

[54] **METHOD FOR CARRYING OUT BLOOD FLOW MEASUREMENTS AND A PROBE THEREFOR**

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A probe for regional blood flow measurement, comprising a housing of low thermal conduction and heat capacity, at least one face of which is adapted to make contact with a tissue region investigated, the face being provided with a recessed portion, a relatively thin plate made of a material of high thermal conductivity, located in the recess and being substantially flush with the tissue-contacting face of the housing, a temperature-sensing means in thermal contact with the plate and adapted to transfer temperature-related information to the outside of the housing, wherein the respective configurations of the plate and the housing are such as to minimize the area of contact between them relative to the area of contact between the plate and the tissue region, in order to minimize heat flow between the plate and the housing. A method for carrying out regional blood flow measurements is also disclosed.

12 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets

