Title: Endoscopic cardiac retractors with folding components configured for insertion using minimally invasive access ports and related methods

Abstract: Cardiac retractors include a rod and a foldable blade that can be introduced using minimally invasive access ports such that provided by an intra-thoracic cavity cannula. The rod can be integral to the blade or may be releasably attached in situ. The devices may be sized and configured to reside in situ proximate the mitral valve site at a left atria to splint open (lift a roof of) the mitral valve in response to robotic controlled direction of a surgeon for a mitral valve repair during a closed chest minimally invasive cardiac surgery.
**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

**A.  CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

**IPCI**

A6F 2/06 (2006.01)

**USPC: 606/201**

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B.  FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

- U.S.: 606/201

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic database consulted during the international search (name of database and, where practicable, search terms used)

**C.  DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
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**D**

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family ann.ex.

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<th>Special categories of cited documents:</th>
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<tr>
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<td>&quot;E&quot; earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date</td>
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<td>&quot;L&quot; documents which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</td>
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<td>&quot;P&quot; document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</td>
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**Date of the actual completion of the international search**

14 April 2003 (14.04.2008)

**Date of mailing of this report**

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