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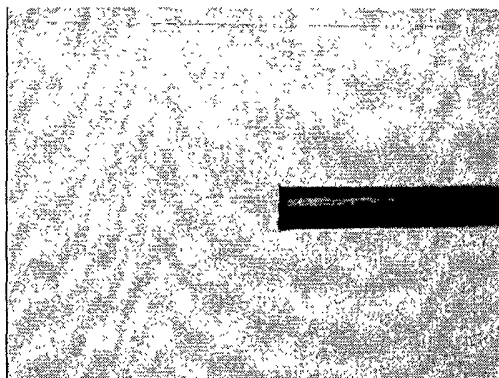
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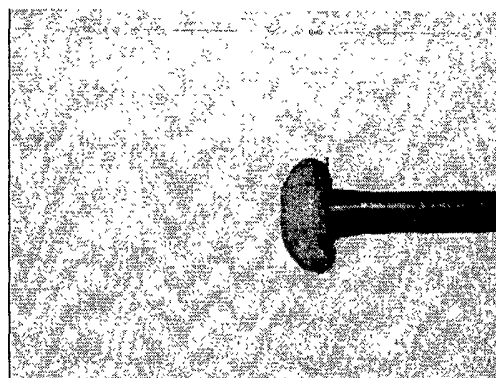
(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TREATING *PSEUDOFOLLICULITIS BARBAE*

Before



(a)

After



(b)

(57) Abstract: Method and apparatus for hair treatment are disclosed which comprise applying electromagnetic radiation (EMR) to a skin treatment area to deposit energy in one or more hairs so as to modify a shape and/or chemical structure of at least a portion of the hairs. The applied radiation can cause heating of the hair tips, so as to modify their shape, e.g., reduce sharpness of the hair tips. Modification of the hair can involve heat-induced changes to the shape, composition, or function of the hair tip, hair shaft, and/or hair matrix that make the hair less capable of re-entering the skin. The methods and apparatus can treat and/or prevent pseudofolliculitis barbae (PFB) in the treatment area. A method is also disclosed for managing hair growth using wavelengths between 1200 nm and 1400 nm.



Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/US2004/005174

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A61B18/20

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)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2003/023283 A1 (MCDANIEL DAVID H) 30 January 2003 (2003-01-30) paragraphs '0015!', '0052!', '0062! paragraph '0069! -----	1-6
X	US 2001/041886 A1 (DURKIN ANTHONY J ET AL) 15 November 2001 (2001-11-15) paragraph '0012! tables 1,3,4 -----	1,3,5,6
Y		2,4
X	WO 99/49937 A (GEN HOSPITAL CORP ; PALOMAR MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES I (US)) 7 October 1999 (1999-10-07) page 4, line 622 - page 5, line 2 page 7, line 6 - line 10 ----- -/--	1,3,5,6



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

E earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

& document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

14 September 2004

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 736 308 A (ESC MEDICAL SYSTEMS LTD) 9 October 1996 (1996-10-09) column 3, line 40 - column 4, line 19 -----	1, 3, 5, 6
Y	WO 99/34867 A (AZAR ZION ; SHALEV PINCHAS (IL); DELIGHT TECHNOLOGIES LTD (IL)) 15 July 1999 (1999-07-15) page 10, line 1 - line 4 -----	2, 4
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2004/005174

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.: 10-69
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by therapy
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☒ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☒ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box II.1

Claims Nos.: 10-69

Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by therapy

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US2004/005174

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