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(71) Applicant: WISCONSIN ALUMNI RESEARCH FOUNDA-TION [US/US]; Floor 13, 614 Walnut Street, Madison, WI 53707-7365 (US).

(72) Inventors: SWERDLOFF, Swart; 2309 Upham Street, Madison, WI 53704 (US). MACKIE, Thomas, Rockwell; 2310 Ravenswood Road, Madison, WI 53711 (US). HOLMES, Timothy; 18 Oak Glen Court, Madison, WI 53717 (US).

(74) Agents: BAXTER, Keith, M. et al.; Quarles & Brady, Suite 2550, 411 East Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53202-4477 (US).

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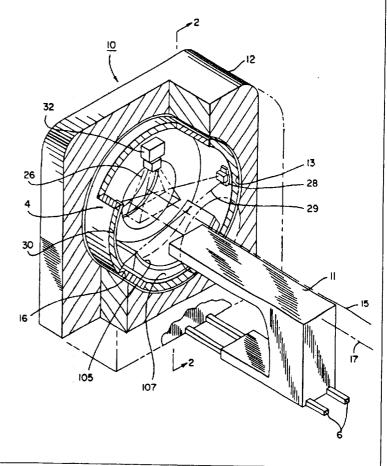
Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendmenis.

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(54) Title: RADIATION THERAPY SYSTEM

(57) Abstract

A radiation therapy machine having constrained angular freedom to produce a beam only within a gantry plane. A radiation shield may be stationary and not attached to the gantry or rotating to always block the primary beam. The constrained motion reduces the risk of patient/gantry collision and provides for extremely accurate radiation therapy planning. The therapy machine, so constrained, may include a tomographic imaging system on a single gantry. The two systems cooperate and employ many of the same hardware components to both plan and carry out therapy sessions in which irregularly shaped treatment volumes are accurately irradiated while tissue surrounding those volumes is minimally irradiated. The therapy machine also may include a collimator that changes the width of a fan beam of radiation as a treatment volume of the patient crosses the volume exposed by the beam so as to minimize the irradiation of healthy tissue at the front and back of the tumor. The width of the fan beam may be controlled to treat multiple adjacent, similar slices of the patient at one time reducing the treatment duration.



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PCT/US 94/06488 A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 5 A61N5/01 A61N5/10 A61B6/03 A61B6/00 A61N5/00 G21K1/04 H05G1/26 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) A61N A61B G21K H05G 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) C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Category ' Relevant to claim No. EP,A,0 037 008 (SIEMENS) 7 October 1981 A see abstract 2-4 see page 5, line 24 - line 27 see page 6, line 6 - line 18 US,A,4 660 799 (BUTLAND) 28 April 1987 X see column 3, line 27 - line 52 see claim 1 EP,A,0 113 879 (TOSHIBA) 25 July 1984 X 5,6 see page 4, line 20 - line 30 see page 5, line 16 - line 22 A see claim 1 7 -/--X Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. ΙX Patent family members are listed in annex. * Special categories of cited documents: "I" 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 "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "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 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) '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 docu-ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed in the art. "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 24 January 1995 0 5. 04. 95 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Ripwijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		PCT/US 94/06488		
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rnational application No.

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Box I	Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)
This i	nternational search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:
1.	Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
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Box I	I Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)
This I	nternational Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
3	Claims: 1- 7 2. Claims: 8-12 3. Claims: 13-15 4. Claim: 16
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3. 🕽	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.: 13-15
4. [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.:
Rema	The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest. X No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

...formation on patent family members

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