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| <p>(51) International Patent Classification:
 <i>A61B 18/24</i> (2006.01) <i>A61N 5/067</i> (2006.01)</p> <p>(21) International Application Number:
 PCT/US2023/064892</p> <p>(22) International Filing Date:
 23 March 2023 (23.03.2023)</p> <p>(25) Filing Language: English</p> <p>(26) Publication Language: English</p> <p>(30) Priority Data:
 63/322,821 23 March 2022 (23.03.2022) US</p> <p>(71) Applicant: ENDO UV TECH [US/US]; 515 E. Las Olas Blvd., No. 120, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301 (US).</p> <p>(72) Inventors: WATSON, Brant, D.; 855 Euclid Avenue, Apt. 407, Miami Beach, FL 33139 (US). VAN VURST, Henry, W.; 515 E. Las Olas Blvd., No. 120, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301 (US).</p> | <p>(74) Agent: WHITLOCK, Ted; 200 South Andrews Avenue, Suite 100, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301 (US).</p> <p>(81) Designated States (<i>unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available</i>): AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CV, CZ, DE, DJ, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IQ, IR, IS, IT, JM, JO, JP, KE, KG, KH, KN, KP, KR, KW, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LU, LY, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MU, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW, SA, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, WS, ZA, ZM, ZW.</p> <p>(84) Designated States (<i>unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available</i>): ARIPO (BW, CV, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SC, SD, SL, ST, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, ME, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE,</p> |
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- (54) Title:** DEVICE AND METHOD FOR DILATION OF A TUBULAR ANATOMICAL STRUCTURE

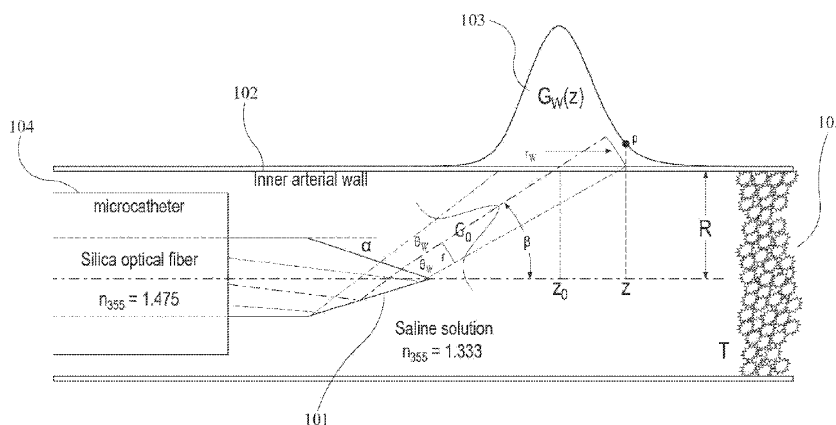


FIG. 1A

- (57) Abstract:** Described is a method and device for dilating a tubular anatomical structure. The device and method can be useful for extracting a blood clot in an artery of a mammal by concentrically irradiating an inner wall of the occluded artery using an ultraviolet (UV) laser beam delivered by an optical fiber. Dilation results from photophysical production and release of nitric oxide from the cells lining the arterial wall when UV laser light is projected as a ring beam onto the inner arterial wall.

SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN,
GQ, GW, KM, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- *with international search report (Art. 21(3))*
- *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))*

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:

28 December 2023 (28.12.2023)