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(54) Title: A SCALPEL BLADE REMOVER

(57) Abstract

A scalpel blade remover (3) removes a blade (5) from the tang (6) of a scalpel (8). The scalpel (8) is inserted in, and withdrawn from, the blade remover (3) along the same substantially straight-line path. The blade remover has a rocker block (12) which pivots about an axis transverse to the insertion path. When the scalpel (8) is inserted into the blade remover, its tang (6) pushes against a contact surface (15) of the rocker block (12), causing the block to pivot. A pair of legs (14) at the other end of the block (12) apply a transverse force to the heel of the blade (5) on either side of the tang (6), thereby lifting the heel of the blade off the tang. When the scalpel has been inserted far enough, a pawl (16) drops behind the heel of the blade (5). The pawl strips the blade (5) from the tang (6) when the scalpel is removed. The blade remover (3) is typically mounted in the lid (2) of a sharps container (1).

