

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
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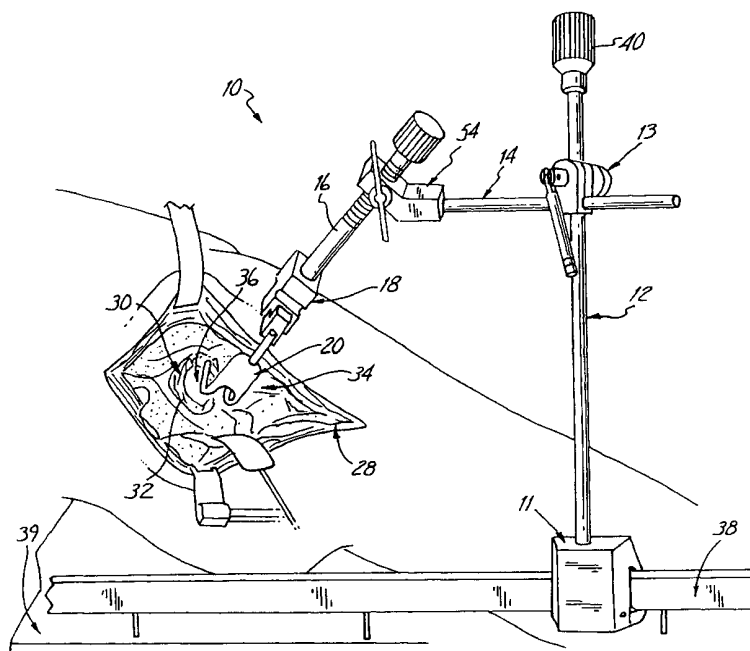
(43) International Publication Date
12 April 2001 (12.04.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 01/24682 A3

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **A61B 1/32** (74) Agent: SAWICKI, Z., Peter; Kinney & Lange, P.A., 312 South Third Street, Minneapolis, MN 55415-1002 (US).
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/US00/27368 (81) Designated State (*national*): JP.
- (22) International Filing Date: 4 October 2000 (04.10.2000) (84) Designated States (*regional*): European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE).
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English Published:
— With international search report.
— Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments.
- (30) Priority Data:
60/157,488 4 October 1999 (04.10.1999) US
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- (88) Date of publication of the international search report:
7 June 2001
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- 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.

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR HIP RETRACTION



(57) Abstract: A method for performing hip surgery using at least one support arm (14) attached to a retractor support apparatus. The surgery includes incising the patient so as to expose the hip joint (30) including the femoral head (36), the acetabulum (32) and a portion of the femur (34). A femur retractor (20) is positioned on the support arm and engages the femur, thereby dislocating the femoral head from the acetabulum. After disengaging the femur retractor from the femur, a femur elevating retractor is positioned on the support arm. The femur elevating retractor elevates the femoral head, thereby creating access to the acetabulum.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US00/27368**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

IPC(7) : A61B 1/32

US CL : 600/228

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. : 600/228, 201, 227, 230, 235; 606/90; 128/882, 898; 602/32, 33, 34, 35, 39

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	DE 4103070 A (BELIN) 08 August 1991, Figures 1-3.	28-30, 44, 47, 53
A	US 4,995,875 A (COES) 26 February 1991, entire document.	1-59
A	US 4,964,400 A (LAICO et al) 23 October 1990, col. 1, lines 10-21.	1-59
A	US 5,303,694 A (MIKHAIL) 19 April 1994, entire document.	1-59
A	US 5,704,900 A (DOBROVOLNY et al) 06 January 1998, entire document.	1-59



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

* 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 document 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)	*G* 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

16 FEBRUARY 2001

Date of mailing of the international search report

30 MAR 2001

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