

[54] **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REMOVING AND/OR ENLARGING CONSTRICTED AREAS IN VESSELS CONDUCTING BODY FLUIDS**

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[58] **Field of Search** 128/325, 344, 348.1, 128/328; 604/49-54, 28, 43-45, 96-103, 266, 265, 269

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

An apparatus and method for comminuting and/or eliminating constricted areas in vessels of all types whereby fissures and cracks in the vessel walls during the treatment of stenosis in blood vessels and also coronary obstruction are to be avoided. A treatment catheter is used which is equipped with two inflatable balloons which seal off a constriction place in a vessel on both sides thereof whereby the degree of expansion of both balloons is externally regulatable. An inlet member for the supply of means dissolving the material of the constriction area or comminuting the same into smaller particles and an outlet member for the removal of the dissolved or comminuted material of the constriction place are provided in the walls of the treatment catheter within the area delimited by the two balloons. These inlet and outlet members are in communication with a channel accessible from the outside.

40 Claims, 11 Drawing Figures

