

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
17 May 2001 (17.05.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 01/34077 A1**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: A61F 9/013, 2/14

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US00/29911

(22) International Filing Date: 30 October 2000 (30.10.2000)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
09/434,912 5 November 1999 (05.11.1999) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): ALCON  
UNIVERSAL LTD. [CH/CH]; Bösch 69, CH-6331  
Hünenberg (CH).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): CHAN, Kwan, Y.

[US/US]; 4245 Arbor Gate Street, Fort Worth, TX 76133 (US). MILIOS, Gregory, S. [US/US]; 1506 Stonecrest Lane #1086, Arlington, TX 76011 (US). BOOTH, David, E. [US/US]; 73 Grandview Blvd., Wyomissing Hills, PA 19609 (US). HICKINGBOTHAM, Dyson, W. [US/US]; 6 Palatine Place, Stouchsburg, PA 19567 (US).

(74) Agents: LEE, W., David et al.; Alcon Research, Ltd., Mail Code: Q-148, 6201 South Freeway, Fort Worth, TX 76134 (US).

(81) Designated States (national): AU, BR, CA, CN, JP, US.

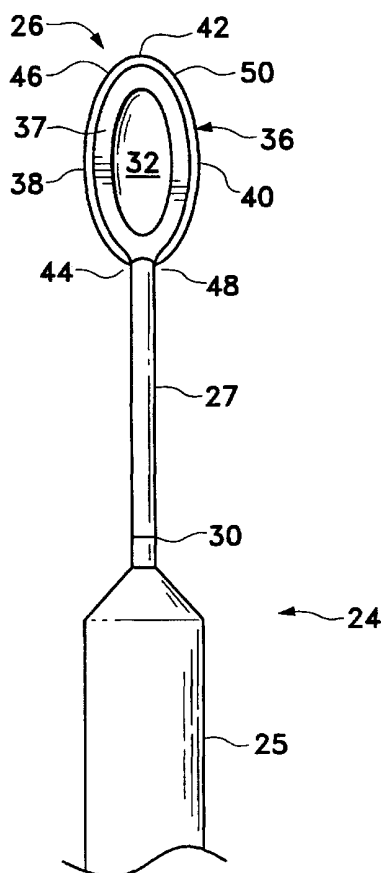
(84) Designated States (regional): European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE).

Published:

— With international search report.

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: LAMELLAR DISSECTING INSTRUMENT



(57) Abstract: A microsurgical instrument that includes a handle and a dissecting tip coupled to the handle is disclosed. The tip includes a blade having a generally elliptical three-dimensional geometry. The blade may include an edge having a first arc and an opposing second arc. When the instrument is used to form an intracorneal pocket for the implantation of an intracorneal optical lens, the curvature of the first arc allows the edge to dissect a first blind spot of the pocket, and the curvature of the second arc allows the edge to dissect a second blind spot of the pocket. The blade may also be formed with a first depression in its top surface and a second depression in its bottom surface. When the instrument is used to form an intracorneal pocket, the depression reduce the drag on, and corresponding trauma to, stromal tissue.

WO 01/34077 A1



---

*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.*

## LAMELLAR DISSECTING INSTRUMENT

### Field of the Invention

The present invention relates generally to ophthalmic microsurgical instruments and more specifically, but not by way of limitation, to microsurgical instruments suitable for creating a corneal pocket incision for the implantation of intracorneal optical lenses (ICOLs).

### Description of the Related Art

The human eye in its simplest terms functions to provide vision by transmitting light through a clear outer portion called the cornea, and focusing the image by way of a crystalline lens onto a retina. The quality of the focused image depends on many factors including the size and shape of the eye, and the transparency of the cornea and the lens.

The optical power of the eye is determined by the optical power of the cornea and the crystalline lens. In the normal, healthy eye, sharp images are formed on the retina (emmetropia). In many eyes, images are either formed in front of the retina because the eye is abnormally long (axial myopia), or formed in back of the retina because the eye is abnormally short (axial hyperopia). The cornea also may be asymmetric or toric, resulting in an uncompensated cylindrical refractive error referred to as corneal astigmatism. In addition, due to age-related reduction in lens accommodation, the eye may become presbyopic resulting in the need for a bifocal or multifocal correction device.

In the past, axial myopia, axial hyperopia and corneal astigmatism generally have been corrected by spectacles or contact lenses, but there are several refractive surgical procedures that have been investigated and used since 1949. Barraquer investigated a

procedure called keratomileusis that reshaped the cornea using a microkeratome and a cryolathe. This procedure was never widely accepted by surgeons. Another procedure that has been used is radial and/or transverse incisional keratotomy (RK or AK, respectively). Photoablative lasers have also been used to reshape the surface of the cornea (photorefractive keratectomy or PRK) or for mid-stromal photoablation (Laser-Assisted In Situ Keratomileusis or LASIK). All of these refractive surgical procedures cause an irreversible modification to the shape of the cornea in order to effect refractive changes, and if the correct refraction is not achieved by the first procedure, a second procedure or enhancement must be performed. Additionally, the long-term stability of the correction is variable because of the variability of the biological wound healing response between patients.

Permanent intracorneal implants made from synthetic materials are also known for the correction of corneal refractive errors. Such implants may be generally classified into two categories.

One category is intracorneal implants that have little or no refractive power themselves, but change the refractive power of the cornea by modifying the shape of the anterior surface of the cornea. U.S. Patent No. 5,123,921 (Werblin, et al.); U.S. Patent Nos. 5,505,722, 5,466,260, 5,405,384, 5,323,788, 5,318,047, 5,312,424, 5,300,118, 5,188,125, 4,766,895, 4,671,276 and 4,452,235 owned by Keravision and directed to intrastromal ring devices; and U.S. Patent Nos. 5,090,955 (Simon), U.S. Patent No. 5,372,580 (Simon, et al.), and WIPO Publication No. WO 96/06584 directed to Gel Injection Adjustable Keratoplasty (GIAK) all disclose examples of this category of implant.

A second category is intracorneal implants having their own refractive power.

U.S. Patent No. 4,607,617 (Choyce); U.S. Patent No. 4,624,669 (Grendahl); U.S. Patent No. 5,628,794 (Lindstrom); and U.S. Patent Nos. 5,196,026 and 5,336,261 (Barrett, et al.) provide several examples of this category. In addition, U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/908,230 filed August 7, 1997 entitled "Intracorneal Diffractive Lens", which is  
5 incorporated herein in its entirety by reference, discloses an example of an ICOL that has both refractive and diffractive powers.

Microsurgical instruments used for the implantation of such intracorneal implants have also been developed. For example, WIPO Publication No. WO 99/30645 owned by Keravision discloses a variety of instruments for surgically implanting ring-shaped  
10 intracorneal implants and ICOLs. These tools may be used manually, but are preferably used in cooperation with a vacuum centering device. The surgical procedures described in this publication require multiple instruments to form an intracorneal ring-shaped channel or an intracorneal pocket. In addition, the use of a vacuum centering device increases the expense of the surgical procedure.

15 Accordingly, a need exists for a microsurgical instrument that more effectively creates an intracorneal pocket for the implantation of an ICOL. The instrument should be easy for the surgeon to use, should maximize patient safety, and should be economically feasible. The instrument should eliminate the need for multiple tools for forming the intracorneal pocket.

#### 20 Summary of the Invention

A preferred embodiment of the present invention is an ophthalmic microsurgical instrument that includes a handle and a dissecting tip coupled to the handle. The tip includes a blade having a generally elliptical three-dimensional geometry. The blade may  
25 include an edge having a first arc and an opposing second arc. When the instrument is

used to form an intracorneal pocket, the curvature of the first arc allows the edge to dissect a first blind spot of the pocket, and the curvature of the second arc allows the edge to dissect a second blind spot of the pocket. The blade may also be formed with a first depression in its top surface and a second depression in its bottom surface. When the instrument is used to form an intracorneal pocket, the depressions reduce the drag on, and corresponding trauma to, stromal tissue.

#### Brief Description of the Drawings

For a more complete understanding of the present invention, and for further objects and advantages thereof, reference is made to the following description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings in which:

FIG. 1 is a side view schematically illustrating a microsurgical instrument according to a preferred embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 2 is an enlarged, side view of the dissecting tip of the microsurgical instrument of FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is an enlarged, top view of the dissecting tip of the microsurgical instrument of FIG. 1; and

FIG. 4 is an enlarged, top view schematically illustrating the creation of an intracorneal pocket using the microsurgical instrument of FIG. 1.

#### Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiment

The preferred embodiment of the present invention and its advantages are best understood by referring to FIGS. 1 through 4 of the drawings, like numerals being used for like and corresponding parts of the various drawings.

FIG. 1 illustrates a microsurgical instrument 10 according to a preferred embodiment of the present invention. Instrument 10 is preferably a lamellar dissecting tool for use in creating a corneal pocket incision for the implantation of intracorneal optical lenses (ICOLs). However, instrument 10 may be used for dissecting lamellar tissue at locations other than the eye. For convenience of description, but not by way of limitation, the present invention will be described hereinbelow with reference to a lamellar dissecting instrument 10 for use in creating a corneal pocket incision.

Instrument 10 includes a handle 12 and a dissecting tip 14. Handle 12 preferably has a generally cylindrical geometry and preferably includes a region 16 having a knurled or roughened surface to facilitate the gripping of instrument 10. Handle 12 may also have a generally flat region 18 that allows instrument 10 to be marked with identifying data. Handle 12 is preferably made out of conventional thermoset polymeric materials.

Dissecting tip 14 is coupled to a distal end 22 of handle 12. As shown in FIG. 1, such coupling is formed by an interference fit and/or epoxy. Alternatively, distal end 22 of handle 10 may include a conventional connecting hub (not shown) such as a collet or other clamping mechanism for removably coupling with dissecting tip 14. Such a connecting hub allows for the substitution of different blades or tips on instrument 10.

Dissecting tip 14 generally includes a neck 24 and a blade 26. Neck 24 has a proximal portion 25 and a distal portion 27. Distal portion 27 and blade 26 preferably have a common longitudinal axis 28. Proximal portion 25 and handle 12 preferably have a common longitudinal axis 29. Distal portion 27 preferably has a bend 30 to facilitate manipulation of blade 26 by a surgeon. Bend 30 positions distal portion 27 and blade 26 at an angle  $\alpha$  with respect to proximal portion 25 and handle 12. Angle  $\alpha$  is preferably from about 30 degrees to about 60 degrees, and is most preferably about 45 degrees.

Blade 26 preferably has a length of about 4 to about 5.5 mm, a maximum width of about 2

mm to about 3 mm, and a maximum thickness of about 0.48 mm. Most preferably, blade 26 has a length of about 4 mm, a maximum width of about 2 mm, and a maximum thickness of about 0.48 mm. Distal portion 27 of neck 24 preferably has a length of about 6.5 mm to about 8 mm, a width of about 0.75 mm to about 1 mm, and a thickness of about 0.48 mm. Most preferably, distal portion 27 of neck 24 has a length of about 8 mm, a width of about 0.75 mm, and a thickness of about 0.48 mm. Proximal portion 25 of neck 24 preferably has a length of about 10.3 mm, a width of about 2.8 mm, and thickness of about 0.6 mm. The length of dissecting tip 14 from the distal end of blade 26 to bend 30 is preferably about 10 mm to about 10.5 mm. Most preferably, this length is about 10 mm. Neck 24 and blade 26 are preferably integrally formed from surgical stainless steel or other conventional material used for microsurgical instrument blades.

Neck 24 and blade 26 are more clearly shown in the enlarged, side view of FIG. 2 and the enlarged, top view of FIG. 3. Blade 26 preferably has a generally elliptical, three dimensional geometry with a depression 32 on its top surface and a depression 34 on its bottom surface. As shown in FIG. 3, depression 32 preferably has a generally elliptical shape from a top view. Similarly, depression 34 preferably has a generally elliptical shape from a bottom view. Alternatively, blade 26 may be formed without depressions 32 and 34, if desired. Blade 26 has an edge 36 formed around its periphery. Edge 36 is preferably formed so that it is sharp enough to easily delaminate layers of corneal stroma during creation of an intracorneal pocket, but not sharp enough to easily cut the stromal tissue. Edge 36 is preferably formed with an edge radius between about 0.001 inches to about 0.025 inches, and more preferably about 0.005 inches. Depression 32 and edge 36 define a generally elliptical, convex, ring shaped surface 37 for contacting and delaminating the stromal tissue. Similarly, depression 34 and edge 36 define a generally elliptical, convex, ring shaped surface 39 (not shown) for contacting and delaminating the



stromal tissue. It has been found that when blade 26 having depressions 32 and 34 is used to create an intracorneal pocket, it exhibits less drag or friction on stromal tissues than a similarly shaped blade having no depressions 32 and 34. Reducing such drag correspondingly reduces the trauma to the stromal tissues, as well as the chance of accidentally tearing the stromal tissues.

Edge 36 preferably comprises three arcs 38, 40, and 42. Arc 38 includes the portion of edge 36 between a point 44 proximate distal portion 27 of neck 24 to a point 46 proximate a distal end of blade 26. Arc 38 preferably has a length of about 3.7 mm to about 5.2 mm. For example, in an intracorneal pocket having a diameter of about 8 mm that is created using a tunnel incision having a width of about 3 mm, blade 26 may have a length of about 4 mm, a width of about 2 mm, and an arc 38 having a length of about 3.7 mm. This length of arc 38 may be defined by moving a radius of curvature of about 4 mm through an angle of rotation of about 53.4 degrees. As another example, in an intracorneal pocket having a diameter of about 8 mm that is created using a tunnel incision having a width of about 3 mm, blade 26 may have a length of about 5.5 mm, a width of about 3 mm, and an arc 38 having a length of about 5.2 mm. This length of arc 38 may be defined by moving a radius of curvature of about 4 mm through an angle of rotation of about 74.2 degrees. Arc 40 generally opposes arc 38 and includes the portion of edge 36 between a point 48 proximate distal portion 27 of neck 24 and a point 50 proximate the distal end of blade 26. Arc 40 preferably has an identical length, and is preferably formed in an identical manner, as arc 38. Arc 42 includes the portion of edge 36 between points 46 and 50. Arc 42 prevents blade 26 from having a sharp distal tip that would be prone to cut, instead of delaminate, stromal tissue. The length of arc 42 is dependent on the separation between arcs 38 and 40. For example, if blade 26 has a width of about 2 mm, arc 42 preferably has a length of about 1.9 mm. This length may be

defined by moving a radius of curvature of about 0.8 mm through an angle of rotation of about 138 degrees. As another example, if blade 26 has a width of about 3 mm, arc 42 preferably has a length of about 2.0 mm. This length may be defined by moving a radius of curvature of about 1.0 mm through an angle of rotation of about 114 degrees.

5 Referring now to FIGS. 1-4, the preferred method of using lamellar dissecting instrument 10 to create an intracorneal pocket for the insertion of an ICOL will now be described in greater detail. As shown in FIG. 4, a human eye has a cornea 60 having a diameter of about 12 mm. Therefore, the diameter of an ICOL (not shown) must be less than 12 mm, is preferably from about 5 mm to about 9 mm, and is most preferably about 7 mm. Intracorneal pocket 62 for receiving the ICOL preferably has a diameter about 10 1 mm larger than the diameter of the ICOL. For the preferred ICOL having a diameter of about 7 mm, intracorneal pocket 62 has a diameter of about 8 mm. For convenience of description, but not by way of limitation, the preferred method of creating an intracorneal pocket with lamellar dissecting instrument 10 will be described with reference to an 15 intracorneal pocket 62 having a diameter of about 8 mm.

During the procedure, a surgeon uses an operating microscope to visualize the anterior aspect of eye. The surgeon first applies a topical anesthetic to the eye. A fine Thorton ring, a Kremer forceps, or similar conventional instrument is used to secure the eye from rotating. A conventional 8 mm optical zone marker is placed on the cornea 20 centered on the visual axis of the eye. A conventional 3 mm optical zone marker is placed on the cornea adjacent the 8 mm optical zone marker, preferably at the twelve o'clock position. The surgeon determines the thickness of cornea 60 at a center 63 of the 3 mm optical zone mark using conventional ultrasound pachymetry. The surgeon then sets a conventional surgical diamond knife to about sixty percent of the pachymetry 25 reading, and makes an incision parallel to the limbus at center 63. The surgeon creates a

tunnel incision 64 into cornea 60 at center 63 using a Paufigue Duredge knife, Suarez spreader, or similar conventional instrument. Tunnel incision 64 preferably has a width of about 3 mm, a length of about 1.5 mm, and a depth of about 0.25 mm to about 0.3 mm from the outer surface of cornea 60. The depth of tunnel incision 64 is preferably selected to dispose edge 36 of blade 26 at about the midplane of the desired intracorneal pocket 62. The surgeon removes the knife used to create tunnel incision 64, and inserts tip 14 of instrument 10 into tunnel incision 64, with edge 36 of blade 26 being disposed on the midplane of the desired pocket 62. Tip 14 preferably does not enlarge tunnel incision 64.

The surgeon then creates intracorneal pocket 62 using a series of arcuate, planar movements of tip 14. Because of the width of distal portion 27 of neck 24, the arcuate movements of tip 14 do not result in neck 24 contacting the sides of tunnel incision 64, avoiding trauma to stromal tissue. Due to the length of blade 26 and distal portion 27 of neck 24, tip 14 may easily reach the desired distal end 66 of pocket 62. In addition, due to the curvature of arcs 38 and 40, tip 14 can be used to create a circular pocket 62 even at "blind spots" 68 and 70, which are indicated by asterisks in FIG. 4. Edge 36 and surfaces 37 and 39 function primarily to dissect or delaminate stromal tissue. Depressions 32 and 34 function primarily to reduce the drag on, and associated trauma to, stromal tissue.

After formation of pocket 62, the surgeon removes tip 14 of instrument 10, and then implants an ICOL into pocket 62 using forceps or a similar conventional instrument. A topical antibiotic/steroid solution is placed in the eye after implantation. If the explanting of the ICOL is necessary at a later time, arc 42 of blade 26 is preferably sharp enough to re-open tunnel incision 64 after the incision has healed.

From the above, it may be appreciated that the present invention provides a microsurgical instrument that more effectively creates an intracorneal pocket for the implantation and explantation of an ICOL. The instrument is easy for the surgeon to use

and is relatively inexpensive. The instrument eliminates the need for multiple tools for forming the intracorneal pocket, simplifying the surgical procedure and maximizing patient safety.

The present invention is illustrated herein by example, and various modifications  
5 may be made by a person of ordinary skill in the art. For example, the length of blade 26 and neck 24 may be changed to accommodate the formation of intracorneal pockets having various diameters. As another example, the geometries of handle 12 and neck 24 may be different from that shown in the preferred embodiment. As a further example, the three dimensional geometry of blade 26 may be a shape other than an ellipse, as long as  
10 blade 26 has a generally elliptical shape from a top view. As a final example, although the preferred instrument is described hereinabove as a lamellar dissecting instrument for the implantation of an ICOL, the present invention is applicable to instruments used for dissecting lamellar tissue at locations other than the eye

It is believed that the operation and construction of the present invention will be  
15 apparent from the foregoing description. While the apparatus and methods shown or described above have been characterized as being preferred, various changes and modifications may be made therein without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as defined in the following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. An ophthalmic microsurgical instrument, comprising:  
a handle;  
a dissecting tip coupled to said handle, said tip comprising a blade having a  
5 generally elliptical three-dimensional geometry.
2. The instrument of claim 1 wherein said blade comprises a first depression  
on a top surface and a second depression on a bottom surface.
3. The instrument of claim 1 wherein said blade comprises an edge having a  
first arc and an opposing second arc.
- 10 4. The instrument of claim 3 wherein:  
said instrument is for creating a generally circular intracorneal pocket;  
a curvature of said first arc allows said edge to dissect a first blind spot of said  
pocket; and  
a curvature of said second arc allows said edge to dissect a second blind spot of  
15 said pocket.
5. The instrument of claim 2 wherein:  
said first and second depressions reduce a drag on stromal tissue when said  
instrument is used to create an intracorneal pocket.
6. A method of creating a generally circular intracorneal pocket for the  
20 implantation of an intracorneal optical lens, comprising the steps of:  
providing an instrument having a handle and a dissecting tip, said tip comprising a  
blade having an edge with a generally elliptical shape, said shape comprising a first arc  
and an opposing second arc;  
inserting said tip into an incision into a cornea;

creating said pocket by moving said tip in an arcuate, planar manner so as to dissect stromal tissue.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein said creating step comprises:

dissecting a first blind spot of said pocket proximate said incision with said first  
5 arc; and

dissecting a second blind spot of said pocket proximate said incision with said second arc.

8. A method of creating a generally circular intracorneal pocket for the implantation of an intracorneal optical lens, comprising the steps of:

10 providing an instrument having a handle and a dissecting tip, said tip comprising a blade having a generally elliptical, three dimensional geometry with a first depression in a top surface and a second depression in a bottom surface;

inserting said tip into an incision into a cornea;

creating said pocket by moving said tip in an arcuate, planar manner so as to  
15 dissect stromal tissue.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein, during said creating step, said first and second depressions reduce a drag on said stromal tissue.

10. A dissecting tip for an ophthalmic microsurgical instrument for creating an intracorneal pocket, comprising:

20 a blade having a generally elliptical three-dimensional geometry, a first depression on a top surface, and a second depression on a bottom surface.

11. A dissecting tip for an ophthalmic microsurgical instrument for creating a generally circular intracorneal pocket, comprising:

a blade having an edge with a generally elliptical shape, said shape having a first  
25 arc and an opposing second arc.

12. The dissecting tip of claim 11 wherein:

a curvature of said first arc allows said edge to dissect a first blind spot of said pocket; and

5 a curvature of said second arc allows said edge to dissect a second blind spot of said pocket.

13. An ophthalmic microsurgical instrument for creating a generally circular intracorneal pocket, comprising:

a handle;

10 a dissecting tip coupled to said handle, said tip comprising a blade having an edge with a generally elliptical shape, said shape having a first arc and an opposing second arc.

14. The instrument of claim 13 wherein:

a curvature of said first arc allows said edge to dissect a first blind spot of said pocket; and

15 a curvature of said second arc allows said edge to dissect a second blind spot of said pocket.

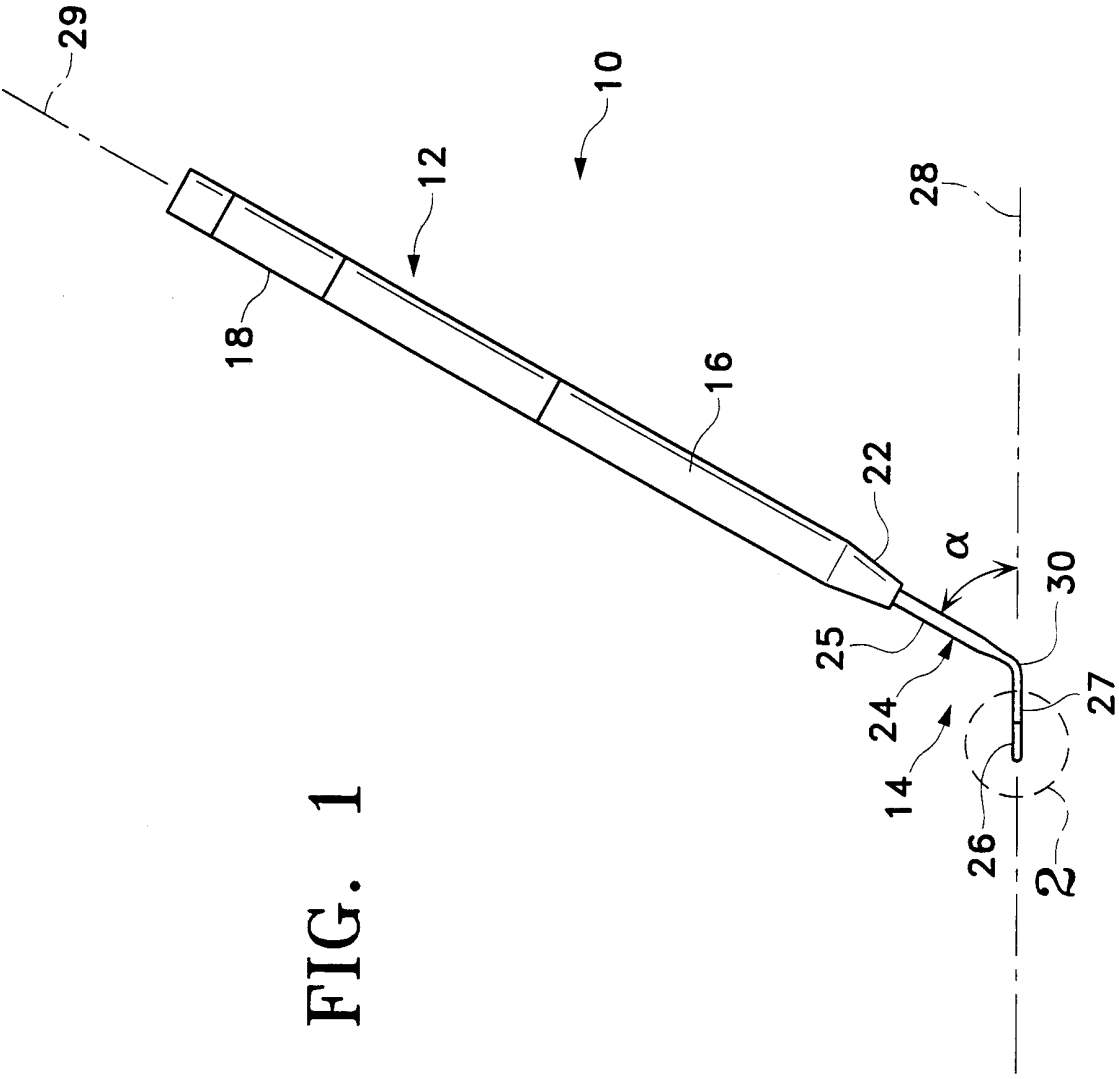


FIG. 1



2/3

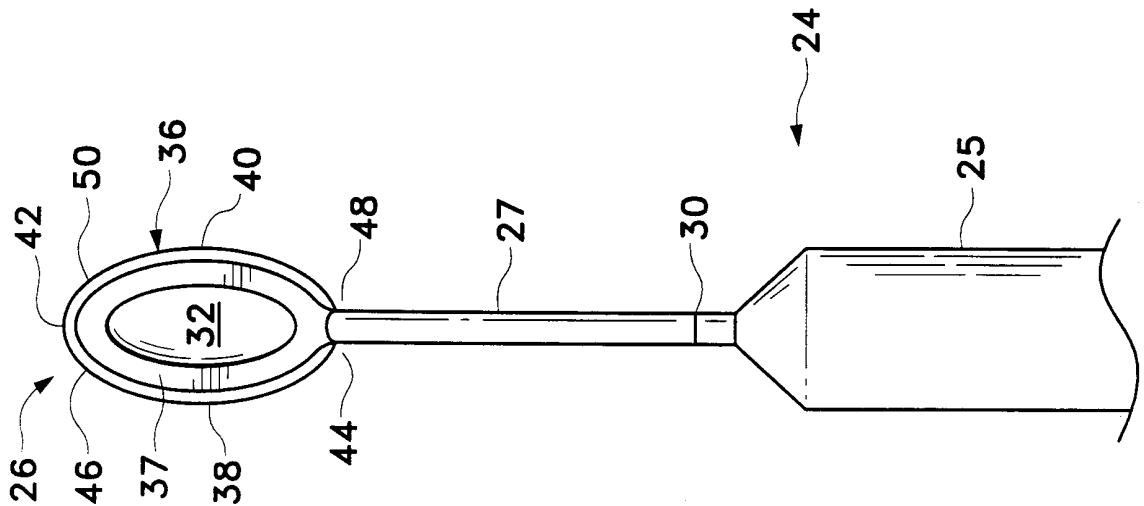


FIG. 3

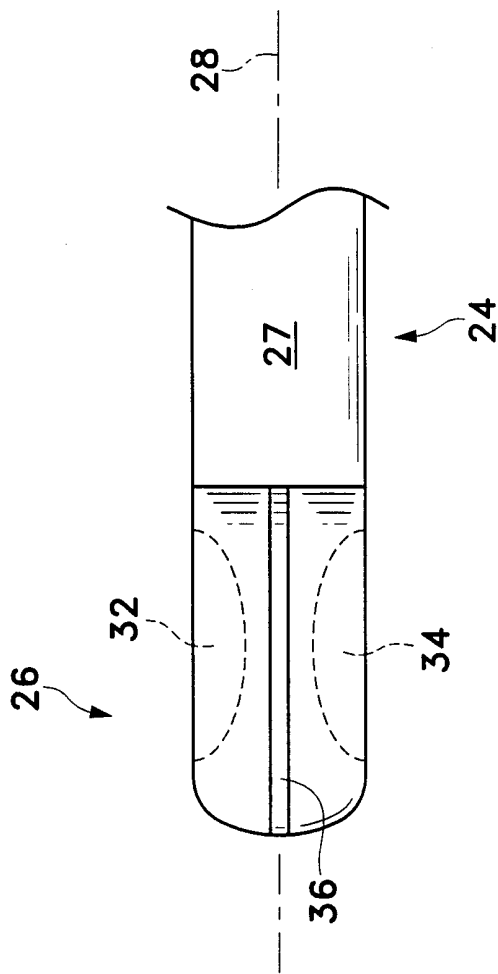


FIG. 2

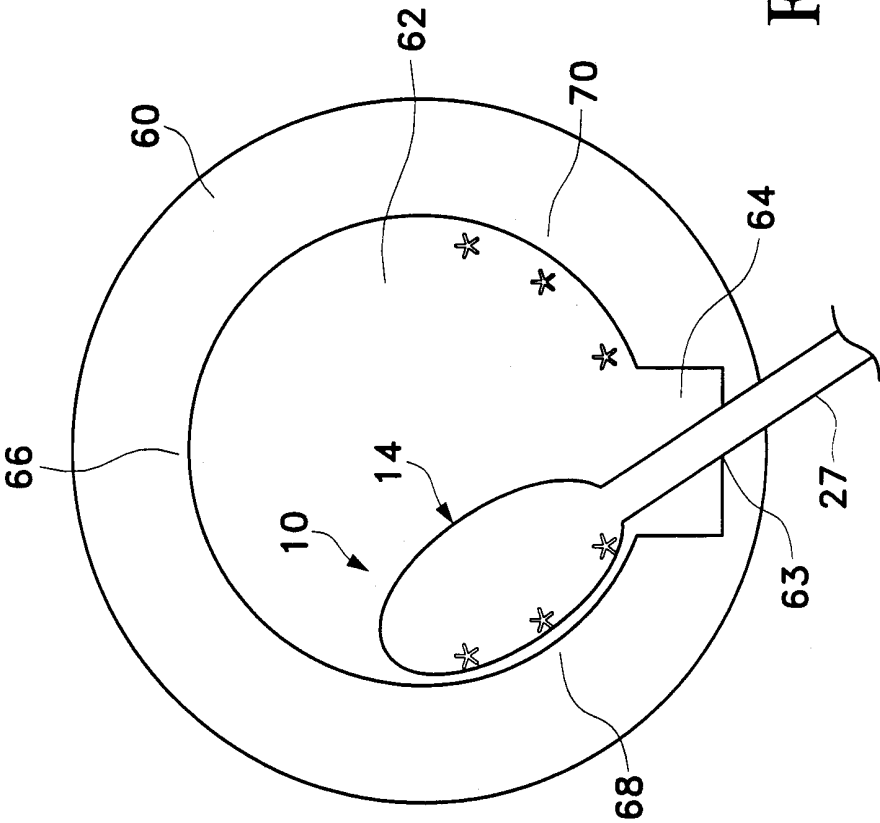


FIG. 4

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US 00/29911

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A61F9/013 A61F2/14

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 A61F

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 5 370 652 A (KELLAN ROBERT E) 6 December 1994 (1994-12-06) column 4, line 29 -column 5, line 30; figures 1,4 ---	1,3,4, 11-14
A	US 5 797 937 A (ICHIKAWA KAZUO ET AL) 25 August 1998 (1998-08-25) abstract; figures 16,17 ---	1,10,11, 13
A	WO 99 30645 A (KERAVISION INC ;SILVESTRINI THOMAS A (US)) 24 June 1999 (1999-06-24) cited in the application figure 5 ---	1,10,11, 13
A	US 4 887 598 A (BERKE JOSEPH J) 19 December 1989 (1989-12-19) column 6, line 49 - line 53; figure 17 --- -/--	2,5,10



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.
- \*Z\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

21 February 2001

Date of mailing of the international search report

28/02/2001

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

Moers, R

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Intel onal Application No

PCT/US 00/29911

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 98 03136 A (GANDIONCO ISIDRO MATIAS ;SCHOLL JOHN ANTHONY (US); KERAVISION INC) 29 January 1998 (1998-01-29) page 21, line 1 -page 22, line 10; figure 9 -----	1,10,11, 13
A	US 5 217 476 A (WISHINSKY DAVID H) 8 June 1993 (1993-06-08) abstract; figures 2,4 -----	1,10,11, 13
A	US 5 098 438 A (SIEPSE STEVEN B) 24 March 1992 (1992-03-24) column 5, line 8 - line 57; figures 6,7 -----	1,10,11, 13

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US 00/29911

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5370652	A	06-12-1994	NONE	
US 5797937	A	25-08-1998	JP 3081896 B JP 9038129 A	28-08-2000 10-02-1997
WO 9930645	A	24-06-1999	AU 2005599 A EP 1039849 A	05-07-1999 04-10-2000
US 4887598	A	19-12-1989	US 4791928 A AU 2071783 A DE 3390213 T EP 0120060 A US 4899742 A US 4961421 A US 4887599 A WO 8401096 A US 5441512 A US 5507764 A	20-12-1988 04-04-1984 13-06-1985 03-10-1984 13-02-1990 09-10-1990 19-12-1989 29-03-1984 15-08-1995 16-04-1996
WO 9803136	A	29-01-1998	AU 3805897 A CA 2259213 A EP 0959832 A	10-02-1998 29-01-1998 01-12-1999
US 5217476	A	08-06-1993	CA 2088009 A WO 9306800 A	26-07-1994 15-04-1993
US 5098438	A	24-03-1992	NONE	