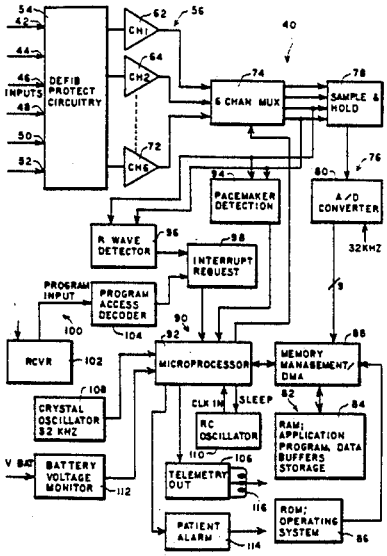
[57] ABSTRACT

An implantable cardiac monitor is arranged for detecting both arrhythmias and ischemia of the human heart. The monitor includes subcutaneous electrodes for establishing electrical contact with the heart and a sense amplifier coupled to each electrode for generating an electrocardiogram of a heart beat sensed at each of the electrodes. The electrocardiograms are digitized and the digital samples thereof are stored in a memory. A microprocessor processes the digital samples of the electrocardiograms and generates characterizing data indicative of the physiology of the heart. The cardiac monitor includes telemetry to permit the cardiac data to be interrogated externally of the patient for obtaining the generated cardiac data indicative of arrhythmic and ischemic episodes.

80 Claims, 24 Drawing Sheets