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(54) **Title:** ELECTROFUSION MICROELECTRODE AND METHODS OF USING IT TO MANIPULATE CELLS AND/OR CELLULAR COMPONENTS

(57) **Abstract:** The present invention relates to an electrofusion microelectrode made of a tube having a first proximal end and a second distal end. The tube has an electrically conductive coating on its exterior surface that extends continually from the first proximal end of the tube toward the second distal end of the tube. Also disclosed is an electrofusion microelectrode unit having an electrofusion microelectrode and a holding tool capable of receiving the electrofusion microelectrode at the second distal end of the tube. The present invention also relates to a system having two or more electrofusion microelectrodes of the present invention and to methods of manipulating cells and/or cellular components using the electrofusion microelectrodes, units, and systems of the present invention.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US06/44394

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC(8): C12M 1/42(2006.01)

USPC: 435/285.2
 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)
 U.S. : 435/285.2

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
 NONE

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


C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4,371,273 (KENDALL et al.) 01 February 1983 (01.02.1983), column 6, lines 36-50, and Figures 1-9.	1,4,6-10,12,14 and 15

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

* Special categories of cited documents:	Symbol
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"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"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
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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

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