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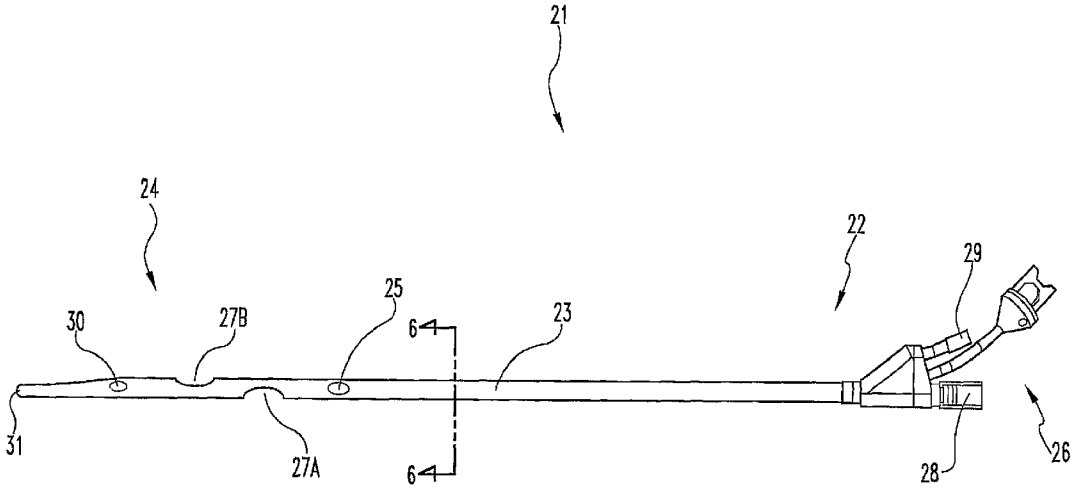
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(54) Title: SYSTEMS AND TECHNIQUES FOR MINIMALLY INVASIVE GASTROINTESTINAL PROCEDURES



(57) Abstract: A surgical system for performing gastroplasty is disclosed. The system includes an elongated body (23) adapted to be inserted into the esophagus with a proximal end (22) extending from a body orifice. A working member (24) includes a pair of elongated suction cavities that capture and excise portions of the anterior and posterior stomach walls and apply sutures to the captured tissue, which, when drawn tight, serve to create a modified lumen in the stomach.

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