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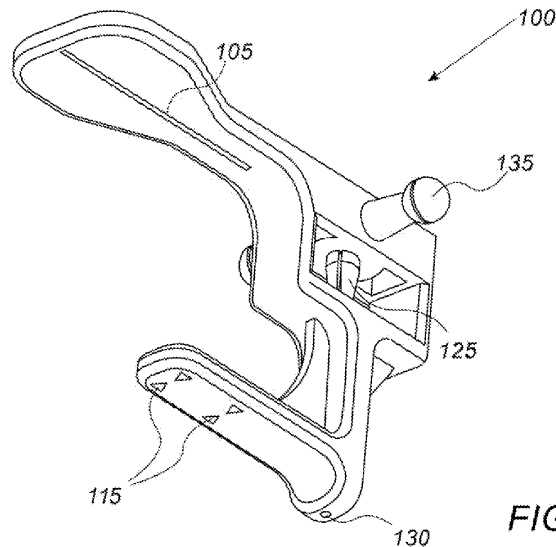


FIG. 1A

(57) Abstract: An instrument holder and a method for aligning an instrument for accessing a target within a subject are disclosed, wherein the instrument holder comprises a first layer, a second layer, an instrument guide with an entry and an exit point that connects between the two layers and also guide the instrument from the entry point to the exit point, and wherein the first layer and second layer include markings that are visible by the imaging system and form a predefined pattern when the first layer and second layer are aligned. In another embodiment, the instrument guide is located within the second layer and the first layer include markings that are visible by the imaging system and also form a predefined pattern with the instrument visible by the imaging system when the first layer and second layer are aligned. Preferably, the markings are radio-opaque and/or are in form of lines, linear graduations, arrows or arrow heads or cross-hairs.

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