

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
12 October 2006 (12.10.2006)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2006/107401 A3**

- (51) International Patent Classification:  
A61B 17/58 (2006.01)
- (21) International Application Number:  
PCT/US2006/004674
- (22) International Filing Date: 9 February 2006 (09.02.2006)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:  
60/651,680 9 February 2005 (09.02.2005) US
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US):  
**ARTHROCARE CORPORATION** [US/US]; 680  
Vaqueros Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA 94085 (US).

AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, LY, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

**Declaration under Rule 4.17:**

— of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv))

**Published:**

— with international search report

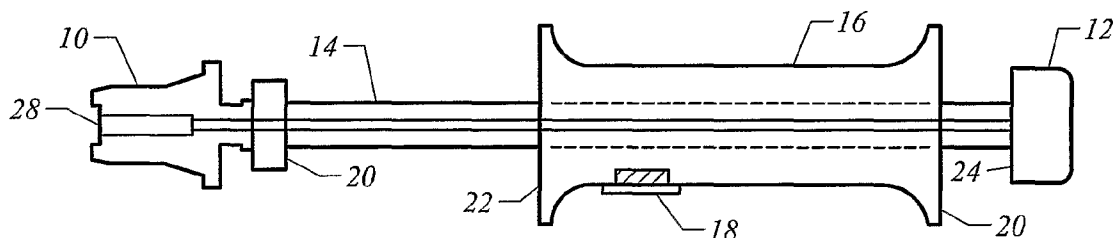
**(88) Date of publication of the international search report:**

25 October 2007

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

- (72) Inventor; and
- (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **CURRAN, Peter** [GB/GB]; 143 King Edwards Drive, Harrogate, North Yorkshire (GB).
- (74) Agents: **BATT, Richard, R.** et al.; Arthrocare Corporation, 680 Vaqueros Avenue, Sunnyvale, California 94085 (US).
- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,

(54) Title: LOCKABLE SLIDE HAMMER AND GRIPPING APPARATUS



(57) Abstract: An apparatus comprising gripping member connected to a shaft member and in communication with a hammer member disposed on said shaft member, the hammer member including a lockable member adapted for immobilizing the hammer member on the shaft member. Advantageously, since the hammer member is lockable on the shaft and serves as a handle, and also since a wide range of instruments are attachable to gripping member, this apparatus and its use thereof eliminates the awkwardness and inefficiency inherent with prior art apparatus and procedures for inserting and retracting instruments as, for example, in inserting and retracting surgical instruments in a body in a surgical procedure.



WO 2006/107401 A3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US06/04674

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(8) - A61B 17/56 (2007.01)

USPC - 600/99,100

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)

IPC(8) - A61B 17/56 (2007.01)

USPC - 606/99,100

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 6,652,533 B2 (O'NEILL) 25 November 2003 (25.11.2003) entire document	1-24
A	US 5,913,860 A (SCHOLL) 22 June 1999 (22.06.1999) entire document	1-24

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

* Special categories of cited documents:	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"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
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"&" document member of the same patent family
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search

11 May 2007

Date of mailing of the international search report

25 JUL 2007

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US, Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Facsimile No. 571-273-3201

Authorized officer:

Blaine R. Copenheaver

PCT Helpdesk: 571-272-4300  
PCT OSP: 571-272-7774