TISSUE ARRAY INSTRUMENT

ABSTRACT

Arrays of biological tissue can be created by removing cores from regions of interest in a series of donor blocks (16) of embedded tissues. The cores removed are placed in a regular array in a recipient block (15). This is typically done with two different punches, one for obtaining the cores of interest and the other for creating the receiving holes in the recipient block (15). The present invention comprises such a system including two separate z axes, one for each punch. Each punch has its own stylet and the axis of each punch is parallel to the axis of its drive. Alternatively, the invention is made by providing a single z axis, with a mechanism for automatically changing two or more punches in and out of a holder on the z axis.

Figure 1