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- (71) **Applicant (for all designated States except US):**
ETHICON ENDO-SURGERY, INC [US/US]; 4545
Creek Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45242 (US).
- (72) **Inventor; and**
- (75) **Inventor/Applicant (for US only):** **ZWOLINSKI, An-**
drew M. [US/US]; 453 Stanley Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio
45266 (US).
- (74) **Agents:** **JOHNSON, Philip S.** et al.; One Johnson & John-
son Plaza, New Brunswick, New Jersey 08933 (US).
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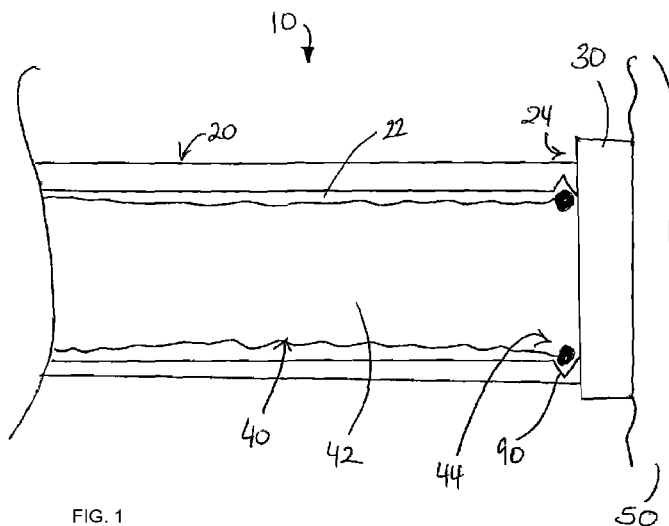


FIG. 1

(57) **Abstract:** Methods and devices are provided for providing sterilize access to a body cavity through the wall (50) of a body lumen. In one exemplary embodiment, a transluminal access device (10) is provided having an outer elongate tubular member (20) with an attachment housing (30) located on a distal end (24) thereof and adapted to form a seal with a tissue wall (50). The device (10) can further include an inner sheath (40) extending through a passageway (22) of the outer elongate tubular member (20) and adapted to isolate the sealed region of the tissue wall (50) from the inner lumen (22) in the elongate tubular member (20). The inner sheath (40) can be removably mated to the device (10) to allow any bacteria present within the sheath (40) to be removed from the device (10) after the sealed region of tissue is sterilized. The tubular member (20) will be thus provide a sterile (22) pathway which can be used to access a body cavity through the sealed tissue region.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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PCT/US2007/087364

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)
A61B

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)

EPO-Internal , WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2004/116897 A1 (ABOUL-HOSN WALID [US]) 17 June 2004 (2004-06-17) page 6 - page 7; figures 11,25-27 -----	1-6,12, 13,15
X	WO 01/52754 A (PHILLIPS PLASTICS CORP [US]) 26 July 2001 (2001-07-26) the whole document -----	1,7,12, 13,16
A	US 5 297 536 A (WILK PETER J [US]) 29 March 1994 (1994-03-29) the whole document -----	1-16
A	US 2005/277945 A1 (SAADAT VAHID [US] ET AL) 15 December 2005 (2005-12-15) the whole document -----	1-16

D Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

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- 'E' earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
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- 'X' document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- 'Y' document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- '&' document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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18/07/2008

Name and mailing address of the ISA/

European Patent Office, P.B 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Strazdauskas, Gedas

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

- 1. Claims Nos.: 17-23
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery
- 2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
- 3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

- 1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers allsearchable claims.
- 2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
- 3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
- 4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No PCT/US2007/087364

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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