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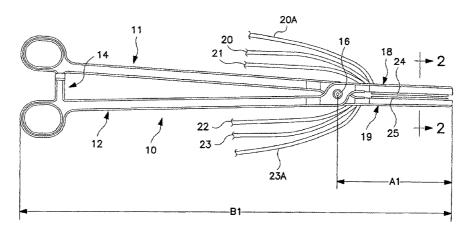
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(54) Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR TREATMENT OF ATRIAL TACHYARRHYTHMIAS



(57) Abstract: A method and system for ablating tissue to provide a desired set of lesions. The system includes an ablation apparatus having an elongated shapeable section carrying a mechanism such as an electrode for applying ablation energy along the shapeable section. The shapeable section includes a member of shape memory material having a memorized configuration. The shapeable section is shaped manually or using fixtures to display a configuration corresponding to one of the desired lesions and is then employed to create the desired lesion. Thereafter the shapeable section is heated to cause it to resume its memorized configuration. Shaping, heating and ablating to create lesions are continued as necessary provide the desired set of lesions. In some embodiments of the invention, heating may be accomplished using heating elements built into the shapeable section.



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int onal Application No PCT/US 02/39440

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 A61B18/14						
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B. FIELDS	SEARCHED currentation searched (classification system) followed by classification	on symbols)	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
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Documentat	tion searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that su	uch docume ints are included in the fields searc	hed			
Electronic da	ata base consulted during the international search (name of data base	e and, where practical, search terms used)				
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C DOCUME	ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT					
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Furti	her documents are listed in the continuation off box C.	Patent family members are listed in a	aniez.			
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l consid	ent defini ng the general state of the art which is not dered to be of particular relevance	cited to understand the principle or theor invention	y underlying the			
"E" earlier document but 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						
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of ano ther which is cited to establish the publication date of ano ther "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention						
cliation or other special reason (as specimely cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the cannot be considered with one or more other Such docu-						
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Date of the	actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search	report			
20 August 2003						
Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patent Iaan 2						
	Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo ni, Fax= (+31-70) 340-3016	Kurze, V.				

rnational application No.
PCT/US 02/3944

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Box I	Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)					
This Inte	This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Artīcle 17(2)(a) for the following reassons:					
1. X	Claims Nos.: 1-11 because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely: Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery					
2.	Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the international Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international Search can be carried out, specifically:					
3.	Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second a.nd third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).					
	Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)					
This Inter	national Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:					
	see additional sheet					
1.	As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.					
	As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.					
	As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:					
4. X	No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.: 12-14, 16, 17					
Remark c	The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest. No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.					

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 12-14,16,17

ablation apparatus with shape memory electrode and fixture means for shaping the electrode in various configurations

2. claims: 12,15

ablation apparatus with shape memory electrode with electrosurgical hemostat and shapable jaws

3. claims: 18-33

ablation apparatus with shape memory electrode and a heater

FURTHER INFOR MATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box I.1

Claims Nos.: 1-11

Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

nte onal Application No PCT/US 02/39•440

					
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