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United States Patent	12383756
Kind Code	B2
Date of Patent	August 12, 2025
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Medical systems, devices, and related methods

Abstract

According to one aspect, a method of controlling a laser delivery control console is disclosed. The method may include receiving at the control console electronically stored information from a radio frequency identification tag associated with a medical device. The method may also include converting, using at least one processor of the control console, the electronically stored information to a plurality of operating parameter threshold values. The plurality of threshold values may include maximum frequency values and maximum energy values for laser energy supplied by the laser delivery control console to the medical device. The method may further include preventing, in response to a command to adjust the energy or frequency of laser energy applied to the medical device, the delivery of laser energy with a frequency or energy value that exceeds one or more of the threshold values.

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Appl. No.:	18/404545
Filed:	January 04, 2024

Prior Publication Data

Document Identifier	Publication Date
US 20240198125 A1	Jun. 20, 2024

Related U.S. Application Data

continuation parent-doc US 16870124 20200508 ABANDONED child-doc US 18404545
us-provisional-application US 62846195 20190510

Publication Classification

Int. Cl.: A61N5/00 (20060101); A61N5/06 (20060101); A61N5/067 (20060101)

U.S. Cl.:

CPC A61N5/0613 (20130101); A61N2005/0626 (20130101); A61N2005/063 (20130101); A61N5/067 (20210801)

Field of Classification Search

USPC: None

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Background/Summary

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS (1) This application is a continuation of U.S. Non-Provisional application Ser. No. 16/870,124, filed May 8, 2020, which claims the benefit of priority from U.S. Provisional Application No. 62/846,195, filed on May 10, 2019, which is incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

TECHNICAL FIELD

(1) Various aspects of the present disclosure relate generally to systems, devices, and methods useful in medical procedures. More specifically, the present disclosure relates to systems, devices, and methods for adjusting and storing operating parameters of medical devices, among other aspects.

BACKGROUND

(2) Laser energy is used in a wide variety of medical procedures, including urology, neurology, otorhinolaryngology, ophthalmology, gastroenterology, cardiology, and gynecology. Various procedures, and even different portions of the same procedure, often require different levels and intensities of laser energy, which are delivered to cauterize, ablate, break-up, or otherwise treat tissue or other material in a patient. Generally, a user may control and/or modify the settings for the laser energy output of a laser energy source by inputting or adjusting the settings of a control module through buttons, dials, or a touch screen. A laser energy source may be operatively coupled to the control module and may comprise laser energy sources which operate at different wavelengths, infrared or visible energy sources, a Holmium laser source, Carbon Dioxide laser source, Neodymium laser source, or other type of laser energy source. Depending on the user's desired energy and frequency levels of the laser energy source, the user may select one or more accessories with operating parameters that allow the user to transmit the desired level and intensity of laser energy through the accessory. Accessories used to transmit laser energy, such as laser fibers, have different operating parameters in which the accessory may function without being damaged by the laser energy. Typically, a database on the control module may store operating parameters for a variety of accessories. When a user selects a specific accessory to use in a procedure, the user may then enter a serial number associated with that specific accessory into the control module. Using the serial number, the control module may access the relevant operating parameters for that specific accessory from its internal database. Since new accessories often come into the market, this database on the control module needs to be updated frequently to include the relevant operating parameters for each new accessory that a user may need. The need to frequently update a control module of the laser source may complicate and/or prolong procedures. Moreover, without operating parameters for an accessory stored in the control module, the user risks damaging the accessory, improper accessory operation, reduced accessory efficiency, or even exposing a patient to greater risk.

(3) The systems, devices, and methods of the current disclosure may rectify some of the deficiencies described above, and/or address other aspects of the prior art.

SUMMARY

(4) Examples of the present disclosure relate to, among other things, medical systems, devices, and methods. Each of the examples disclosed herein may include one or more of the features described in connection with any of the other disclosed examples.

(5) According to one aspect, a method of controlling a laser delivery control console is disclosed. The method may include receiving at the control console electronically stored information from a radio frequency identification tag associated with a medical device. The method may also include converting, using at least one processor of the control console, the electronically stored information to a plurality of operating parameter threshold values. The plurality of threshold values may include maximum frequency values and maximum energy values for laser energy supplied by the laser delivery control console to the medical device. The method may further include preventing, in response to a command to adjust the energy or frequency of laser energy applied to the medical device, the delivery of laser energy with a frequency or energy value that exceeds one or more of the threshold values. The command may be generated by an action or series of actions on a user interface operably coupled to the laser delivery control console.

(6) In other aspects of the present disclosure, the method of controlling a laser delivery control console may include one or more of the steps and/or features below. The plurality of threshold values may form an operating parameter matrix of the medical device. The control console may be configured to adjust the laser energy outputted to the medical device between a finite number of laser energy characteristics, and the finite number of laser energy characteristics may include a finite number of discreet frequency values and a finite number of discreet energy values. The maximum frequency and energy values may include maximum frequency and energy values for

each of the finite number of discreet frequency values and a finite number of discreet energy values. The electronically stored information may be stored in 270 bytes or less electronic storage space. The medical device may be a laser fiber. Converting the electronically stored information to a plurality of threshold values may include using the electronically stored information to create a plurality of corner stone set point pairs defining an operating parameter matrix. The at least one processor may include a first data set corresponding to a matrix, the matrix may include a finite number of discreet frequency values along the matrix's horizontal axis and a finite number of discreet energy values along the matrix's vertical axis, and the matrix may be used to convert the electronically stored information to operating parameters for the medical device. Converting the electronically stored information to a plurality of operating parameter threshold values may include defining an operating parameter matrix including a maximum energy value for each of the finite number of discreet frequency values and a maximum frequency value for each of the finite number of discreet energy values. The medical device may be a laser fiber and the radio frequency identification tag may be coupled to a proximal end of the laser fiber.

(7) In other aspects of the present disclosure, a method of controlling a laser delivery control console to deliver laser energy to a medical device is disclosed. The method may include accessing electronic information from an electronic memory device coupled to the medical device. The method may also include receiving at the control console electronically stored information from the electronic memory. The method may further include converting, using at least one processor of the control console, the electronically stored information to a series of operating parameters associated with the medical device. The plurality of operating parameters may include maximum frequency and energy values for laser energy supplied by the laser source to the medical device. The method may also include automatically preventing the delivery of laser energy with a frequency or energy level that exceeds one or more of the maximum frequency and energy values.

(8) In other aspects of the present disclosure, the method of controlling a laser delivery control console to deliver laser energy to a medical device may include one or more of the steps and/or features below. The at least one processor may include stored electronic information of a uniform operating parameter matrix size, and the uniform operating parameter matrix size may include a matrix with a first axis including a finite number of discreet frequency values and second axis including a finite number of discreet energy values. The series of operating parameters may include a series of threshold set point pairs consisting of a discreet frequency value and a discreet energy value; and each of the threshold set point pairs may define the maximum frequency and energy values. Converting the electronically stored information to a series of operating parameters may not include accessing a database. The electronically stored information may include a plurality of corner stone set point pairs defining components of an operating parameter matrix for the medical device. Automatically preventing the delivery of laser energy with a frequency or energy level that exceeds one or more of the maximum frequency energy values may include limiting a range of discreet frequency and/or energy level settings available in the control console to adjust the output of laser energy from the laser source. The electronically stored information may include information defining locations within the uniform operating parameter matrix size, and the locations may be defined by a pair of values, and the pair of values may consist of one discreet frequency value and one discreet energy value.

(9) In other aspects of the present disclosure, a medical device may include a body including a proximal end and a distal end. The body may be configured to receive laser energy and transport laser energy to the distal end. The medical device may also include an electronic memory device including representative electronic data stored on the electronic memory device. The electronic memory device may be coupled to the body. The representative electronic data may include data related to operating parameters including the maximum frequency and maximum energy levels of laser energy to be received by the medical device.

(10) In other aspects of the present disclosure, the medical device may include one or more of the

features below. The electronic memory device may be a radio frequency identification device. The electronic data may include data configured to be converted by a control console into an operating parameter matrix for the medical device. The operating parameters may consist of maximum frequency and maximum energy levels of laser energy to be received by the medical device. The electronic data may consist of 5 bytes of data.

(11) Both the foregoing general description and the following detailed description are exemplary and explanatory only and are not restrictive of the features, as claimed. As used herein, the terms “comprises,” “comprising,” “having,” “including,” or other variations thereof, are intended to cover a non-exclusive inclusion such that a process, method, article, or apparatus that comprises a list of elements does not include only those elements, but may include other elements not expressly listed or inherent to such a process, method, article, or apparatus. Additionally, the term “exemplary” is used herein in the sense of “example,” rather than “ideal.” As used herein, the terms “about,” “substantially,” and “approximately,” indicate a range of values within $\pm 5\%$ of a stated value.

Description

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

- (1) The accompanying drawings, which are incorporated in and constitute a part of this specification, illustrate various exemplary embodiments and together with the description, serve to explain the principles of the disclosure.
- (2) FIG. 1 illustrates a medical system, according to aspects of the present disclosure.
- (3) FIG. 2 illustrates an exemplary chart of operating parameters for a laser device, according to aspects of the present disclosure.
- (4) FIG. 3 is a flow diagram of a method of adjusting and setting a medical system, according to aspects of the present disclosure.
- (5) FIG. 4 is a flow diagram of a method of adjusting and setting a medical system, according to further aspects of the present disclosure.
- (6) FIG. 5 is a flow diagram of a method for applying operating parameters to a laser accessory device, according to aspects of the present disclosure.
- (7) FIG. 6 is an exemplary operating parameter matrix, according to aspects of the present disclosure.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

- (8) Examples of the present disclosure include systems, devices, and methods to facilitate the efficacy, efficiency, and safety of laser energy delivery during medical procedures. For example, aspects of the present disclosure may provide a user (e.g., a physician, medical technician, or other medical service provider) with the ability to more easily adjust and set the operating parameters of laser energy to be delivered to a laser accessory, such as a laser fiber. Some aspects of the present disclosure may be used in performing an endoscopic, hysteroscopic, or ureteroscopic procedure, such as, for example, a lithotripsy treatment, treating benign prostatic hyperplasia (“BPH”), or treating a cancerous tissue.
- (9) Reference will now be made in detail to examples of the present disclosure described above and illustrated in the accompanying drawings. Wherever possible, the same reference numbers will be used throughout the drawings to refer to the same or like parts.
- (10) The terms “proximal” and “distal” are used herein to refer to the relative positions of the components of an exemplary medical device or insertion device. When used herein, “proximal” refers to a position relatively closer to the exterior of the body or closer to an operator using the medical device or insertion device. In contrast, “distal” refers to a position relatively farther away from the operator using the medical device or insertion device, or closer to the interior of the body.
- (11) FIG. 1 illustrates a medical system **100** that includes a laser accessory device **112** and a laser

control console **102**. Control console **102** may include a graphical user interface or display **104**, a control module **106**, and a laser energy source **108**. Control console **102** may be wire connected, wirelessly connected, or otherwise coupled to a user interface **110**. In some examples, the user interface **110** may be incorporated into the control console **102**. The medical system **100** may be configured to output laser energy from laser energy source **108** to a laser accessory device **112** for emission of a laser beam onto a target area.

(12) Laser accessory device **112** may include one or more optical fibers to deliver laser energy (shown as arrow L) from laser energy source **108** to a distal end of the laser accessory device **112**. As such, laser accessory device **112** may be used to deliver laser energy from laser energy source **108** to a lumen, tissue, or other material within a patient. In some examples, additional instruments or devices may be coupled to control console **102**, such as an endoscope or other insertion device. In some examples, laser accessory device **112** may have a proximal end configured to connect to control console **102** and a distal end configured to deliver laser energy (L) to a patient's tissue.

(13) User interface **110** may be a liquid crystal display (LCD), a touch screen display, or other electronic display. User interface **40** may display a menu with a variety of adjustable laser parameters, such as adjustable discreet frequency and energy levels for the output of laser energy from the laser energy source **108**. User interface **110** may include one or more actuators, such as buttons, knobs, foot pedals, or other actuation mechanisms configured to communicate with control console **102**.

(14) Control console **102** may also include a laser accessing port (not shown) such that a laser accessory device **112**, such as a laser fiber or other optical fiber, may be coupled to control console **102** to deliver laser energy to laser accessory **112**. In some examples, control console **102** may be in communication with other accessory devices, such as an endoscope or a camera. Control console may be configured to transmit laser energy through a laser accessory device **112** to be delivered to the distal end of the laser accessory device **112**. Control console **102** may be connected to and/or in communication with a power source, such as a battery or any other conventional power source known in the art, or the power source may be incorporated into the control console **102**. An optical engine (not shown) may also be connected to and/or in communication with the control console **102** or incorporated into the control console **102**, and the optical engine, power supply, and laser energy source **108** may supply energy to a laser fiber at a specific power level and frequency level.

(15) Control module **106** within control console **102** may include an assembly of hardware, including a memory, a central processing unit ("CPU"), and/or a user interface (in addition to user interface **110**). The memory may include any type of RAM or ROM embodied in a physical storage medium, such as magnetic storage including hard disk or magnetic tape; semiconductor storage such as solid state disk (SSD) or flash memory; optical disc storage; or magneto-optical disc storage; or other types of electronic memory. The CPU may include one or more processors for processing data according to instructions stored in the memory. The function of the processor may be provided by a single dedicated processor or by a plurality of processors. Moreover, the processor may include, without limitation, digital signal processor (DSP) hardware, or any other hardware capable of executing software. The user interface may include any type or combination of input/output devices, such as a display monitor, touchscreen, keyboard, and/or mouse. The processor may be configured to access wireless digital data, telephone, and/or Internet access through any other wireless communication medium, such as, for example, local or wide area Wi-Fi or Bluetooth connectivity. In some examples, the process may access a digital storage device or system via wireless communication, such as a cloud based storage system, to access information.

(16) Laser source **108** may output a solid-state laser, continuous-wave (CW) laser, a pulsed laser, or other types of laser energy to be delivered to laser accessory device **112**. In some examples, laser source **108** may include laser energy sources which operate at different wavelengths, infrared or visible light energy sources, a Holmium laser source, Carbon Dioxide laser source, Neodymium laser source, or other type of laser energy source. Control console **106** may be configured to adjust

one or more characteristics of laser source **108**. For example, control console **106** may be configured to adjust the frequency and/or the energy level of the laser energy output from laser source **108**. In some examples, control console **106** may have a plurality of discrete frequency (for example, in Hertz) and energy (for example, in Joules) levels stored in control module **106** that may be selected by a user, using the user interface **110** and/or the graphical user interface **104**, to adjust the laser energy output from laser source **108**. The control module **106** may send instructions to user interface **110** and/or graphical user interface **104** to display a specific range of discrete frequency and energy levels to display and to allow a user to select. When a user selects a discrete frequency and energy level, the laser energy source **108** may output laser energy with the selected frequency and energy levels. In some examples, which may be for a pulsed laser energy output, control console **106** may provide a plurality of discrete set-point settings for the laser energy output of laser source **108**, with each set-point setting consisting of a paired discrete frequency value and discrete energy value for the laser energy output of laser source **108**.

(17) Control console **102** may control the laser parameters supplied to laser accessory device **112**. For example, control console **102** may include at least one processor, which may be within control module **106**, which receives input from the graphical user interface **104** and/or the user interface **110** and processes the input. Control console **102** may include laser source **108**, user interface **110**, graphical user interface **104**, and control module **106**, each of which may be operable coupled together and/or may receive electronic information from and send electronic information to each of the other components. For example, a user may input a command using the user interface **104** to output laser energy at a specific frequency and energy level selected by the user, and the electronic command may be received by control module **106**, processed within control module **106**, and then a corresponding electronic command may be sent to laser source **108** to output laser energy at the specified frequency and energy level. In some examples, a user may selectively adjust at least one of a laser energy, frequency, pulse width, wavelength, etc. via the user interface, such as a foot pedal assembly, keypad, mouse click, or touchscreen display, and control console **102** may output laser energy having the selected parameters to laser accessory device **112**.

(18) In some examples, an electronic database of information related to laser accessory devices and corresponding operating parameters may be electronically stored within control module **106**. For example, an electronic database in control module **106** may include product identification numbers, serial numbers, product codes, or other forms of identification numbers used to identify specific laser accessory devices **112** and, stored in association with each identification number, may be a chart of operating parameters for each device. In some examples, the operating parameter chart for each laser accessory device may include discrete paired frequency and energy values that correspond to discrete energy and frequency set-point settings provided in control module **106** for adjusting the output of laser energy source **108**.

(19) Depending on the type of control console **102**, control module **106**, and laser energy source **108**, the number of discrete frequency and energy output settings may be available for the control console **102** to change the characteristics of the laser energy output from laser energy source **108**. In some examples, control console **102** may provide fifteen discrete frequency values (in Hertz) that may be selected by the user. Control console **102** may also, in some examples, provide eighteen discrete energy values (in Joules) that may be selected by the user. Each of these discrete frequency and energy setting values, or discrete set-point pairs of one frequency setting value and one energy setting value, may be described by a parameter matrix, such as matrix **200** shown in FIG. 2.

(20) In the exemplary matrix **200**, the fifteen discrete frequency setting values (frequency set-points) are defined as F_i ($i=0$ to 14), and the eighteen discrete energy setting values (energy set-points) are defined as E_j ($j=0$ to 17). Each discrete set-point pair may be described as an F_i , E_j location on matrix **200**, and may be represented as a box within matrix **200**. The frequency setting values are shown along the horizontal axis **202**, and the energy setting values are shown along the

vertical axis **204**. The cross-hatched boxes, such as box **206**, designate operable energy and frequency value set point pairs for the laser accessory device **112** associated with matrix **200**, and the white boxes or boxes without cross-hatching, such as white box **208**, designate energy and frequency value set point pairs outside the laser accessory device's operating parameters and thus may damage the laser accessory device **112**, render it inoperable, or fail to operate in accordance with the device's specifications. Thus, matrix **200** may define the operating parameters of a laser accessory device **112**.

(21) Each of the cross-hatched boxes shown in matrix **200** that borders at least one white box, such as, for example, cross-hatch box **206**, may be defined as a “corner stone” set point pair. Each “corner stone” set point pair defines a threshold frequency value (one of F0-F14) for a discreet energy value (one of E0-E17) that defines a limit on the frequency operating range for that particular energy value, and a threshold energy value for a discreet frequency value that defines a limit on the energy operating range for that particular frequency. For example, corner stone set point pair **206** (F7, E16) in matrix **200** defines a maximum discreet energy value of E16 when the laser accessory device is operating at a frequency of F7, and a maximum discreet frequency value of F7 when laser accessory device **112** is operating at a discreet energy value of E16. Using matrix **200**, control console **102** may define the operating parameters for the laser accessory device **112**. In some examples, when operating a laser accessory device **112** associated with matrix **200**, control console **102** may prevent the selection and/or the output of laser energy with a particular energy or frequency value that exceeds a threshold value defined by matrix **200**, and thus prevent the user from selecting a discreet set point pair outside the operating range defined by each “corner stone” set point pair. In this manner, matrix **200** may be used by control console **102** to define the operating parameters for a particular laser accessory device **112**. For example, an operating parameter matrix **200** may be received by control module **106** or retrieved from a database stored within control module **106**, and the control module **106** may apply limitations to the user interface **110** and/or the graphical user interface **104** to prevent the user from selecting a discreet set point pair for the frequency (Fi) and energy (Ei) levels outside the operating parameters defined by matrix **200**. In some examples, the user interface **110** and/or the graphical user interface **104** may display and allow a user to select only discreet set point pairs for the frequency (Fi) and energy (Ei) levels that are within the defined operating parameters of operating parameter matrix **200**.

(22) FIG. 3 illustrates a flow diagram **300** of a conventional method for applying operating parameters to a laser accessory device **112** using a control console **102**. In step **302**, the user connects laser accessory device **112** to control console **102**. In some examples, a proximal end of laser accessory device **112** may be coupled to control console **102**, for example a proximal end of a laser fiber may be inserted into an accessing port on control console **102**. In step **304**, the user may input an identification number, such as a serial or product number associated with the connected laser accessory device **112**, into control console **102** using user interface **110**. In step **306**, control module **106** of control console **102** may receive and process the identification number and retrieve an operating parameter matrix, such as matrix **200**, associated with laser accessory device **112** stored in a database within a control module **106**.

(23) Once the appropriate operating parameter matrix is retrieved, the control module **106** may set the operating parameter matrix **200** as the operating parameters for laser accessory device **112**. When the operating parameter matrix **200** is set, control module **106** may prevent laser energy source **108** from outputting laser energy with a frequency and energy set point pair that is outside the corner stone set point pairs in matrix **200**. For example, as shown in matrix **200**, control module **106** would not allow the user to select a frequency of F9 with an energy level of E15 because this laser parameter set pair exceeds the threshold set by each corner stone pair of matrix **200**.

Depending on the type of laser accessory device **112**, different threshold limits may be put on the laser energy source **108** by control module **106** to limit the maximum frequency and energy levels supplied to the laser accessory device **112**. Similarly, different ranges of frequency (Fi) and energy

(Ei) levels may be included in matrix **200** depending on the type of control console **102**, laser energy source **108**, and/or laser accessory device **108**. Since control module **106** of control console **102** may have a limited amount of electronic storage to store an electronic database of laser accessory devices and associated operating parameter matrixes, alternative methods of storing operating parameters may allow a control module **106** to operate with a larger amount of laser accessory devices and may avoid the need to update databases stored within control module **106**.

(24) According to one aspect of this disclosure, operating parameters, or data associated with operating parameters, may be stored on laser accessory device **112**. For example, laser accessory device **112** may include a radio frequency identification tag (RFID) **114** coupled to and/or embedded within laser accessory device **112**. The RFID **114** may contain electronically-stored information associated with the laser accessory device **112**, such as data associated with an operating parameter matrix for the laser accessory device **112**. RFID devices **114** may be low power silicon devices that can be powered and communicate via a radiofrequency field. RFID **114** may enable wireless communication from an embedded RFID **114** chip coupled to or embedded within laser accessory device **112**. RFID device **114** may be a non-volatile memory element for storing electronic information. For example, RFID device **114** may include read-only memory whose contents can be erased and reprogrammed using a pulsed voltage, such as EEPROM (typically 320 to 4096 bytes), and interface logic that handles communications. RFID **114** may be fabricated in a small disk that can be embedded into a laser accessory device. In some examples, a laser accessory device **112** may generate a low power localized radiofrequency field that may power RFID **114** when laser energy is supplied to the laser accessory device **112**. Other formats/manners of manufacturing RFID devices can be used without departing from the scope of this disclosure. In some examples, electronic data may be stored on an RFID **114** coupled to laser accessory device **112**, and the electronic data may include an operating parameter matrix **200** associated with laser accessory device **112**. In other examples, laser accessory device **112** may include a memory device, such as a read-only memory, that connects to control console **102** via a wire connection between the memory device and the control console, such as a wire connection that connects the memory device of the laser accessory device **112** with the control console **102** via laser accessing port (not shown).

(25) FIG. 4 illustrates a flow diagram **400** of a method for applying operating parameters to a laser accessory device **112** using a control console **102** without a database of laser accessory devices and associated operating parameters stored within control console **102**. In step **402**, the user may connect an accessory device **112** to the control console **102**. In the method of flow diagram **400**, an entire operating parameter matrix **200** is stored in electronic data on an RFID **114** coupled to the laser accessory device **112**.

(26) In step **404**, the user may scan the RFID **114** of the accessory device **112** using an RFID reader to upload the electronic information stored on RFID **114** to the RFID reader, and then the RFID reader may send the electronic information to control module **106**. In some examples, an RFID reader may be incorporated into control console **102**. In other examples, RFID reader may be electronically connected to control console **102**. In step **406**, the electronic information from RFID **114** is received by the control module **106**. Since the electronic information from RFID **114** includes the entire operating parameter matrix **200**, control module **106** may then implement operating parameter matrix **200** and proceed to step **408**. When implementing operating parameter matrix **200**, control module **106** may limit the frequency and energy level settings (Fi, Ei) available for the user to select based on operating parameter matrix **200**. In step **408**, the control console **102** supplies laser energy to laser accessory **112** within the accessory's operating parameters. In some cases, the amount of data required to store an entire operating parameter matrix **200** may exceed the storage space provided on an RFID **114**, which would make the method of flow diagram **400** difficult to accomplish. In order to implement the method of flow diagram **400**, RFID may need to have adequate electronic storage space to store data associated with the entire operating parameter

matrix **200**. In some cases, it may be beneficial to minimize the amount of data stored on the RFID in order to use RFID tags with less electronic storage space.

(27) In some examples, RFID **114** of laser accessory device **112** may store operating parameter matrix representation data that, once received by a control module **106**, may be converted to an operating parameter matrix **200** for the associated laser accessory device **112**. For example, control module **106** may include a conversion module **107** configured to convert the matrix representation data to an operating parameter matrix **200**. When representation data is stored in an RFID **114** of a laser accessory device **112**, control module **106** may require a conversion module **107** to convert the representation data to an operating parameter matrix **200** for the respective laser accessory **112**, and thus may avoid the need to store a database of laser accessories **112** and their respective operating parameter matrixes **200**. In addition, by eliminating the need for an internal database of a plurality of laser accessory devices within control console **102**, a user may avoid the task of updating the laser accessory devices database in the control console and may still use the control console effectively with a new laser accessory device **112**, which may save time and increase efficiency of procedures.

(28) FIG. 5 illustrates a flow diagram **500** of a method for applying operating parameters to a laser accessory device **112** using a control console **102** without a database of laser accessory device identification numbers and associated operating parameters stored within control console **102**. In step **502**, the user may connect an accessory device **112** to the control console **102**. In step **504**, the user may scan the RFID **114** of the accessory device **112** using an RFID reader to upload the electronic information stored on RFID **114** to the RFID reader, and then the RFID reader may send the electronic information to control module **106**. In step **506**, the electronic information from RFID **114** is received by the control module **106** in control console **102**. In step **508**, the control module **106** may execute a conversion module **107** using the electronic data received from RFID **114**.

(29) Conversion module **107** may include software to convert the electronic data from RFID **114** to an operating parameter matrix **200** associated with laser accessory device **112**. Once the conversion module **107** outputs an operating parameter matrix **200** in step **510**, control module **106** applies the necessary operating parameters to safely operate the laser accessory **112**. Accordingly, once the control module **102** receives and applies the operating parameter matrix **200** for laser accessory device **112** from conversion module **107**, the control console **102** may supply laser energy to laser accessory **112** within the accessory's operating parameters. Storing representative electronic data that can be converted using conversion module **107** of control module **106** may allow RFID **114** to store less electronic data compared to storing an entire operating parameter matrix **200**. The method for applying operating parameters to a laser accessory device **112** using a control console **102** shown in flow diagram **500** does not require accessing a database, such as a database of laser accessory device identification numbers and associated operating parameters stored within control console **102**.

(30) FIG. 6 illustrates an exemplary operating parameter matrix **600** similar to matrix **200** of FIG. 2. In the same manner as matrix **200**, fifteen discrete frequency setting values (frequency set-points) are defined as F0-F14 along the horizontal axis **602**, and the eighteen discrete energy setting values (energy set-points) are defined as E0-E17 along the vertical axis **604**. Each discrete set-point pair of matrix **600** may be described as an F_i, E_j location on matrix **600**. The cross-hatched boxes in matrix **600** designate operable energy and frequency value set point pairs for the laser accessory device associated with matrix **600**, and the white boxes designate energy and frequency value set point pairs outside the laser accessory device's operating parameters.

(31) In operating parameter matrix **600**, cross-hatch boxes **620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628** each border at least one white box and may be defined as corner stone set point pairs. Each corner stone set point pair defines a threshold frequency value that defines a limit on the frequency (F_i) operating range for a particular energy value (E_i), and a threshold energy value (E_i) that

defines a limit on the energy operating range for a particular frequency (Fi). For example, corner stone set point pair **621** is shown at matrix box (E16, F7), and indicates that at a frequency of F7 the maximum energy level is E16, and at energy level E16 the maximum frequency level is F7.

(32) When a RFID **114** or other electronic storage medium is used to store all of the data associated with matrix **600**, the data may include 270 data elements for each of the boxes within matrix **600**, along with 33 data elements for each of the discreet frequency set points F0-F14 along the horizontal axis **602** and each of the discreet energy set points E0-E17 along the vertical axis **604**. As an alternative to storing data associated with each box of matrix **600**, RFID **114** or other electronic storage medium may store representative data that is configured to be converted into an operating parameter matrix using a conversion module **107** within control console **102**.

(33) For example, representative data stored on an RFID **114** may include only the parameters of the horizontal axis **602** and vertical axis **604** of matrix **600**, i.e. discreet values E0-E17 and F0-F14, and each of the corner stone set point pairs, i.e. discreet set point pairs **620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628**, totaling 51 total data elements consisting of the 18 data elements for E0-E17, 15 data elements for F0-F14, and eighteen data elements for each of the nine corner stone set point pairs **620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628**. Accordingly, by storing only data elements associated with horizontal axis **602**, vertical axis **604**, and each corner stone set point pair **620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628**, a total of 51 data elements may be used to store operating parameter matrix **600**. By using a software algorithm within conversion module **107** of control module **106**, the 18 data elements for E0-E17, fifteen data elements for F0-F14, and 18 data elements for each of the nine corner stone set point pairs **620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628** may be used to construct a complete operating parameter matrix **600** using a conversion module **107**.

(34) In some examples, a uniform operating parameter matrix size may be stored within a conversion module **107** of control console **102**. For example, a uniform operating parameter matrix size may be a matrix with a horizontal axis **602** of 15 discreet data elements (F0-F14) and with a vertical axis **604** of 18 discreet data elements (E0-E17) that may be stored within conversion module **107** of control console **102**. In some examples, control console **102** may be limited to a single set of discreet frequency settings (Fi) and a single set of discreet energy settings (Ei) available to the user for adjusting the output of laser energy source **108**, and the single operating parameter matrix size available for that particular control console **102** may be stored within control module **106**. By storing a uniform operating parameter matrix size in the control module **106**, RFID **114** may not need to store the discreet values F0-F14 associated with the horizontal axis **602** and the discreet values E0-E17 associated with the vertical axis **604** of matrix **600**, and thus may store only the information associated with each corner stone set point pair **620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628**. Accordingly, when a uniform operating parameter matrix size is stored within control console **102**, data elements E0-E17 and F0-F14 are predefined in the control console **102** and the RFID may only store the eighteen data elements associated with each corner stone set point pair **620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628**. In this example, the conversion module **107** may use the eighteen data elements received from RFID **114** in conjunction with the uniform operating parameter matrix size stored within the conversion module **107** to construct operating parameter matrix **600**.

(35) In another example where a uniform operating parameter matrix size is stored within control console **102**, representative data stored on RFID **114** may consist of five bytes of electronic data (or 34 total bits). As is known in the art, a byte of data consists of an eight digit binary number. As shown in FIG. 6 as bytes **610, 612, 614, 616, 618**, five bytes of data may be used to designate where in a uniform operating parameter matrix size of fifteen by eighteen (shown in FIG. 6) each of the corner stone set point pairs are located within matrix **600**. Note bytes **610, 612, 614, 616, 618** are provided in an additional column and an additional row of matrix **600**, however this row and column containing bytes **610, 612, 614, 616, 618** is purely for illustrative purposes and is not a part

of operating parameter matrix **600**. In FIG. 6, bytes **610**, **612** designate each discreet frequency value (F_i) along horizontal axis **602** that includes a corner stone set point pair with a one (values F_6 - F_{14}), and each frequency value along horizontal axis **602** that does not include a corner stone set point pair with a zero (values F_0 - F_5). Similarly, bytes **614**, **616**, **618**, designate each discreet energy value (E_i) along vertical axis **604** that includes a corner stone set point pair with a one (values E_3 , E_5 , E_7 , and E_{12} - E_{17}), and each energy value along vertical axis **604** that does not include a corner stone set point pair with a zero (values E_0 - E_3 , E_4 , E_6 , and E_8 - E_{11}). Accordingly, operating parameter matrix **600** may be represented by a bitmap on 16 bits and 20 bits, or with 5 bytes of data, when console **102** stores a uniform operating parameter matrix size that corresponds to operating parameter matrix **600**. In this example, conversion module **107** may include software to convert bytes **610**, **612**, **614**, **616**, **618** associated with the location of each corner stone set point pair **620**, **621**, **622**, **623**, **624**, **625**, **626**, **627**, **628** into operating parameter matrix **600**. Thus, for example, laser accessory device **112** may store only bytes **610**, **612**, **614**, **616**, **618** on RFID **114**.

(36) For example, for illustrative purposes, a hypothetical control console **102** includes a uniform operating parameter matrix size of fifteen by eighteen (e.g. the size of matrix **600** in FIG. 6), with the horizontal axis representing frequency values F_0 - F_{14} and the vertical axis representing energy values E_0 - E_{17} . Implementing the systems and methods disclosed herein, an exemplary laser accessory device **112** includes an RFID **114** with five bytes of data stored on the RFID **114**. Each byte of data corresponds to bytes **610**, **612**, **614**, **616**, **618**. The first byte **610** reads "000000011" and corresponds to columns F_0 - F_6 , and thus each of columns F_5 and F_6 includes a corner stone set point pair. The second byte **612** reads "11111111" and corresponds to columns F_7 - F_{14} , and thus each of columns F_7 - F_{14} includes a corner stone set point pair. The third byte **614** reads "11111100" and corresponds to rows E_{17} to E_{10} , and thus each of columns E_{17} - E_{12} includes a corner stone set point pair. The fourth byte **616** reads "00101010" and corresponds to rows E_9 - E_2 , respectively, and thus each of columns E_7 , E_5 , and E_3 includes a corner stone set point pair. Lastly, the fifth byte **618** reads "00000000", of which only the first two digits are used to construct matrix **600**. Thus, since the first two digits of the fifth byte **618** corresponds to rows E_1 and E_0 , "00" indicates that neither row E_1 nor row E_0 includes a corner stone set point pair. Then, by matching each of the marked columns from the first and second bytes with each of the marked rows from the third, fourth, and fifth bytes, in the order in which they occur, i.e. moving from F_0 - F_{14} for the first and second bytes and moving from E_{17} to E_0 for the third, fourth and fifth bytes, a system, such as control module **106** of control console **102**, can construct matrix **600** by marking each corner stone set point pair **620**, **621**, **622**, **623**, **624**, **625**, **626**, **627**, **628** within the uniform operating parameter matrix size of fifteen by eighteen. The control module **106** may then set the appropriate frequency and energy thresholds for that particular laser accessory device **112** using the constructed matrix **600**.

(37) While the above discussion is directed to specific methods for storing operating parameter matrixes related to laser delivery devices, the present disclosure is not so limited. For example, matrixes **200** and **600** are only exemplary, and the above-described methods may be applied to operating parameter matrixes of any size. In some examples, the operating parameters stored on laser accessory device **112** may include power source output values indicating an operable range or value of power to be supplied to laser accessory device **112**.

(38) While principles of the present disclosure are described herein with reference to illustrative examples for particular applications, it should be understood that the disclosure is not limited thereto. Those having ordinary skill in the art and access to the teachings provided herein will recognize additional modifications, applications, embodiments, and substitution of equivalents all fall within the scope of the features described herein. Accordingly, the claimed features are not to be considered as limited by the foregoing description.

Claims

1. A laser delivery console, comprising: a memory comprising a uniform operating parameter matrix comprising a plurality of frequency values and a plurality of energy setting values for a plurality laser accessory devices; and a control module comprising processing circuitry configured to: receive, from a radio frequency identification (RFID) tag associated with a one of the plurality of laser accessory devices, a plurality of corner stone set point pairs, wherein the plurality of corner stone set point pairs defines a maximum one of the plurality of frequency values for each one of the plurality of energy setting values for the one of the plurality of laser accessory devices; generate an operating parameter matrix for the one of the plurality of laser accessory devices from the uniform operating parameter matrix and the plurality of cornerstone set point pairs, wherein the operating parameter matrix comprises a subset of the plurality of frequency values and a subset of the plurality of energy setting values; and prevent, in response to a command to adjust an amount of energy or a frequency of laser energy applied to the one of the plurality of laser accessory devices, the delivery of laser energy with a combination of frequency and energy value that exceeds one of the subset of the plurality of frequency values and/or one of the subset of the plurality of energy setting values, wherein the command is generated by an action or series of actions on a user interface operably coupled to the laser delivery control console.
2. The laser delivery console of claim 1, the control module further configured to adjust the laser energy outputted to the medical device between a finite number of combinations frequency and energy values, wherein the finite number of frequency and energy values are identified based on the operating parameter matrix.
3. The laser delivery console of claim 1, wherein the laser delivery control console is configured to output laser energy having each of the finite number of combinations frequency and energy values, wherein the finite number of frequency and energy values are identified based on the operating parameter matrix.
4. The laser delivery console of claim 1, wherein the plurality of corner stone set point pairs is stored in five (5) bytes or less electronic storage space.
5. The laser delivery console of claim 1, wherein the laser accessory device comprises an optical fiber.
6. The laser delivery console of claim 5, comprising the laser accessory device.
7. The laser delivery console of claim 6, wherein the RFID tag is embedded within the laser accessory device.
8. The laser delivery console of claim 1, wherein the uniform operating parameter matrix comprises a plurality of rows and columns and wherein the plurality of corner stone set point pairs comprises a set point pair for each column of the matrix.
9. At least one non-transitory machine readable medium comprising a uniform operating parameter matrix and a plurality of instructions that in response to being executed by circuitry of a laser delivery console, cause the laser delivery console to: receive, from a radio frequency identification (RFID) tag embedded within a laser accessory device coupled to the laser delivery console, a plurality of corner stone set point pairs, wherein the plurality of corner stone set point pairs defines a maximum one of the plurality of frequency values for each one of the plurality of energy setting values, wherein the laser accessory device is a one of a plurality of laser accessory devices; generate an operating parameter matrix from the uniform operating parameter matrix and the plurality of cornerstone set point pairs, wherein the operating parameter matrix comprises a subset of the plurality of frequency values and a subset of the plurality of energy setting values for the one of the plurality laser accessory devices, wherein the uniform operating parameter matrix comprises a plurality of frequency values and a plurality of energy setting values for the plurality laser accessory devices; and prevent, in response to a command to adjust an amount of energy or a

frequency of laser energy applied to the laser accessory device, the delivery of laser energy with a combination of frequency and energy value that exceeds one of the subset of the plurality of frequency values and/or one of the subset of the plurality of energy setting values, wherein the command is generated by an action or series of actions on a user interface operably coupled to the laser delivery control console.

10. The at least one non-transitory machine readable medium of claim 9, comprising instructions that in response to being executed by the circuitry further cause the laser delivery console to adjust the laser energy outputted to the medical device between a finite number of combinations frequency and energy values, wherein the finite number of frequency and energy values are identified based on the operating parameter matrix.

11. The at least one non-transitory machine readable medium of claim 9, comprising instructions that in response to being executed by the circuitry further cause the laser delivery console to output laser energy having each of the finite number of combinations frequency and energy values, wherein the finite number of frequency and energy values are identified based on the operating parameter matrix.

12. The at least one non-transitory machine readable medium of claim 9, wherein the plurality of corner stone set point pairs is stored in five (5) bytes or less electronic storage space.

13. The at least one non-transitory machine readable medium of claim 9, wherein the laser accessory device comprises an optical fiber.

14. The at least one non-transitory machine readable medium of claim 9, wherein the uniform operating parameter matrix comprises a plurality of rows and columns and wherein the plurality of corner stone set point pairs comprises a set point pair for each column of the matrix.

15. A method for a controller of a laser delivery console, comprising: receiving, from a radio frequency identification (RFID) tag associated with a laser accessory device coupled to the laser delivery console, a plurality of corner stone set point pairs, wherein the plurality of corner stone set point pairs defines a maximum one of the plurality of frequency values for each one of the plurality of energy setting values wherein the laser accessory device is a one of a plurality of laser accessory devices; generating an operating parameter matrix from a uniform operating parameter matrix and the plurality of cornerstone set point pairs, wherein the operating parameter matrix comprises a subset of the plurality of frequency values and a subset of the plurality of energy setting values for the one of the plurality laser accessory devices, wherein the uniform operating parameter matrix comprises a plurality of frequency values and a plurality of energy setting values for the plurality laser accessory devices; and preventing, in response to a command to adjust an amount of energy or a frequency of laser energy applied to the laser accessory device, the delivery of laser energy with a combination of frequency and energy value that exceeds one of the subset of the plurality of frequency values and/or one of the subset of the plurality of energy setting values, wherein the command is generated by an action or series of actions on a user interface operably coupled to the laser delivery control console.

16. The method of claim 15, further comprising adjusting the laser energy outputted to the medical device between a finite number of combinations frequency and energy values, wherein the finite number of frequency and energy values are identified based on the operating parameter matrix.

17. The method of claim 15, further comprising outputting laser energy having each of the finite number of combinations frequency and energy values, wherein the finite number of frequency and energy values are identified based on the operating parameter matrix.

18. The method of claim 15, wherein the plurality of corner stone set point pairs is stored in five (5) bytes or less electronic storage space.

19. The method of claim 15, wherein the laser accessory device comprises an optical fiber.

20. The method of claim 15, wherein the uniform operating parameter matrix comprises a plurality of rows and columns and wherein the plurality of corner stone set point pairs comprises a set point pair for each column of the matrix.

