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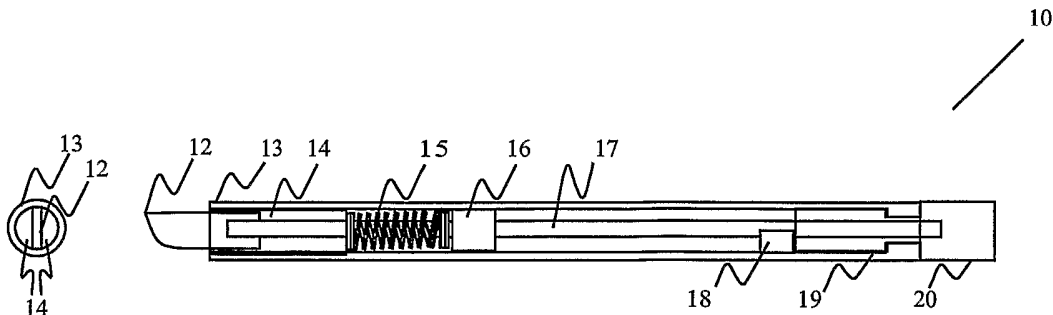
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: SINGLE-USE, SELF-CONTAINED TWIST RESISTANT SURGICAL KNIFE



(57) Abstract: A single use self-contained surgical knife provides twist stability and lateral support for the knife blade. Turning a knurled ring member within the containment casing retracts the knife blade into the containment casing. Retraction of the blade is permanent; once retracted, subsequent usage of the knife blade is prevented. A substantial safety margin is provided, in that injuries occasioned by the retraction process are virtually eliminated. The knife blade remains forever in the retracted condition, preventing spread of blood borne infections such as AIDS, Hepatitis and the like, that might otherwise result from subsequent usage of the knife blade.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US05/12201

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A61B 17/32

US CL : 606/167,

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. : 606/167,168,169,170; 30/49,351,357,152,294

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)

NONE

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 2,512,237 (MRAVIK) 12 March 1948 (12.03.1948) see entire document.	1-6
A	US 5,741,288 (RIFE) 21 April 1998 (21.04.1998) see entire document.	1-6

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

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