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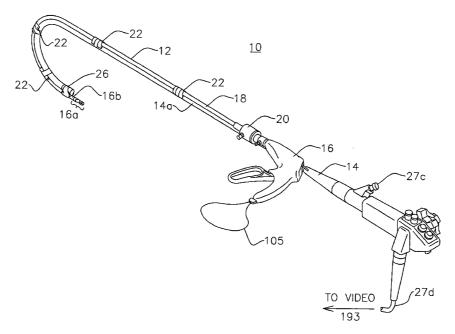
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(54) Title: SYSTEM FOR ENDOSCOPIC SUTURING



(57) Abstract: A system (10) for endoscopic suturing is provided having an endoscope (14), such as a gastroscope, with a distal end locatable in the body of a patient and a flexible shaft (14a) extending to the distal end, a flexible accessory tube (12) coupled to the endoscope (14) to be movable relative to the endoscope's shaft (14a), and a tip (26) coupled to the shaft of the endoscope (14) having an opening (26b) through which one end of the accessory tube (18) is received. The system further includes a suture securing instrument (16) having a partially flexible shaft locatable through the accessory tube, and a distal end coupled to the shaft





INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(7) : A61B 17/36 US CL : 606/139, 144, 148, 149, 150 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.: 606/139, 144, 148, 149, 150			
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 ap	opropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5,954,731 A (YOON) 21 September 1999 (21.09.1999), entire document.		1-44
Y	US 5,792,153 A (SWAIN et al.) 11 August 1998 (11.08.1998), entire document.		1-44
Y	US 5,755,730 A (SWAIN et al.) 26 May 1998 (26.05.1998), entire document.		1-44
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