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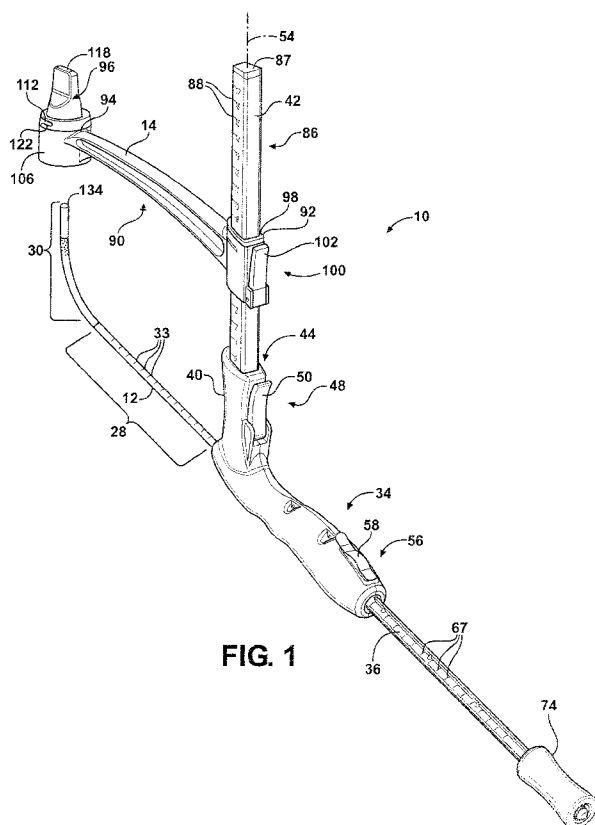
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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD OF PERFORMING A SUPRAPUBIC TRANSURETHRAL CYSTOSTOMY AND ASSOCIATED PROCEDURES AND APPARATUS THEREFOR



(57) Abstract: A suprapubic transurethral cystostomy apparatus and method of forming a surgical opening therewith. The apparatus includes an elongate tubular body including a proximal portion and a distal portion inclined relative to one another. The distal portion extends along an axis to an end configured for receipt through a urethra. An elongate arm has a first end operably attached to the proximal portion of the tubular body and a second end providing an indicator establishing an axis aligned coaxially with the axis of the distal portion. A surgical opening is formed with a cutting member being extended along the axis of the indicator.



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FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

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9 July 2009

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2008/078053**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER*****A61B 17/00(2006.01)i, A61B 17/22(2006.01)i, A61M 25/00(2006.01)i***

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)

IPC : A61B 17/00, A61B 17/04, A61B 17/22, A61B 17/39, A61M 25/00

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

- Korean Utility models and applications for Utility models since 1975
- Japanese Utility models and applications for Utility models since 1975

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

eKIPASS(KIPO internal) & keywords : 'urethra', 'axis,' and 'arm'

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 9622742 A1 (VIDAMED. INC.) 01 Aug. 1996 The whole documents.	1 - 13
A	US 6030393 A (CORLEW EARVIN L) 29 Feb. 2000 The whole documents.	1 - 13
A	WO 03-088833 A1 (THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY et al.) 30 Oct. 2003 The whole documents.	1 - 13

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☒ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

25 MAY 2009 (25.05.2009)

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US2008/078053**Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)**

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.: 14 - 19, 21
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Claims 14-19 and 21 pertain to methods for treatment of human or animal body by surgery, and thus relate to a subject matter which this International Searching Authority is not required, under Article 17(2)(a)(i) of the PCT and Rule 39.1(iv) of the Regulations under the PCT.
2. ☒ Claims Nos.: 20 - 21
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
The claims rely on reference to the description or drawings instead of definite structure expressly stated in the claims.
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/US2008/078053

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 9622742 A1	01.08.1996	AU 4765096 A	14.08.1996
US 6030393 A	29.02.2000	None	
WO 03-088833 A1	30.10.2003	AU 2003-237089 A1	03.11.2003
		AU 2003-237089 B2	03.11.2003
		EP 1501411 A1	02.02.2005
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		WO 03-088833 A9	05.02.2004