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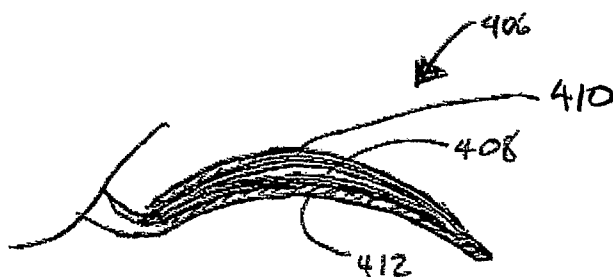
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(54) Title: EPITHELIAL POCKET EXPANDING TOOL AND COMBINATION EPITHELIAL DELAMINATING DEVICE AND CORNEAL REFORMER



(57) Abstract: The described devices are useful in the field of ophthalmology. The devices and methods for using them involve separating or lifting corneal epithelium from the eye in a substantially continuous layer to form a flap or pocket. In particular, the devices generally utilize a non-cutting separator or dissector that is configured to separate the epithelium at naturally occurring cleavage surfaces in the eye, particularly between the epithelium and the corneal stroma (Bowman's membrane), specifically separating in the region of the lamina lucida. The dissector may oscillate during the noted separation. The separator or dissector may also have a structure that ex-

pands the epithelial pocket after formation. Independently, the separator or dissector may also include structure that alone or in combination with various energy sources, reforms the underlying cornea in a refractive procedure or treats other maladies. After such steps, the epithelium tissue member may then be replaced on the cornea or onto an ocular lens after placement of that ocular lens on the eye.



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