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EXPANDABLE REAMER

Abstract

A surgical device may include a tube and a cutting blade movable between a first position in which the cutting blade is concealed inside the tube and a second position in which the cutting blade is exposed through a sidewall of the tube.

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Background/Summary

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION [0001] This is a continuation of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 17/982,612, filed on Nov. 8, 2022, which is a continuation of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/686,555, filed on Nov. 18, 2019 (now U.S. Pat. No. 11,517,329), which is a divisional of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 14/091,902, filed on Nov. 27, 2013 (now U.S. Pat. No. 10,499,932), which claims priority to U.S. Provisional Application No. 61/774,787, which was filed on Mar. 8, 2013, the entire disclosures of which are hereby incorporated by reference.

BACKGROUND

[0002] This disclosure relates to an orthopedic surgical device, and more particularly to an expandable reamer that can be introduced into a bone tunnel to remove areas of diseased bone.

[0003] Diseased areas of bone may need removed from patients suffering from bone degeneration. For example, treatment of Avascular Necrosis (AVN) of the hip is often performed on patients that may otherwise face prosthetic joint arthroplasty, which can be a relatively invasive procedure. Core decompression procedures have been used to remove areas of diseased bone. However, efforts have continued to develop improved procedures for removing areas of diseased bone.

SUMMARY

[0004] A surgical device according to an exemplary aspect of the present disclosure includes, among other things, a tube and a cutting blade movable between a first position in which the cutting blade is concealed inside the tube and a second position in which the cutting blade is exposed through a sidewall of the tube.

[0005] In a further non-limiting embodiment of the foregoing surgical device, a shaft is surrounded by the tube.

[0006] In a further non-limiting embodiment of either of the foregoing surgical devices, one of the tube and the shaft is movable relative to the other of the tube and the shaft.

[0007] In a further non-limiting embodiment of any of the foregoing surgical devices, a plurality of cutting blades are moveable to a cutting position radially outward of the tube.

[0008] In a further non-limiting embodiment of any of the foregoing surgical devices, the tube includes a window disposed through the sidewall and the cutting blade is incrementally advanced through the window to expose the cutting blade.

[0009] In a further non-limiting embodiment of any of the foregoing surgical devices, a clutch assembly is configured to move the cutting blade between the first position and the second position.

[0010] In a further non-limiting embodiment of any of the foregoing surgical devices, the clutch assembly includes a threaded hub and a clutch hub disengageable from the threaded hub.

[0011] In a further non-limiting embodiment of any of the foregoing surgical devices, the tube includes a deflection pin configured to deflect the cutting blade radially outward of the tube.

[0012] In a further non-limiting embodiment of any of the foregoing surgical devices, the tube is connected to a handle.

[0013] In a further non-limiting embodiment of any of the foregoing surgical devices, the cutting blade includes nitinol wires having a shape memory.

[0014] In a further non-limiting embodiment of any of the foregoing surgical devices, an actuator is configured to move the cutting blade between the first position and the second position.

[0015] An expandable reamer according to another exemplary aspect of the present disclosure includes, among other things, a tube and at least one cutting blade configured to incrementally advance to a cutting position radially outward from the tube to create a socket in bone.

[0016] In a further non-limiting embodiment of the foregoing expandable reamer, a shaft has a concentric relationship with the tube.

[0017] In a further non-limiting embodiment of either of the foregoing expandable reamers, the cutting blade is hinged to the shaft.

[0018] In a further non-limiting embodiment of any of the foregoing expandable reamers, the tube includes a guide pin received by a slot of the shaft to guide the tube as it moves relative to the shaft.

[0019] A method for removing diseased bone, according to another exemplary aspect of the present disclosure includes, among other things, positioning a surgical device relative to diseased bone, the surgical device including at least one cutting blade that is concealed inside the surgical device during the step of positioning, and incrementally advancing the at least one cutting blade to position the at least one cutting blade into a cutting position relative to the diseased bone.

[0020] In a further non-limiting embodiment of the foregoing method, the method includes the step of rotating the surgical device to remove the diseased bone.

[0021] In a further non-limiting embodiment of either of the foregoing methods, the method includes reaming a tunnel into a bone that includes the diseased bone prior to the step of positioning.

[0022] In a further non-limiting embodiment of any of the foregoing methods, the method includes backfilling the tunnel with a biologic after the step of incrementally advancing the at least one cutting blade.

[0023] In a further non-limiting embodiment of any of the foregoing methods, the step of incrementally advancing includes axially moving a tube or shaft of the surgical device to rotationally move the at least one cutting blade to the cutting position.

[0024] The embodiments, examples and alternatives of the preceding paragraphs, the claims, or the following description and drawings, including any of their various aspects or respective individual features, may be taken independently or in any combination. Features described in connection with one embodiment are applicable to all embodiments, unless such features are incompatible.

[0025] The various features and advantages of this disclosure will become apparent to those skilled in the art from the following detailed description. The drawings that accompany the detailed description can be briefly described as follows.

Description

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0026] FIGS. **1A** and **1B** illustrate an exemplary expandable reamer.

[0027] FIG. **2** illustrates an exploded view of the expandable reamer of FIGS. **1A** and **1B**.

[0028] FIGS. **3A** and **3B** illustrate additional features of an expandable reamer.

[0029] FIGS. **4**, **5**, **6**, **7**, **8** and **9** schematically illustrate an exemplary method of removing areas of diseased bone.

[0030] FIGS. **10A** and **10B** illustrate another exemplary expandable reamer.

[0031] FIGS. **11A** and **11B** illustrate yet another exemplary expandable reamer.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0032] Among other features, this disclosure relates to a surgical device, such as an expandable reamer, that can be introduced through a bone tunnel to remove areas of diseased bone. In one non-limiting embodiment, the expandable reamers described by this disclosure can be used to treat Avascular Necrosis (AVN) of the hip. However, this disclosure is not limited to the treatment of AVN and could extend to other treatments, such as Osteochondritis Dissecans (OCD) of the knee or any other treatment requiring the removal of diseased bone in either human or animal patients.

[0033] FIGS. **1A**, **1B** and **2** illustrate an exemplary expandable reamer **10**. The expandable reamer **10** is an orthopedic surgical device that may be part of a surgical instrumentation set for removing

diseased bone from a patient. In one embodiment, the expandable reamer **10** includes a clutch assembly **12**, an inner shaft **14** (best illustrated in FIG. 2), and an outer tube **16** that generally surrounds the inner shaft **14**. For example, the inner shaft **14** and the outer tube **16** may include a concentric relationship relative to one another.

[0034] In one non-limiting embodiment, the inner shaft **14** is affixed to the clutch assembly **12** and the outer tube **16** is movable along a longitudinal axis A (see FIG. 1B) of the expandable reamer **10**. An opposite configuration is also contemplated in which the outer tube **16** is affixed and the inner shaft **14** is moveable along the longitudinal axis A. Movement of either the inner shaft **14** or the outer tube **16** relative to the other of the inner shaft **14** and the outer tube **16** positions a cutting blade **18** for reaming diseased tissue, as discussed in greater detail below.

[0035] The expandable reamer may include one or more cutting blades **18**. In this embodiment, a single cutting blade **18** is shown. However, multiple cutting blades could also be provided (see, e.g., the embodiment of FIGS. 10A, 10B, 11A and 11B).

[0036] The cutting blade **18** may be attached to a distal end portion **21** of the inner shaft **14**, such as with a pin **22** (i.e., the cutting blade **18** is hinged to the inner shaft **14**, see FIGS. 2, 3A and 3B). In one embodiment, the cutting blade **18** may be incrementally advanced through a window **20** (best illustrated in FIGS. 3A and 3B) disposed at a distal end portion **24** of the outer tube **16** to create a retrograded socket in bone that can be filled with biologics. In one embodiment, the window **20** extends through a sidewall **69** of the outer tube **16** such that the cutting blade **18** is exposed outside of the outer tube **16** through the sidewall **69**.

[0037] A cap **26** (see FIG. 2) may be welded or otherwise affixed to a distal-most portion **28** of the outer tube **16** such that the outer tube **16** includes at least one closed end. In this way, in a closed position P1 of the cutting blade **18** (see FIG. 1A), the expandable reamer **10** provides an atraumatic device that substantially reduces risk of inadvertent damage to surrounding tissue during positioning of the expandable reamer **10**. The cutting blade **18** of the expandable reamer **10** may be advanced radially outward from the outer tube **16** to a cutting position P2 (see FIG. 1B) that is configured to prepare a socket in bone. In the cutting position P2, the cutting blade **18** is non-parallel to the longitudinal axis A and is exposed outside of the outer tube **16**.

[0038] In one embodiment, the clutch assembly **12** of the expandable reamer **10** includes a threaded hub **30**, a clutch hub **32** and a connector **34**, such as a Hudson connector for connecting to powered equipment. The threaded hub **30** and the clutch hub **32** may be disengaged from one another to advance or retract the cutting blade **18**. For example, the clutch hub **32** may be moved in a Y direction (e.g., away from the threaded hub **30**) to overcome a biasing force of a spring **36** located within the clutch hub **32** to disengage the clutch hub **32** from the threaded hub **30**. When disengaged, teeth **38** of the clutch hub **32** are removed from recesses **40** of the threaded hub **30** (or vice versa) such that the threaded hub **30** may be turned in the Z direction to either advance or retract the cutting blade **18** between the positions P1 and P2. It should be understood that the cutting blade **18** could be incrementally advanced to any position between positions P1 and P2.

[0039] A distance D between each tooth/recess **38**, **40** of the threaded hub **30** and/or the clutch hub **32** may correspond to a specific radially outward advancement of the cutting blade **18**. In other words, the cutting blade **18** may be incrementally advanced or retracted. In one non-limiting embodiment, the cutting blade **18** is incrementally advanceable by a distance of between 7 and 10 millimeters (0.276 to 0.394 inches). However, other advancement and retraction distances are also contemplated as within the scope of this disclosure.

[0040] In one embodiment, best illustrated in FIG. 2, the outer tube **16** includes a threaded proximal end portion **42** that is received by a corresponding threaded portion (not shown) of the threaded hub **30**. The inner shaft **14** may include a connector **44** for attaching the inner shaft **14** to the threaded hub **30**. In one embodiment, the threaded hub **30** is pinned to the connector **44**. Turning the threaded hub **30** in the Z direction moves the threaded hub **30** relative to the threaded proximal end portion **42** in order to axially advance or retract the outer tube **16** relative to the

threaded hub **30**.

[0041] Referring to FIGS. **3A** and **3B**, axial (i.e., linear) movement of the outer tube **16** (which is caused by rotational movement of the threaded hub **30**) can be converted to rotational movement of the cutting blade **18** to position the cutting blade **18** in the cutting position P2. The outer tube **16** may include a deflection pin **46** that deflects a tip **51** of the cutting blade **18** radially outwardly from the window **20**. For example, a tapered edge **48** of the cutting blade **18** may contact the deflection pin **46** during linear movement of the outer tube **16** to expose the cutting blade **18**. In other words, the deflection pin **46** acts as a ramp to cause the cutting blade **18** to rotate about an axis that extends through the pin **22**, thereby incrementally advancing the cutting blade **18** radially outwardly from the window **20** to the cutting position P2 (see FIGS. **1B** and **3B**). The outer tube **16** of the expandable reamer **10** may additionally include a guide pin **45** that is received within a slot **47** of the inner shaft **14** to guide the outer tube **16** as it moves relative to the inner shaft **14**.

[0042] FIGS. **4** through **9** schematically illustrate an example method for removing diseased bone using the expandable reamer **10** described above and illustrated by FIGS. **1A**, **1B**, **2**, **3A** and **3B**. The exemplary expandable reamer **10** provides a cutting blade **18** that can be incrementally controlled, thus controlling the size of a socket that is formed in bone. It should be understood that the method described herein and shown in FIGS. **4**, **5**, **6**, **7**, **8** and **9** may include a greater or fewer number of steps and that the steps could be performed in a different order within the scope of this disclosure.

[0043] In one non-limiting embodiment, as illustrated by FIG. **4**, the method begins by inserting a guide pin **50** into a bone **52**. In this embodiment, the bone **52** is a femur that includes a femoral head **54**, although the method may be beneficially used elsewhere in a patient. A surgeon or other person of ordinary skill in the art would be able to select an appropriate positioning and/or placement of the guide pin **50** and could use fluoroscopic guidance and/or a targeting guide to achieve proper placement within the bone **52**.

[0044] The guide pin **50** is inserted into diseased bone **56** (i.e., a lesion). In one embodiment, the guide pin **50** is positioned such that it does not pierce the endosteal surface of the femoral head **54**. In other words, the method may be performed subchondrally.

[0045] Once the guide pin **50** has been positioned, a cannulated drill bit **58** is placed over the guide pin **50** to ream a tunnel **60** into the bone **52**, as shown in FIG. **5**. The size of the guide pin **50** and the cannulated drill bit **58** may vary depending upon the size of the patient, among other criteria. Once the bone **52** has been reamed, the cannulated drill bit **58** and guide pin **50** may be removed.

[0046] Next, as illustrated by FIG. **6**, the expandable reamer **10** may be passed into the tunnel **60** and positioned within the bone **52** such that it extends into the diseased bone **56**. During this step of positioning, the cutting blade **18** of the expandable reamer **10** is concealed inside of the outer tube **16** (see position P1 of FIGS. **1A** and **3A**). The tunnel **60** could alternatively be formed without using the guide pin **50**.

[0047] Referring now to FIG. **7**, the cutting blade **18** of the expandable reamer **10** may next be incrementally to a cutting position. For example, the cutting blade **18** can be advanced by disengaging the clutch hub **32** from the threaded hub **30** and subsequently turning the threaded hub in the Z direction to effectuate axial movement of the outer tube **16**, which is converted to rotational movement of the cutting blade **18** by the deflection pin **46** (see FIGS. **3A** and **3B**) to position the cutting blade **18** in the desired cutting position. The desired cutting position may vary depending on the amount of diseased bone **56**.

[0048] The entire expandable reamer **10** may then be rotated, such as with power equipment (not shown), to create a retrograded socket **62** in the bone **52** with the cutting blade **18**, thereby removing the diseased bone **56**. The cutting blade **18** may then be retracted (by turning the threaded hub **30** in an opposite direction) and the expandable reamer **10** removed from the bone **52** after the socket **62** has been adequately formed as shown in FIG. **8**. The tunnel **60** and the socket **62** may be aspirated, such as with a combination of suction and irrigation, to remove any debrided tissue that

may exist after reaming.

[0049] Finally, as shown in FIG. 9, the tunnel 60 and the socket 62 may be backfilled with a biologic 64. The biologic 64 could include a graft, a bone graft, calcium phosphate bone cement, or any other known biologic material. In one embodiment, the biologic 64 is injected with a needle 66 working from the socket 62 toward the tunnel 60. In another embodiment, the tunnel 60 and the socket 62 are completely filled with the biologic 64.

[0050] FIGS. 10A and 10B illustrate another exemplary expandable reamer 110. The expandable reamer 110 could be used in place of the expandable reamer 10 when performing the method shown in FIG. 4 through 9, or some other similar method, for removing diseased bone. The expandable reamer 110 includes a handle 70 and a tube 72 that extends from the handle 70. In one embodiment, the handle 70 and the tube 72 are cannulated along their entire lengths. The tube 72 includes a plurality of windows 76. A plurality of cutting blades 78 are positioned inside of the tube 72 and may be incrementally advanced to protrude from the windows 76 in order to ream a socket in bone.

[0051] In one embodiment, the cutting blades 78 are expandable nitinol wires that have a shape memory. The handle 70 includes an actuator 80 that can be moved into the handle 70 (or vice versa) to position the cutting blades 78 radially outwardly from the windows 76 (i.e., a cutting position in which the cutting blades 78 are transverse to the tube 72). Movement of the actuator 80 in an opposite direction returns the cutting blades 78 to a straight position inside of the tube 72 (i.e., a closed position in which the cutting blades 78 are generally parallel to the tube 72). The actuator 80 can also be turned to adjust the shape of the cutting blades 78.

[0052] FIGS. 11A and 11B illustrate yet another exemplary expandable reamer 210 that can be used to remove diseased bone. In this embodiment, the expandable reamer 210 includes a handle 270, and an outer tube 272 and an inner shaft 273 that extend from the handle 270. The outer tube 272 generally surrounds the inner shaft 273. The handle 270 and the outer tube 272 may be cannulated along their entire lengths.

[0053] The inner shaft 273 can include a plurality of cutting blades 278 that may be incrementally advanced to protrude radially outward from the outer tube 272 in order to ream a socket in bone. In one embodiment, the cutting blades 278 are expandable nitinol wires that have a shape memory. The handle 270 includes an actuator 280 that can be moved away from the handle 270 (or vice versa) to move the outer tube 272, thereby positioning the cutting blades 278 radially outwardly to a cutting position. In one embodiment, movement of the outer tube 272 causes the cutting blades 278 to spring outwardly. Movement of the actuator 280 in an opposite direction returns the cutting blades 278 to a straight position inside of the outer tube 272 (i.e., a closed position).

[0054] Although the different non-limiting embodiments are illustrated as having specific components, the embodiments of this disclosure are not limited to those particular combinations. It is possible to use some of the components or features from any of the non-limiting embodiments in combination with features or components from any of the other non-limiting embodiments.

[0055] It should be understood that like reference numerals identify corresponding or similar elements throughout the several drawings. It should also be understood that although a particular component arrangement is disclosed and illustrated in these exemplary embodiments, other arrangements could also benefit from the teachings of this disclosure.

[0056] The foregoing description shall be interpreted as illustrative and not in any limiting sense. A worker of ordinary skill in the art would understand that certain modifications could come within the scope of this disclosure. For these reasons, the following claims should be studied to determine the true scope and content of this disclosure.

Claims

- 1.** A method for removing a diseased bone comprising: reaming a tunnel into a bone; inserting an expandable reamer into the tunnel; disengaging a clutch hub from a threaded hub of a clutch assembly of the expandable reamer; rotating the clutch hub relative to the threaded hub, wherein rotating the clutch hub causes a cutting blade of the expandable reamer to move between a first position in which the cutting blade is concealed inside a tube of the expandable reamer and a second position in which the cutting blade is exposed outside of the tube; and rotating the expandable reamer while the cutting blade is in the second position to remove the diseased bone.
- 2.** The method as recited in claim 1, wherein a rotational movement of the clutch hub causes linear movement of the tube.
- 3.** The method as recited in claim 1, wherein rotating the clutch hub causes a tapered edge of the cutting blade to be moved into contact with a deflection device, thereby deflecting the cutting blade radially outward of the tube of the expandable reamer.
- 4.** The method as recited in claim 1, wherein rotating the clutch assembly includes: rotating the clutch hub relative to the threaded hub to effectuate an axial movement of the tube; and converting the axial movement of the tube into rotational movement of the cutting blade via a deflection device of the expandable reamer.
- 5.** The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the bone is a femur that includes a femoral head, and further wherein the diseased bone includes a lesion located inside the femoral head.
- 6.** The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the cutting blade is hinged to a shaft of the expandable reamer by a pin such that the cutting blade rotates about an axis that extends through the pin as the clutch hub is rotated.
- 7.** The method as recited in claim 1, comprising: backfilling the tunnel with a biologic after removing the diseased bone.
- 8.** The method as recited in claim 7, wherein backfilling the tunnel includes injecting the biologic with a needle.
- 9.** The method as recited in claim 7, wherein the biologic includes a graft, a bone graft, or a bone cement.
- 10.** The method as recited in claim 1, wherein disengaging the clutch hub from the threaded hub of the clutch assembly includes pulling the clutch hub in a direction away from the threaded hub.
- 11.** The method as recited in claim 10, wherein pulling the clutch hub away from the threaded hub overcomes a biasing force of a spring located within the clutch hub.
- 12.** The method as recited in claim 10, wherein pulling the clutch hub away from the threaded hub disengages a tooth of one of the clutch hub or the threaded hub from a recess of the other of the clutch hub or the threaded hub.
- 13.** The method as recited in claim 10, wherein rotating the clutch hub relative to the threaded hub occurs after pulling the clutch hub away from the threaded hub.
- 14.** The method as recited in claim 10, wherein teeth of one of the clutch hub or the threaded hub are removably received within recesses of the other of the clutch hub or the threaded hub when the expandable reamer is in the first position.
- 15.** The method as recited in claim 14, wherein a distance between a first tooth and a second tooth of the teeth corresponds to a specific radially outward advancement of the cutting blade.
- 16.** A method for removing a diseased portion of a bone comprising: positioning a surgical device relative to the diseased portion of the bone, the surgical device including a cutting blade that is concealed inside the surgical device while the surgical device is being positioned relative to the diseased portion of the bone; and incrementally advancing the cutting blade into a cutting position relative to the diseased portion of the bone, wherein incrementally advancing the cutting blade includes pulling a clutch hub away from a threaded hub of a clutch assembly of the surgical device and then, while holding the clutch hub apart from the threaded hub, rotating the clutch hub relative to the threaded hub to effectuate an axial movement of a tube or a shaft of the surgical device.

17. The method as recited in claim 16, wherein the axial movement is converted into a rotational movement of the cutting blade by a deflection device of the surgical device.

18. The method as recited in claim 17, wherein the deflection device deflects the cutting blade radially outward of the tube as a tapered edge of the cutting blade is moved into contact with the deflection device in response to rotating the clutch hub.

19. The method as recited in claim 16, comprising: rotating the surgical device to remove the diseased portion of the bone after incrementally advancing the cutting blade into the cutting position.

20. The method as recited in claim 19, comprising: backfilling a tunnel of the bone with a biologic after rotating the surgical device to remove the diseased portion of the bone.
