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(54) Title: CATHETERIZATION METHOD AND APPARATUS

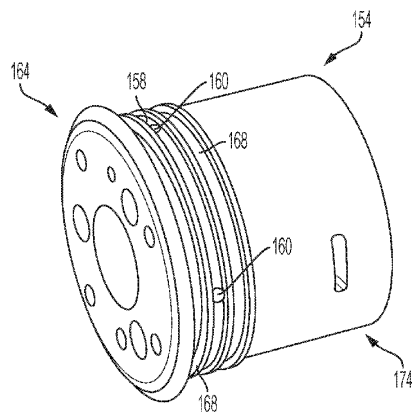


FIG. 29

(57) Abstract: Catheterization methods and apparatuses allow sensing of pressures inside the heart and for removing air from catheters. A delivery system can use the same components that are used to deliver a valve repair or replacement device to measure the pressure in the atrium or other heart chamber. A pressure sensor can be included in one of the catheters of the delivery system or pressure can be sensed through the same port that is used to flush a catheter. The delivery system can be inserted into an atrium of the heart, delivering the valve repair or replacement device to the native valve, such as the mitral valve, the tricuspid valve, the aortic valve, or the pulmonary valve.

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