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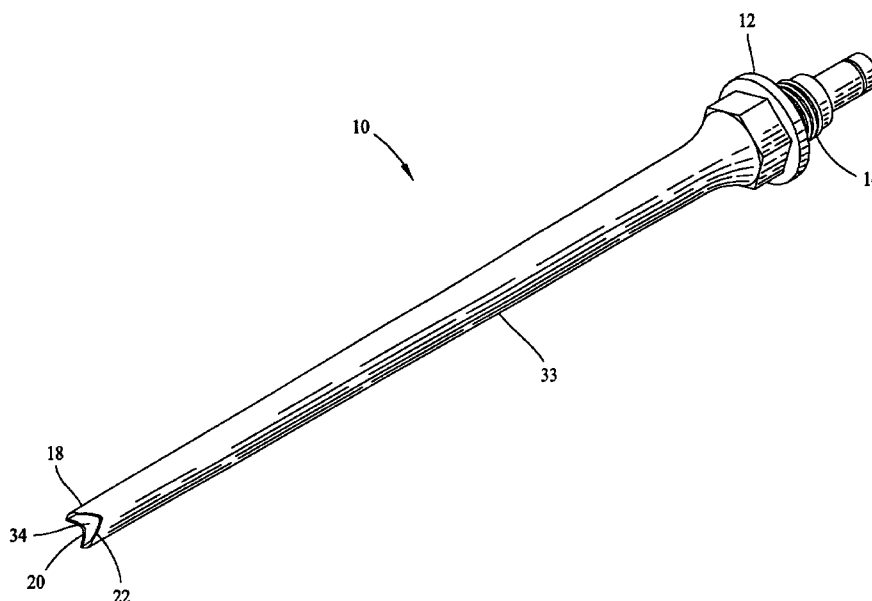
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- (71) Applicants and
(72) Inventors: **TIMM, Ed** [US/US]; 16425 Audubon Village Drive, Wildwood, MO 63040 (US). **AULD, Mike** [US/US]; 16201 Pepper View Court, Chesterfield, MO 63005 (US).
- (74) Agent: **KLUG, Kevin, L.**; 11237 Concord Village Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63123-6903 (US).
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(54) Title: HIGH EFFICIENCY ULTRASONIC SURGICAL ASPIRATION TIP



(57) **Abstract:** A high efficiency ultrasonic surgical aspiration tip apparatus and accompanying method for surgical use. The apparatus has one or more substantially "V" or "U" shaped cuts in a contacting. The apparatus and method of use provides a cutting action at the contacting end when the tip is ultrasonically excited. The apparatus and method of use further provides a substantially uniform ultrasonic and aspiration field due to the positioning and shape of the substantially "V" or "U" shaped cuts. The aforesaid further allows a surgeon to position the ultrasonic generator handpiece at any rotational angle for provision of the benefits cited.



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1 HIGH EFFICIENCY ULTRASONIC SURGICAL ASPIRATION TIP

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3 This application claims priority of Provisional Patent Application #60/284,913, filed 4/19/2001.

4
5 BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION
6

7 The art of the present invention relates to ultrasonic surgical devices in general and more
8 particularly to a high efficiency ultrasonic tip for use in neurosurgery and other surgical
9 disciplines. The use of ultrasonic aspirators in neurosurgery is well understood and recognized
10 in the field of neurosurgery. Ultrasonic aspiration provides for emulsification and in situ
11 evacuation of intracranial tumors. In this way, retraction of eloquent brain is minimized, while
12 disruption and removal of tissue is advanced.

13 Prior art ultrasonic aspirators typically utilize a tubular tip having a threaded connecting
14 end and a contacting end. The threaded connecting end attaches to an ultrasonic generator
15 handpiece which injects ultrasonic energy into the tip and further allows for aspiration through
16 said tubular tip. Said energy causes said tubular tip to elastically elongate and retract along the
17 tubular axis at a frequency corresponding to the ultrasonic excitation frequency of the ultrasonic
18 generator. Often the contacting end of said prior art devices is best described as a planar cut
19 perpendicular to the tubular axis of the tubular tip. In other words, the contacting end is simply
20 a flat cut at the tube end which is again perpendicular with the lengthwise tubular axis of the tip.
21

22 Prior art ultrasonic aspirators for neurosurgery rely solely upon the phenomenon of
23 cavitation to reduce tissue to its emulsified form. That is, the contacting end of said prior art
24 extends and retracts up to 350 microns at a rate from 20 to 50 kilohertz, thereby producing an
25 ultrasonic field which creates a low pressure cavitation zone at the contacting end. The resulting
26 low-pressure zone at the tip of the aspirator causes cell wall collapse and release of intracellular
27 fluid which creates an emulsate. Thereafter, said emulsate is aspirated through said tubular tip via
28 the action of an aspiration system connected inline with said ultrasonic generator handpiece and
29 said tubular tip.

30 This prior art method of emulsification and aspiration is extremely safe, as it maintains
31 some selectivity of destruction and limits disruption of tissues with low water mass. However,

1 there are times when this selectivity becomes problematic. Fibrotic meningiomas and calcified
2 tumors are minimally affected by the aforementioned cavitation phenomenon thereby dramatically
3 increasing operative time or in some instances completely prohibiting the use of ultrasonic
4 aspiration for their removal. Hence, the benefits of in situ evacuation are lost on these
5 pathologies. Likewise, tumors previously treated with radiosurgery can often find themselves
6 “welded” to surrounding pathology. (i.e. dura, bony prominences within the skull base, etc.)
7 Again, the aforementioned limitations of ultrasonic aspiration apply.

8 The present art utilizes an ultrasonic field to produce the aforementioned cavitation along
9 with a cutting action at the contacting end of the uniquely designed tubular tip. That is, the
10 present art provides in situ evacuation of the aforementioned intracranial tumors. The aforesaid
11 cutting is promoted at the ultrasonically excited contacting end when the contacting end is not
12 perpendicular to the tubular axis of the tubular tip. In other words, since the ultrasonically excited
13 contacting tip longitudinally extends up to 350 microns, a slicing or mechanical cutting action may
14 be promoted when the contacting tip has an angle relative to the tubular axis. Unfortunately, a
15 simple angle on the contacting end relative to the tubular axis does not promote efficient
16 aspiration or an optimum ultrasonic field.

17 The present invention represents a tubular tip having a “V” or “U” shaped cut or notch
18 within the contacting end which provides optimum slicing or cutting action while also maintaining
19 asymmetrical handpiece operation, an optimum ultrasonic cavitation field, and optimum
20 aspiration. That is, the present invention represents a tubular tip which is utilized in the
21 aforementioned prior art ultrasonic generator handpiece and provides the traditional ultrasonic
22 and aspiration benefits and allows a surgeon to use the ultrasonic handpiece in any rotational axis
23 position. The tubular tip has a connecting end and a contacting end, yet the contacting end is
24 uniquely shaped to provide the aforementioned cutting action. In a preferred embodiment, said
25 contacting end contains a substantially “V” or “U” shaped cut which provides the desired cutting
26 or slicing action along with a desirable locus for uniform aspiration and ultrasonic field generation.
27 The base of the aforementioned “V” or “U” cut is placed opposite the contacting end, or towards
28 to the connecting end.

29 Accordingly, it is an object of the present invention to provide a high efficiency
30 ultrasonic surgical aspiration tip having a contacting end which promotes mechanical cutting and

1 slicing of various tissues and other materials, including fibrotic meningiomas and calcified tumors.

2 Another object of the present invention is to provide a high efficiency ultrasonic surgical
3 aspiration tip having a threaded end which functions with prior art ultrasonic generator
4 handpieces, produces a substantially uniform optimum ultrasonic and aspiration field, and also
5 provides the desired cavitation.

6 A further object of the present invention is to provide a high efficiency ultrasonic
7 surgical aspiration tip which provides an asymmetrical ultrasonic generator handpiece operation
8 while also promoting efficient and convenient aspiration.

9

10

11

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

12

13 To accomplish the foregoing and other objects of this invention there is provided a high
14 efficiency ultrasonic surgical aspiration tip and method of using the same. The method and
15 apparatus provide for a unique and desired cutting or slicing action while further providing the
16 traditionally desired aspiration and ultrasonic field generation. In a preferred embodiment, the
17 apparatus is claimed in conjunction with a conventional ultrasonic generator handpiece of a
18 surgical aspirator and the method of use is claimed in conjunction with the action of surgical tissue
19 and tumor removal.

20 As aforementioned, in its preferred embodiment, the present art represents a tubular tip
21 having a connecting end, a contacting end, and a "V" or "U" shaped cut or notch within the
22 contacting end which provides optimum slicing or cutting action while also maintaining
23 asymmetrical handpiece operation, an optimum ultrasonic cavitation field, and optimum aspiration
24 through the interior tube portion of the tip. In the preferred embodiment, the base of said "V"
25 or "U" shape is positioned closer to the connecting end than the legs of the "U" or "V". That is,
26 the tips of the legs of the "U" or "V" represent the tip of the contacting end and face away from
27 the connecting end. In the preferred embodiment, the connecting end comprises a male threaded
28 portion which mates with a female threaded portion on the ultrasonic generator handpiece. Said
29 connecting end further comprises a shoulder, away from said connecting end and toward said

1 contacting end, which seats upon and with the mating end of the acoustic horn of the ultrasonic
2 generator handpiece of the aspirator. Alternative embodiments may utilize attachment methods
3 at the connecting end other than threads. These include but are not limited to mating pinned
4 portions, welding, sweated connections, soldered connections, brazed connections, mechanical
5 quick disconnects, and ball and detent connections.

6 Alternative embodiments utilize variations of the “V” or “U” cut in the contacting end.
7 That is, a first alternative embodiment contains multiple “V” or “U” cuts at the contacting end
8 which form in combination a serrated cut at the contacting end. Further alternative embodiments
9 embody an asymmetrical “V” or “U” shaped cut at the contacting end. That is, one leg of the “V”
10 or “U” is shorter or longer than the other. Still further alternative embodiments provide honed
11 or sharpened edges on said contacting end to further the aforementioned cutting action.

12 In all of the aforementioned preferred and alternative embodiments of the present art a
13 uniform and symmetric ultrasonic field is generated substantially near the contacting end and in
14 line with the tubular axis of the tip. This desirable feature is not present in prior art devices which
15 provide for or offer cutting action. That is, prior art devices have provided only a single or single
16 compound angular cut on the contacting tip which does not provide a uniform and symmetric
17 ultrasonic field at the contacting tip. That is, the prior art cut on the contacting end is
18 asymmetrical, thereby limiting the ultrasonic energy which is transmitted to the fluid, tissue, or
19 tumor in which it is embedded and further creating an asymmetric ultrasonic field in said medium.
20 An asymmetric field forces the user to rotate the ultrasonic generator handpiece to place the
21 ultrasonic field or cavitation at the desired location since the ultrasonic field does not radiate in
22 a uniform or half-sphere isotropic manner from contacting end.

23 The preferred and alternative embodiments of the present art also provide the desirable
24 optimum aspiration at the contacting end. Since the ultrasonic handpiece is substantially tubular
25 in nature, a surgeon typically desires to utilize the ultrasonic handpiece without concern as to
26 rotational position about the tubular axis. This is not possible with prior art tips which provide
27 for a cutting action. Since the present art contacting end maintains a substantially planar front at
28 the contacting end, aspiration and field generation occurs primarily inline with the tubular axis.
29 This again, allows the user to asymmetrically position the ultrasonic generator handpiece while
30 maintaining effective aspiration and ultrasonic cavitation effects. In toto, the present art maintains

1 all of the prior art benefits of optimum placement and generation of the ultrasonic field and
2 optimum asymmetrical aspiration while providing enhanced mechanical cutting action.

3 The present art tubular tips may be manufactured from a variety of materials which
4 provide the desired modulus of elasticity and a sufficiently high elastic limit to withstand the
5 transmitted ultrasonic energy. Materials include but are not limited to metals and their alloys of
6 steel, stainless steel, titanium, and super-elastic nickel titanium. Further manufacturing materials
7 include ceramics, composites, and plastics. The method of manufacturing the present art with the
8 “V” or “U” cuts include but are not limited to traditional machining methods or non-mechanical
9 machining methods such as laser cutting and electrical discharge machining (EDM).

10 The art of the present invention as contemplated is effective in the in situ evacuation of
11 intracranial tumors. However, it is also capable of in situ evacuation of intervertebral disc
12 material, thereby facilitating a minimally traumatic discectomy, and further use in ophthalmic
13 ultrasonic surgery. It is also specifically contemplated that the present device could be used in
14 general endoscopic surgery, including but not be limited to, surgery of the colorectal tract, biliary
15 system, thoracic cavity, and other pathologies not mentioned. A variant of this device could
16 further be utilized for intravitreal fragmentation of dislocated crystalline lenses.

17 In use, the surgeon or assistant, first installs the tip within the mating end of the acoustic
18 horn of the ultrasonic generator handpiece. In the preferred embodiment, this is by screwing the
19 tip into the mating end and applying the proper torque. Once installed, the surgeon may, if
20 desired or necessary for the surgery, place an irrigation sleeve or flue around said tip aft of said
21 contacting end before the operation begins. (The irrigation sleeve allows the handpiece to provide
22 irrigation fluid to the surgical site through the ultrasonic handpiece.) During the surgical
23 procedure, the surgeon places the contacting end onto or near the tissue or tumor which he or she
24 desires to remove. Once placed, the surgeon then energizes the ultrasonic generator handpiece
25 and the vacuum aspiration system if desired. The ultrasonic energy transmitted to the contacting
26 end then creates a uniform ultrasonic field relative to the tubular axis of the tip. This field is of
27 such high frequency and amplitude that the liquid or tissue surrounding it cavitates or breaks
28 down. This allows for removal of said material through the interior tube portion of said tip via
29 the aforesaid vacuum aspiration.

30

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Numerous other objects, features and advantages of the invention should now become apparent upon a reading of the following detailed description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the high efficiency ultrasonic tip of the present art showing the substantially "V" or "U" shaped cut.

Fig. 2 is a plan view of a preferred embodiment of the high efficiency ultrasonic tip showing the connecting end and the contacting end along with the substantially "V" or "U" shaped cut.

Fig. 3 is a plan view of an alternate embodiment of the high efficiency ultrasonic tip showing the connecting end and the contacting end along with the substantially "V" or "U" shaped cut.

Fig. 4 is a plan view of an alternate embodiment of the high efficiency ultrasonic tip showing "V" or "U" cuts at the contacting end which form in combination a serrated cut at the contacting end.

Fig. 5 is a plan view of a further alternative embodiment of the high efficiency ultrasonic tip showing "V" or "U" cuts at the contacting end which form in combination a serrated cut at the contacting end.

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of a preferred embodiment mounted upon a ultrasonic generator handpiece aspirator with the nosecone portion of the handpiece shown in phantom.

Fig. 7 is an exploded view of the contacting end of Fig. 2.

Fig. 8 is an exploded view of the contacting end of Fig. 3.

Fig. 9 is an exploded view of the contacting end of Fig. 4.

Fig. 10 is an exploded view of the contacting end of Fig. 5.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Referring now to the drawings, there is shown in FIGS. 1, 2, 6, & 7 a preferred embodiment of a high efficiency ultrasonic surgical aspiration tip **10** and in FIGS. 3 - 5 & 8 - **10** alternative embodiments of the same. The high efficiency ultrasonic surgical aspiration tip **10** is particularly adapted to provide cutting action when ultrasonically excited with an ultrasonic

1 generator handpiece **38** while further providing the desired symmetric and uniform ultrasonic field
2 and aspiration relative to the tubular axis **36** of the tip **10**.

3 The drawings show the apparatus comprising a connecting end **12** having a threaded
4 portion **14** and a shoulder **16**, a tube portion **33** having a tube axis **36** and an interior tube portion
5 **34**, and a contacting end **18** having a notch **20** with one or more symmetrical “V” or “U” shaped
6 cuts **22**, all of which function in conjunction with conventional ultrasonic generator handpieces
7 **38**. The tube portion **33** connects between said connecting end **12** and said contacting end **18**.

8 In its preferred embodiment, the present art represents a tubular tip **10** having a connecting
9 end **12**, a contacting end **18**, and a “V” or “U” shaped **22** cut or notch **20** within the contacting
10 end **18** which provides optimum slicing or cutting action while also maintaining asymmetrical
11 handpiece **38** operation, an optimum ultrasonic cavitation field, and optimum aspiration through
12 the interior tube portion **34** of the tip **10**. Asymmetrical handpiece **38** operation is further defined
13 as utilization of the ultrasonic aspiration handpiece **38** without concern as to the rotational
14 position of the handpiece **38** along its axis or the tubular axis **36** of the tip **10**. That is, the
15 surgeon need not rotate the handpiece **38** in order to align the cutting edges **32**, ultrasonic field,
16 or locus of aspiration with the evacuable tissue or tumor.

17 In the preferred embodiment, the base **24** of said “V” or “U” shape **22** is positioned closer
18 to the connecting end than the legs **26** of the “U” or “V” **22** and is cut completely across the tube
19 portion **33** symmetrically with the tubular axis **36**. That is, the tips of the legs **26** of the “U” or
20 “V” **22** represent the distal end of the contacting end **12** and face away from the connecting end
21 **12**. In the preferred embodiment, the connecting end **12** comprises a male threaded portion **14**
22 which mates with a female threaded portion **44** of the ultrasonic generator handpiece **38**. Said
23 connecting end **18** further comprises a shoulder **16**, away from said connecting end **12** and toward
24 said contacting end **18**, which seats upon and with the mating end **42** of the acoustic horn **40** of
25 the ultrasonic generator handpiece **38** of the aspirator. As aforesaid, alternative embodiments may
26 utilize attachment methods at the connecting end **12** other than threads, provided that said
27 connection is of such intimate nature that the ultrasonic energy may transmit from said handpiece
28 **38** into said tip **10**. The connecting end **12** may further have one or more flat surfaces on its
29 circumference which facilitate tool engagement for rotating and applying torque during

1 attachment with said ultrasonic generator handpiece **38**.

2 Alternate embodiments utilize variations of the “V” or “U” cut **22** as a notch **20** in the
3 contacting end **18**. That is, a first alternative embodiment contains multiple “V” or “U” cuts **28**
4 at the contacting end **18** which form in combination a serrated cut **30** at the contacting end **18**.
5 Moreover, the multiple cuts may be positioned around the circumference of said contacting end
6 **18** or may be completely through said contacting end **18**. Further alternative embodiments
7 embody an asymmetrical “V” or “U” shaped cut at the contacting end **18**. That is, one leg of the
8 “V” or “U” is shorter or longer than the other. Still further alternative embodiments provide
9 honed or sharpened edges **32** on said contacting end **18** to further the aforementioned cutting
10 action.

11 In all of the aforementioned preferred and alternative embodiments of the present art a
12 uniform and symmetric ultrasonic field is generated substantially near the contacting end **18** and
13 in line with the tubular axis **36** of the tip **10**. The preferred and alternative embodiments of the
14 present art also provide the desirable optimum aspiration at the contacting end **18**. As aforesaid,
15 since the ultrasonic handpiece **38** is substantially tubular in nature, a surgeon typically desires to
16 utilize the ultrasonic handpiece **38** without concern for rotational position of said handpiece **38**.
17 Since the present art contacting end **18** maintains a substantially planar front at the contacting end
18 **18**, aspiration occurs primarily inline with the tubular axis **36**. This again, allows the user to
19 asymmetrically position the ultrasonic generator handpiece **38** while maintaining effective
20 aspiration. Thus, the present art maintains all of the prior art benefits of optimum placement and
21 generation of the ultrasonic field and optimum asymmetrical aspiration while providing enhanced
22 mechanical cutting action.

23 In use, the surgeon or assistant, first installs the tip **10** within the mating end **42** of the
24 acoustic horn **40** of the ultrasonic generator handpiece **38**. In the preferred embodiment, this is
25 by screwing the tip **10** connecting end **12** into the mating end **42** and applying the proper torque.
26 Once installed, the surgeon may, if desired or necessary for the surgery, place an irrigation sleeve
27 or flue around said tip. The sleeve is typically placed aft of said contacting end **18** with said
28 contacting end **18** extending therefrom and provides a continuous pathway for delivery of
29 irrigation fluid. During the surgical procedure, the surgeon places the connecting end **18** onto or

1 near the tissue or tumor which he or she desires to remove. Once placed, the surgeon then
2 energizes the ultrasonic generator handpiece **38** and the vacuum aspiration system if desired. The
3 ultrasonic energy transmitted to the contacting end **18** creates a uniform ultrasonic field relative
4 to the tubular axis **36** of the tip **10**. This field is of such high frequency and amplitude that the
5 liquid, tissue, or material surrounding it cavitates or breaks down. This allows for removal of said
6 material through the interior tube portion **34** of said tip **10** via the aforesaid vacuum aspiration.
7 If the tissue or material is attached to a structure or unaffected by the ultrasonic field, the surgeon
8 places one or more of the edges **32** of said contacting end **18** onto the tissue or material and
9 allows the ultrasonic displacement and movement of the contacting end **18** to physically cut said
10 tissue or material. Again, the surgeon then evacuates the cut material through the interior tube
11 portion **34** of the tip **10**.

12 From the foregoing description, those skilled in the art will appreciate that all objects of
13 the present invention are realized. A high efficiency ultrasonic surgical aspiration tip apparatus
14 and an accompanying method of use has been shown and described. The apparatus of this
15 invention is able to provide cutting action with any handpiece rotation positioning while further
16 providing a uniform ultrasonic field and uniform aspiration.

17 Having described the invention in detail, those skilled in the art will appreciate that
18 modifications may be made of the invention without departing from its spirit. Therefore, it is not
19 intended that the scope of the invention be limited to the specific embodiments illustrated and
20 described. Rather it is intended that the scope of this invention be determined by the appended
21 claims and their equivalents.

22

23

1 What is claimed is:

2

3 1. A high efficiency ultrasonic surgical aspiration tip in combination with an ultrasonic
4 generator comprising:

5 an ultrasonic generator handpiece having a mating end; and

6 a tip having a connecting end, a contacting end, and a tubular portion between said
7 connecting end and said contacting end,

8 said tube portion having an interior tube portion and a tubular axis from said connecting
9 end to said contacting end,

10 said connecting end having means to connect and mate with said mating end of said
11 ultrasonic generator handpiece,

12 said contacting end having one or more substantially "V" or "U" shaped cuts, each having
13 a base and legs,

14 said "V" or "U" shaped cuts positioned onto said tube portion of said contacting end with
15 the base of said "V" or "U" shape positioned closer to said connecting end than said legs of said
16 "V" or "U" shaped cuts, whereby said "V" or "U" shaped cuts provide symmetric cutting action
17 relative to said tubular axis when said tip is ultrasonically excited by said ultrasonic generator
18 handpiece while further providing substantially symmetric ultrasonic field generation and
19 aspiration relative to said tubular axis.

20

21 2. The high efficiency ultrasonic surgical aspiration tip in combination with an ultrasonic
22 generator as set forth in claim 1 whereby:

23 said means to connect and mate with said mating end of said ultrasonic generator
24 handpiece comprises a threaded portion and a shoulder on said connecting end and a female
25 threaded portion within said mating end of said handpiece, whereby said threaded portion of said
26 connecting end mates with said female threaded portion of said handpiece and said shoulder seats
27 onto said mating end.

28

29 3. The high efficiency ultrasonic surgical aspiration tip in combination with an ultrasonic
30 generator as set forth in claim 1 whereby:

1 said one or more substantially “V” or “U” shaped cuts are placed at the circumference of
2 said contacting end and thereby form a substantially serrated cut at said contacting end.

3

4. The high efficiency ultrasonic surgical aspiration tip in combination with an
5 ultrasonic generator as set forth in claim 2 whereby:

6 said one or more substantially “V” or “U” shaped cuts are placed at the circumference
7 of said contacting end and thereby form a substantially serrated cut at said contacting end.

8

9. The high efficiency ultrasonic surgical aspiration tip in combination with an ultrasonic
10 generator as set forth in claim 1 whereby:

11 said one or more substantially “V” or “U” shaped cuts are placed through said contacting
12 end and thereby form a substantially serrated cut at said contacting end.

13

14. The high efficiency ultrasonic surgical aspiration tip in combination with an
15 ultrasonic generator as set forth in claim 2 whereby:

16 said one or more substantially “V” or “U” shaped cuts are placed through said contacting
17 end and thereby form a substantially serrated cut at said contacting end.

18

19. The high efficiency ultrasonic surgical aspiration tip in combination with an ultrasonic
20 generator as set forth in claim 1 whereby:

21 said one or more substantially “V” or “U” shaped cuts are placed through said contacting
22 end and thereby form a substantially “V” or “U” shape at said contacting end.

23

24. The high efficiency ultrasonic surgical aspiration tip in combination with an
25 ultrasonic generator as set forth in claim 2 whereby:

26 said one or more substantially “V” or “U” shaped cuts are placed through said contacting
27 end and thereby form a substantially “V” or “U” shape at said contacting end.

28

29. The high efficiency ultrasonic surgical aspiration tip in combination with an ultrasonic
30 generator as set forth in claim 1 whereby:

1 said one or more substantially "V" or "U" shaped cuts have one or more sharpened edges.

2

3 10. The high efficiency ultrasonic surgical aspiration tip in combination with an ultrasonic
4 generator as set forth in claim 2 whereby:

5 said one or more substantially "V" or "U" shaped cuts have one or more sharpened edges.

6

7 11. The high efficiency ultrasonic surgical aspiration tip in combination with an ultrasonic
8 generator as set forth in claim 1 whereby:

9 said one or more substantially "V" or "U" shaped cuts are positioned substantially
10 symmetric with said tubular axis.

11

12 12. The high efficiency ultrasonic surgical aspiration tip in combination with an
13 ultrasonic generator as set forth in claim 2 whereby:

14 said one or more substantially "V" or "U" shaped cuts are positioned substantially
15 symmetric with said tubular axis.

16

17 13. The high efficiency ultrasonic surgical aspiration tip in combination with an ultrasonic
18 generator as set forth in claim 1 whereby:

19 two or more of said legs of said one or more substantially "V" or "U" shaped cuts are of
20 different length.

21

22 14. The high efficiency ultrasonic surgical aspiration tip in combination with an ultrasonic
23 generator as set forth in claim 2 whereby:

24 two or more of said legs of said one or more substantially "V" or "U" shaped cuts
25 are of different length.

26

27 15. A high efficiency ultrasonic surgical aspiration tip in combination with an ultrasonic
28 generator comprising:

29 an ultrasonic generator handpiece having a mating end and a female threaded portion
30 within said mating end; and

1 a tip having a connecting end, a contacting end, and a tubular portion between said
2 connecting end and said contacting end,

3 said tube portion having an interior tube portion and a tubular axis from said connecting
4 end to said contacting end,

5 said connecting end having a threaded portion mated with said female threaded portion
6 of said mating end and a shoulder seated onto said mating end.,

7 said contacting end having a substantially "V" or "U" shaped cut having a base and legs
8 through said tube portion,

9 said base of said "V" or "U" shape positioned closer to said connecting end than said legs
10 of said "V" or "U" shaped cut, whereby said "V" or "U" shaped cut provides substantially
11 symmetric cutting action relative to said tubular axis when said tip is ultrasonically excited by said
12 ultrasonic generator handpiece while further providing substantially symmetric ultrasonic field
13 generation and aspiration relative to said tubular axis.

14

15 16. The high efficiency ultrasonic surgical aspiration tip in combination with an ultrasonic
16 generator as set forth in claim 15 whereby:

17 said substantially "V" or "U" shaped cut has one or more sharpened edges.

18

19 17. A method of cutting tissue or other materials with an ultrasonic generator during a
20 surgical procedure, the steps comprising:

21 forming a tip having a connecting end, a contacting end, and a tubular portion between
22 said connecting end and said contacting end, said tubular portion having an interior tube portion;
23 and

24 forming one or more substantially "U" or "V" shaped cuts in said contacting end; and
25 attaching said connecting end to a mating end of an ultrasonic generator handpiece; and
26 energizing said ultrasonic handpiece; and

27 placing said substantially "U" or "V" shaped cuts onto the tissue or other materials;

28 cutting said tissue or other materials; and

29 aspirating said cut tissue or other materials through said interior tube portion.

30

18. The method for cutting tissue or other materials with an ultrasonic generator during a surgical procedure as set forth in claim 17 further comprising:
sharpening some or all of said "U" or "V" shaped cuts to form a cutting edge.

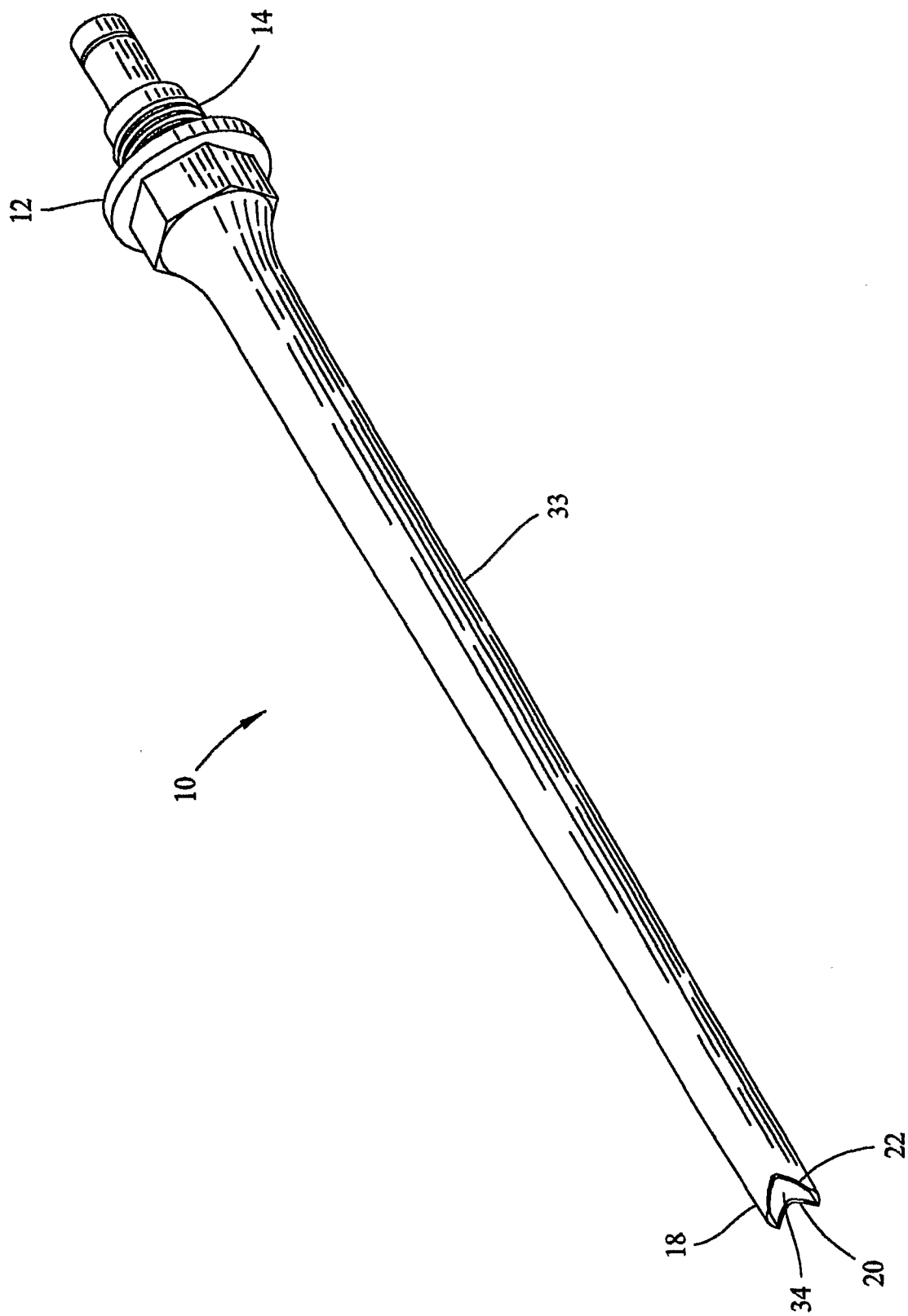


FIG. 1

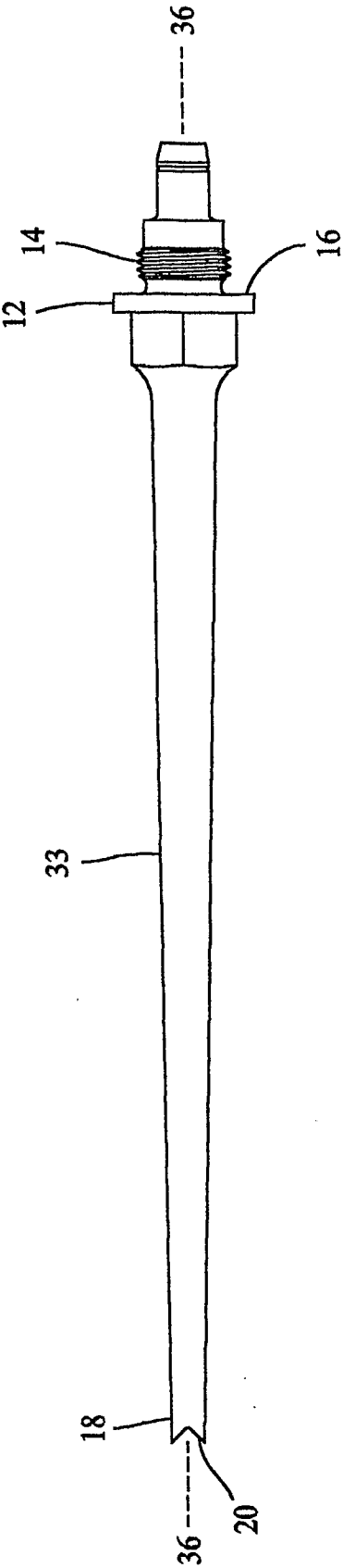


FIG. 2

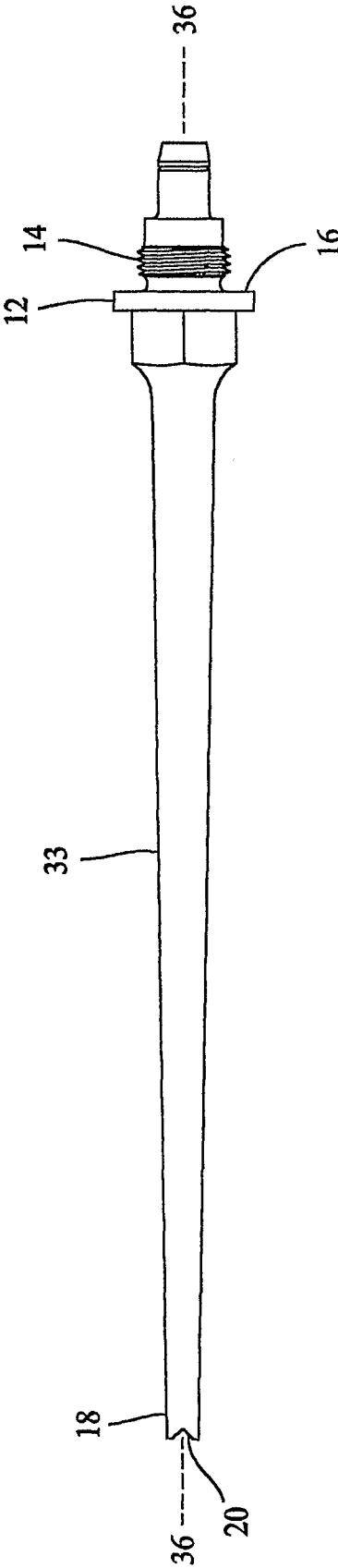


FIG. 3

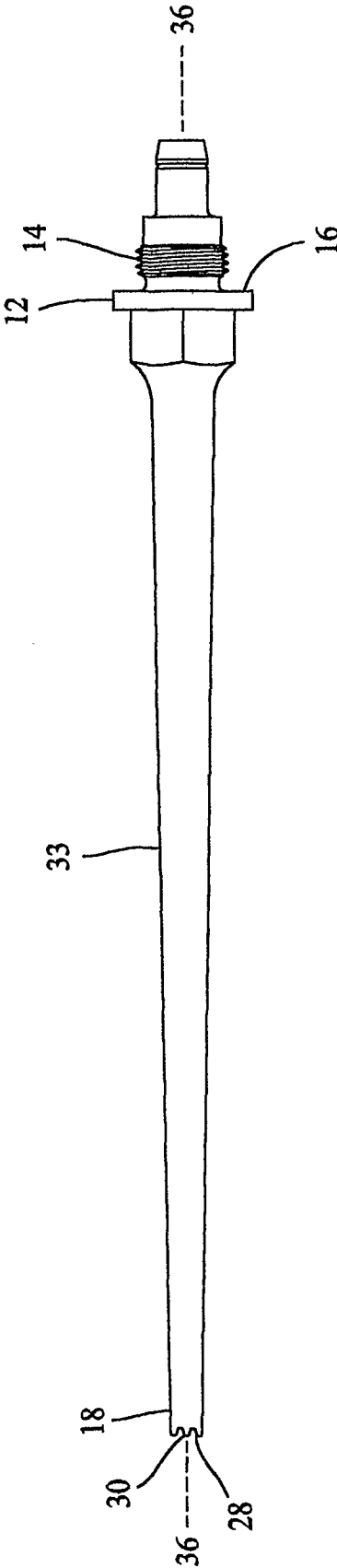


FIG. 4

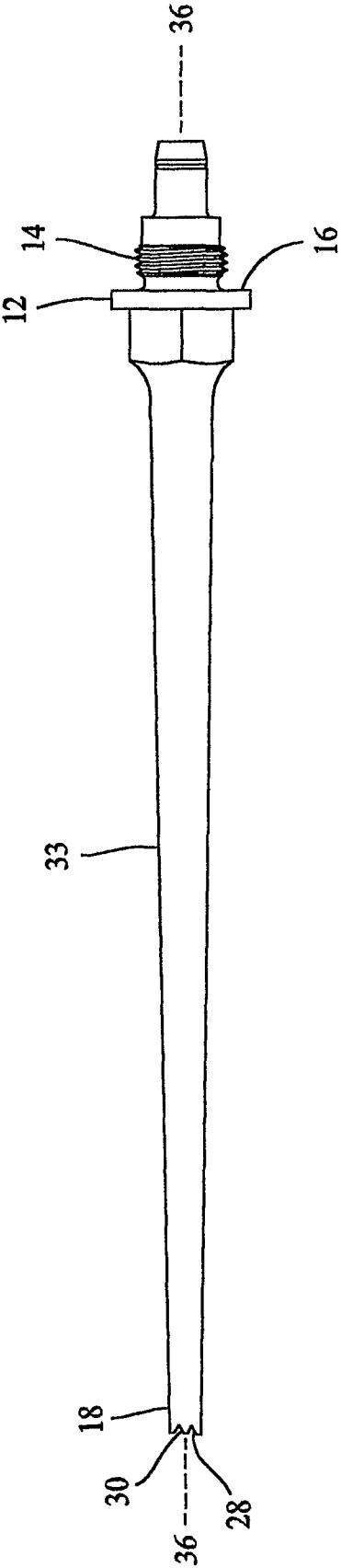


FIG. 5

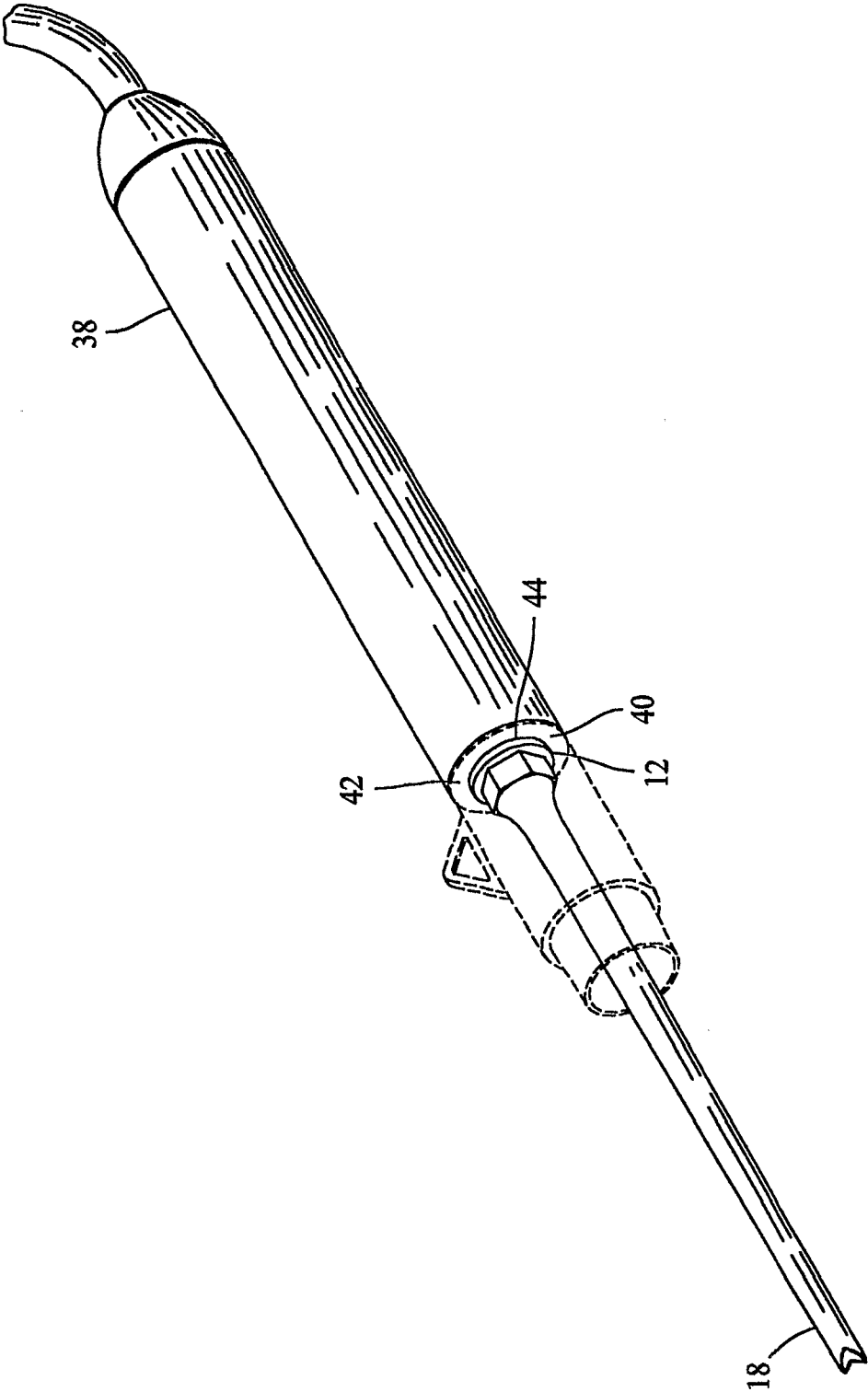


FIG. 6

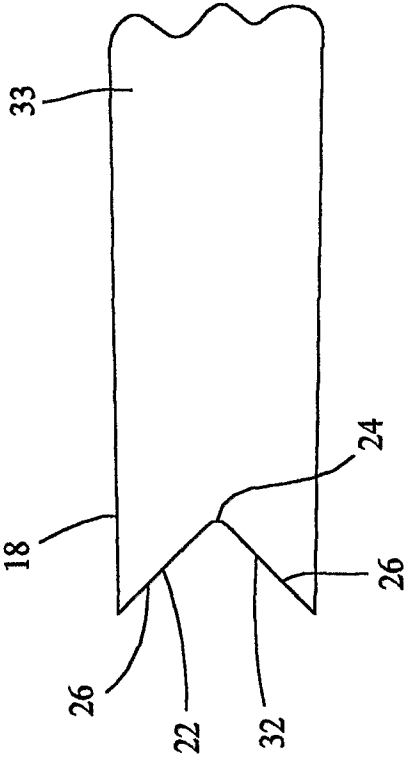


FIG. 7

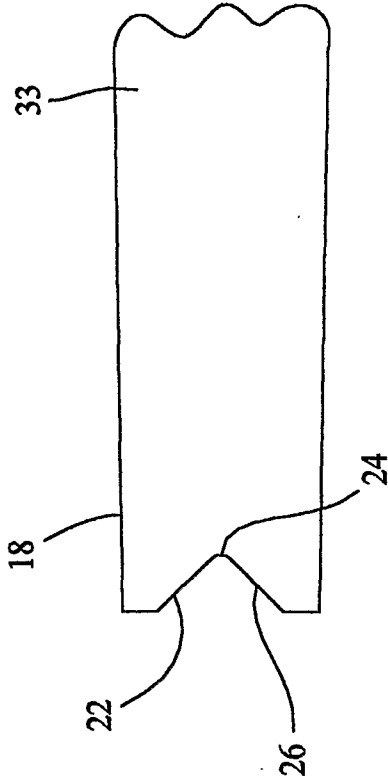


FIG. 8

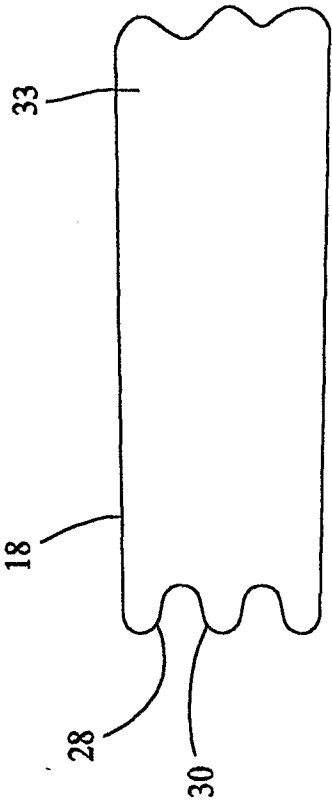


FIG. 9

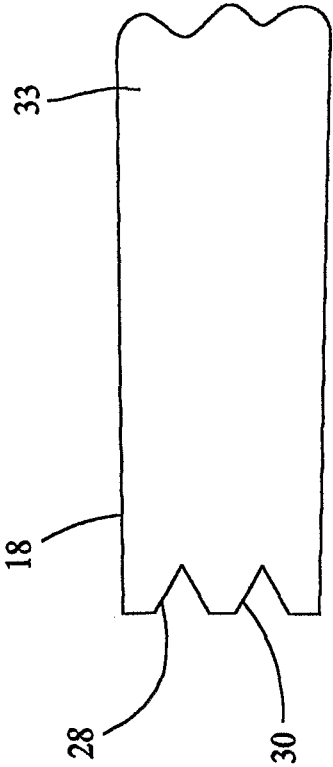


FIG. 10

专利名称(译)	高效超声波手术抽吸尖端		
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[标]申请(专利权)人(译)	TIMM ED AULD MIKE		
申请(专利权)人(译)	TIMM , ED AULD , MIKE		
当前申请(专利权)人(译)	TIMM , ED AULD , MIKE		
[标]发明人	TIMM ED AULD MIKE		
发明人	TIMM, ED AULD, MIKE		
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摘要(译)

一种高效超声外科手术抽吸尖端装置 (10) 及其使用方法。装置 (10) 在接触时具有一个或多个基本上“V”形或“U”形 (22) 的切口 (20)。当尖端被超声激发时，装置 (10) 和使用方法在接触端 (18) 处提供切割动作。由于基本上“V”形或“U”形 (22) 切口 (20) 的定位和形状，装置 (10) 和使用方法还提供了基本均匀的超声波和抽吸场。前述内容还允许外科医生将超声波发生器手持件 (38) 定位在任何旋转角度以提供所引用的益处。