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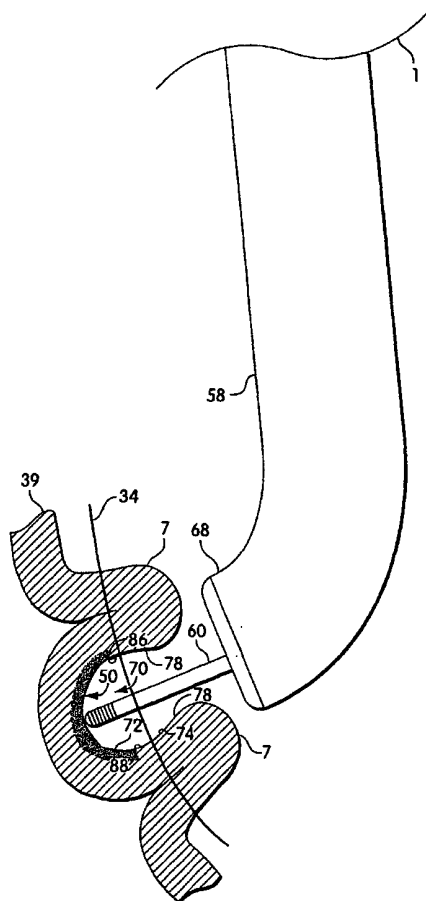
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(54) **Title**: METHOD OF PROMOTING TISSUE ADHESION



(57) **Abstract**: The present invention provides methods and devices for promoting tissue adhesion, which utilizes the healing process and scar tissue formation to bond two tissue surfaces together. A tissue injury (50) is accomplished by destroying the mucosal layer of tissue. After the injury is initiated, the tissue is preferably held in close contact by a tissue apposition means such as a suture (34), staple or clip device placed adjacent to the treatment site. The tissue injury may be initiated by electrical/radiofrequency energy; chemical or mechanical means integrated with the tissue apposition device or delivered by a separate instrument such as an electrocautery catheter (60) through an endoscope (58). As scar tissue created by the injury forms, the tissue surfaces become bonded together in a permanent union.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) :A61B 17/04

US CL :606/139, 144

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. : 606/139, 144

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)

E.A.S.T.

Search terms: tissue, adhesion, promoting, injury, damaging

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5,080,663 A (MILLS et al) 14 January 1992 (14.01.1992), column 4, lines 7-24.	1-33
A	US 5,037,021 A (MILLS et al) 06 August 1991 (06.08.1991), column 5, lines 6-41.	1-33
A	US 5,792,153 A (SWAIN et al) 11 August 1998 (11.08.1998), column 2, lines 1-59.	1-33



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

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