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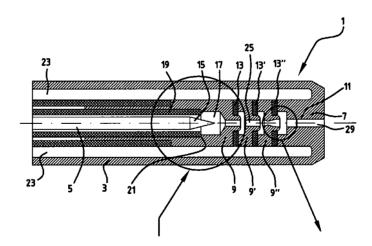
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(54) Title: PLASMA-GENERATING DEVICE, PLASMA SURGICAL DEVICE, USE OF A PLASMA-GENERATING DEVICE AND METHOD OF GENERATING A PLASMA



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a plasma-generating device comprising an anode, a cathode and an elongate plasma channel which extends substantially in the direction from said cathode to said anode. The plasma channel has a throttling portion which is arranged in said plasma channel between said cathode and an outlet opening arranged in said anode. Said throttling portion divides said plasma channel into a high pressure chamber, which is positioned on a side of the throttling portion closest to the cathode, and has a first maximum cross-sectional surface transversely to the longitudinal direction of the plasma channel, and a low pressure chamber, which opens into said anode and has a second maximum cross-sectional surface transversely to the longitudinal direction of the plasma channel, said throttling portion having a third cross-sectional surface transversely to the longitudinal direction of the plasma channel which is smaller than said first maximum cross-sectional surface and said second maximum cross-sectional surface. Moreover at least one intermediate electrode is arranged between said cathode and said throttling portion. The invention also relates to a plasma surgical device, use of such a plasma surgical device in surgery and a method of generating a plasma.





INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No PCT/EP2006/006688

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER INV. H05H1/24 H05H1/34

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) H05H

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, WPI Data

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Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y A	US 3 360 988 A (STINE HOWARD A ET AL) 2 January 1968 (1968-01-02) column 2, line 13 - line 22 column .2, line 53 - column 3, line 65 column 4, line 48 - line 71 figure 1	1-5,10, 11, 13-17, 26,32, 33,37 7,18-25, 27,34, 38,41-46 8,9, 28-31, 35,36, 39,40
X Furti	er documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. X See patent family annex.	

X Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.	X See patent family annex.
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 16 January 2007	Date of mailing of the international search report $14/02/2007$
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31–70) 340–3016	Authorized officer Capostagno, Eros

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International application No
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