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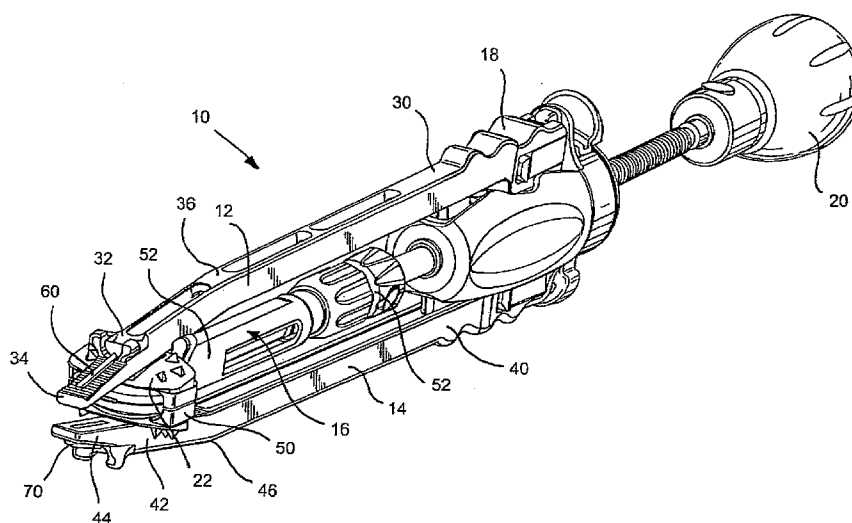
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: INTERVERTEBRAL DISTRACTION INSTRUMENT



(57) Abstract: An intervertebral distraction instrument comprises a first vertebra engaging member and a second vertebra engaging member. The first vertebra engaging member includes a vertebra anchor member configured to prevent lateral movement of the distraction instrument while allowing anterior-posterior movement of the distraction instrument during engagement with the first vertebrae. A similar anchor member may also be provided on the second vertebra engaging member. The anchor member of the distraction instrument may be provided on the end portion of an elongated arm of the distraction instrument. In one embodiment, the anchor member of the distraction instrument comprises a keel that includes edge configured to cut into the vertebra. In another embodiment, the anchor member of the distraction instrument comprises a spike.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC: **A61B 17/60**(2006.01)

USPC: 606/90,99

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. : 606/90,99

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 2,595,989 (Smeltz) 24 Jan 1949 (24.01.1949), entire doc	1-21
X	US 3,486,505 (Morrison) 22 May 1967 (22.05.1967), entire doc	22-23

Y		
A	US 569,839 (Roeloffs) 20 Oct 1896 (20.10.1896), entire doc	1-23
A	US 6,478,800 B1 (Fraser et al.) 12 Nov 2002 (12.11.2002), entire doc	1-23



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"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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
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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 3,750,652 (Sherwin) 7 Aug 1973 (07.08.1973), entire doc	1-23