

Claims

[Claim 1]

A treatment-instrument insertion aid for aiding insertion of a treatment instrument into a body, comprising:

an inner tube having flexibility into which the treatment instrument is insertable;
and

an outer tube having flexibility into which the inner tube is insertable,
wherein both end portions of the inner tube are formed of a hard material, and an
intermediate portion between the both end portions is formed of a soft material softer
than the hard material, and

wherein an engaging portion is provided on an inner peripheral surface of the outer
tube, and an engaged portion to be engaged with the engaging portion is provided on an outer
peripheral surface of the inner tube,

wherein an engaged portion of a guide member extending in an axial direction from a
distal end side to a proximal end side spaced apart from the inner tube is engaged with the
engaging portion with which the engaged portion of the inner tube is not engaged.

[Claim 2]

The treatment-instrument insertion aid according to claim 1, wherein a bendable
bending member having a cylindrical shape is attached to a distal end portion of the inner
tube.

[Claim 3]

The treatment-instrument insertion aid according to claim 2, wherein the bending
member is formed of a hard material same as or harder than the hard material of which both
end portions of the inner tube are formed, and partially has a thin wall part which is reduced
in thickness.

[Claim 4]

The treatment-instrument insertion aid according to claim 3, wherein a cover
formed of a soft material softer than the hard material constituting the bending member is
attached to a distal end portion of the bending member.

[Claim 5]

The treatment-instrument insertion aid according to claim 1, wherein both end
portions of the outer tube are formed of a hard material, and an intermediate portion

between the both end portions has a portion formed of a soft material softer than the hard material.

[Claim 6]

The treatment-instrument insertion aid according to claim 5, wherein the intermediate portion has alternately a portion formed of the soft material and a portion formed of a hard material harder than the soft material.

[Claim 7]

A treatment-instrument insertion aid for aiding insertion of a treatment instrument into a body, comprising:

an inner tube having flexibility into which the treatment instrument is insertable;
and
an outer tube having flexibility into which the inner tube is insertable,
wherein both end portions of the inner tube are formed of a hard material, and an intermediate portion between the both end portions is formed of a soft material softer than the hard material,

wherein a plurality of guiding portions are circumferentially spaced apart from one another on an inner peripheral surface of the outer tube,

engaged portions of rail members each extending in an axial direction from a distal end side to a proximal end side are engaged with the plurality of guiding portions, and

an engaged portion to be engaged with an engaging portion formed between the inner peripheral surface of the outer tube and a side wall of the adjacent rail members is provided on an outer peripheral surface of the inner tube.

[Claim 8]

The treatment-instrument insertion aid according to claim 7, wherein an engaged portion of a guide member extending in the axial direction from the distal end side to the proximal end side spaced apart from the inner tube is engaged with the engaging portion with which the engaged portion of the inner tube is not engaged.