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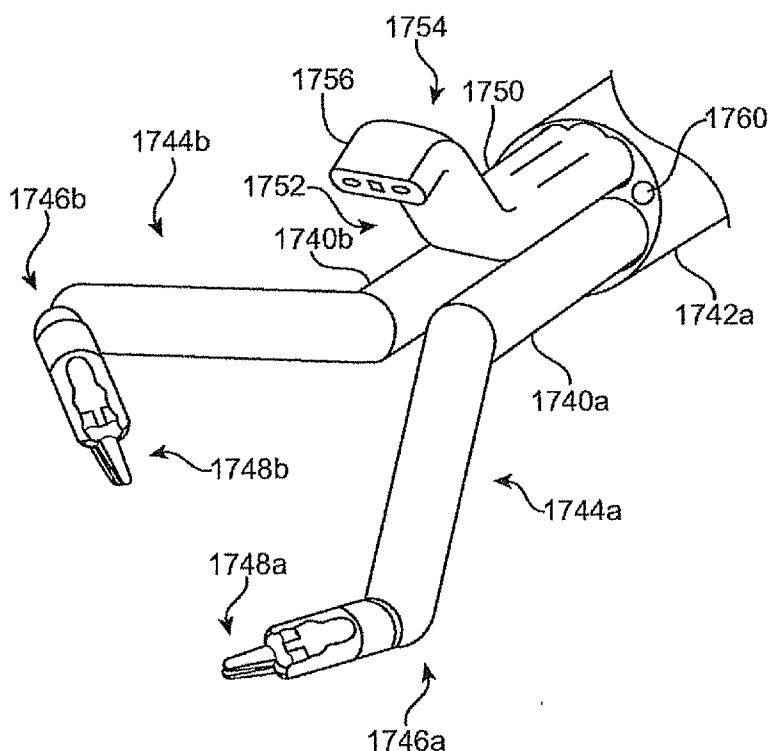
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(54) Title: MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGICAL SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: The distal end of a surgical instrument is movable in all six Cartesian degrees of freedom independently of other components of a telemanipulated surgical system. The surgical instrument extends through a guide tube. The distal end is moved by actuators that are telemanipulatively controlled.



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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)

U.S. : 600/102,114;606/1

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)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6645196 B1 (NIXON et al) 11 November 2003 (11.11.2003), whole document.	51-55
X	US 2005/0004431 A1 (KOGASAKA et al) 6 January 2005 (06.01.2005), whole document.	4-7, 44, 45
X	US 6758843 B2 (JENSEN) 6 July 2004 (06.07.2004), whole document.	1, 10-12, 27, 28, 46-50, 58
X	US 6648816 B2 (IRION et al) 18 November 2003 (18.11.2003), whole document.	24-26
X	US 2005/0272977 A1 (SAADAT et al) 8 December 2005 (08.12.2005), whole document.	22, 23, 29-34, 42, 43, 56-62
X	US 2006/0025652 A1 (VARGAS) 2 February 2006 (02.02.2006), whole document.	2, 3
X	US 2004/0054355 A1 (GERBI et al) 18 March 2004 (18.03.2004), whole document.	8, 9



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"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	"&" document member of the same patent family

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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.
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X	US 6991602 B2 (NAKAZAWA et al) 31 January 2006 (31.01.2006), whole document.	35-39
X	US 2005/0102062 A1 (GREEN) 12 May 2005 (12.05.2005), whole document.	13-18
X	US 2005/0065398 A1 (ADAMS) 24 March 2005 (24.03.2005), whole document.	40, 41