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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: APPARATUS FOR CREATING AN ANNULAR INCISION IN SOFT TISSUE

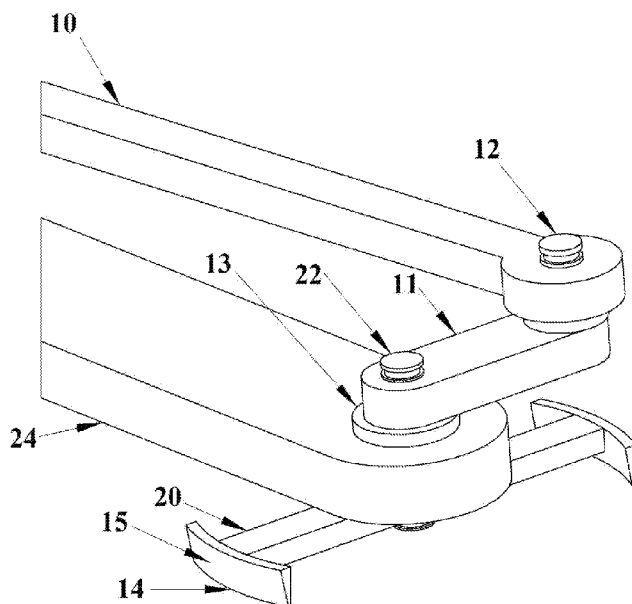


Fig. 1

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a device and method for cutting an annular piece out of the soft tissue of a selected mammal. The device can be utilized in surgical situations such as capsularhexis. The device comprises one or more blades which when rotated, cut an annular path.



DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT,
LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE,
SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA,
GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2012/028176**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER****A61F 9/007(2006.01)i, A61B 17/3209(2006.01)i, A61B 17/3211(2006.01)i**

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)

A61F 9/007; A61F 9/00; A61M 1/00

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Korean utility models and applications for utility models

Japanese utility models and applications for utility models

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

eKOMPASS(KIPO internal) & Keywords: capsulorhexis, annular incision, ophthalmic surgery.

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2010-0241130 A1 (JOSEF DELI et al.) 23 September 2010 See claims 1, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16; paragraphs 36, 37, 44-46, 47-51; figure 2.	1-14
X	US 2011-0029005 A1 (JOHAN T.W. VAN DALEN et al.) 03 February 2011 See claims 1-4, 13; paragraphs 1, 32-34, 43, 44; figures 6, 7.	1-14
X	US 05261923 A (CHRISTOPHER J. SOARES) 16 November 1993 See claims 1, 7, 10, 11.	1-14
A	WO 2009-153550 A1 (NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS NHS TRUST et al.) 23 December 2009 See abstract; page 16, lines 4-9.	1-14

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☒ See patent family 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 application or patent 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 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

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

29 AUGUST 2012 (29.08.2012)

Date of mailing of the international search report

30 AUGUST 2012 (30.08.2012)

Name and mailing address of the ISA/KR

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/US2012/028176

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 2010-0241130 A1	23.09.2010	AU 2010-228881 A1 CA 2756257 A1 CN 102361604 A EP 2410958 A1 KR 10-2012-0001774 A US 8075578 B2 WO 2010-109447 A1	06.10.2011 30.09.2010 22.02.2012 01.02.2012 04.01.2012 13.12.2011 30.09.2010
US 2011-0029005 A1	03.02.2011	US 8142459 B2 WO 2011-014575 A1	27.03.2012 03.02.2011
US 05261923 A	16.11.1993	None	
WO 2009-153550 A1	23.12.2009	GB 0811087 D0	23.07.2008

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US2012/028176**Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)**

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.: 15-18
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Claim 15-18 pertain to methods for treatment of the human body by surgery or therapy (PCT Article 17(2)(a)(i) and Rule 39.1(iv)).
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 and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
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.:
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.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.