(19) **United States**
(12) **Patent Application Publication** (10) Pub. No.: **US 2004/0127927 A1**
Adams (43) **Pub. Date:** **Jul. 1, 2004**

(54) **APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR STRAIGHTENING ANGLED TISSUE CUTTING INSTRUMENTS**

(76) Inventor: **Kenneth Adams**, Jacksonville, FL (US)

Correspondence Address:
Epstein, Edell, Shapiro, Finnan & Lytle, LLC
Suite 400
1901 Research Boulevard
Rockville, MD 20850 (US)

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A straightening tool is disclosed for straightening angled tissue cutting instruments including an outer member having a proximal length portion and a pre-formed bend connecting the proximal length portion with a distal length portion extending from the bend at an angle to a distal end, and a flexible inner member movably disposed in the outer member to cut anatomical tissue. The straightening tool comprises a handle and a positioning block extending from the handle coaxial with the straightening tool. The positioning block has a longitudinal bore for receiving the distal length portion therethrough to position the distal end within a cavity of the positioning block and the bend within a longitudinal slot of the positioning block with the proximal length portion extending externally through an opening of the slot. The bore confines the distal length portion against radial movement and serves as a fulcrum about which the proximal length portion is manually pivotable into abutment with a floor of the slot extending from the bore at an angle in a direction opposite the slot opening. Upon release of the manual pivoting force, the proximal length portion springs back somewhat in the direction of the original bend to obtain a longitudinally straightened outer member. The straightened outer member is used with the inner member to cut anatomical tissue as a straightened tissue cutting instrument.
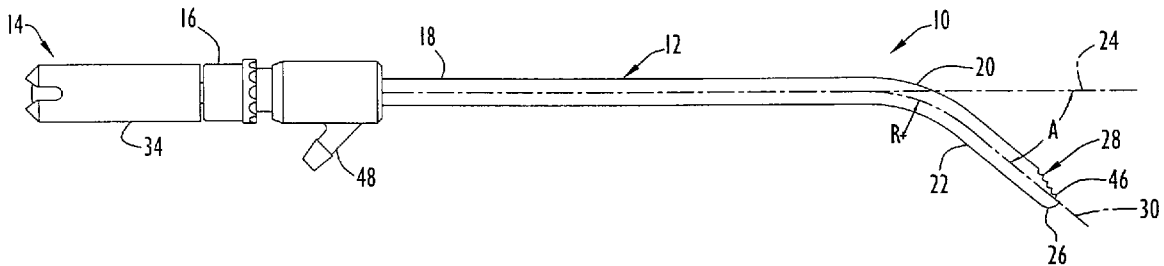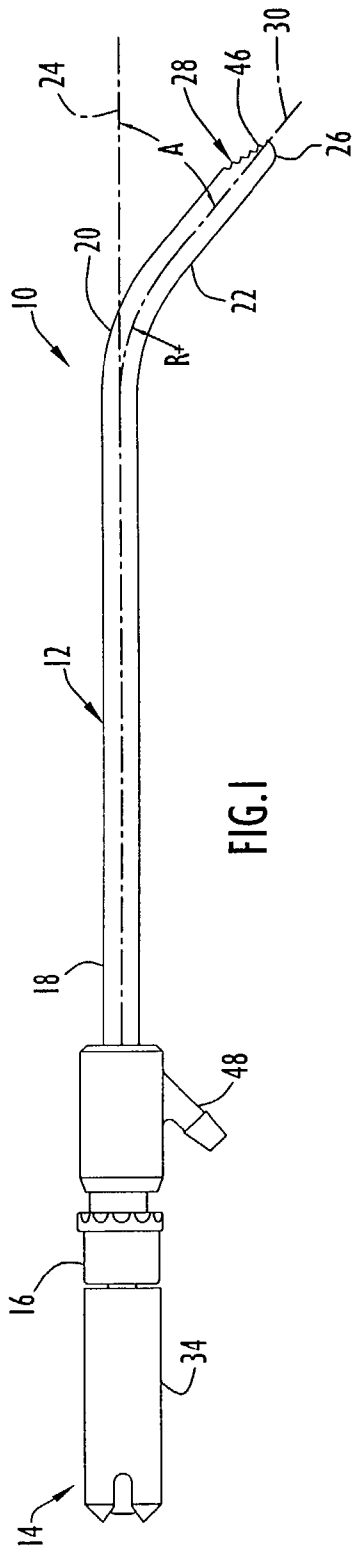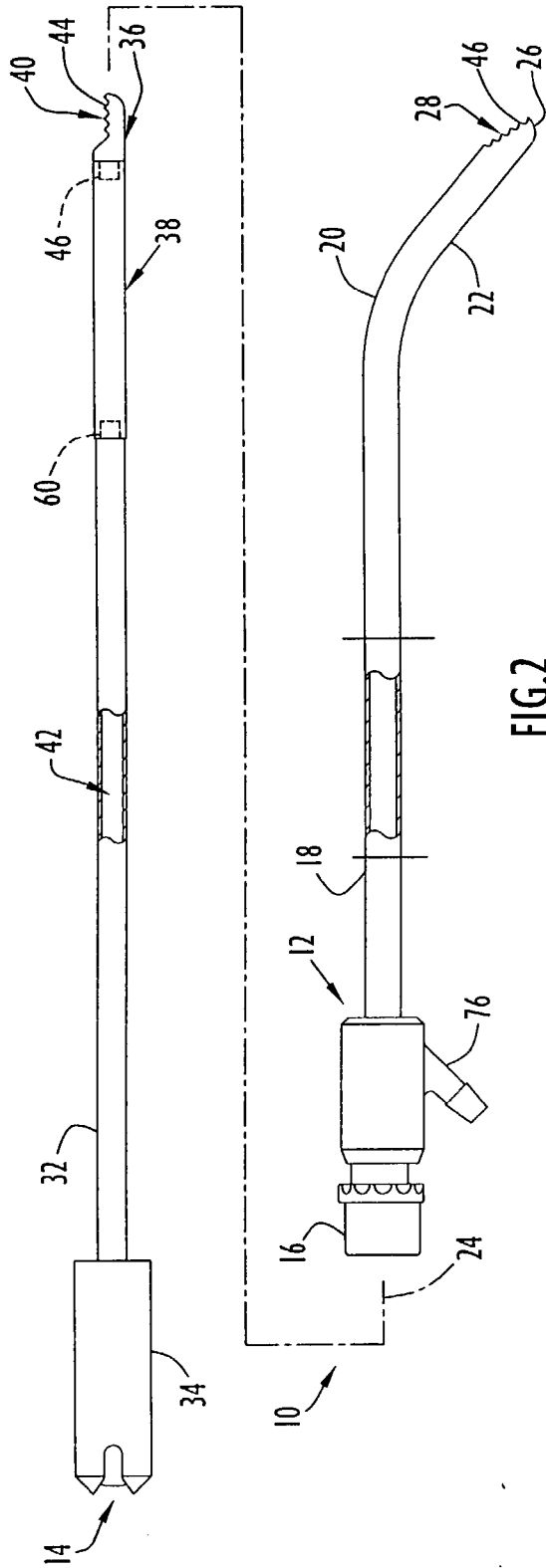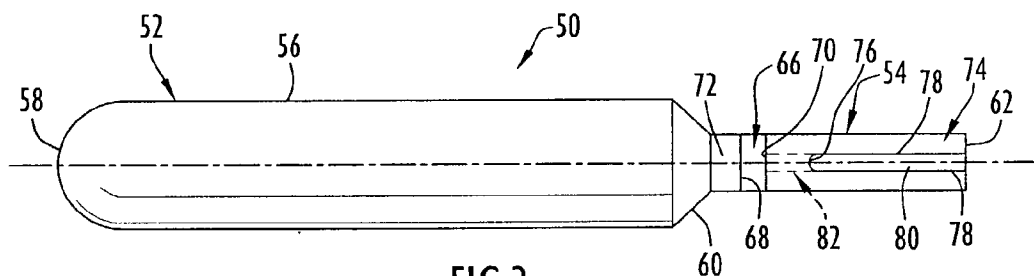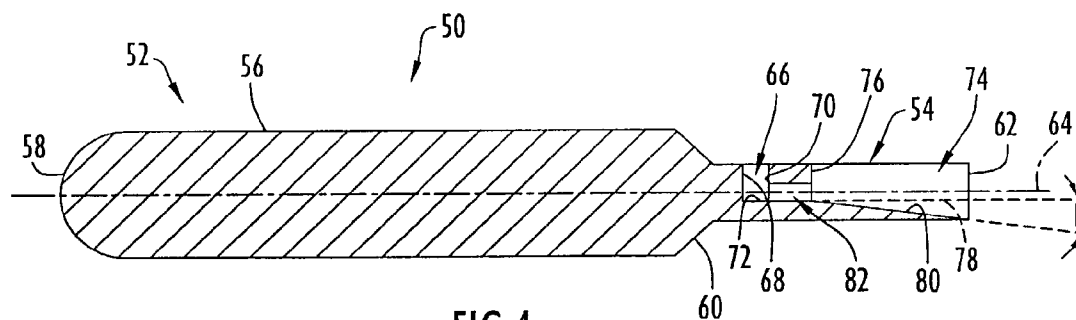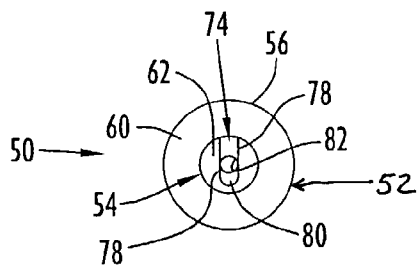
FIG.1

FIG.2

FIG.3

FIG.4

FIG.5
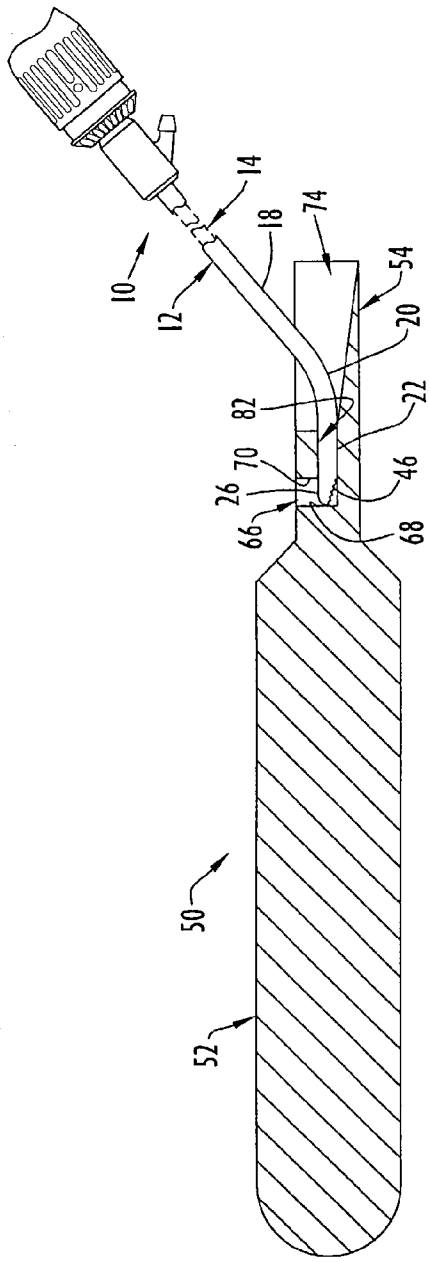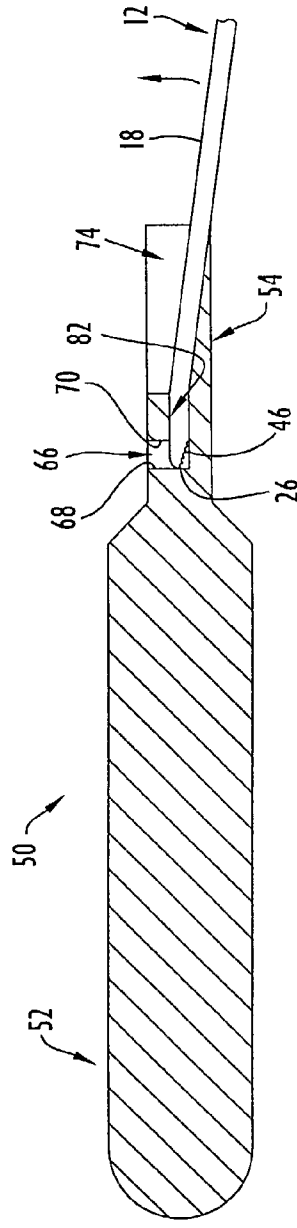
FIG.6
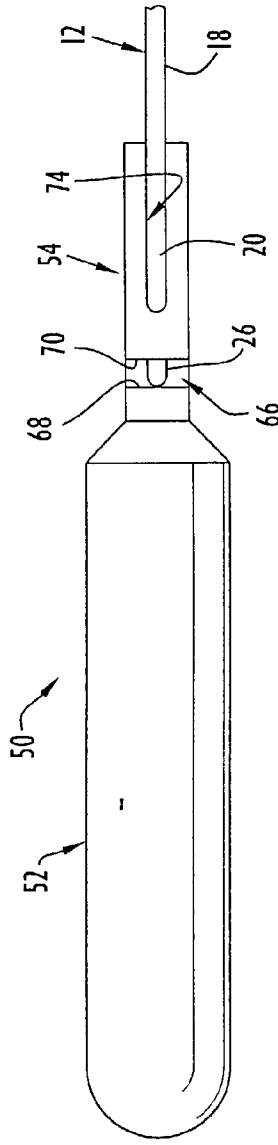
FIG.7

FIG.8

FIG.9

FIG.10

DOCKET ALARM
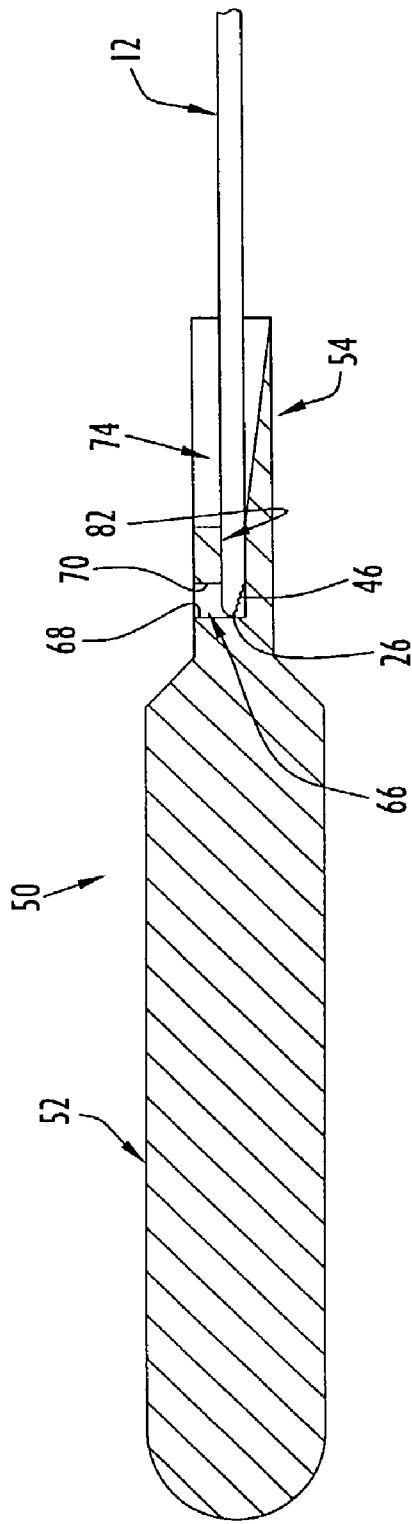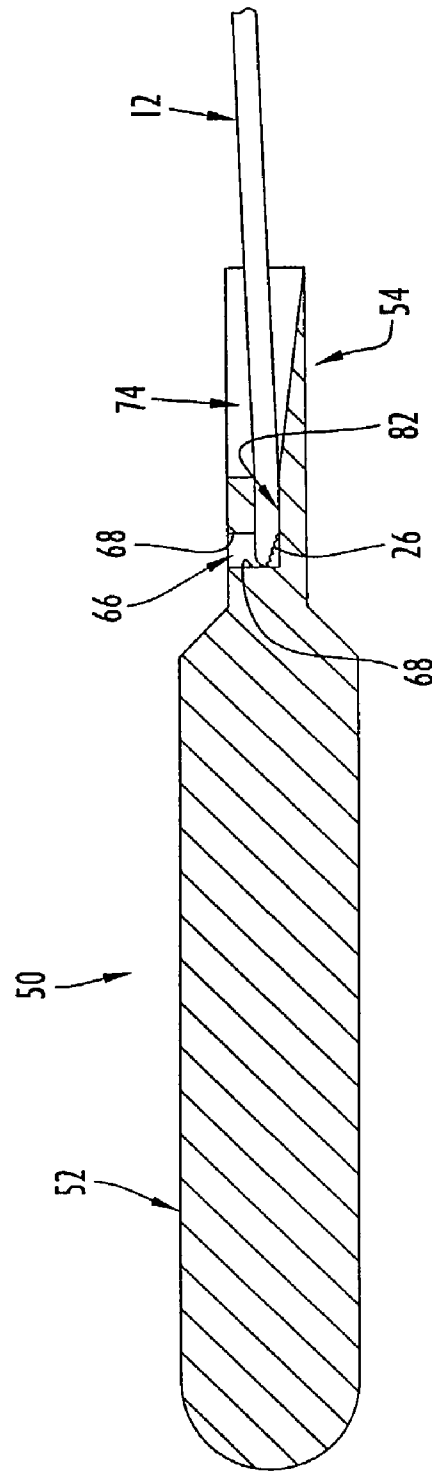
Explore Litigation Insights

Docket Alarm provides insights to develop a more informed litigation strategy and the peace of mind of knowing you're on top of things.

Real-Time Litigation Alerts

Keep your litigation team up-to-date with **real-time alerts** and advanced team management tools built for the enterprise, all while greatly reducing PACER spend.

Our comprehensive service means we can handle Federal, State, and Administrative courts across the country.

Advanced Docket Research

With over 230 million records, Docket Alarm's cloud-native docket research platform finds what other services can't. Coverage includes Federal, State, plus PTAB, TTAB, ITC and NLRB decisions, all in one place.

Identify arguments that have been successful in the past with full text, pinpoint searching. Link to case law cited within any court document via Fastcase.

Analytics At Your Fingertips

Learn what happened the last time a particular judge, opposing counsel or company faced cases similar to yours.

Advanced out-of-the-box PTAB and TTAB analytics are always at your fingertips.

API

Docket Alarm offers a powerful API (application programming interface) to developers that want to integrate case filings into their apps.

LAW FIRMS

Build custom dashboards for your attorneys and clients with live data direct from the court.

Automate many repetitive legal tasks like conflict checks, document management, and marketing.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Litigation and bankruptcy checks for companies and debtors.

E-DISCOVERY AND LEGAL VENDORS

Sync your system to PACER to automate legal marketing.

fastcase
Smarter legal research.