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(54) Title: SURGICAL FASTENER APPLYING APPARATUS

(57) Abstract: A surgical fastener applying apparatus including a cartridge supporting section, an anvil supporting section having a longitudinal axis and including a distal anvil portion and a proximal handle portion, including a first longitudinally extending slot extending therealong. A clamping lever having a proximal portion and a distal portion is movable from an undamped position to a clamped position to releasably secure the anvil supporting section in close approximation with the cartridge supporting section. A firing assembly includes a firing knob, the firing knob movable within the longitudinally extending slot from a first proximal position to a second distal position to fire fasteners supported in the cartridge supporting section.