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(54) Title: TUBULAR MEMBER FOR FACILITATING THE COLLECTION OF SOUND WAVES ORIGINATING INSIDE A
LIVING BODY

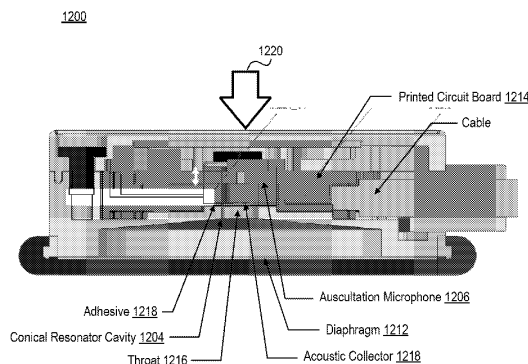


FIGURE 12B

(57) Abstract: Introduced here is an acoustic collection device that is designed to extend the path along which sound waves can be collected by a microphone. An acoustic collection device can include a tubular body that has (i) a distal interface through which sound waves corresponding to sounds internal to a living body are collected and (ii) a proximal interface through which the sound waves are presented to a microphone. A channel defined by the inner surface of the tubular body extends between the distal and proximal interfaces. The channel allows the sound waves to travel from the distal interface to the proximal interface. The acoustic collection device could be connected to the housing of an electronic device that is used to record the sound waves, or the acoustic collection device could be implemented in an input unit for an electronic stethoscope system.

[Continued on next page]

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