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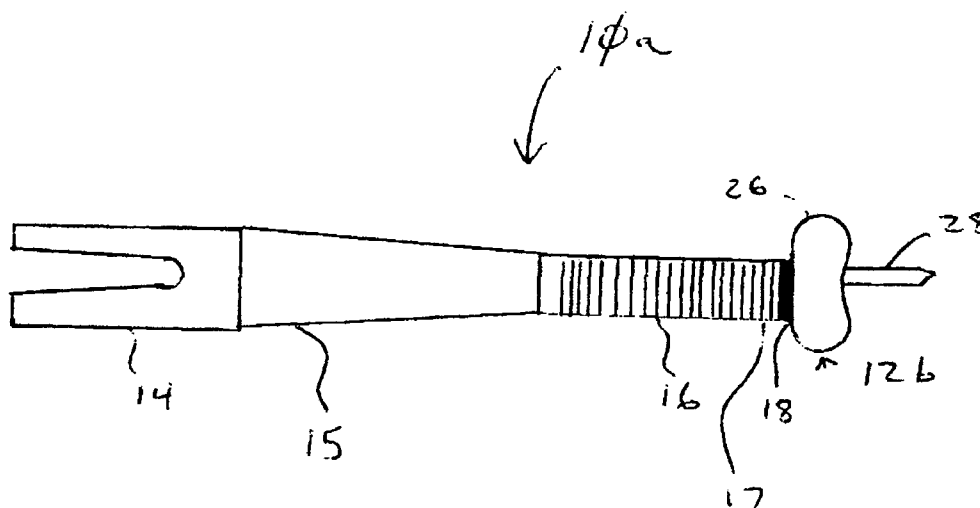
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(54) Title: ANVIL INTRODUCER



(57) Abstract: The anvil introducer mechanism facilitates the laparoscopic introduction of an anvil, whether for use with a circular stapler or for use with an Autosuture EEA device, into the abdominal cavity and into the lumen of the stomach or intestine and the placement of such an anvil where desired by the operator. An advantage is that the anvil introduction mechanism greatly eases the passing of an anvil through an abdominal wall and into a particular location in the stomach or intestine. Furthermore, such an introduction mechanism is amenable to use in a laparoscopic procedure and can be readily introduced to a body through a trocar.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC: A61B 17/03(2006.01),17/04(2006.01),17/11(2006.01),17/68(2006.01),17/72(2006.01),17/115(2006.01)

USPC: 606/219,153;227/175.1-181.1

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. : 606/219,153;227/175.1-181.1

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)

USPGPUB, USPAT, USOCR, FPRS, EPO, JPO, DERWENT

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|---------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| X --- Y | US 6,053,390 A (Green et al) 25 April 2000 (25.04.2000), entire document. | 1, 2, 7 ----- 3-6, 8 |
| X --- Y | US 6,193,129 B1 (Bittner et al) 27 February 2001 (27.02.2001), entire document. | 1-4, 7 ----- 5, 6, 8 |
| X --- Y | US 6,338,737 B1 (Toledano) 15 January 2002 (15.01.2002), entire document. | 1, 2, 5, 6, 8 ----- 3, 4, 7 |

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