Intramedullary Nail for Femoral Lengthening

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Background:

The use of various fastening devices for rejoining bones that have become fractured is well known. A couple of common examples are the "locked" nail and modular nails. They are both quite expensive, yet do not reduce the number of devices required to fit all patients. There also are intramedullary devices that can be adjusted in length after installation. However, such devices still require transcutaneous adjustment to achieve lengthening.

Description of Project:

This device is similar to other intramedullary nails but contains a ratchet and pawl mechanism. The bone can be lengthened when controlled traction is applied at the foot. Both force and displacement of the limb can be used to lengthen the nail the desired amount per unit time.

Applications:

Lengthening of bones.

Patent Status:

A US patent application has been issued.

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