(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
24 June 2004 (24.06.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/052214 A2

(51) International Patent Classification[7]: A61B 17/04

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/GB2003/005347

(22) International Filing Date: 9 December 2003 (09.12.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:

0228709.2	9 December 2002 (09.12.2002)	GB
0318815.8	11 August 2003 (11.08.2003)	GB

(71) Applicant and
(72) Inventor: **MCNICHOLL, Brian** [GB/GB]; 32 Cranmore Avenue, Lisburn Road, Belfast BT9 6JH (GB).

(74) Agents: **DRAPER, Martyn, John** et al.; Boult Wade Tennant, Verulam Gardens, 70 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8BT (GB).

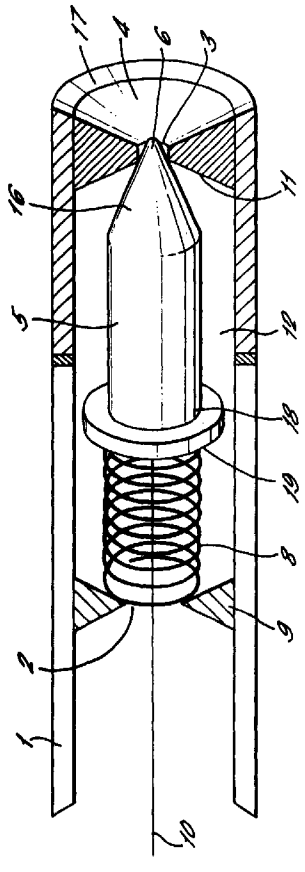
(81) Designated States *(national)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States *(regional)*: ARIPO patent (BW, 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, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declaration under Rule 4.17:
— *of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only*

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: A DEVICE FOR TEMPORARILY SHIELDING THE END OF A SURGICAL INSTRUMENT SHARP



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a device for temporarily shielding the end of a surgical instrument sharp. The device comprises a housing (1) having a proximal end and a distal end. An opening (3) is formed in the distal end of the housing for receiving an end of a surgical instrument sharp (7) therethrough. A body (5) located in the housing is movable between a first position in which an end of the body obstructs the opening and a second position in which the body is retracted from the opening. A resilient means (8) is provided for biassing the body into the first position. The device further comprises actuation means (10) to move the body against the action of the resilient means into the second position.

WO 2004/052214 A2

Published:

— *without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that 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.