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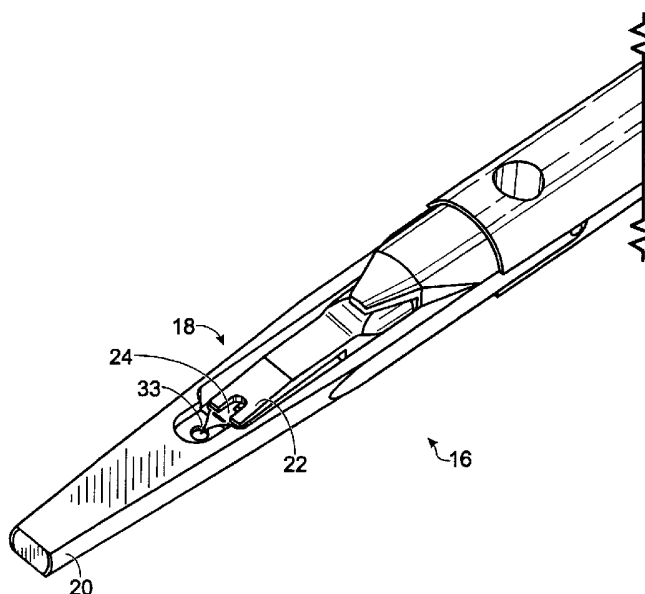
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SAMPLE MANIPULATION SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: A sample manipulator (10) that includes a shaft (14), a proximal end (12), and a distal end (16) that includes a sample holder (18) and a support arm (20) having both a retracted position and a deployed position. The support arm (20) is configured to support a sample associated with the sample holder (18) when the support arm (20) is in the deployed position. The sample holder (18) may include an end effector (34) that includes a generally planar body (36), and a cantilever tip (40) extending from the planar body to associate with a sample.

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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US CL : 422/99

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. : 422/68.1, 102, 104; 606/32,33,39,79,82,84,167-170,205-211

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)  
EAST search on: cantilever tip, tissue, specimen, biopsy, endoscopy, cutting, surgery

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 3,844,272 A (BANKO) 29 October 1974 (29.10.74), Figures 1, 4, and 16. columns 3 and 4.	1,2,4-6,13,14,16,21
X	US 4,200,111 A (HARRIS) 29 April 1980 (29.06.1980), Figures 1, 4 and 8-10, columns 2-3.	1,4,6,13,16-18,21
X	US 5,526,822 A (BURBANK et al) 18 June 1996 (18.06.1996), Figures 1F-1G and 14B, columns 13-14 and 18-19.	1,6,3,14,16,21
A	US 5,643,282 A (KIETURAKIS) 01 July 1997 (01.07.1997)	
A	US 5,928,161 A (KRULEVITCH et al) 27 July 1999 (27.07.1999)	
A	US 5,645,564 A (NORTHROP et al) 08 July 1997 (08.07.1997)	



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
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