

We claim:

1. A device for performing an anterior capsulotomy procedure, comprising:
 - a body having a proximal end and a distal end;
 - a rotatable cutting element;
 - a pinion rotatably attached to and extending outwardly from said body and having a circumference, wherein said arcuate member is attached to a distal end of said pinion;
 - a first set of gear teeth disposed around a portion of said circumference;
 - a shaft slideably disposed within said body and comprising a distal end and a proximal end, wherein said shaft is moveable between a forward position and a rearward position;
 - a second set of gear teeth disposed along said distal end of said shaft, wherein said first set of gear teeth intermesh with said second set of gear teeth;
 - an actuator extending outwardly from said body, wherein the actuator is movable between a first actuator position and a second actuator position;
 - wherein when said actuator is moved from said first actuator position to said second actuator position said shaft moves from said forward position to said rearward position causing said pinion to rotate said arcuate member.
2. The device of claim 1, wherein said rotatable cutting element comprises:
 - a plurality of surgical blades and an arcuate member, wherein the arcuate member has a first end, a second end, a first surface, and a second surface, wherein the first end of the arcuate member opposes the second end of the arcuate member, wherein the first surface opposes the second surface, wherein a first surgical blade is attached to the first end of the arcuate member and extends outwardly therefrom.
3. The device of Claim 2, wherein the arcuate member can be rotated about 362 degrees.
4. The device of Claim 2, wherein a second surgical blade is attached to the second end of the arcuate member and extends outwardly there from.
5. The device of Claim 4, wherein the arcuate member can be rotated about 182 degrees.
6. The device of Claim 1, wherein the actuator is manually operated.

7. The device of Claim 1, wherein the device can only be used a single time.
8. The device of Claim 1, wherein said shaft comprises a bendable elastomer.
9. The device of claim 1, wherein said shaft comprises a metal strip.
10. A method of performing an anterior capsulotomy, the method comprising:
making an incision in an eye;
providing a device comprising:
 - a body having a proximal end and a distal end;
 - a rotatable cutting element;
 - a pinion rotatably attached to and extending outwardly from said body and having a circumference, wherein said arcuate member is attached to a distal end of said pinion;
 - a first set of gear teeth disposed around a portion of said circumference;
 - a shaft slideably disposed within said body and comprising a distal end and a proximal end, wherein said shaft is moveable between a forward position and a rearward position;
 - a second set of gear teeth disposed along said distal end of said shaft, wherein said first set of gear teeth intermesh with said second set of gear teeth;
 - an actuator, wherein the actuator is movable between a first actuator position and a second actuator position;
 - wherein when said actuator is moved from said first actuator position to said second actuator position said shaft moves from said forward position to said rearward position causing said pinion to rotate said arcuate member.
inserting a portion of said rotatable cutting element into the incision; and
transforming the anterior capsule wall by moving the actuator from the first actuator position to the second actuator position to create an aperture there through
11. The method of claim 10, wherein said rotatable cutting element comprises:
a plurality of surgical blades and an arcuate member, wherein the arcuate member has a first end, a second end, a first surface, and a second surface, wherein the first end of the arcuate member opposes the second end of the arcuate member, wherein the first surface opposes the second surface, wherein a first surgical blade is attached to the first end of the arcuate member and extends outwardly therefrom.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the arcuate member can be rotated about 362 degrees.
13. The method of Claim 10, wherein a second surgical blade is attached to the second end of the arcuate member and extends outwardly there from.
14. The method of claim 13, wherein the arcuate member can be rotated about 182 degrees.
15. The method of Claim 10, wherein said shaft comprises a bendable elastomer.
16. The method of claim 10, wherein said shaft comprises a metal strip.
17. The method of Claim 10, further comprises disposing of said device after a single use.

CLAIMS

1. A device for performing an anterior capsulotomy procedure, comprising:
 - a body comprising an arm attached to and extending outwardly from a first end of a handle portion, and formed to include an arm cavity formed in said arm, an activation slot formed through a side of said handle portion and in communication with said arm cavity, a pivot member integrally formed within said activation slot, and a handle cavity extending through a second end of said handle, wherein said arm cavity and said activation slot are not located within said handle cavity;
 - a rotatable cutting element;
 - a pinion rotatably attached to and extending outwardly from said body and having a circumference, wherein said arcuate member is attached to a distal end of said pinion;
 - a first set of gear teeth disposed around a portion of said circumference;
 - a shaft slideably disposed within said arm cavity and comprising a distal end and a proximal end, wherein:
 - said shaft is moveable between a forward position and a rearward position;
 - a second set of gear teeth disposed along said distal end of said shaft, wherein said first set of gear teeth intermesh with said second set of gear teeth;
 - an actuator attached to a distal end of said shaft and extending outwardly from said handle portion through said activation slot, wherein the actuator is movable between a first actuator position and a second actuator position;
 - wherein when said actuator is moved from said first actuator position to said second actuator position said shaft moves from said forward position to said rearward position causing said pinion to rotate said arcuate member.
2. The device of claim 1, wherein said rotatable cutting element comprises:
 - a plurality of surgical blades and an arcuate member, wherein the arcuate member has a first end, a second end, a first surface, and a second surface, wherein the first end of the arcuate member opposes the second end of the arcuate member, wherein the first surface opposes the

second surface, wherein a first surgical blade is attached to the first end of the arcuate member and extends outwardly therefrom.

3. The device of Claim 2, wherein the arcuate member can be rotated about 362 degrees.

4. The device of Claim 2, wherein a second surgical blade is attached to the second end of the arcuate member and extends outwardly there from.

5. The device of Claim 4, wherein the arcuate member can be rotated about 182 degrees.

6. The device of Claim 1, wherein the actuator is manually operated.

7. The device of Claim 1, wherein the device can only be used a single time.

8. The device of Claim 1, wherein said shaft comprises a bendable elastomer.

9. The device of claim 1, wherein said shaft comprises a metal strip.

10. A method of performing an anterior capsulotomy, the method comprising:
making an incision in an eye;
providing a device comprising:

a body comprising an arm attached to and extending outwardly from a first end of a handle portion, and formed to include an arm cavity formed therein, an activation slot formed through a side of said handle portion and in communication with said arm cavity, a pivot member integrally formed within said activation slot, and a handle cavity extending through a second end of said handle, wherein said arm cavity and said activation slot are not located within said handle cavity;

a rotatable cutting element;

a pinion rotatably attached to and extending outwardly from said body and having a circumference, wherein said arcuate member is attached to a distal end of said pinion;

a first set of gear teeth disposed around a portion of said circumference;

a shaft slideably disposed within said arm cavity and comprising a distal end and a proximal end, wherein said shaft is moveable between a forward position and a rearward position;

a second set of gear teeth disposed along said distal end of said shaft, wherein said first set of gear teeth intermesh with said second set of gear teeth;

an actuator attached to a proximal end of said shaft and attached to said pivot member and extending outwardly from said handle portion through said activation slot, wherein the actuator is movable between a first actuator position and a second actuator position;

wherein when said actuator is moved from said first actuator position to said second actuator position said shaft moves from said forward position to said rearward position causing said pinion to rotate said arcuate member;

inserting a portion of said rotatable cutting element into the incision; and transforming the anterior capsule wall by moving the actuator from the first actuator position to the second actuator position to create an aperture there through.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein said rotatable cutting element comprises:

a plurality of surgical blades and an arcuate member, wherein the arcuate member has a first end, a second end, a first surface, and a second surface, wherein the first end of the arcuate member opposes the second end of the arcuate member, wherein the first surface opposes the second surface, wherein a first surgical blade is attached to the first end of the arcuate member and extends outwardly therefrom.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the arcuate member can be rotated about 362 degrees.

13. The method of Claim 10, wherein a second surgical blade is attached to the second end of the arcuate member and extends outwardly there from.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein the arcuate member can be rotated about 182 degrees.

15. The method of Claim 10, wherein said shaft comprises a bendable elastomer.

16. The method of claim 10, wherein said shaft comprises a metal strip.

17. The method of Claim 10, further comprises disposing of said device after a single use.