



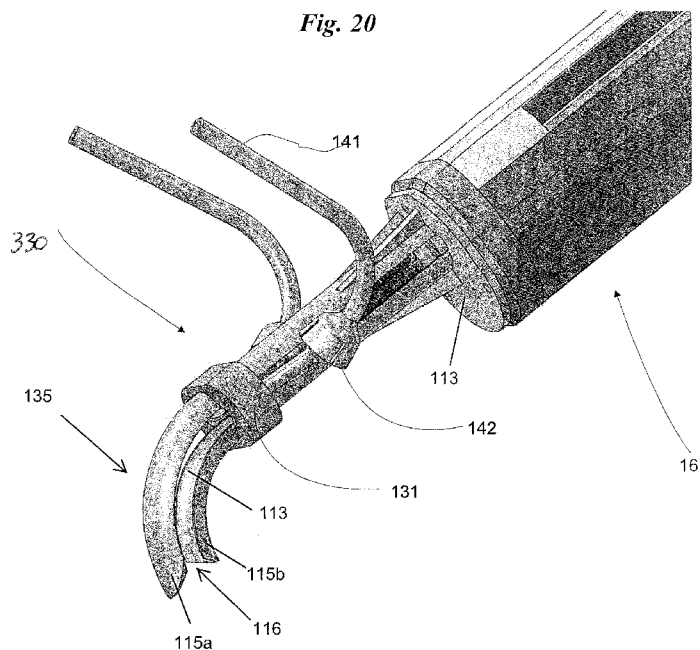
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(54) Title: INTRODUCTION DEVICES FOR HIGHLY ARTICULATED ROBOTIC PROBES AND METHODS OF PRODUCTION AND USE OF SUCH PROBES



(57) Abstract: In an introduction assembly for an articulated probe, a feeding mechanism has actuators for controlling the articulated probe. The introduction device is fixed in a positional relationship to the feeding mechanism. The introduction device includes a support member configured to support an articulated probe. A proximal end of the support member has an entrance configured to guide the articulated probe into contact with the support member. A distal end of the support member has an exit configured to guide the articulated probe from the support member into a region of interest.





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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)

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Korean utility models and applications for utility models

Japanese utility models and applications for utility models

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

eKOMPASS(KIPO internal) & Keywords: articulated, probe, feeding, introduction

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 2005-0033287 A1 (SRA JASBIR S.) 10 February 2005 See paragraphs [0023]-[0033], claims 1-12, and figures 1-4.	1-106, 134, 192
A	US 2009-0171151 A1 (CHOSSET HOWARD M. et al.) 02 July 2009 See claims 10-13, and figures 1-6.	1-106, 134, 192
A	US 6223100 B1 (GREEN; PHILIP S.) 24 April 2001 See claims 10-13, and figures 1-6.	1-106, 134, 192
A	US 2008-0119868 A1 (SHARP BRADLEY J. et al.) 22 May 2008 See paragraph [0062], claim 1, and figures 6,7	1-106, 134, 192

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

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