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(54) **Multifunctional curved blade for use with an ultrasonic surgical instrument**

(57) The present invention relates, in general, to ultrasonic surgical clamping instruments and, more particularly, to a multi-functional curved shears blade for an ultrasonic surgical clamping instrument (120). Disclosed is an ultrasonic surgical instrument that combines end effector geometry to best affect the multiple functions of a shears type configuration. The shape of the blade is characterized by a radius cut to form a curved, and potentially tapered geometry. This cut creates a curved sur-

face including a concave surface (53), and a convex surface (57). The convex surface transitions into a short, straight, flat surface. The length of this straight portion affects, in part, the acoustic balancing of the transverse motion induced by the curved shape. Relative to straight blade tips, the tip curvature of the present design provides improved visibility of the transection site and improved access to targeted tissues.

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 10 17 9735

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	US 5 322 055 A (DAVISON THOMAS W [US] ET AL) 21 June 1994 (1994-06-21) * figures *	1,2	INV. A61B1/32
A	----- EP 0 908 152 A1 (ETHICON ENDO SURGERY [US] ETHICON ENDO SURGERY INC [US]) 14 April 1999 (1999-04-14) * figures *	1-17	
A	----- JP 11 113922 A (OLYMPUS OPTICAL CO) 27 April 1999 (1999-04-27) * figures *	1-17	

			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			A61B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 15 February 2012	Examiner Held, Günter
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			

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

EP 10 17 9735

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
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15-02-2012

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本发明一般涉及超声外科夹持器械，更具体地说，涉及一种用于超声外科夹持器械（120）的多功能弯曲剪刀片。公开了一种超声外科手术器械，其结合了末端执行器几何形状以最好地影响剪切型构造的多种功能。刀片的形状的特征在于半径切割以形成弯曲的且可能锥形的几何形状。该切口形成包括凹面（53）和凸面（57）的曲面。凸面过渡成短而直的平坦表面。该直线部分的长度部分地影响由弯曲形状引起的横向运动的声学平衡。相对于直刀片尖端，本设计的尖端曲率提供了横切部位的改善的可见性和改善了对目标组织的接近。

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EUROPEAN PATENT REQUEST			
DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
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			TECHNICAL FIELD (IPC)
			A61B
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Name of candidate		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
Munch		15 February 2012	Held, Günter
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
1	particularly relevant if taken alone substantially relevant if considered with another relevant if considered with another non-relevant if considered alone non-relevant if considered with another		
2	1. source or priority including the document after the filing date 2. document cited in the application 3. document cited in the application 4. document of the same patent or corresponding document		