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(54) Title: MEDICAL APPLICATOR

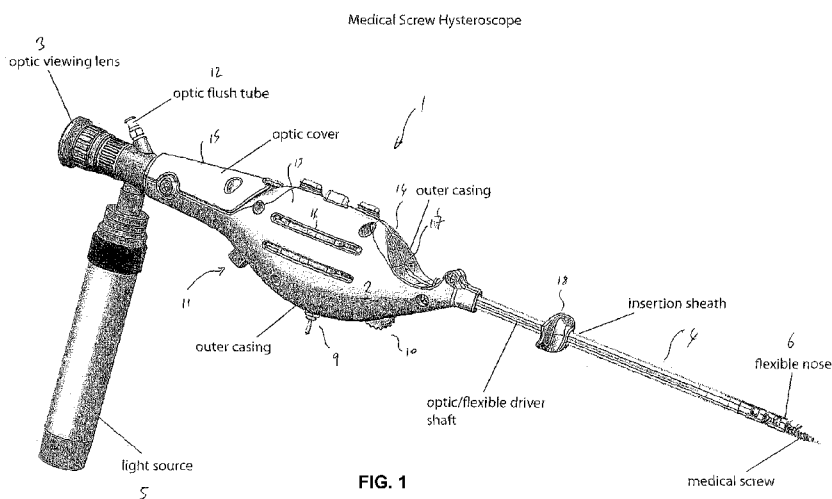


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: An applicator for use in the fitting of an occlusive plug of the screw in kind to a fallopian tube, said applicator comprising: a body member; an eyepiece fitted to one end of the body member; an elongate probe carried by, and projecting from the other end of the body member; a fibre optic cable extending from the eye-piece along the interior of the probe to a terminal end of the probe distal from the body member; a nose piece movably mounted at said distal end of the probe and adapted to releasably receive a rear, drive end of an occlusive plug; a mechanical connection extending between the body member and the nose-piece whereby the practitioner may, within limits, vary the angle of the nose-piece with respect to its carrier tube; and a rotational drive means extending between the body member and the nose-piece to apply torque & hence rotational movement to an occlusive plug temporarily held by the nose-piece.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/GB2013/000094

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. A61B17/42
ADD.

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 practicable, 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.
A	WO 97/12569 A1 (MAGOS ADAM LASZLO [GB]) 10 April 1997 (1997-04-10) cited in the application the whole document	1-23
A	US 2008/154256 A1 (PAYNE F MARK [US] ET AL) 26 June 2008 (2008-06-26) paragraph [0079] - paragraph [0087]	1-23

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date
- "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)
- "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

- "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
- "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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10/09/2013

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/GB2013/000094

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.: 36-46
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:

see additional sheet

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable 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.:
1-23

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.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-23

An applicator for use in female sterilisation comprising a body member, an elongate probe, viewing means, a connector, means for moving the connector lengthwise and means for rotating the connector. The special technical features are the means for moving the connector. The problem to be solved is to screw in an occlusive plug into an fallopian tube.

2. claims: 24-31

An applicator comprising an elongate probe, a hollow tubular member and a flexible drive shaft. The special technical feature is a deflectable nose portion of the hollow tubular member to control the angle between the tubular member and the nose portion to better reach the fallopian tube.

3. claims: 32-34

An applicator comprising an elongate probe, a drive shaft, an electric stepper motor and a controller for controlling the stepper motor. The special technical features are related to controlling the stepper motor. The problem to be solved is to ease the handling of the applicator.

4. claim: 35

An applicator comprising an elongate probe, a connector, a fluid tube, a fibre optic viewing cable, a fibre optic light transmission cable. The special technical features are related to a better view of the operational field.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/GB2013/000094

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 9712569	A1 10-04-1997	AU 7137196 A	28-04-1997
		GB 2321016 A	15-07-1998
		WO 9712569 A1	10-04-1997

US 2008154256	A1 26-06-2008	US 2008154256 A1	26-06-2008
		WO 2008079803 A2	03-07-2008
