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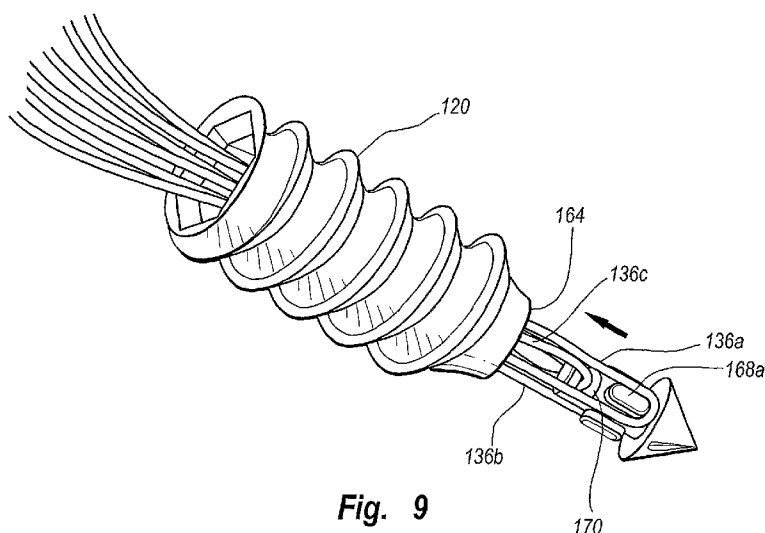


Fig. 9

(57) Abstract: Bone anchors are provided having three suture attachment sites disposed within a bore. The bone anchors are suitable for use in rotator cuff repair procedures. The bone anchors comprise an anchor body having a bore that opens at a proximal end of the anchor body. At least three attachment sites are positioned within the bore. Each attachment site is capable of slidably receiving a respective suture thereon. The three attachment sites are spaced apart and configured such that the portions of the respective sutures that are in contact with the three attachment sites are maintained separated during use. In one embodiment, the three suture attachment sites are provided by two transverse pins placed within the bore. In another embodiment, the bore opens at a distal end and a longitudinal pin is inserted into the opening at the distal end. The at least three attachment sites are provided by the longitudinal pin disposed within the bore. The bone anchors can be fully threaded and can have fine thread and coarse threads for engaging cortical and cancellous bone tissue, respectively.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC: **A61F 2/02**

USPC: 623/23.72

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. : 623/23.72

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 5,824,011 A (STONE et al) 20 October 1998 (20.10.1998), entire document, especially Figs. 16A-16B.	



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

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