27. The apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 26, further comprising a rotation member coupled to the main body for effecting rotation of the main body about a vertical axis passing through a center of the main body.

28. The apparatus as claimed in claim 27, further comprising a rotational locking member for restricting rotation of the main body.

29. The apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 28, further comprising a locking member capable of restricting translational movement of the holding member in one axis within the single plane that is parallel to a plane horizontal with respect to the main body such that only further movement of the holding member along a single axis within the single plane that is parallel to a plane horizontal with respect to the main body is allowed.

30. The apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 29, wherein at least the holding member is constructed of a material to substantially prevent shadowing effects of the holding member in an imaging procedure.

31. The apparatus as claimed in claim 30, wherein the material is at least one selected from the group consisting of glass, polystyrene, polyurethane, PVC, polyether ether ketone (PEEK) and paper.

~~32. A system for guiding an instrument, the system comprising,~~

~~an imaging device having an imaging surface;~~

~~a visual alignment module, the visual alignment module comprising:~~

~~a visible light source;~~

~~a refraction/reflection member for receiving light from the visible light source, the refraction/reflection member being substantially transparent to the imaging device and being disposed in an imaging path of the imaging device; and~~

~~wherein the visible light source is disposed offset from the imaging path of the imaging device such that a visible reference of the imaging path and being perpendicular to the imaging surface is capable of being provided by the refraction/reflection member.~~

~~33. The system as claimed in claim 32, wherein the visual alignment module is movable such that the visible light source is adjustable within a plane parallel to a plane of the imaging surface.~~

~~34. The system as claimed in claims 32 or 33, further comprising an apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 30 and wherein an instrument is capable of being guided according to the visible reference.~~

~~35. A method for providing a visible reference to guide an instrument, the method comprising,~~

~~providing an imaging device capable of imaging a target;~~

~~providing a visual alignment module, the visual alignment module comprising:~~

~~a visible light source;~~

~~a refraction/reflection member for receiving light from the visible light source, the refraction/reflection member being substantially transparent to the imaging device and being disposed in an imaging path of the imaging device;~~

~~wherein the visible light source is disposed offset from the imaging path of the imaging device;~~

~~using the refraction/reflection member to provide a visible reference of the imaging path; and~~

~~guiding the instrument into the imaging path based on the visible reference.~~

~~36. The method as claimed in claim 35, for the step of guiding the instrument, the method further comprises using the imaging device to image the instrument position.~~

~~37.~~32. A method for guiding an instrument, the method comprising,

holding an instrument using an apparatus;

providing a pivot point external the apparatus;

actuating one or more actuating members of the apparatus to move the instrument as one or more translational movements confined within a single plane that is parallel to a plane horizontal with respect to a main body of the apparatus, the instrument moving in the same direction as the one or more translational movements so as to provide rotational movement of the instrument in one or more planes perpendicular to said plane that is parallel to a plane

horizontal with respect to the main body, said rotational movement being about the pivot point external the apparatus.

~~38.~~33. The method as claimed in claim ~~37~~32, wherein for the step of actuating one or more actuating members to move the instrument, the method further comprises effecting the translational movement of the instrument along a respective axis of each actuating member within said plane that is parallel to a plane horizontal with respect to the main body.

~~39.~~34. The method as claimed in claims ~~37~~32 or ~~38~~33, further comprising providing a rotary screw thread member as the one or more actuating members, and effecting by hand said one or more translational movements of the holding member through a rotational movement of the rotary screw thread member.

~~40.~~35. The method as claimed in claims ~~37~~32 or ~~38~~33, further comprising providing a mounting base disposed on the main body, and contacting a subject surface such that the apparatus is disposed at a fixed distance in parallel to the subject surface.

~~41.~~36. The method as claimed in claim ~~40~~35, wherein the mounting base comprises two or more mounting segments for contacting the subject surface.

~~42.~~37. The method as claimed in claims ~~40~~35 or ~~41~~36, further comprising providing a hand-operable slider mechanism as the one or more actuating members, and effecting by hand said one or more translational movements of the holding member through a movement of the hand-operable slider mechanism.