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Office

**SUPPLEMENTARY
PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT**

Application Number

which under Rule 45 of the European Patent Convention EP 02 74 6349 shall be considered, for the purposes of subsequent proceedings, as the European search report

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	DELHOMME G ET AL: "Thermal Diffusion Method For Continuous Measurements Of Tissue Blood Flow And Tissue Water Content" ENGINEERING IN MEDICINE AND BIOLOGY SOCIETY, 1991. VOL.13: 1991., PROCEEDINGS OF THE ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE IEEE ORLANDO, FL, USA 31 OCT.-3 NOV. 1991, NEW YORK, NY, USA, IEEE, US, 31 October 1991 (1991-10-31), pages 2081-2082, XP010102158 ISBN: 0-7803-0216-8 * the whole document *	1-21	INV. A61B5/00
A	EP 0 273 768 A2 (BOWMAN HARRY FREDERICK [US]; NEWMAN WILLIAM H [US]) 6 July 1988 (1988-07-06) * abstract * * page 3, line 39 - page 4, line 6 * * page 8, lines 30-58 *	1-21	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			G01N
The supplementary search report has been based on the last set of claims valid and available at the start of the search.			
INCOMPLETE SEARCH			
The Search Division considers that the present application, or some or all of its claims, does/do not comply with the EPC to such an extent that a meaningful search into the state of the art cannot be carried out, or can only be carried out partially, for the following claims: Claims searched completely : Claims searched incompletely : Claims not searched : Reason for the limitation of the search: see sheet C			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 17 August 2007	Examiner Lahorte, Philippe
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	



Claim(s) searched incompletely:
1-8

Reason for the limitation of the search (non-patentable invention(s)):

The step of contacting tissue with a thermistor and energizing said thermistor is either explicitly or implicitly part of the subject-matter of method claims 1-8.

In view of the disclosure by the description (e.g. Fig 3; page 10, lines 4-7) said method step can be of a surgical nature (e.g. requiring the thermistor being introduced surgically into the living brain).

Consequently, method claims 1-8 comprise embodiments that fall under the patentability exclusion of Article 52 (4) EPC, first sentence.

The search relating to claims 1-8 has been limited to embodiments that are considered to comply with the requirements of Article 52(4) EPC (e.g. see description page 10, lines 7-14).

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 02 74 6349

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

17-08-2007

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 0273768 A2	06-07-1988	CA 1315568 C	06-04-1993
		DE 3752350 D1	23-05-2002
		DE 3752350 T2	28-11-2002
		US 4852027 A	25-07-1989

专利名称(译)	量化水肿的系统		
公开(公告)号	EP1392159A4	公开(公告)日	2007-09-26
申请号	EP2002746349	申请日	2002-05-07
申请(专利权)人(译)	热能技术股份有限公司.		
当前申请(专利权)人(译)	热能技术股份有限公司.		
[标]发明人	BOWMAN H FREDERICK MARTIN GREGORY T		
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IPC分类号	A61B5/01 A61B5/00 G01N25/18		
CPC分类号	G01N25/18 A61B5/01 A61B5/028 A61B5/4076 A61B5/4869 A61B5/4878 A61B2018/00797 A61B2018/00815		
优先权	09/854369 2001-05-10 US		
其他公开文献	EP1392159A2		
外部链接	Espacenet		

摘要(译)

提供了一种用于监测组织水肿的系统。在要监测组织水含量的位置处向组织供应热能，以在所选组织中产生热响应，其作为随水含量变化的组织的固有热性质的函数。组织水含量由热响应，供应的能量和组织水含量与热性质之间的关系确定。

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INCOMPLETE SEARCH			
The Search Division considers that the present application, or some or all of its claims, possibly not comply with the EPC to such an extent that a meaningful search into the state of the art cannot be conducted, or can only be carried out partially, for the following claims:			
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Claims searched incompletely:			
Claims not searched:			
Reason for the limitation of the search: see sheet C			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 17 August 2007	Examiner Lahorte, Philippe
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EP/INT/SEARCH/0201