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**Oz et al.**

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(54) **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CIRCULATORY VALVE REPAIR**

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(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **128/898**; 606/142; 606/157

(58) **Field of Search** ..... 606/139, 142, 606/143, 151, 205-207, 216, 217, 219-221

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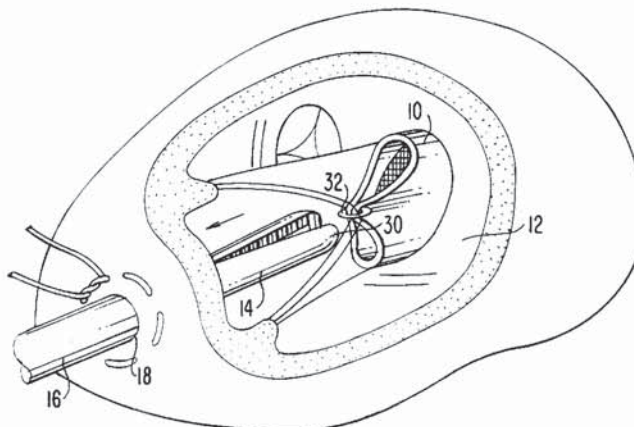
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

An apparatus for the repair of a cardiovascular valve having leaflets comprises a grasper capable of grabbing and co-apting the leaflets of the valve. Preferably, the grasper has jaw that grasp, immobilize the leaflets, and then a fastener is inserted to co-apt the leaflets. The apparatus is particularly useful for repairing mitral valves to cure mitral regurgitation.

**31 Claims, 13 Drawing Sheets**



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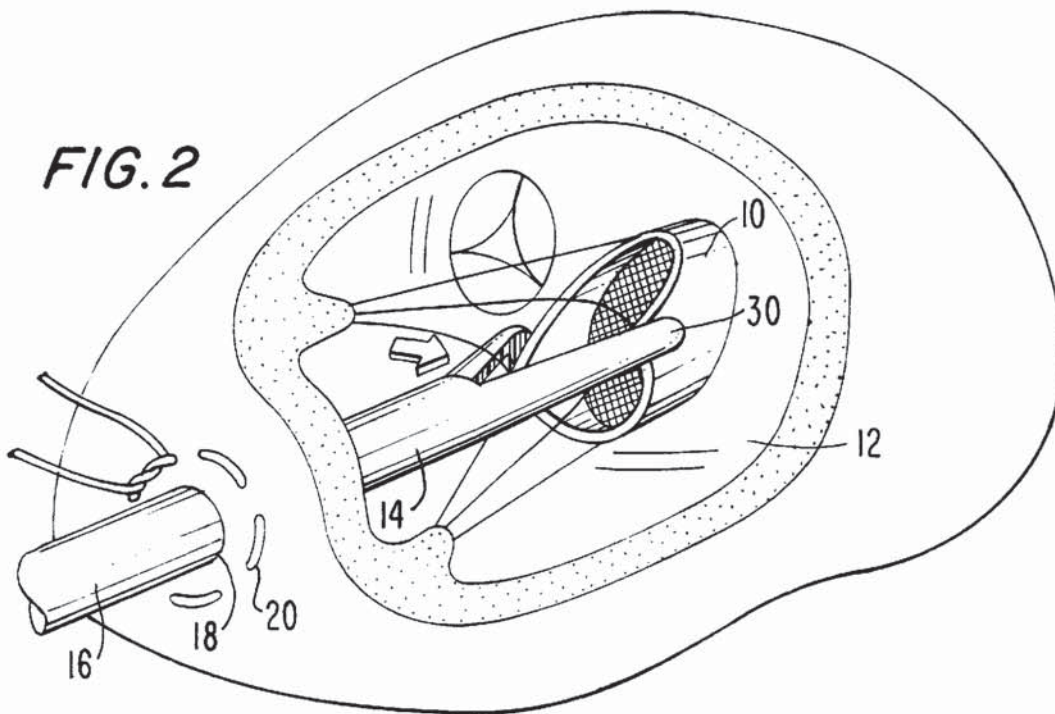
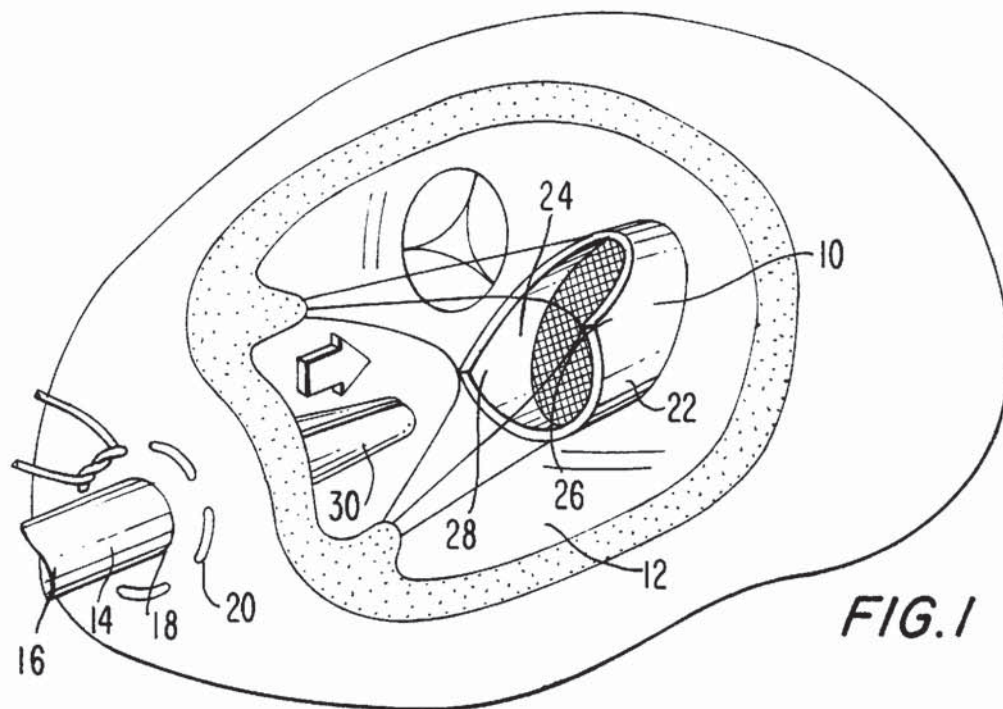
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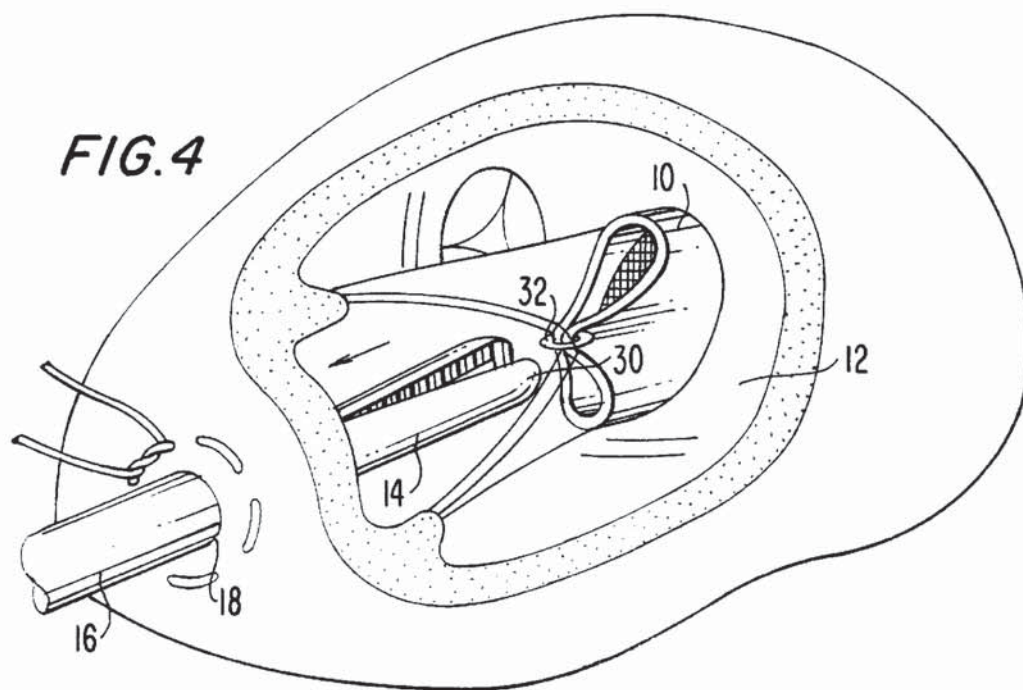
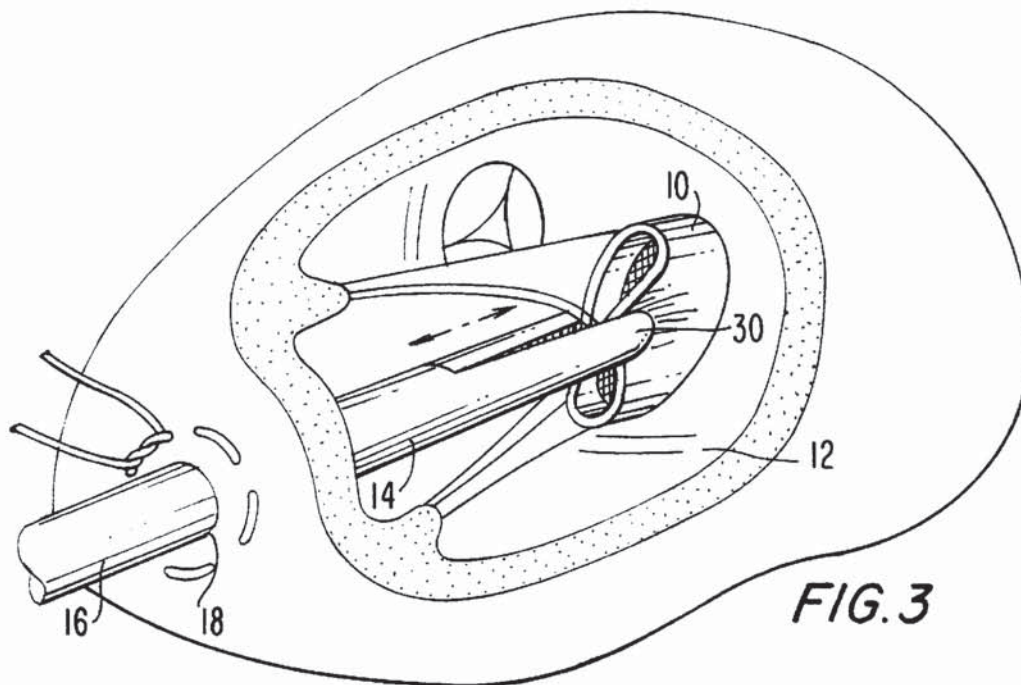


FIG. 5

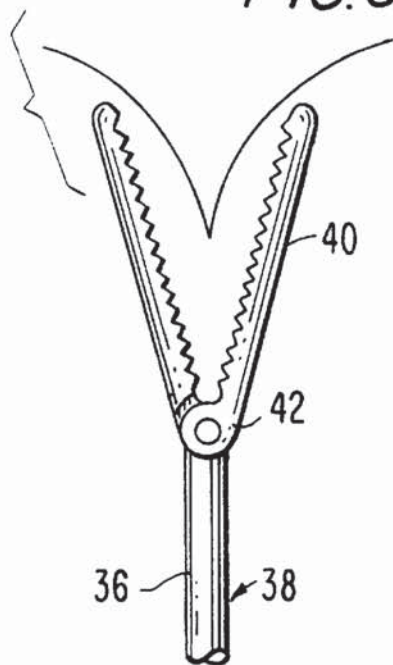


FIG. 6

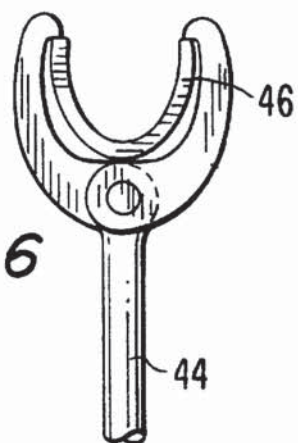
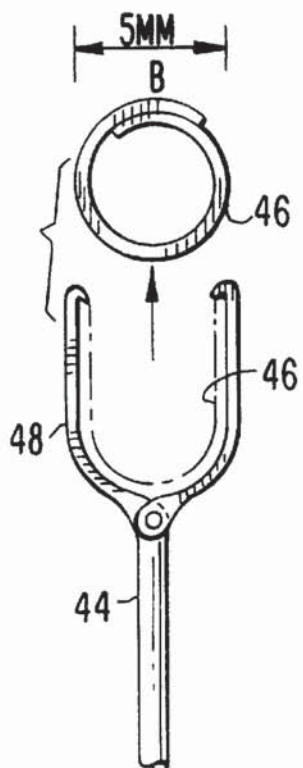


FIG. 7



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