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(54) **DEVICE FOR TRANSCUTANEOUS CATHETER GUIDING**

GERÄT ZUR TRANSKUTANEN KATHETERFÜHRUNG

SYSTEME DE GUIDAGE TRANSCUTANE D'UN CATHETER

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**US-B1- 6 226 543**

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## Description

**[0001]** The invention describes to a method of determining the position of a catheter introduced along a guide wire inserted into a body, in which method an image of the guide wire and the body region at the area of the guide wire is acquired by means of an imaging method. The method is not part of the invention.

**[0002]** In order to determine the position of the catheter in known methods of the kind set forth, an imaging method is regularly carried out in order to acquire images of the relevant body regions with the inserted guide wire and the catheter introduced along this guide wire, thus enabling determination of the position of the catheter. Depending on the requirements imposed as regards the accuracy of the positioning of the catheter, or the tip of the catheter, several image acquisition procedures have to be carried out so as to enable repeated checking of the position of the catheter. Such repeated image acquisition is a costly procedure. Furthermore, notably when an X-ray imaging method (fluoroscopy) is used, the repeated image acquisitions lead to a substantial radiation load for the patient as well as for the medical staff.

**[0003]** GB 2 335 744 discloses a method of measuring the position of the tip of a catheter by continuously monitoring the distance the catheter has traveled past a reference point and monitoring the orientation of the tip and reconstructing the trajectory of the catheter tip.

**[0004]** It is an object of the invention to provide a device which enables a simplified determination of the catheter position and reduces the radiation load.

**[0005]** The object is achieved in accordance with the invention by measuring the distance traveled by the catheter on the guide wire and by determining the position of the catheter in the body on the basis of the measured distance.

**[0006]** Because the catheter is fed forwards on the guide wire, the catheter or the catheter tip can only be situated along the guide wire. When the position of the guide wire relative to the lesion is known, therefore, the position of the catheter can be determined as a function of the distance traveled by the catheter or the tip of the catheter on the guide wire. As a result, after the position of the guide wire in relation to the lesion in the body and the body region around the guide wire have been determined once, the position of the catheter or the tip of the catheter in the body region can be determined at any instant by measuring how far the catheter has traveled on the guide wire. The determination of the position of the catheter thus requires only a single acquisition of an image of the body region and the guide wire, so that the radiation load caused by the repeated image acquisitions can be avoided.

**[0007]** Furthermore, the position of the catheter or the catheter tip can be determined permanently and in real time, whereas according to the known method the position of the catheter or the catheter tip can be determined only at given instants, that is, the instants of image ac-

quisition. The method thus enables a reduction of the radiation load, a simplified determination of the position of the catheter/the tip of the catheter, and a permanent and real-time determination and display of the position of the catheter.

**[0008]** In accordance with a first advantageous version of the method an image of the body region is acquired and the position of the catheter is displayed in this image. This image can be acquired before, during or after the determination of the position of the catheter.

**[0009]** The body region, and possibly the guide wire introduced into this body region, can then be determined from the image data previously acquired by means of the imaging method, the position of the catheter can be determined, as described before, on the basis of the measured distance and be displayed in the image of the body region. In this preferred version imaging can take place at regular intervals, for example, at instants specified by the user, or a plurality of images can be formed in rapid succession, thus enabling permanent real-time observation of the catheter/the tip of the catheter and hence of the progress of the catheter.

**[0010]** In accordance with a further advantageous version the imaging of the body region and the guide wire is realized by means of a two-dimensional or three-dimensional imaging method. All types of medical imaging methods can be used for this purpose. Use can advantageously be made of X-ray imaging methods, that is, two-dimensional X-ray projections or computed tomography X-ray imaging methods. For the visualization of vascular systems, a contrast medium can then be advantageously administered so as to be imaged by the imaging method. Customary methods in this respect are angiography methods, in particular fluoroscopic angiography.

**[0011]** For the above version of the method the body region and the guide wire can be advantageously imaged by way of two essentially orthogonal projections, a three-dimensional image of the body region being formed from such projections by way of modeling. Modeling is performed by means of numerical calculation from the image data acquired by way of the projections. The modeling notably enables the formation of a coronary roadmap. Customary methods can be used for the modeling operation. The projections can be acquired either simultaneously by means of a two-plane system or successively by means of a mono-plane system. In the case of temporally successive projections it is advantageous to acquire the projections in the same cardiac phase when the method in accordance with the invention is used for the imaging of the vascular system, notably in the region of the heart.

**[0012]** It can be advantageously arranged in particular that the acquisition of the image data is realized by means of images of the body regions which have been shifted in time and triggered on the basis of the cardiac frequency. The successively acquired image data can be compared and possibly superposed in this manner. Further-

more, if the image data from images of the same cardiac phase is available, a three-dimensional image can be modeled from such image data without it being necessary to carry out any complex reconstruction methods, distortion correction methods and/or image data allocation operations.

**[0013]** In a further advantageous version of the method an image of the body region with the guide wire and the inserted catheter is acquired and displayed after the determination of the position of the catheter. This postponed acquisition of image data serves to compare the calculated (virtual) image data on the position of the catheter with the actual position of the catheter. This approach serves to check the calculated catheter position. It can then be arranged, for example, to perform an image data acquisition at given time intervals and to compare the catheter position visualized from this image acquisition with the numerically calculated catheter position at the relevant instant and to perform, if necessary, a correction of the calculation data. It may also be arranged to couple the image acquisition means to the sensor means so as to carry out an image data acquisition operation for given traveled distances, notably when the target position or a region around the target position is reached.

**[0014]** The invention also relates to a device for determining the position of a catheter introduced along a guide wire inserted into a body, which device includes sensor means for measuring the distance traveled by the catheter on the guide wire and means for determining the position of the catheter on the basis of the measured distance.

**[0015]** In a very simple embodiment it is possible to predetermine merely a desired position of the catheter and to calculate the distance of travel of the catheter on the guide wire which is necessary for this position of the catheter. Subsequently, the catheter is displaced on the guide wire until the desired distance has been traveled, said distance being determined by means of simple measuring means such as, for example, a centimeter tape, a caliper gage or the like.

**[0016]** Furthermore, sensors which are known for the purpose of length sensing, for example, inductive or potentiometric distance sensors, can be used to determine the distance. Such distance sensors may be coupled to display or signal means which indicate the relevant distance of travel and/or trigger a signal, for example, an optical or acoustic signal, when a given reference distance is reached.

**[0017]** The device in accordance with the invention may also include image acquisition means which are arranged to acquire an image of the inserted guide wire and the body region of the guide wire. Such image acquisition means can also be constructed so as to cooperate with the sensor means, thus forming image data describing the position of the catheter.

**[0018]** A further advantageous embodiment of the device in accordance with the invention includes imaging means for displaying the body region at the area of the

guide wire, as well as for displaying the inserted guide wire itself and/or the inserted catheter. The imaging means may be capable of forming a two-dimensional image or also a three-dimensional image for display in a customary manner, for example, by means of a display screen.

**[0019]** The invention also relates to a computer program with program means for making a computer carry out the method when the program is executed on a computer.

**[0020]** A preferred embodiment of the method and the device will be described in detail hereinafter with reference to the Figures. Therein:

Fig. 1 is a diagrammatic representation of an embodiment of the device in accordance with the invention with a guide wire introduced into a body, Fig. 2 shows a flow chart of a version of the method in accordance with the invention, and Fig. 3 is a diagrammatic representation of the lengths of the guide wire and a catheter arranged thereon.

**[0021]** In Fig. 1 a guide wire 10 has been introduced into a vascular system 21 of a body 20 via a body opening 22. The guide wire 10 has been slid into the vascular system 21 so far that from the opening 22 it extends beyond a constriction 23 in the vascular system 21. A catheter 30 has been threaded on the guide wire. The catheter 30 has been advanced through the vascular system 21, along the guide wire 10, so far that the end 31 of the catheter 30 within the vascular system 21 is situated just in front of the constriction 23. To the end 33 situated within the vascular system there is attached a dilatation bulb 34. The dilatation bulb 34 is merely an example and may be replaced by other known catheter-guided treatment devices.

**[0022]** The catheter 30 and the guide wire 10 pass through a feed device 40. The feed device includes feed wheels 41, 42. The feed wheels 41, 42 are situated at a distance from one another. The catheter 30 passes between the feed wheels 41, 42 and is frictionally engaged thereby.

**[0023]** Because of the frictional contact between the feed wheels 41, 42 and the catheter 30, the wheels 41, 42 rotate when the catheter 30 is manually advanced on the guide wire 10. Furthermore, the catheter 30 can be advanced on the guide wire 10 by driving the feed wheels 41, 42.

**[0024]** The feed wheels 41, 42 (or at least one of these feed wheels) are connected to sensor means (not shown) which measure the rotation of the feed wheels and hence measure the distance of travel of the catheter 30. The rotation sensor means are connected to a computer 50 and apply the measured distance to the computer.

**[0025]** Fig. 1 also shows an X-ray C-arm 60. This apparatus is of a known type as used for many medical imaging applications. The X-ray C-arm is arranged in such a manner that it is capable of imaging the body 20,

that is, at least the body region in which the constriction 23 is situated. The X-ray C-arm 60 is also connected to the computer 50 and applies the image data to the computer.

[0026] The computer 50 calculates the position of the catheter 30, notably the position of the dilatation bulb 34 at the end 33 of the catheter 30, from the image data of the X-ray C-arm 60 and the distance of travel as presented by the rotation sensors of the feed device 40.

[0027] The computer 50 is connected to a monitor 70 which serves to display the body region around the constriction 23, the guide wire 10 at the area of this constriction and the catheter 30, that is, notably the end 33 thereof and the dilatation bulb 34 attached thereto.

[0028] Referring to Fig. 2, the method in accordance with the invention commences with an image acquisition step S1 in which an image R1 is acquired of the relevant body region and the guide wire.

[0029] In a next step S2 a coronary roadmap is formed from said image R1. Subsequently (S3), the guide wire is displayed in the coronary roadmap. As a result (R2) of this display, the 3D co-ordinates F(x,y) can be displayed separately in dependence on a parameter 1. The parameter 1 denotes the distance between the guide wire segment to be displayed and the end of the guide wire.

[0030] During a next step S4 the distance traveled by the catheter on the guide wire is determined. This results in a traveled distance s (R3).

[0031] In order to determine the position in which the tip of the catheter is situated within the body, the traveled distance s can be used to determine the 3D co-ordinates of the tip of the catheter, the overall length of the guide wire and of the catheter 30 being known.

[0032] Referring to Fig. 3, the length  $L_0$  of the guide wire and the length  $C_0$  of the catheter being known, the distance D searched between the tip of the catheter and the front end of the guide wire can be simply determined in dependence on the traveled distance s by calculating D in conformity with the formula

$$D=L_0-C_0-s.$$

[0033] - Similarly, in particular when a two-dimensional imaging method is used, a marker may be provided on the guide wire, the distance between said marker and the extracorporeal end of the guide wire being known. This marker is placed in relation to the lesion (for example, centrally with respect to the lesion, exactly behind the lesion or exactly in front of the lesion) by means of the imaging method. The catheter can then be exactly positioned by relating it to the extracorporeal end of the guide wire.

[0034] Again referring to Fig. 2, after the determination of the position of the catheter or the tip of the catheter in dependence on the traveled distance s (S5), the catheter can be displayed (S6) and, using the previously acquired

image with the body region and the guide wire R1, an image R4 can be formed which shows the body region, the guide wire and the catheter.

## Claims

1. A device for determining the position of a catheter (30) introduced along a guide wire (10) inserted into a body (20), wherein the device includes sensor means for measuring the distance traveled by the catheter on the guide wire, image acquisition means (60) for the acquisition of an image of the inserted guide wire and the body region at the area of the guide wire and **characterized in that** the device further comprises means for determining the position of the catheter on the basis of the measured distance and the position of the guide wire in the acquired image.
2. A device as claimed in claim 1, **characterized in that** it includes image display means (70) for displaying the image of the inserted guide wire, the introduced catheter and/or the body region at the area of the guide wire.
3. A device as claimed in claim 1, **characterized in that** it includes drive means for displacing the catheter on the guide wire, which drive means are coupled to the sensor means.
4. A device, particularly as claimed in claim 1, **characterized in that** the device is programmable for performing a method of determining the position of a catheter (30) introduced along a guide wire (10) inserted into a body (20), in which method an image of the guide wire and the body region at the area of the guide wire is acquired by means of an imaging method (S1, S2, S3) using the image acquisition means (60), the distance traveled by the catheter (30) on the guide wire (10) is measured (S4) by said sensor means and the position of the catheter in the body (20) is determined by said means for determining the position of the catheter on the basis of the measured distance (S5) and the acquired image.
5. The device as claimed in claim 4, **characterized in that** in the performed method an image is acquired of the body region, the position of the catheter being displayed in said image (S6).
6. The device as claimed in claim 4, **characterized in that** in the performed method the acquisition (S1) of the image of the body region and the guide wire is performed by means of a two-dimensional or three-dimensional imaging method, preferably being an X-ray imaging method.

7. A device as claimed in claim 6, **characterized in that** in the performed method the body region and the guide wire are imaged by way of two essentially orthogonal projections (S1) and that a three-dimensional image of the body region is formed from said projections by way of modeling.
8. A device as claimed in claim 4, **characterized in that** in the performed method the acquisition (S1) of the images is performed by means of images of the body regions which have been shifted in time and triggered on the basis of the cardiac frequency.
9. A device as claimed in claim 4, **characterized in that** in the performed method an image of the body region with the guide wire and the inserted catheter is acquired and displayed after the determination of the position of the catheter.
10. A device as claimed in claim 4, **characterized in that** in the performed method the distance traveled by the catheter (30) on the guide wire (10) is measured by means of a drive device which is adapted to measure the advancement of the catheter.
11. A device as claimed in claim 10, **characterized in that** in the performed method an acoustic and/or optical signal is generated and/or an image acquisition is performed when the catheter reaches the target position.
12. A computer program with program means adapted to cause the programmable device of claim 4 to perform, when the computer program is executed on said device, the steps of:

determining the position of a catheter (30) introduced along a guide wire (10) inserted into a body (20),  
 acquiring an image of the guide wire and the body region at the area of the guide wire by means of an imaging method (S1, S2, S3),  
 measuring the distance traveled by the catheter (30) on the guide wire (10) (S4), and adapted to cause the programmable device of claim 4 to perform determining the position of the catheter in the body (20) on the basis of the measured distance (S5) and the position of the guide wire in the acquired image.

#### Patentansprüche

1. Vorrichtung zum Ermitteln der Position eines entlang eines Führungsdrahtes (10) in einen Körper (20) eingeführten Katheters (30), wobei die Vorrichtung Sensormittel zum Messen der durch den Katheter am Führungsdraht zurückgelegten Strecke und Bil-

derfassungsmittel (60) zum Erfassen eines Bildes des eingeführten Führungsdrahtes und der Körperregion in dem Bereich des Führungsdrahtes umfasst und **dadurch gekennzeichnet ist, dass** die Vorrichtung weiterhin Mittel zum Ermitteln der Position des Katheters anhand der gemessenen Strecke und der Position des Führungsdrahtes in dem erfassten Bild umfasst.

2. Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 1, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** sie Bildanzeigemittel (70) zum Anzeigen des Bildes des eingeführten Führungsdrahtes, des eingeführten Katheters und/oder der Körperregion im Bereich des Führungsdrahtes umfasst.
3. Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 1, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** sie Antriebsmittel zum Verschieben des Katheters auf dem Führungsdraht umfasst, wobei die Antriebsmittel mit den Sensormitteln gekoppelt sind.
4. Vorrichtung, insbesondere nach Anspruch 1, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** die Vorrichtung programmierbar ist, um ein Verfahren zum Ermitteln der Position eines entlang eines Führungsdrahtes (10) in einen Körper (20) eingeführten Katheters (30) durchzuführen, wobei in dem Verfahren ein Bild des Führungsdrahtes und der Körperregion in dem Bereich des Führungsdrahtes mittels eines Bildgebungsverfahrens (S1, S2, S3) unter Verwendung der Bilderfassungsmittel (60) erfasst wird, wobei die durch den Katheter (30) am Führungsdraht (10) zurückgelegte Strecke durch die genannten Sensormittel gemessen wird (S4) und die Position des Katheters im Körper (20) durch die genannten Mittel zum Ermitteln der Position des Katheters anhand der gemessenen Strecke (S5) und des erfassten Bildes ermittelt wird.
5. Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 4, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** in dem durchgeführten Verfahren ein Bild der Körperregion erfasst wird, wobei die Position des Katheters in dem genannten Bild angezeigt wird (S6).
6. Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 4, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** in dem durchgeführten Verfahren die Erfassung (S1) des Bildes der Körperregion und des Führungsdrahtes mit Hilfe eines zweidimensionalen oder dreidimensionalen Bildgebungsverfahrens erfolgt, bei dem es sich vorzugsweise um ein Röntgenbildgebungsverfahren handelt.
7. Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 6, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** in dem durchgeführten Verfahren die Körperregion und der Führungsdraht mit Hilfe von zwei im Wesentlichen orthogonalen Projektionen dargestellt werden (S1) und dass ein dreidimen-

sionales Bild der Körperregion anhand der genannten Projektionen mittels Modellierung gebildet wird.

8. Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 4, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** in dem durchgeführten Verfahren die Erfassung (S1) der Bilder mit Hilfe der Bilder der Körperregionen erfolgt, die zeitlich verschoben wurden und auf der Basis der Herzfrequenz ausgelöst wurden. 5
9. Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 4, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** in dem durchgeführten Verfahren ein Bild der Körperregion mit dem Führungsdraht und dem eingeführten Katheter erfasst wird und nach dem Ermitteln der Position des Katheters angezeigt wird. 10
10. Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 4, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** in dem durchgeführten Verfahren die durch den Katheter (30) am Führungsdraht (10) zurückgelegte Strecke mit Hilfe einer Antriebsvorrichtung gemessen wird, die vorgesehen ist, um das Vorschieben des Katheters zu messen. 15
11. Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 10, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** in dem durchgeführten Verfahren ein akustisches und/oder optisches Signal erzeugt wird und/oder eine Bilderfassung durchgeführt wird, wenn der Katheter die Zielposition erreicht. 20
12. Computerprogramm mit Programmmitteln, die vorgesehen sind, um die programmierbare Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 4 zu veranlassen, die folgenden Schritte durchzuführen, wenn das Computerprogramm auf der genannten Vorrichtung ausgeführt wird: 25

Ermitteln der Position eines entlang eines Führungsdrahtes (10) in einen Körper (20) eingeführten Katheters (30), 30

Erfassen eines Bildes des Führungsdrahtes und der Körperregion in dem Bereich des Führungsdrahtes mit Hilfe eines Bildgebungsverfahrens (S1, S2, S3), 35

Messen der durch den Katheter (30) am Führungsdraht (10) zurückgelegten Strecke S(S4), und 40

Ermitteln der Position des Katheters im Körper (20) anhand der gemessenen Strecke (S5) und der Position des Führungsdrahtes in dem erfassten Bild 45

## Revendications

1. Dispositif pour déterminer la position d'un cathéter (30) introduit le long d'un fil-guide (10) inséré dans un corps (20), dans lequel le dispositif inclut des 55

moyens de capteur pour mesurer la distance parcourue par le cathéter sur le fil-guide, des moyens d'acquisition d'image (60) pour l'acquisition d'une image du fil-guide inséré et de la région corporelle au niveau de la zone du fil-guide, et **caractérisé en ce que** le dispositif comprend en outre des moyens pour déterminer la position du cathéter d'après la distance mesurée et la position du fil-guide sur l'image acquise.

2. Dispositif selon la revendication 1, **caractérisé en ce qu'il** inclut des moyens d'affichage d'image (70) pour afficher l'image du fil-guide inséré, du cathéter introduit et/ou de la région corporelle au niveau de la zone du fil-guide.
3. Dispositif selon la revendication 1, **caractérisé en ce qu'il** inclut des moyens d'entraînement pour déplacer le cathéter sur le fil-guide, lesquels moyens d'entraînement sont couplés aux moyens de capteur.
4. Dispositif, notamment selon la revendication 1, **caractérisé en ce que** le dispositif est programmable pour exécuter un procédé de détermination de la position d'un cathéter (30) introduit le long d'un fil-guide (10) inséré dans un corps (20), procédé dans lequel une image du fil-guide et de la région corporelle au niveau de la zone du fil-guide est acquise au moyen d'un procédé d'imagerie (S1, S2, S3) à l'aide des moyens d'acquisition d'image (60), la distance parcourue par le cathéter (30) sur le fil-guide (10) est mesurée (S4) par lesdits moyens de capteur et la position du cathéter dans le corps (20) est déterminée par lesdits moyens pour déterminer la position du cathéter d'après la distance mesurée (S5) et l'image acquise.
5. Dispositif selon la revendication 4, **caractérisé en ce que** dans le procédé exécuté, une image de la région corporelle est acquise, la position du cathéter étant affichée
6. Dispositif selon la revendication 4, **caractérisé en ce que** dans le procédé exécuté, l'acquisition (S1) de l'image de la région corporelle et du fil-guide est exécutée au moyen d'un procédé d'imagerie bidimensionnel ou tridimensionnel, de préférence un procédé d'imagerie aux rayons X.
7. Dispositif selon la revendication 6, **caractérisé en ce que** dans le procédé exécuté, une image de la région corporelle et du fil-guide est réalisée au moyen de deux projections essentiellement orthogonales (S1) et **en ce qu'une** image tridimensionnelle de la région corporelle est formée à partir desdites projections au moyen d'une modélisation.

8. Dispositif selon la revendication 4, **caractérisé en ce que** dans le procédé exécuté, l'acquisition (S1) des images est exécutée au moyen d'images des régions corporelles qui ont été décalées dans le temps et déclenchées d'après la fréquence cardiaque. 5
9. Dispositif selon la revendication 4, **caractérisé en ce que** dans le procédé exécuté, une image de la région corporelle avec le fil-guide et le cathéter inséré est acquise et affichée après la détermination de la position du cathéter. 10
10. Dispositif selon la revendication 4, **caractérisé en ce que** dans le procédé exécuté, la distance parcourue par le cathéter (30) sur le fil-guide (10) est mesurée au moyen d'un dispositif d'entraînement qui est adapté pour mesurer la progression du cathéter. 15  
20
11. Dispositif selon la revendication 10, **caractérisé en ce que** dans le procédé exécuté, un signal acoustique et/ou optique est généré et/ou une acquisition d'image est exécutée lorsque le cathéter atteint la position cible. 25
12. Programme informatique avec des moyens de programme adaptés pour amener le dispositif programmable de la revendication 4 à exécuter, lorsque le programme informatique est exécuté sur ledit dispositif, les étapes consistant à : 30
- déterminer la position d'un cathéter (30) introduit le long d'un fil-guide (10) inséré dans un corps (20), 35
- acquérir une image du fil-guide et de la région corporelle au niveau de la zone du fil-guide au moyen d'un procédé d'imagerie (S1, S2, S3), mesurer la distance parcourue par le cathéter (30) sur le fil-guide (10) (S4), et adapté pour amener le dispositif programmable de la revendication 4 à exécuter l'étape consistant à 40
- déterminer la position du cathéter dans le corps (20) d'après la distance mesurée (S5) et la position du fil-guide sur l'image acquise. 45

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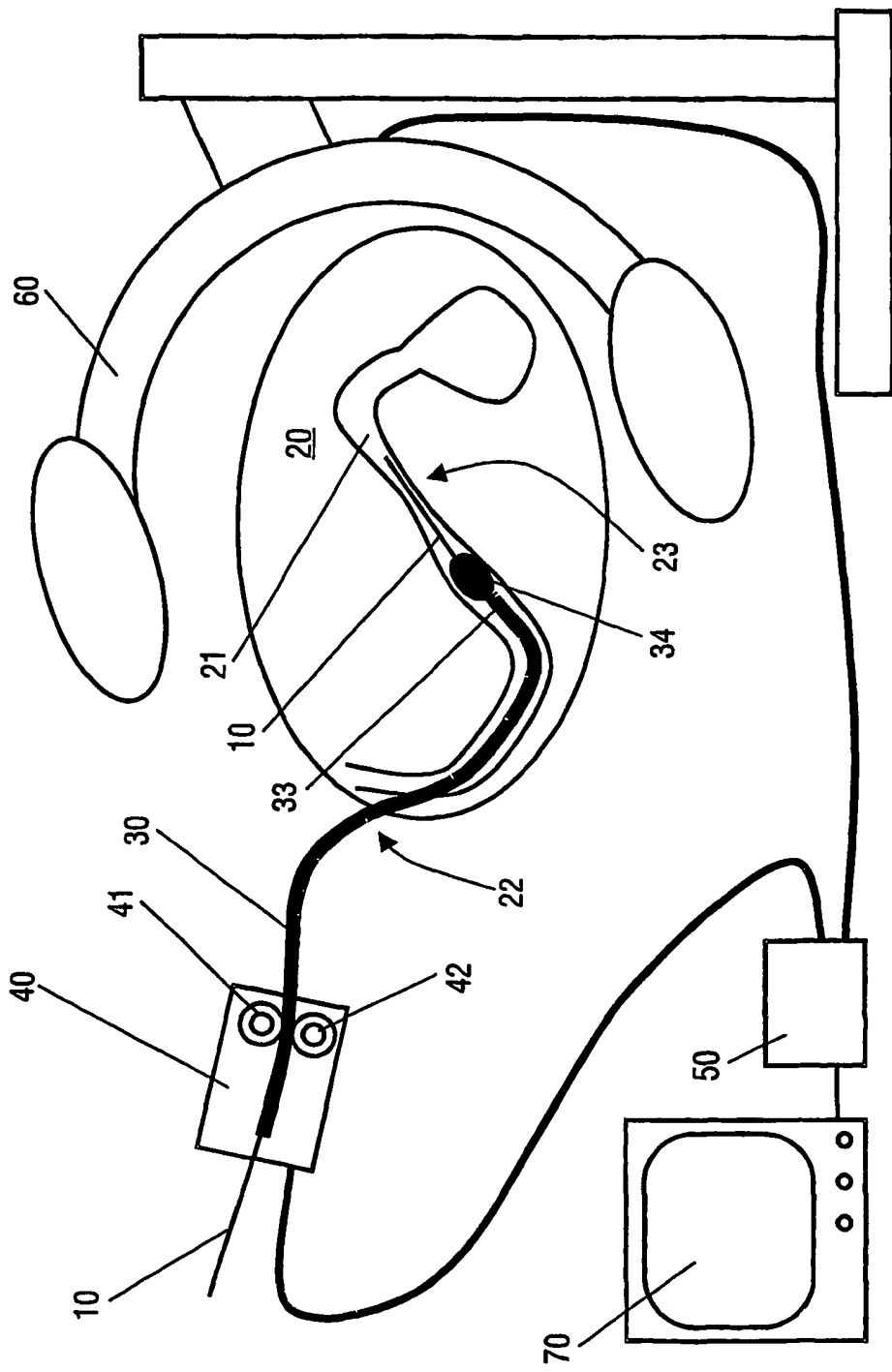


FIG.1

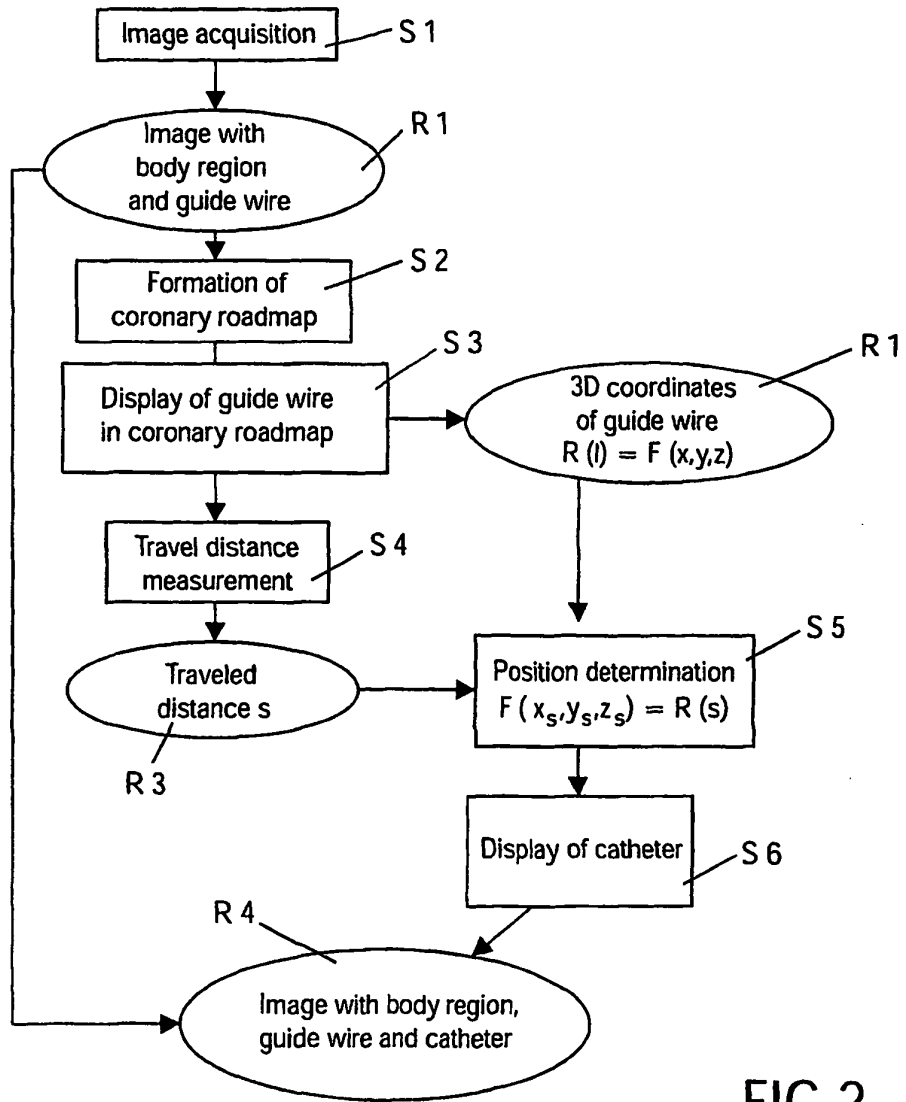


FIG.2

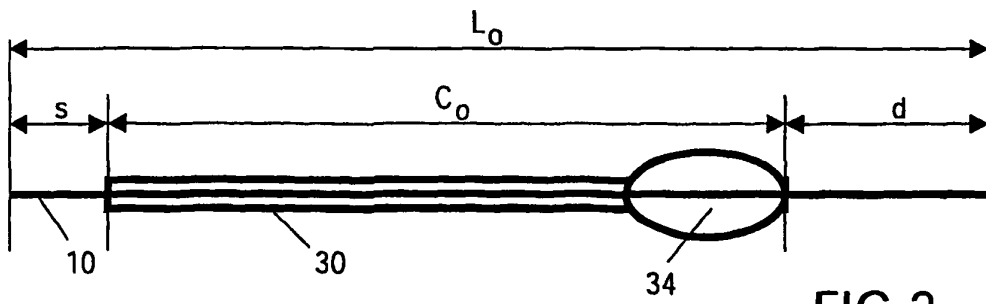


FIG.3

**REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION**

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**Patent documents cited in the description**

- GB 2335744 A [0003]

专利名称(译)	用于经皮导管引导的装置		
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摘要(译)

本发明涉及一种确定沿插入体内的导丝引入的导管位置的方法，在该方法中，通过成像获取导丝区域和导丝区域的体区图像。在该方法中，测量导管在导丝上行进的距离，并且基于测量的距离确定导管在体内的位置。本发明还涉及一种用于确定沿插入体内的导丝引入的导管位置的装置，该装置包括用于测量导管在导丝上行进的距离的传感器装置和用于确定导管位置的装置。在测量距离的基础上。

$$D = L_0 - C_0 \cdot S$$