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(54) **Title**: METHODS AND DEVICES FOR PROVIDING DIRECTION TO SURGICAL TOOLS

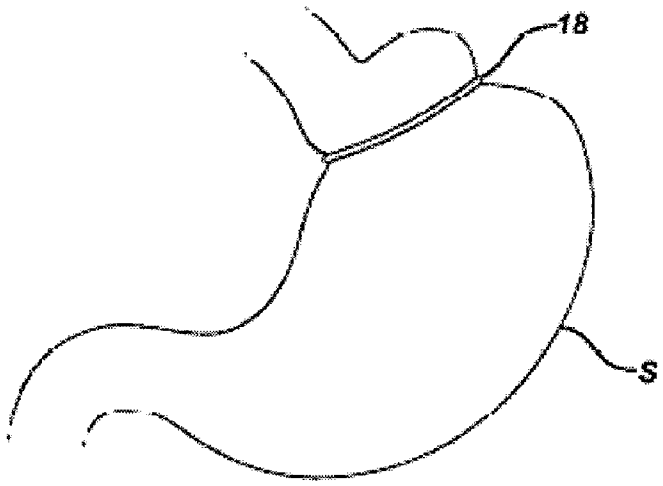


FIG. 1

(57) **Abstract**: Methods and devices are provided for providing direction to surgical tools. In one embodiment, a surgical device can include a cannulated elongate shaft with a cannulated curved distal tip. The device can be configured to be introduced into a body of a patient, and one portion of the device can be configured to be positioned on a proximal side of a tissue wall and a distal-most portion of the device including at least a portion of the curved distal tip can be configured to be positioned on the other, distal side of the tissue wall. A surgical tool can be configured to be advanced through the device to pass the surgical tool through the tissue wall with the curved distal tip providing direction for the surgical tool.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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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 practicable, search terms used)
PatBase

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2004/0225305 A1 (EWERS et al) 11 November 2004 (11.11.2004) entire document	1-15
X	US 2007/0218083 A1 (BROOKS) 20 September 2007 (20.09.2007) entire document	16-20

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