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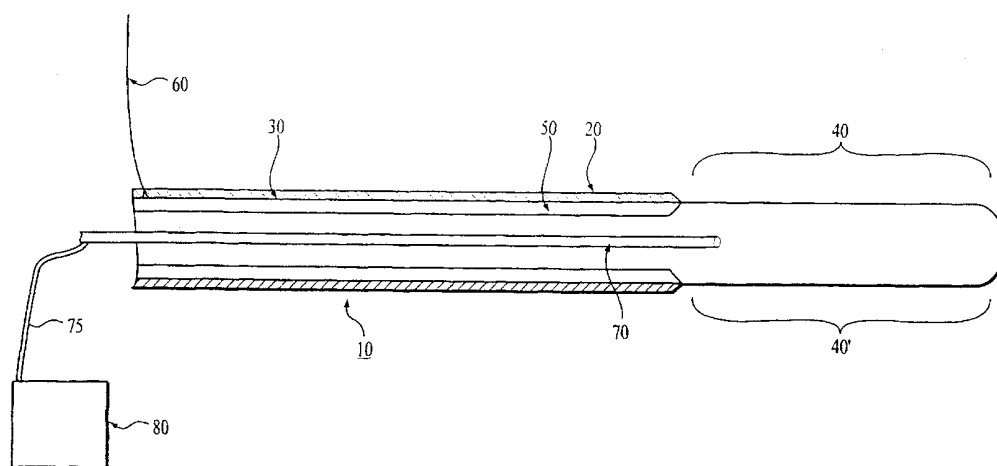
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(54) Title: COMBINED ELECTROSURGICAL-CRYOSURGICAL INSTRUMENT



(57) Abstract: The present invention is directed towards a combined electrosurgical-cryosurgical instrument (10) for tissue ablation. The instrument comprises a shaft (30) having a proximal end and a distal end, the distal end being electrically and thermally conductive; a radiofrequency insulation sheath (20) surrounding the outer surface of the shaft; a cryo-insulation sheath (50) surrounding a surface of the shaft; a radiofrequency power supply source (60); a cryogen supply tube (70) within the shaft (30); and a cryogen supply source (80) connected to the cryogen supply tube. The power source (60) provides electrical energy to the distal end of the shaft (30), and the cryogen supply tube (70) provides a cryogen to the distal end of the shaft (30).



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
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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)
 IPC 7 A61B

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

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 658 278 A (IMRAN MIR A ET AL) 19 August 1997 (1997-08-19) the whole document ---	1-21
X	US 3 272 203 A (CHATO JOHN C) 13 September 1966 (1966-09-13) the whole document ---	1-7, 19-21
X	US 5 281 213 A (HED A ZE EV ET AL) 25 January 1994 (1994-01-25) abstract; figure 1 ---	1, 19, 21
X	WO 96 34571 A (COSMAN ERIC R) 7 November 1996 (1996-11-07) abstract; figure 2 -----	1, 19, 21

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Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Information on patent family members

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