

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
3 January 2003 (03.01.2003)

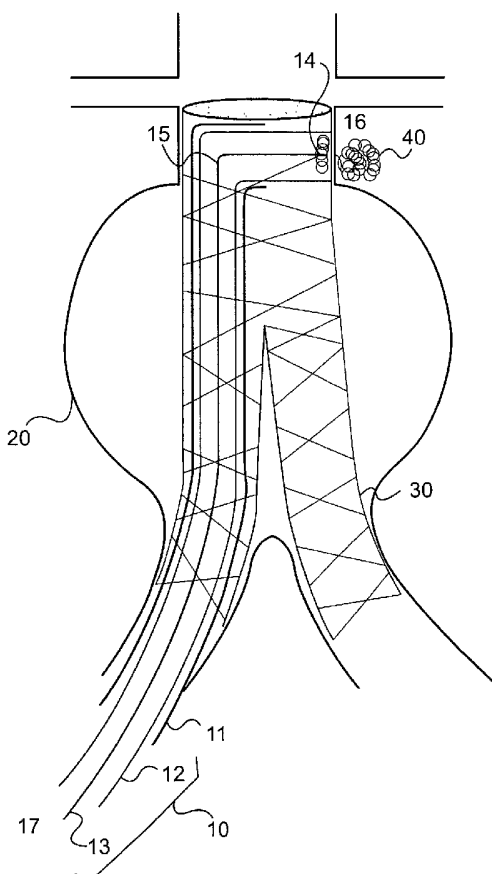
PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 03/000110 A3

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **A61B 17/10**
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/US02/19250
- (22) International Filing Date: 19 June 2002 (19.06.2002)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
60/299,188 20 June 2001 (20.06.2001) US
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- (81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: FASTENER REMOVER AND METHOD OF USE



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates generally to a surgical instrument. In particular, the present invention relates to a fastener remover for use during the repair of abdominal aortic aneurysms. The fastener remover (10), in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention, comprises an outer catheter (11), an inner sheath (12), and a gripping member (13). The outer catheter (11) comprises a hollow passage with a proximal end and a distal end. The inner sheath (12) is disposed within the hollow passage of the outer catheter (11), extending from the outer catheter's proximal end to the distal end. The gripping member (13) is located within the inner sheath (12), extending from the outer catheter's proximal end to the distal end. The gripping member (13) comprises a connector portion (14) connected to an elongated stem (15).



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Published:

— *with international search report*

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.

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:

30 October 2003

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US02/19250

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC(7) : A61B 17/10
 US CL : 606/138
 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. : 606/138, 139, 142, 144, 151, 205, 207

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 --- Y	US 6,106,532 A (Koike et al.) 22 August 2000 (22.08.2000), FIGS 2-5	1, 2, 4, 5, 9, 10, 12, 13, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22 ----- 6, 11, 14, 16, 19, 23, 24
X	US 5,707,377 A (Keller et al.) 13 January 1998 (13.01.1998), see whole document	1, 2, 4, 5, 9, 10, 12, 13, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22
X --- Y	US 5,565,122 A (Zinnbauer et al.) 15 October 1996 (15.10.1996), FIGS. 4-5 and Column 1 lines 52-67	1, 2, 3, 8 ----- 11, 16, 19, 23, 24
Y	US 4,098,157 A (Doyle) 4 July 1978 (04.07.1998), FIGS. 1,4-7	3, 6, 11, 14, 19, 23, 24
Y	US 6,004,330 A (Middleman et al.) 21 December 1999 (21.12.1999), FIGS. 11-25	7, 15

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

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"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search: 03 October 2002 (03.10.2002)
 Date of mailing of the international search report: 09 APR 2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Box PCT, Washington, D.C. 20231, Facsimile No. (703)305-3230
 Authorized officer: Jessica R Baxter (signature), Telephone No. 703-308-0858