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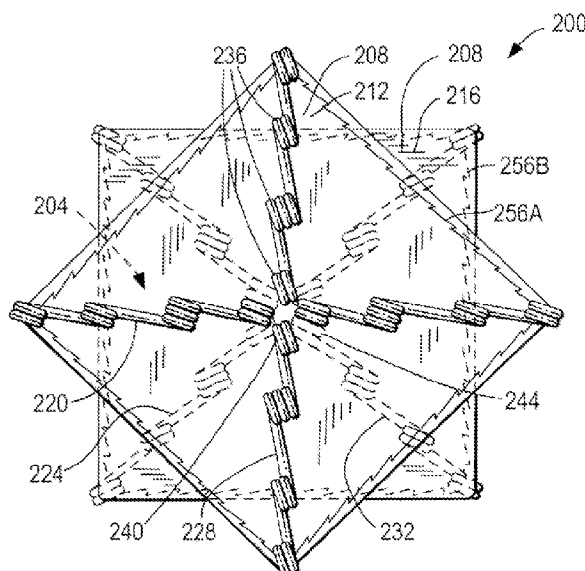
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(57) Abstract: Cultured tissue constructs comprising cultured cells and endogenously produced extracellular matrix components without the requirement of exogenous matrix components or network support or scaffold members. Some tissue constructs of the invention are comprised of multiple cell layers or more than one cell type. The tissue constructs of the invention have morphological features and functions similar to tissues their cells are derived and their strength makes them easily handleable. Preferred cultured tissue constructs of the invention are prepared in defined media, that is, without the addition of chemically undefined components. These tissue constructs are used to repair cardiac tissues.

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