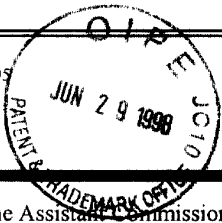


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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark Office

To the Assistant Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks: Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party(ies): **NEO**  
Stuart D. Edwards  
6-29-98  
Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached?  Yes  No

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):  
**Name: Oratec Interventions, Inc.**  
**Street Address: 3700 Haven Court**  
**City: Menlo Park, State: CA Zip: 94025**

3. Nature of conveyance:  
 Assignment  Merger  
 Security Agreement  Change of Name  
 Other  
Execution Date: May 12, 1998

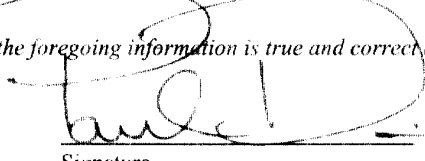
Additional name(s) & address(es) attached?  
 Yes  No

4. Application number(s) or patent number(s):  
If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is:  
A. Patent Application No.(s): 08/637,095  
B. Patent No.(s):  
Additional numbers attached?  Yes  No

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:  
**Name: Paul Davis**  
**Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati**  
**650 Page Mill Road**  
**Palo Alto, CA 94304-1050**

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: [1]  
7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41) ..... \$40.00  
 Enclosed  
 Authorized to be charged to deposit account  
8. Deposit account number: 23-2415  
(Attorney Docket No. 17616-784)

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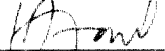
9. Statement and signature.  
*To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document.*  
Paul Davis, Reg. No. 29,294  
Name of Person Signing  
 Signature  
6/23/98 Date

07/13/1998 DCDATES 00000223 232415 08637095  
01 FC:581 40.00 CH

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments and document: [3]

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited postage prepaid, with the United States Postal Service as "First Class Mail" in an envelope addressed to the **Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231** on 6/23/98

 (Signature)

By: HELEN FORD (Type Name)

**PATENT**  
**REEL: 9298 FRAME: 0704**

**SOLE TO CORPORATE ASSIGNMENT**

WHEREAS, the undersigned, Stuart D. Edwards, (hereinafter termed "Inventor"), having a residence at 658 Westridge, Portola Valley, CA 94028, City of Portola Valley, County of San Mateo, State of California, has invented certain new and useful improvements in:

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONTROLLED CONTRACTION OF SOFT TISSUE**

and has executed a declaration or oath for an application for a United States patent disclosing and identifying the invention:

\_\_\_ On the \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_;

Or

X Said application having Application Number 08/637,095 and filed on the 24th day of April, 1996.

WHEREAS Oratec Interventions, Inc., (hereinafter termed "Assignee"), a corporation of California, having a place of business at 3700 Haven Court, Menlo Park, CA 94025, wishes to acquire the entire right, title and interest in and to said application and the invention disclosed therein, and in and to all embodiments of the invention, heretofore conceived, made or discovered by said Inventor (hereinafter termed "said invention"), and in and to any and all patents, certificates of invention and other forms of protection thereon (hereinafter termed "patents") applied for or granted in the United States and/or other countries.

NOW THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration acknowledged by said Inventor to have been received in full from said Assignee:

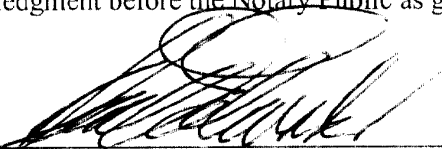
1. Said Inventor does hereby sell, assign, transfer and convey to said Assignee, the entire right, title and interest (a) in and to said application and said invention; (b) in and to all rights to apply in any or all countries of the world for patents, certificates of inventions or other governmental grants on said invention, including the right to apply for patents pursuant to the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property or pursuant to any other convention, treaty, agreement or understanding; (c) in and to any and all applications filed and any and all patents, certificates of inventions or other governmental grants granted on said invention in the United States or any other country, including each and every application filed and each and every patent granted on any application which is a division, substitution, or continuation of any of said applications; (d) in and to each and every reissue or extension of any of said patents; and (e) in and to each and every patent claim resulting from a reexamination certificate for any and all of said patents.

2. Said Inventor hereby covenants and agrees to cooperate with said Assignee to enable said Assignee to enjoy to the fullest extent the right, title and interest herein conveyed in the United States and other countries. Such cooperation by said Inventor shall include prompt production of pertinent facts and documents, giving of testimony, executing of petitions, oaths, specifications, declarations or other papers, and other assistance all to the extent deemed necessary or desirable by said Assignee (a) for perfecting in said Assignee the right, title and interest herein conveyed; (b) for complying with any duty of disclosure; (c) for prosecuting any of said applications; (d) for filing and prosecuting substitute, divisional, continuing or additional applications covering said invention; (e) for filing and prosecuting applications for reissue of any of said patents; (f) for interference or other priority proceedings involving said invention; and (g) for legal proceedings involving said invention and any applications therefor and any patents granted thereon, including without limitation opposition proceedings, cancellation proceedings, priority contests, public use proceedings, reexamination proceedings, compulsory licensing proceedings, infringement actions and court actions; provided, however, that the expense incurred by said Inventor in providing such cooperation shall be paid for by said Assignee.

3. The terms and covenants of this Assignment shall inure to the benefit of said Assignee, its successors, assigns and other legal representatives, and shall be binding upon said Inventor, and his or her heirs, legal representatives and assigns.


4. Said Inventor hereby warrants and represents that the inventor has not entered and will not enter into any assignment, contract, or understanding in conflict herewith.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said Inventor has executed and delivered this instrument to said Assignee on the date of acknowledgment before the Notary Public as given below.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Stuart D. Edwards

State of CALIFORNIA )  
County of SAN MATEO )

On 5.12.98 before me, CONSTANCE E. BLACK, personally appeared Stuart D. Edwards, personally known to me (or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence) to be the person(s) whose name(s) is/are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she/they executed the same in his/her/their authorized capacity(ies), and that by his/her/their signature(s) on the instrument the person(s), or the entity upon behalf of which the person(s) acted, executed the instrument.

WITNESS my hand and official seal.   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature