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(54) **PEDICLE SCREW FIXATION SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR USE OF SAME**

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This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

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(58) **Field of Classification Search**
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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A pedicle screw fixation system and method for use of the same are disclosed. In one embodiment, a tulip is provided for holding a head of a pedicle screw substantially along a longitudinal axis. The tulip includes opposing first and second U-shaped receiving slots aligned along a transverse axis. A rod is received by the opposing first and second U-shaped receiving slots. A coupling collar includes a plurality of resilient fingers circumferentially disposed there-around such that a snap fit engagement with the head of the pedicle screw formed. The coupling collar includes a first deformable face operable for contact with the rod. A set screw is for adapted for driving engagement through the tulip along the longitudinal axis such that a second deformable face is positioned for contact with the rod. The first and second deformable faces conform to the shape of the rod in response to forceful engagement therewith.

18 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets

