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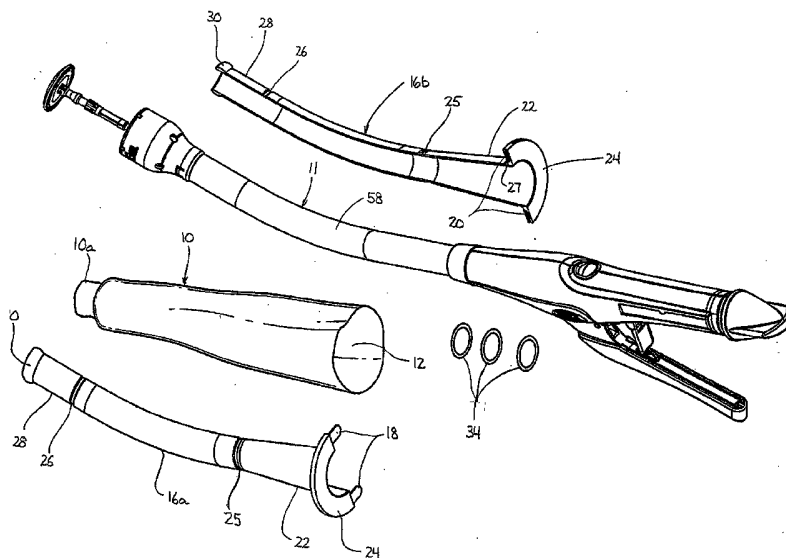
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- Published:**  
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(54) Title: TOOL MEMBER COVER AND COVER DEPLOYMENT DEVICE



(57) Abstract: A surgical instrument (11) including a tool member cover (10) and a cover deployment device (16a, b) are disclosed. The cover is supported adjacent to or on the tool assembly of the surgical instrument and is movable from a first position in which the tool assembly is uncovered to a second position in which the tool assembly is at least partially encompassed by the cover. The deployment device is provided for moving the cover from the first position to the second position. The cover acts as a bag for shielding healthy tissue from diseased tissue during removed of a surgical instrument from a surgical site.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US 03/24201

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A61B17/00 A61B17/068

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)

IPC 7 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 practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 383 195 B1 (RICHARD MARLON S) 7 May 2002 (2002-05-07)  column 4, line 64 - column 9, line 68; figures 1-3	1-6, 9, 12-14, 16, 18-20
P, X	US 2003/139767 A1 (JESPERSEN CHRIS A) 24 July 2003 (2003-07-24) paragraphs '0042!, '0044!; figure 5a	1-5, 7
P, X	WO 02/087447 A (REX MEDICAL, L.P) 7 November 2002 (2002-11-07) figures 24, 32	1-6, 12-14, 16
X	US 4 227 537 A (SUCIU ET AL) 14 October 1980 (1980-10-14) figures 1, 7	1-6
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in 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 document but published on or after the international filing date
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- \*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
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- \*G\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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06/07/2005

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US 03/24201

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 441 507 A (WILK ET AL) 15 August 1995 (1995-08-15) column 12, line 55 - column 13, line 23; figure 8 -----	1,18
X	EP 0 505 138 A (ETHICON INC) 23 September 1992 (1992-09-23) figures 4a,4b -----	1,20
X	WO 02/056754 A (SURGICON, INC) 25 July 2002 (2002-07-25) figure 8 -----	1-6

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/US 03/24201

## Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 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.: 21-26  
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 II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

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 fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
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.:

### Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US 03/24201

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