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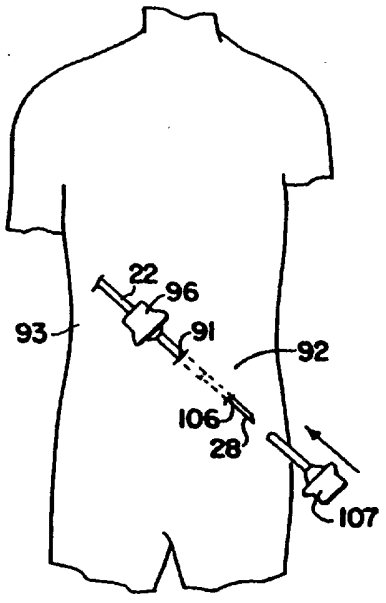
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MAKING ADDITIONAL LAPAROSCOPIC INCISIONS



(57) Abstract

A method for locating additional cannulae in surgery on a patient having a body (93) with tissue and overlying skin (92) through the use of a guide member (22) having proximal and distal extremities (27) and (28) comprises introducing the distal extremity (28) of the guide member (22) through a first incision (91) in the skin (92) of the body (93) to a first location in the body. The distal extremity (28) of the guide member (22) is advanced in a direction below the skin (92) to a second location remote from the first location. The distal extremity (28) of the guide member (22) is advanced through the skin (92) of the patient at the second location from within the body (93) to a position outside the body (93) so that the distal extremity (28) is exposed outside the body (93). A cannula (107) is placed over the distal extremity (28) of the guide member (22) and is advanced through the skin (92) of the patient at the second location utilizing the guide member (22) as a guide. The distal extremity (28) of the guide member (22) is then withdrawn from the cannula (107).

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(6) :A61B 01/00; A61F 11/00; A61M 05/00
US CL :606/108; 604/115; 128/898; 604/158

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 606/108, 167, 184, 185; 604/115, 116, 158-167, 264, 272; 128/898; 600/114

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US, A, 5,191,898 (MILLAR) 09 MARCH 1993, see entire document.	1, 3-6
Y	US, A, 5,297,536 (WILK) 29 MARCH 1994, see entire document.	5, 6
X --- Y	US, A, 4,610,242 (SANTANGELO ET AL) 09 SEPTEMBER 1986, see entire document.	20, 21,27, 28 --- 22-26, 29 30
Y	EP, A, 327,410 (SINERGY) 09 AUGUST 1989, see figures 1 and 2; column 5, lines 43-50.	22
Y	US, A, 5,226,426, (YOON) 13 JULY 1993, see figures 11-20 and accompanying text.	23-25, 29, 30

[X] Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. [ ] See patent family annex.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US, A, 5,292,310 (YOON) 08 MARCH 1994, see figures 1-3, 12-22 and accompanying text.	29
Y	US, A, 5,526,149 (BANIK ET AL) 26 OCTOBER 1993, see entire document.	26
X	US, A, 3,920,001 (EDWARDS) 18 NOVEMBER 1975, see entire document.	31, 33
X --- Y	US, A, 2,945,496 (FOSDAL) 19 JULY 1960, see entire document.	31, 32 --- 33