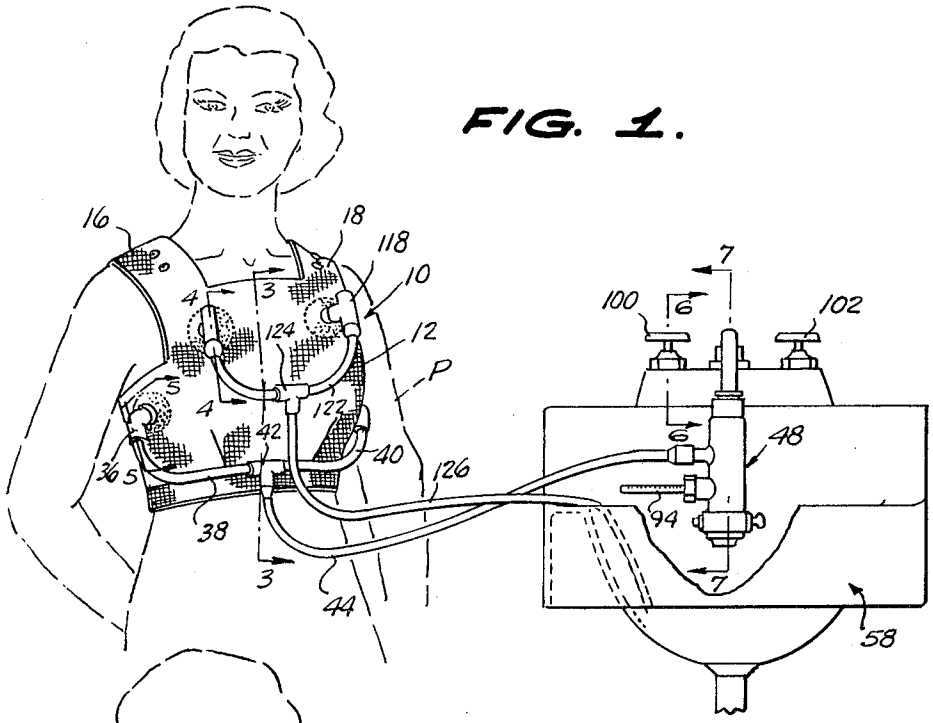
March 17, 1970 C. J. NUNNERY 3,500,832

BREAST DEVELOPING JACKET

Filed Oct. 27, 1967 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1.



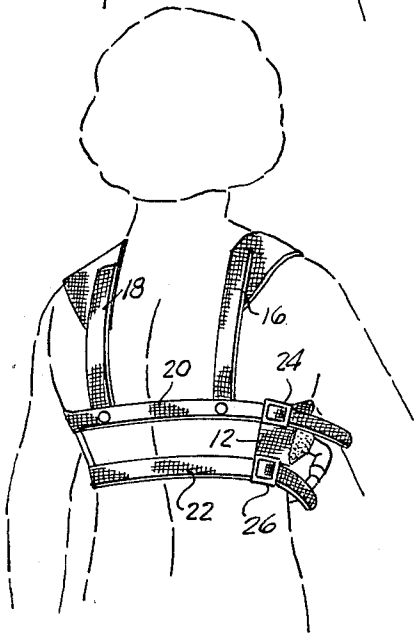


FIG. 2.

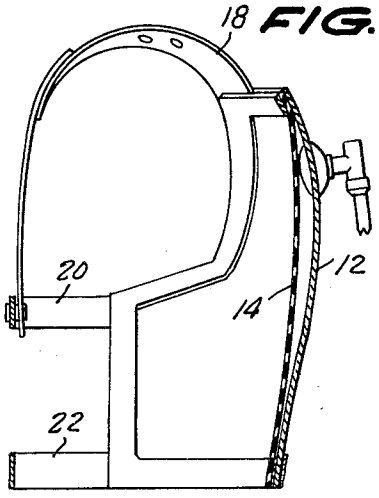


FIG. 3.

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FIG. 4.

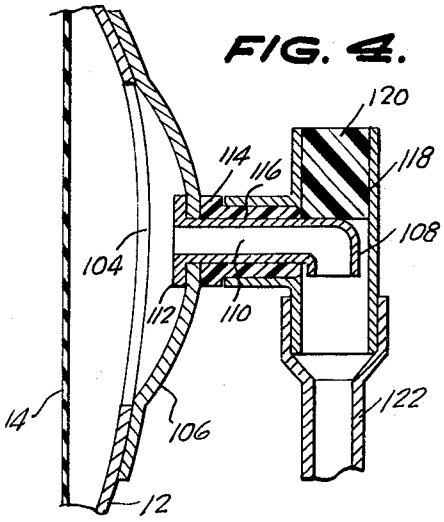


FIG. 5.

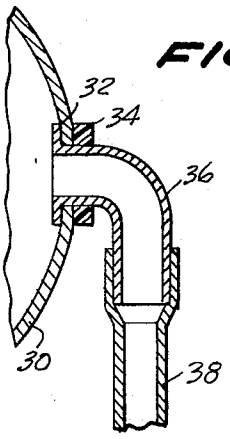


FIG. 6.

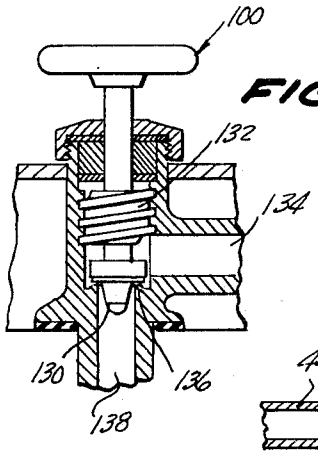
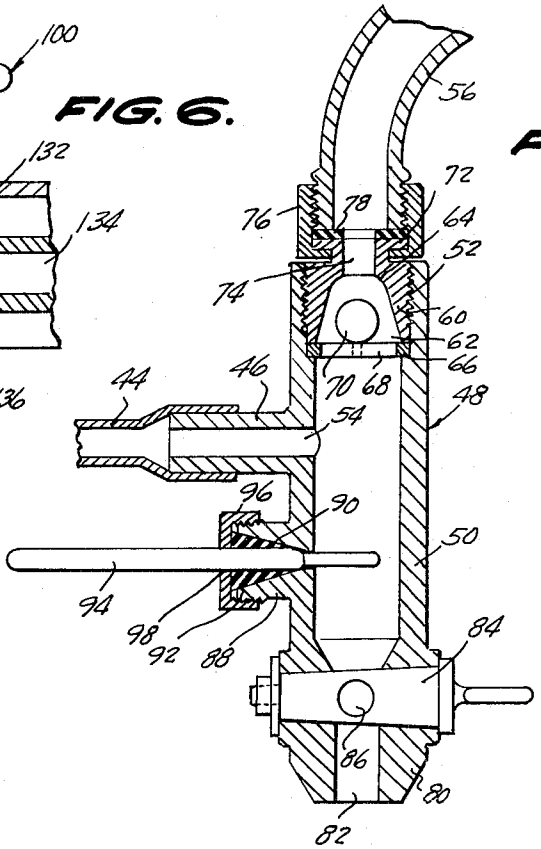


FIG. 7.



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BREAST DEVELOPING JACKET

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Int. Cl. A61f 7/00
U.S. Cl. 128—379 7 Claims

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A jacket for developing a woman's breasts having an inner and outer ply of fabric suspended from the shoulders and covering the chest. The inner ply is distensible relative to the outer ply. Warm water is circulated between the plies and causes the inner ply to distend and conform to the contour of the wearer's breasts. The circulation of warm water around the breasts enlarges the arteries and veins therein, by increasing blood circulation, and also causes the storage of fat tissue in the heated area.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the invention

This invention relates to a therapeutic device, and more particularly, a jacket for use in developing a woman's breast by hydrotherapy.

Description of prior art

While devices for use in breast development by hydrotherapeutic techniques are known, e.g., as illustrated in U.S. Patent Nos. 889,964 and 2,911,969, none involve the use of a jacket which can be worn by the patient during treatment. The prior art devices require the patient to be upon a modified table incorporating the apparatus or to hold pads to the breasts.

SUMMARY OF INVENTION

The present invention resides in a jacket for developing a woman's breasts and includes an inner and outer ply of non-porous fabric adapted to be suspended from the patient's shoulders, and covers the chest. The inner ply is distensible relative to the outer ply. Warm water is circulated between the plies and causes the inner ply to distend and conform to the contour of the wearer's breasts, assuring complete coverage of therapeutic activity not heretofore attained by the prior art devices, and localizing developed heat at the breasts. The circulation of warm water around the breasts enlarges the arteries and veins therein, by increasing blood circulation, and also causes the storage of fat tissue in the heated area.

The water circulation system includes a mixing chamber for receiving hot and cold water from a tap. A bypass valve in the mixing chamber permits the mixed water to be drained from the system until a predetermined temperature is reached in the mixing chamber and indicated visually on a thermometer in the mixing chamber. The bypass valve is then closed and water is forced under pressure between the plies of the jacket, and leaves through a drain connected to the outer ply.

Means, such as a porous plug, is provided in the drain conduit, to permit the introduction of air. This compensates for the pumping action of the wearer's chest upon inhaling, which would normally cause water to surge through the jacket. The wearer's chest would push the distensible inner ply against the circulating water, increasing its rate of discharge through the drain. The vacuum created by exhaling would create surges to fill the void. The introduction of air into the void maintains a uniform circulation rate.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Further objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent from the following description and claims, and from the accompanying drawings, wherein:

FIGURE 1 is a front perspective view of the jacket comprising the subject of the instant invention, and also illustrates the manner in which it is worn and used;

FIGURE 2 is a rear perspective view of the jacket illustrated in FIGURE 1;

FIGURE 3 is a cross-sectional view through the jacket, taken substantially along the plane illustrated by line 3—3 of FIGURE 1;

FIGURE 4 is a cross-sectional view through a drain outlet of the jacket, taken substantially along the plane indicated by line 4—4 of FIGURE 1;

FIGURE 5 is a cross-sectional view through a water inlet of the jacket, taken substantially along the plane indicated by line 5—5 of FIGURE 1;

FIGURE 6 is a cross-sectional view through a water tap used in connection with the jacket of the present invention, taken substantially along the plane indicated by line 6—6 of FIGURE 1; and

FIGURE 7 is a longitudinal cross-sectional view through a water mixing chamber used in connection with jacket of the present invention, taken substantially along the plane indicated by line 7—7 of FIGURE 1.

DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Referring now to the drawings in detail, wherein like numerals indicate like elements throughout the several views, the jacket of the present invention is generally indicated by the numeral **10**.

The jacket **10** has an outer ply **12** of a relatively thick nonporous textured fabric joined by conventional means, such as stitching, to an inner ply **14** of a thin, relatively distensible nonporous fabric, such as rubber. The plies **12** and **14** are coextensive in length across the front of the jacket.

Outer ply **12** has integral shoulder straps **16** and **18**, which may be formed from one or two pieces, and are permanently fastened to lateral straps **20** and **22**, integrally connected to one side of outer ply **12**. Buckles **24** and **26** are provided on the opposite side of outer ply **12** for receiving and securing straps **20** and **22**, respectively, after the jacket **10** is positioned as shown in FIGURES 1 and 2 on the upper torso portion of a patient P so that the outer and inner plies cover the chest portion and breasts.

Warm water is adapted to be circulated between plies **12** and **14** of the jacket **10**. The water pressure developed between the plies will cause the inner ply **14** to distend relative to outer ply **12** and conform to the contour of the patient's breasts. This assures complete exposure of the breasts to the therapeutic activity of the water.

The circulation of warm water around the breasts enlarges the arteries and veins therein, by increasing blood circulation. This in turn will cause the breasts to develop and increase in size. It is also known that the storage of fat tissues occurs in the area exposed to the heat of the circulating water.

The water circulation system used in conjunction with jacket **10** is shown in FIGURES 1, and 4 to 7.

Outer ply **12** includes a pair of water inlet openings. A nonporous fabric patch **30** overlies each opening and has attached thereto, by means of flange **32** and clamp washer **34**, a pipe elbow **36**.

Flexible water hoses **38** and **40** are press-fitted onto the pipe elbows **36**, and are joined by a standard plumbing T-fitting or joint **42**. T-fitting **42** also receives a flexible supply hose **44**, press-fitted at its opposite end onto an outlet stem **46** of a hot and cold water mixing chamber **48**.

Mixing chamber **48** includes an elongated cylindrical housing **50**, mounting a coupling member **76** at its inlet end. An outlet bore **54** is provided in stem **46**, at substantially its midpoint. Coupling member **76** is normally in communication with a flexible hose connection **56** to the hot and cold water taps of a standard water source, such as a sink **58**.

Threadedly connected at **52** is a check valve housing **60**. Valve housing **60** opens at one end in a bore **62** having tapering sides terminating in a spherical valve seat **64**. Welded, or equivalently connected to the end of housing **60** is a screen **66**, having cross bars **68**. Seated on the cross bars **68** is a floatable neoprene rubber ball or valve **70**.

The opposite end of valve housing **60** includes a T-shaped head **72** extending out of cylindrical housing **50**. Head **72** has a bore **74** in axial alignment and in communication with tapering bore **62**. Internally threaded coupling member **76** threadedly received hose connection **56** and clamps it to a rubber washer **78** seated on top of T-shaped head **72**.

The interior of cylindrical housing **50** normally provides communication of hose **56** through tapered bore **62** with outlet bore **54** in stem **46**.

Cylindrical housing **50** also includes an integral extension **80** at its lower end. Extension **80** has a central bore **82** in communication with the interior of cylindrical housing **50** for draining water therefrom and preventing flow through outlet bore **54**. Bore **82** can be closed by a rotating stopcock positioned laterally across bore **82**. Stopcock **84** includes a passageway **86** which can be axially aligned with bore **82** to permit drainage from the interior of housing **50**, but when passageway **86** is perpendicular to bore **82**, drainage cannot occur, allowing water to fill the interior of housing **50** and flow through outlet bore **54** to jacket **10**.

Housing **50** also has a lateral externally threaded stem **88**, having a tapered bore **90**. A rubber seal **92** frictionally carrying a thermometer **94** through its midsection is inserted in bore **90**, and a cap **96**, having a hole **98** is passed over the thermometer and threadedly connected to stem **88**. Cap **96** clamps seal **92** and thermometer **94** in place.

In use, hot and cold tap water flows from hose **56**, through bore **74**, tapered bore **62** into the interior of housing **50**. Stopcock **84** is opened and the water is drained through passageway **86** and bore **82**. The temperature of the water is visually noted on thermometer **94**. Depending upon the fabric used in constructing jacket **10** and the amount of heat needed for good therapeutic results, the temperature of the water flowing through housing **50** is adjusted by opening or closing the hot and cold water taps **100** and **102** on sink **58**. When the desired temperature is read on thermometer **94**, drain bore **82** is closed by rotating stopcock **84**. Water will build up in housing **50** and the pressure will ultimately force it through outlet bore **54** in hose **44** and hence to jacket **10**.

Should any back surge occur in the general water system while the jacket was used, the pressure of the water supply from the jacket **10** would cause the ball **70** to seal in the spherical radius **64** and prevent water from re-entering the water system until normal water service was restored, or until the water supply valves were closed, or chamber **50** and jacket **10** were emptied by opening valve **84**.

Water leaves the space between plies **12** and **14** through a pair of outlet openings **104** in outer ply **12**. A nonporous fabric patch **106** covers each outlet opening **104** and is connected to outer ply **12** by conventional means, such as stitching or cementing. A drain pipe **108**, having a bore **110** in communication with the space between plies **12** and **14**, is connected to fabric patch **106** by a flange **112** and a clamp washer **114**. Washer **114** has a reduced diameter outer portion **116**, on which is press-fitted, a leg of a T-shaped fitting **118**. One end of the T is closed by an air pervious plug **120**, which can be formed from sponge material, while the other end of the T has a flexible hose **122** press-fitted thereon.

The hoses **122** are joined to a T-shaped fitting or joint **124**, and are thus connected to a flexible drain hose **126**, which may be disposed in the basin of sink **58**.

As the patient P inhales, her chest will tend to push inner ply **14** and pump the circulating water through the drain pipes **108**. Upon exhaling, a vacuum or void will be created between plies **12** and **14**, which will tend to pull water into the jacket in surges. However, air pervious plug **120** allows air to enter the jacket and fill the void described, and the water flow rate is substantially, uniformly maintained.

The taps **100** and **102** can also be modified by use of a cone-shaped impediment or valves **130** on the end of lead screw **132** of the taps. The impediment **130** aids in a more exact control of water flow to jacket **10**, because the amount of water allowed to be introduced to hose **56**, in communication with tap line **134**, can be varied critically by moving conical impediment or valve **130** away from its seat **136** on top of water inlet line **138**. The space between the conical valve **130** and its seat **138** gradually increases, so that the water inlet flow can be varied from a minimum to a full flow condition, as lead screw **12** is moved upwardly, as shown in FIGURE 6. For the purposes of this invention a minimum flow is more ideal, since a fast flow will cause a greater fluctuation in heat level and will require constant adjustment.

While a specific embodiment of my invention has been disclosed in the foregoing description, it will be understood that various modifications within the spirit of the invention may occur to those skilled in the art. Therefore, it is intended that no limitation be placed on the invention except as defined by the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A jacket for aiding in the development of a woman's breasts comprising a fabric covering having an inner and outer ply with a water passageway therebetween, means for securing said fabric covering to the upper torso portion of the wearer of said jacket so that the inner ply covers the breast portion of the torso, means for circulating water through said passageway for stimulating blood circulation in the breast portion contacting said inner ply, said water circulating means including inlet and outlet means communicating with said jacket passageway, a source of water connected to said inlet means, a drain conduit connected to said outlet means, and means for introducing air into said drain conduit.

2. A jacket in accordance with claim **1** wherein said air introduction means includes an air previous plug in said drain conduit means.

3. A jacket in accordance with claim **1**, wherein said water circulating means includes a mixing chamber having an inlet connected to a source of warm water, check valve means adjacent the inlet for preventing back flow of water through said mixing chamber, and an outlet communicating with said passageway between said plies.

4. A jacket in accordance with claim **3** wherein said mixing chamber includes valve means for bypassing its outlet, and temperature sensing means carried by said mixing chamber for determining the water temperature within said chamber.

5. A jacket for aiding in the development of a woman's breasts comprising a fabric covering having an inner and outer ply with a water passageway therebetween, means for securing said fabric covering to the upper portion of the wearer of said jacket so that the inner ply covers the breast portion of the torso, means for circulating water through said passageway for stimulating blood circulation in said breast portion, said water circulating means including inlet and outlet means communicating with said passageway, a source of warm water connected to said inlet means and communicating with a mixing chamber having an inlet and outlet, check valve means adjacent

said mixing chamber inlet for preventing back flow of water through said mixing chamber, said mixing chamber outlet communicating with said jacket passageway.

6. A jacket in accordance with claim 5, wherein said mixing chamber includes valve means for bypassing its outlet, and temperature sensing means carried by said mixing chamber for determining the water temperature within said chamber.

7. A jacket in accordance with claim 5, wherein said mixing chamber outlet includes inlet and outlet means communicating with said jacket passageway, a source of water connected to said inlet means, a drain conduit connected to said outlet means, and means for introducing air into said drain conduit comprising an air-pervious plug.

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L. W. TRAPP, Primary Examiner

U.S. Cl. X.R.

128—400, 402