United States Patent [19]

MacGregor

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[54] **BIFURCATING STENT APPARATUS AND METHOD**

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** **606/194**; 606/192

[58] **Field of Search** 606/191, 192, 198, 200, 606/194, 96, 151, 153; 623/1, 12

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A bifurcating stent for insertion into a bifurcating vessel such as a blood vessel. The stent can be expanded from an insertion configuration to an implanted configuration by the application of radially outward forces against a series of interconnected wire loops that make up the stent. The preferred and disclosed method of stent implantation is accomplished with the use of a balloon catheter that expands the stent into contact with inner walls of the vessel. The balloon is then deflated and withdrawn from the vessel, leaving the stent implanted within the vessel.

16 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets