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# United States Patent [19]

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[54] **CATHETER WITH COLLAPSIBLE WIRE GUIDE**

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[58] Field of Search ..... **604/95, 164, 264, 270, 604/280; 128/657, 772; 606/194**

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A catheterization assembly comprises an elongate substantially cylindrical catheter having an outer surface, and a flexible collapsible guide element attached to the outer surface of the catheter at a distal end thereof. A guidewire extends generally parallel to the catheter and through the guide element so that the guide element is held in an extended guide configuration away from the outer surface.

**18 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets**

