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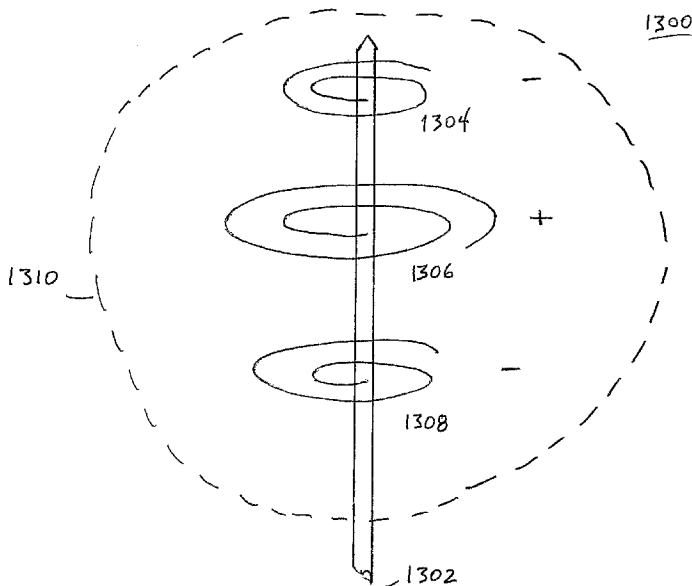
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(54) Title: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR THERMAL ABLATION OF BIOLOGICAL TISSUE USING SPHERICAL ABLATION PATTERNS



(57) Abstract: A tissue ablation device and method for tissue ablation are described. The tissue ablation device comprises an energy source and an introducer coupled to the energy source, the introducer having a body, a proximal end, and a distal end. The introducer carries an electrode array that comprises a plurality of electrodes, each electrode of the plurality of electrodes is configured to extend from the body of the introducer when moved from a retracted state to a deployed state. The electrode array is designed to encircle a portion of a target tissue when the electrodes are extended into the deployed state and to form a relatively spherical shaped ablation pattern in a tissue volume surrounding the target tissue when energized by the energy source.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
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B. FIELDS SEARCHED
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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 practicable, search terms used)
 USPTO WEST System (US, USPG-PUB, EPO, DERWENT)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6,287,304 B1 (EGGERS et al) 11 September 2001 (11.09.2001) entire document	1-23, 25-27, 31-35
Y		24, 28-30
Y	US 2003/0212394 A1 (PEARSON et al) 13 November 2003 (13.11.2003) entire document	24, 28-30
A	US 2004/0054368 A1 (TRUCKAI et al) 18 March 2004 (18.03.2004) entire document	1-35
A	US 2005/0010209 A1 (LEE JR et al) 13 January 2005 (13.01.2005) entire document	1-35

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