

25

at least a first transition surface extending between said distal end surface and said lateral surface, said first transition surface having a first curvature generally corresponding to a curvature of an inner portion of a cortical rim of vertebral endplates in an axial plane.

13. The distractor of claim 12, wherein said body further includes a second upper transition surface extending between said lateral surface and said upper surface and a second lower transition surface extending between said lateral surface and said lower surface, said second upper and lower transition surfaces each having a second curvature generally corresponding to a curvature of an inner portion of a cortical rim of vertebral endplates in a coronal plane.

14. The distractor of claim 13, wherein said lateral surface includes a central linear region extending parallel to the central axis, said second upper and lower transition surfaces extending between said central region and said upper surface and said lower surface, respectively.

15. The distractor of claim 13, wherein said first curvature is defined by a radius of curvature of 9 millimeters and said second curvature is defined by a radius of curvature of 8 millimeters.

16. The distractor of claim 13, a third upper transition surface extending between said distal end surface and said

26

upper surface and a third lower transition surface extending between said distal end surface and said lower surface, said third upper and lower transition surfaces each having a third curvature generally corresponding to a curvature of an inner portion of a cortical rim of vertebral endplates in a sagittal plane.

17. The distractor of claim 16, wherein said third upper transition surface extends between said first transition surface and said upper surface and said third lower transition surface extends between said first transition surface and said lower surface.

18. The distractor of claim 12, wherein said upper surface includes a proximal portion and a distal portion and said lower surface includes a proximal portion and a distal portion, said proximal portions being generally parallel with one another and said distal portions tapering toward one another from said proximal portions toward said distal end surface.

19. The distractor of claim 12, wherein said first curvature is defined by a radius of curvature of 9 millimeters.

* * * * *