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(12) United States Patent Smith et al.

(54) **DEVICES AND METHODS FOR PERCUTANEOUS SURGERY**

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This patent is subject to a terminal dis-

claimer.

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Related U.S. Application Data

(60) Continuation-in-part of application No. 09/815,693, filed on Mar. 23, 2001, now Pat. No. 6,679,833, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. PCT/US99/21866, filed on Sep. 21, 1999, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 09/233,879, filed on Jan. 20, 1999, now Pat. No. 6,217,509, which is a division of application No. 08/736,626, filed on Oct. 24, 1996, now Pat. No. 5,902,231, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 08/620,933, filed on Mar. 22, 1996, now Pat. No. 5,792,044, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 10/359,996, filed on Feb. 6, 2003, which is a continuation of application No. 09/449,647, filed on Nov. 30, 1999, now Pat. No. 6,520,907, which is a division of application No. 08/920,991, filed on Aug. 29, 1997, now Pat. No. 6,007,487, which is a division of application No. 08/620,933, filed on Mar. 22, 1996.

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See application file for complete search history.

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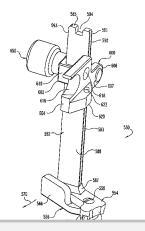
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(57) ABSTRACT

Methods and devices for performing surgery in a patient are provided. A cannula provides a working channel for access to a location in the patient. A clamp assembly is removably engaged to the cannula. The clamp assembly allows use of an endoscopic viewing system or can be removed to allow use of a microscopic viewing system in order to view the surgical site in the patient through the working channel. The clamp assembly includes a viewing element mounting portion having a length along which an endoscopic viewing element can be selectively positioned.

26 Claims, 29 Drawing Sheets





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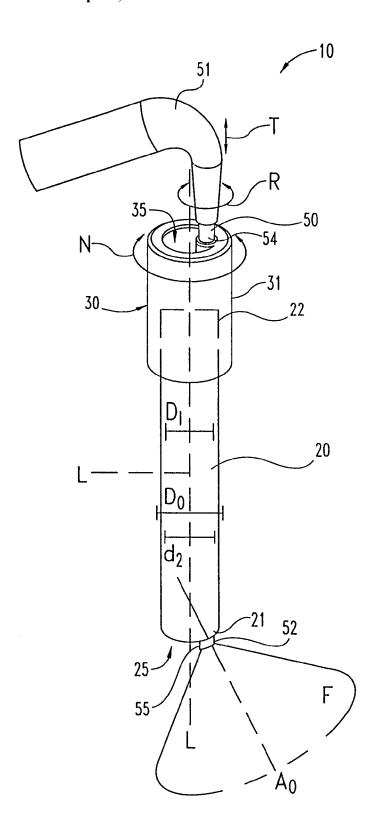


Fig. 1



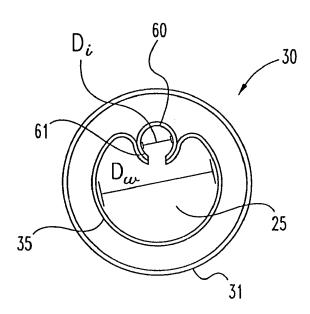


Fig. 2

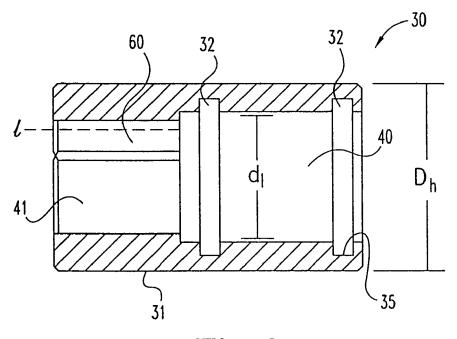
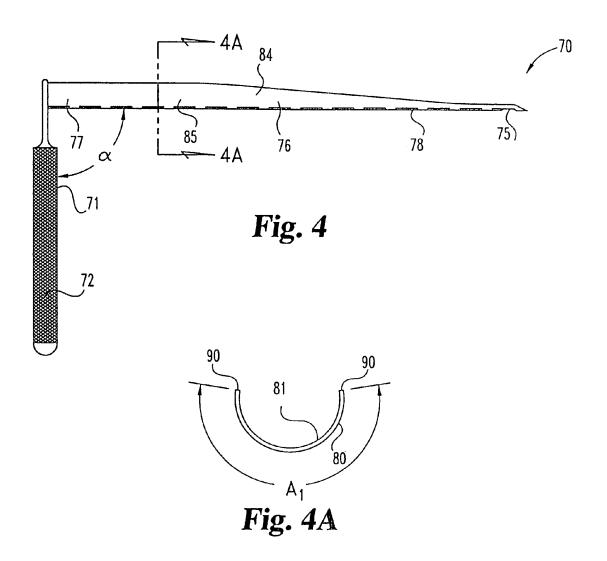


Fig. 3

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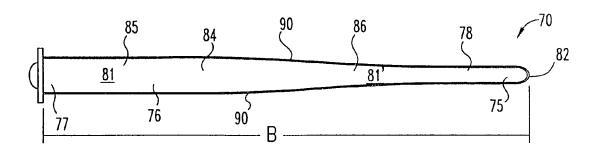


Fig. 5

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