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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: ADJUSTABLE LAPAROSCOPIC INSTRUMENT HANDLE

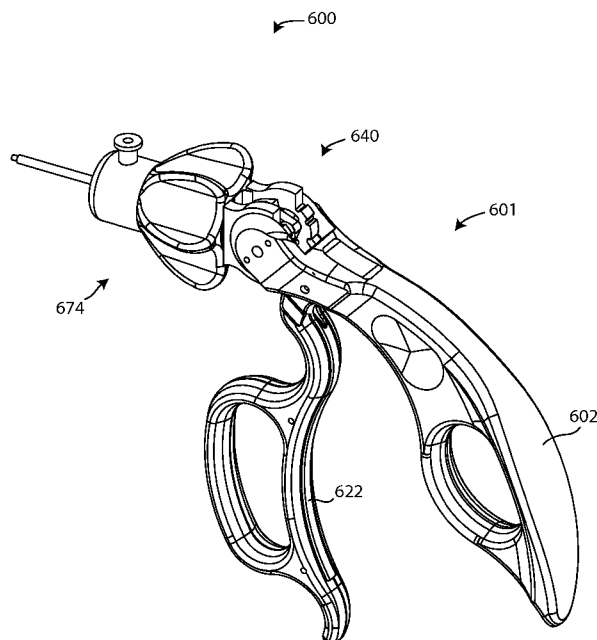


Fig. 60

(57) Abstract: Instrument handles are adjustable relative to an end effector of the instrument. The handles may be releasably locked in selected positions and/or orientations relative to the end effector. When the lock is released, the handles may be moved to a different position and/or orientation relative to the end effector, and locked in place. The handles may pivot relative to the end effector around one or more joints. The handles may pivot about an axis of a hinge joint or a point of a ball and socket joint. The axis of the hinge joint may be aligned parallel or perpendicular to a center longitudinal axis of the end effector, or of a shaft between the handles and the end effector.



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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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Y	. paragraphs [0002], [0034], [0038], [0050]; figures 2-2B,5,5A	5,6, 10-15
X	US 6 077 286 A (CUSCHIERI) 20 June 2000 (2000-06-20)	1-4,8,9
A	. column 2, line 66 - column 3, line 50; figures	14
X	US 5 520 678 A (HECKELE) 28 May 1996 (1996-05-28) column 3, lines 19-31 column 4, lines 8-13; figure 1	1
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



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