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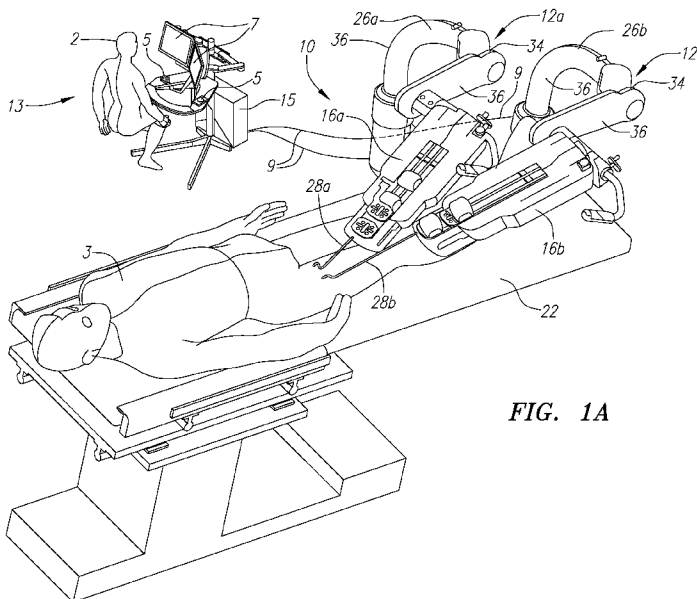


FIG. 1A

(57) **Abstract:** A robotic instrument system (10), comprising at least two instrument drive assemblies (16a, 16b) each detachably coupled to a respective instrument assembly. Each instrument assembly comprising an elongate, flexible guide instrument configured to be inserted into a patient's body. The instrument drive assemblies comprise one or more motors configured to operate a respective instrument assembly. One or more controllers (15) are operatively coupled to the instrument drive assemblies.

WO 2008/086493 A3

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched		
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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2004/176751 A1 (WEITZNER BARRY D [US] ET AL) 9 September 2004 (2004-09-09) paragraphs [0049] - [0130]; figures -----	1-23
X	US 2006/293643 A1 (WALLACE DANIEL T [US] ET AL) 28 December 2006 (2006-12-28) paragraphs [0159], [0160], [0174] - [0176], [0178], [0222] - [0233]; figures 1, 2, 3, 1-3, 10, b, 5, 6, 95-103, 11 -----	8-12, 14-23
X	WO 95/01757 A (BORST CORNELIUS [NL]) 19 January 1995 (1995-01-19) page 22, line 25 - page 24, line 11; figure 6 -----	8-23
X	EP 1 681 029 A (TU MUENCHEN [DE]) 19 July 2006 (2006-07-19) paragraphs [0027] - [0038], [0040] - [0050]; figures -----	1-7
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