



DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	WO 00/33909 A (COOK INC [US]) 15 June 2000 (2000-06-15) * page 9, line 5 - page 14, line 12; figures 1-5 * -----	1-5,9-12	INV. A61M31/00
X	US 3 719 737 A (VAILLANCOURT V ET AL) 6 March 1973 (1973-03-06) * the whole document * -----	1-5,9-12	
X	US 2004/015151 A1 (CHAMBERS JEFFREY W [US]) 22 January 2004 (2004-01-22) * paragraph [0022] - paragraph [0045]; figures 1-5f * -----	1,2,4, 6-8, 10-12	
X	EP 0 885 624 A (LASCOR GMBH [DE]) 23 December 1998 (1998-12-23) * the whole document * -----	1,2,4-6, 10-12	
X	US 3 419 010 A (WILLIAMSON DONALD E) 31 December 1968 (1968-12-31) * column 2, line 14 - column 3, line 25; figures 1-5 * -----	1,2,4,6, 10-12	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC) A61B
X	EP 1 072 280 A (MEDTRONIC INC [US]) 31 January 2001 (2001-01-31) * the whole document * -----	1,2,4,5, 10-12	
The supplementary search report has been based on the last set of claims valid and available at the start of the search.			
Place of search Berlin		Date of completion of the search 4 March 2008	Examiner Jameson, Patricia
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			



CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

- ☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.
- ☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☐ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:
- ☒ The present supplementary European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims (Rule 164 (1) EPC).



The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. claims: 1-12

In combination, a cannula including an elongated rigid hollow tube having a proximal end, a distal end, and a passageway extending therebetween, said distal end having a memory of directionality to bend about a radius; and cannula straightening means for straightening said distal end of said cannula when inserted through said passageway.
and

A cannula for insertion into tissue, comprising an elongated rigid hollow tube having a proximal end, a distal end, and a passageway extending therebetween, said distal end having a memory of directionality to bend about a radius and maintaining said passageway when bent.

2. claim: 13

A cannula for insertion into tissue including a bendable arm that maintains a passageway when bent.

3. claim: 14

A cannula and Instrument combination comprising a cannula including an elongated rigid hollow tube having a proximal end, a distal end, and a passageway extending therebetween, said distal end having a memory of directionality to bend about a radius; and
an instrument for performing surgical instruments, said instrument extending along a length of said passageway, said instrument including a functional end able to slide around said bend and function outside of said passageway at a site of operation.

1. The closest state of the art document W000/33909, cited in the research report, discloses a cannula with cannula straightener.

2. The present application has four independent claims:-

Claim 1 relates to a combination of a cannula and cannula straightener,

Claim 10 relates to a cannula,

Claim 13 relates to a cannula,

and Claim 14 relates to a cannula and instrument combination.

3. In the light of the closest prior art document, Claim 1 shows no special technical feature. The first claim dependent on claim 1 to possess a special technical feature is claim 6, where the feature is the diameter of the straightener with respect to the passageway.

4. In the light of the closest prior art document, Claim 10 shows no special technical feature.

5. In the light of W000/33909, independent claim 13 shows the special technical feature of the bendable arm.



The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

6. In the light of the closest prior art , independent claim 14 shows the special technical feature of the instrument.

7. The special technical features of claim 1 and 10 (cannula with straightener), independent claim 13 (cannula with bendable arm), and independent claim 14 (cannula and instrument combination) show no common technical feature or inventive concept and are therefore considered to be three inventions.

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 05 77 4570

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

04-03-2008

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 0033909 A	15-06-2000	AU 736964 B2	09-08-2001
		AU 2355800 A	26-06-2000
		CA 2320097 A1	15-06-2000
		DE 69920178 D1	21-10-2004
		DE 69920178 T2	22-09-2005
		EP 1054703 A1	29-11-2000
		ES 2228165 T3	01-04-2005
		JP 2002531229 T	24-09-2002

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US 3419010 A	31-12-1968	DE 1566583 A1	15-01-1970
		FR 1508018 A	29-12-1967
		GB 1093867 A	06-12-1967

EP 1072280 A	31-01-2001	NONE	

专利名称(译)	套管用于子宫内手术		
公开(公告)号	EP1765453A4	公开(公告)日	2008-04-16
申请号	EP2005774570	申请日	2005-07-15
[标]申请(专利权)人(译)	儿童医学中心公司		
申请(专利权)人(译)	儿童医学中心公司		
当前申请(专利权)人(译)	儿童医学中心公司		
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IPC分类号	A61M31/00 A61B17/00		
CPC分类号	A61B17/3401 A61B17/3421 A61B17/3439 A61B34/73 A61B2017/00455 A61B2017/00867 A61B2017/2904 A61B2017/2905 A61M25/0023 A61M25/0127 A61M25/0606		
优先权	10/891937 2004-07-15 US		
其他公开文献	EP1765453B9 EP1765453B1 EP1765453A2		
外部链接	Espacenet		

摘要(译)

一种套管，矫直器，以及用于插入组织的套管和矫直器组合，该套管包括细长的刚性中空管，该中空管具有近端，远端和在它们之间延伸的通道。远端包括方向性记忆以绕半径弯曲。当插管穿过插管的通道时，插管矫直器使插管的远端伸直。本发明还包括插入套管，移除套管，以及用组织或胎儿组织中的套管进行手术的方法。本发明还包括以经肝方式进行胆管插管，进行胎儿主动脉瓣膜成形术，将导管置于臂丛中以进行疼痛控制，将导管置于硬膜外腔进行麻醉，胸腔解剖治疗，腹腔镜解剖和水力切除的方法。组织。

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X	EP 0 885 624 A (LASCOR GMBH [DE]) 23 December 1998 (1998-12-23) * the whole document *	1-2, 4-6, 10-12	
X	US 3 419 016 A (WILLIAMSON DONALD E) 31 December 1968 (1968-12-31) * column 2, line 14 - column 3, line 25; figures 1-5 *	1-2, 4, 6, 10-12	
X	EP 1 072 286 A (MEDTRONIC INC [US]) 31 January 2001 (2001-01-31) * the whole document *	1-2, 4, 5, 10-12	TECHNICAL FIELD SEARCHED (IPC) A61B
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2	Place of search Berlin	Date of completion of the search 4 March 2008	Examiner Jameson, Patricia
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