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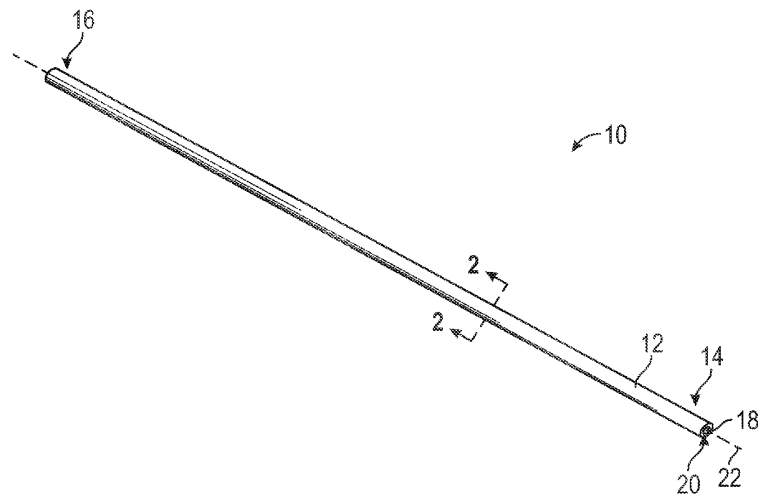


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: A delivery device to deliver a tubular instrument (10) into a catheter. The delivery device may include the tubular instrument, which may include an annular wall (12). The annular wall may include a distal end (14) and may form a lumen (18). The annular wall may include a first annular section (44) and a second annular section (46) proximal to the first annular section. A durometer of the second annular section may be greater than a durometer of the first annular section. The tubular instrument may include a distal opening (20) within the distal end of the annular wall. The first annular section may include the distal opening.

[Continued on next page]

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