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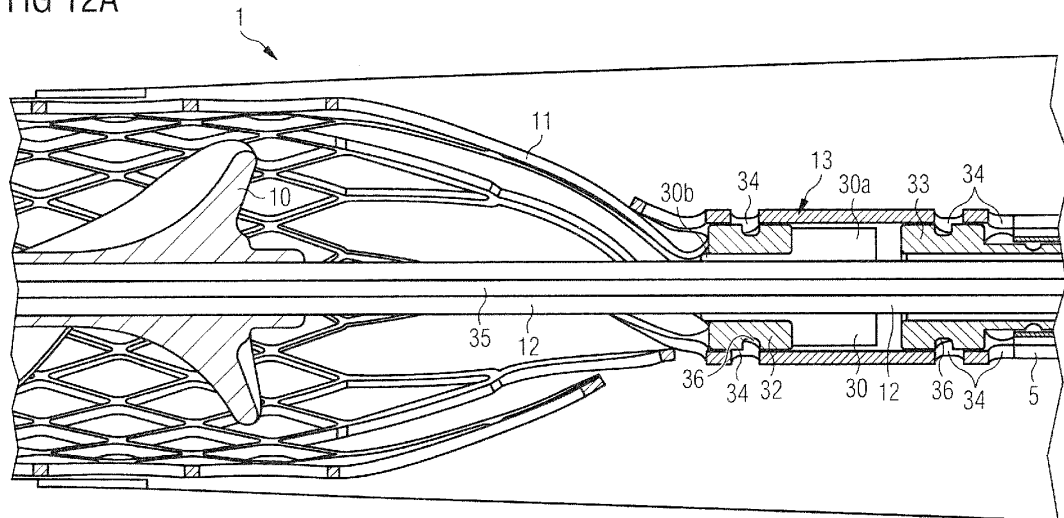
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(54) Title: INTRAVASCULAR BLOOD PUMP

FIG 12A



(57) Abstract: An intravascular blood pump (1) comprises a catheter (5), a rotor (10), a housing (11) in which the rotor (10) is housed and a flexible drive shaft (12) extending through the catheter (5) and rotatably supported in a proximal bearing (13) located proximally of the rotor (10). The proximal bearing (13) comprises a bearing sleeve (30) and an outer bearing ring (32). The bearing sleeve (30) comprises a proximal portion located proximally of the outer bearing ring (32), the proximal portion of the bearing sleeve (30) forming an axial bearing with a proximal surface of the outer bearing ring (32). The bearing sleeve (30) further comprises a distal portion extending from the proximal portion of the bearing sleeve (30) distally into the outer bearing ring (32), wherein the distal portion of the bearing sleeve (30) forms a radial bearing with the outer bearing ring (32).

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