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(54) **METHODS AND DEVICES FOR CRIMPING SELF-EXPANDING DEVICES**

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USPC **29/243.56**; 29/243.5

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

USPC 29/243.56, 243.5, 255, 270, 242; 269/3, 269/6; 81/64, 3.43

See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Described here are devices and methods for crimping self-expanding devices. The crimping devices may be useful for crimping a variety of different self-expanding devices (whether such devices are biodegradable or bio-durable). The crimping devices may have crimping members to engage the self-expanding device to reduce the device from an expanding configuration to an unexpanded configuration. The crimping member may comprise or include a suture, wire, ribbon, guiding hoop, pusher, prong, holding bar, balloon, jaws, combinations thereof, or the like. The crimping devices may also include or comprise a holding structure to hold the self-expanding device in an unexpanded or expanded configuration.

39 Claims, 22 Drawing Sheets