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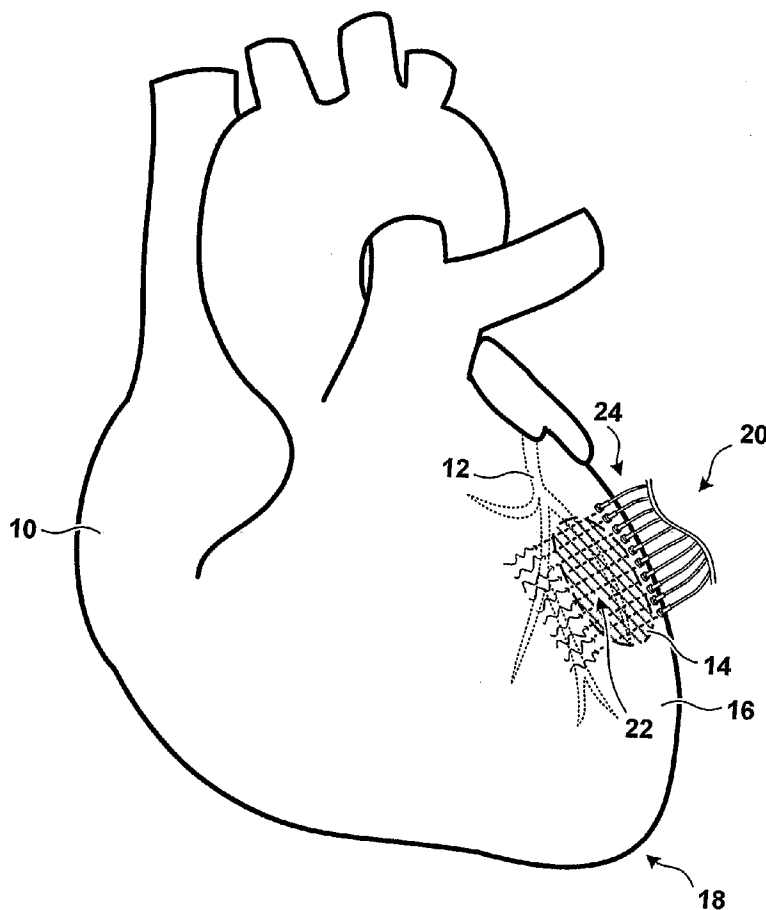
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SURGICAL NEEDLE DRIVER



(57) Abstract: A needle driver is described that can be used to drive a plurality of surgical needles into or proximate to tissue of a living body. The needle driver assists the surgeon in perforating the tissue, creating the tracts at a desired depth, and creating multiple tracts simultaneously. The needle driver is configured to hold the needles securely when creating the tracts, and is also configured to disengage from the needles after the tracts have been created.

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**Declarations under Rule 4.17:**

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No  
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## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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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)  
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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 practical, search terms used)

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## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X Y A	US 2003/004523 A1 (CHAN PETER T K [CA] ET AL) 2 January 2003 (2003-01-02)  paragraphs [0008], [0011], [0023] - [0026], [0031]; figures 1-3,6a-8	1,2,5,6, 11 12-20 3,4,7
Y	US 3 037 619 A (ERNEST STEVANS) 5 June 1962 (1962-06-05) column 1, line 8 - column 2, line 57; figures 1-4	12-18
Y A	US 4 341 226 A (PETERS PETER) 27 July 1982 (1982-07-27)  column 2, line 43 - column 4, line 47; figures 1-10	19,20  1-18
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 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

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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.
A	US 5 086 787 A (GRANDJEAN PIERRE-ANDRE [BE] ET AL) 11 February 1992 (1992-02-11) column 3, line 17 - column 4, line 29; figures 2,3,6	1-20
A	US 2005/043766 A1 (SOYKAN ORHAN [US] ET AL) 24 February 2005 (2005-02-24) paragraphs [0021] - [0029]; figure 1	1-20

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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US 3037619	A	05-06-1962	NONE
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