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(54) Title: COMPOSITE FIBER ELECTROSURGICAL INSTRUMENT

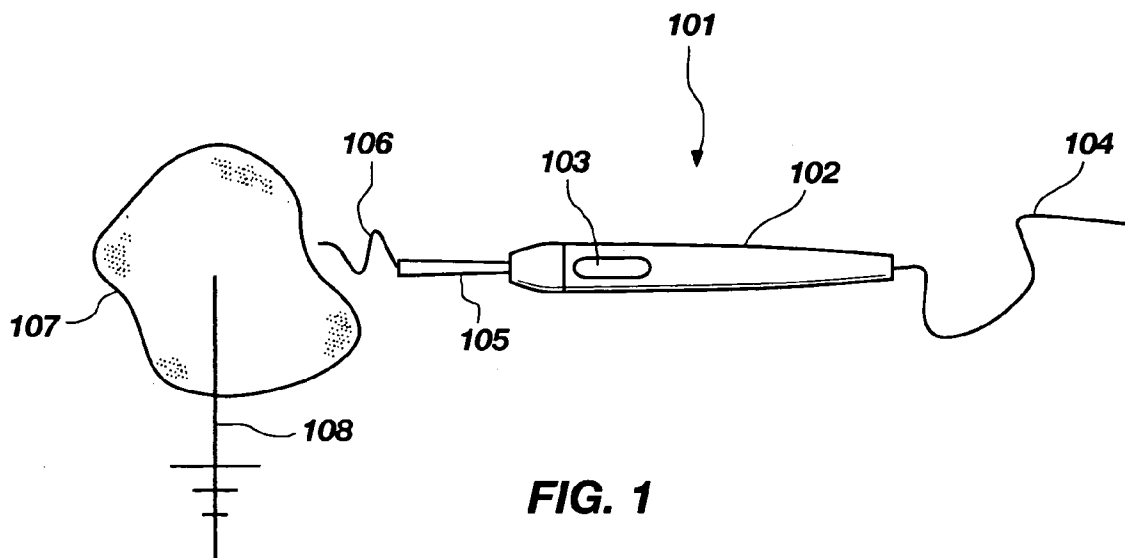


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: Described is a surgical instrument for electrocauterization (e.g., an electric knife), the surgical instrument including: a body portion for holding and controlling the surgical instrument, and, physically attached thereto, a radio-opaque tip for cauterizing living body tissue, wherein at least the tip comprises a silicon material. In such an instrument, the tip is typically a tip electrode. Aspects of the invention may also comprise a tip (e.g., a tip electrode) made of a composite fiber and colored. Aspects of the invention may also comprise a tip made of at least one material selected from the group consisting of M60 pitch fiber, metal coated carbon fiber, metal impregnated into fiber, AS4 carbon fiber, polyacrylonitrile fiber, shaped vinyl carbon fiber, and combinations thereof. Also described are methods of making a surgical instrument for electrocauterization, as well as methods of electrocauterization.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2008/008132**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER****A61B 18/14(2006.01)i, A61B 17/22(2006.01)i**

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 8: A61B

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

Korean Utility models and applications for Utility models since 1975
Japanese Utility models and applications for Utility models since 1975

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

eKIPASS(KIPO Internal) "electrosurgical", "tip", "catheter", "ablation", "radio-opaque"

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y A	US 5507742 A (GARY LONG et al) 16 April 1996 See claims 1-9, column 4, line 42 - column 5, line 42, figures 2-5 and 13	1- 3, 8, 9 4-7, 10-15
Y A	US 6190382 B1 (THEODORE C. ORMSBY et al) 20 February 2001 See claims 1, 10 and 13, column 6, lines 34 - 43, figure 2	1- 3, 8, 9 4-7, 10-15
A	US 5342355 A (GARY LONG) 30 August 1994 See the abstract, claim 1, figures 1-4	1-15
A	US 6235027 B1 (GARRETT D. HERZON) 22 May 2001 See the abstract, claims 1-6, figures 1-6	1-15

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☒ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

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

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Information on patent family members

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