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(54) **COMBINATION ANCHOR FOR AN EXERCISE DEVICE**

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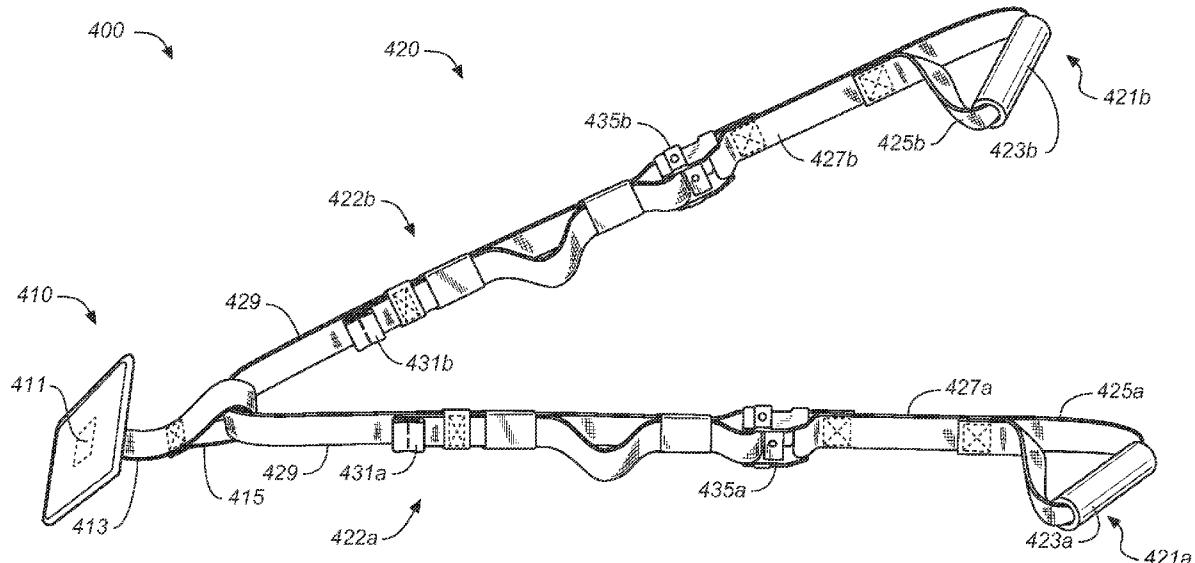
(52) **U.S. Cl.** 482/92

(21) Appl. No.: **11/948,868**

ABSTRACT

(22) Filed: **Nov. 30, 2007**

An apparatus for connecting an exercise device to a structure is described. The apparatus includes two different attachment devices, such as a door anchor and a ring. The door anchor is supportable by a closed door. The ring loops back on the apparatus to form a loop that may be wrapped about a support structure. Alternatively, the ring may be supported directly by the structure, as through an eye bolt attached to a wall.



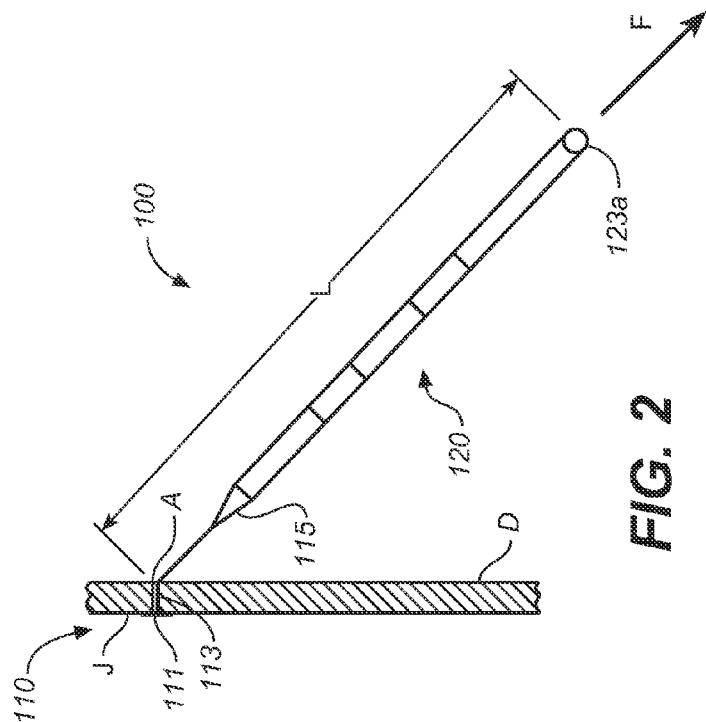


FIG. 2

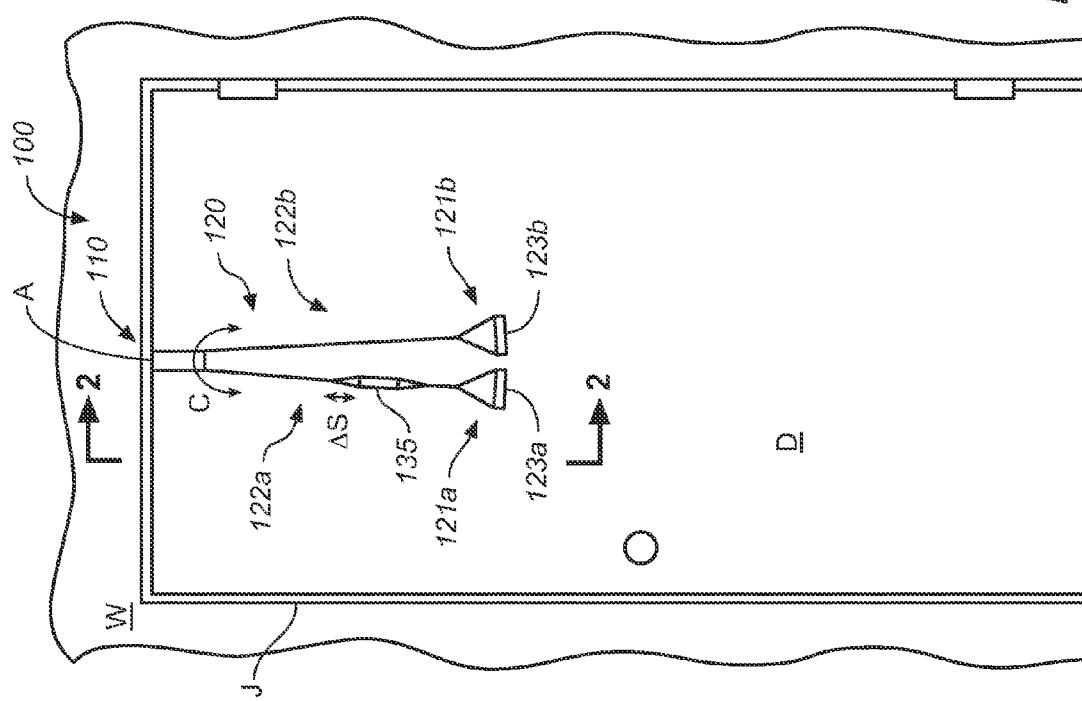


FIG. 1

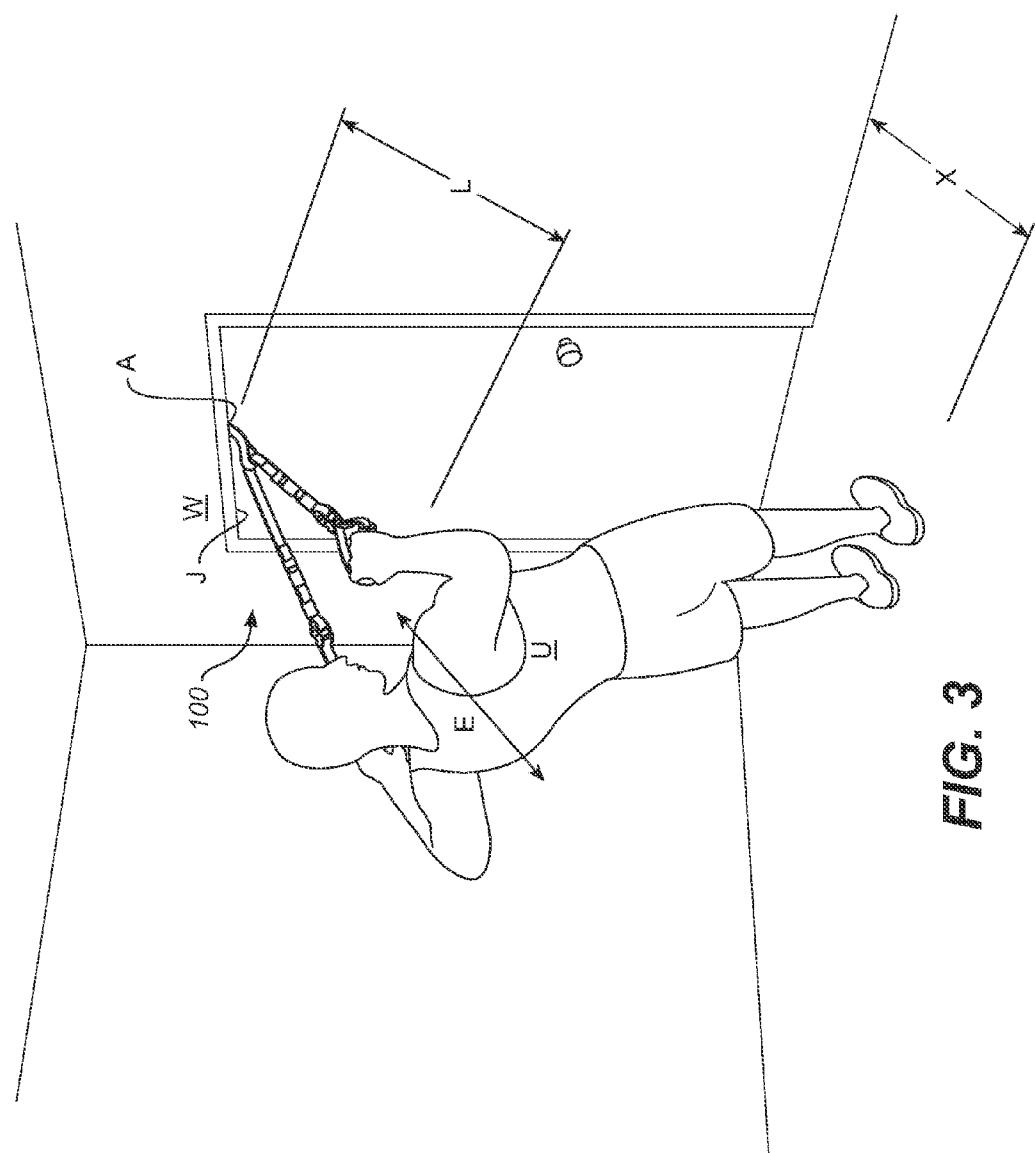


FIG. 3

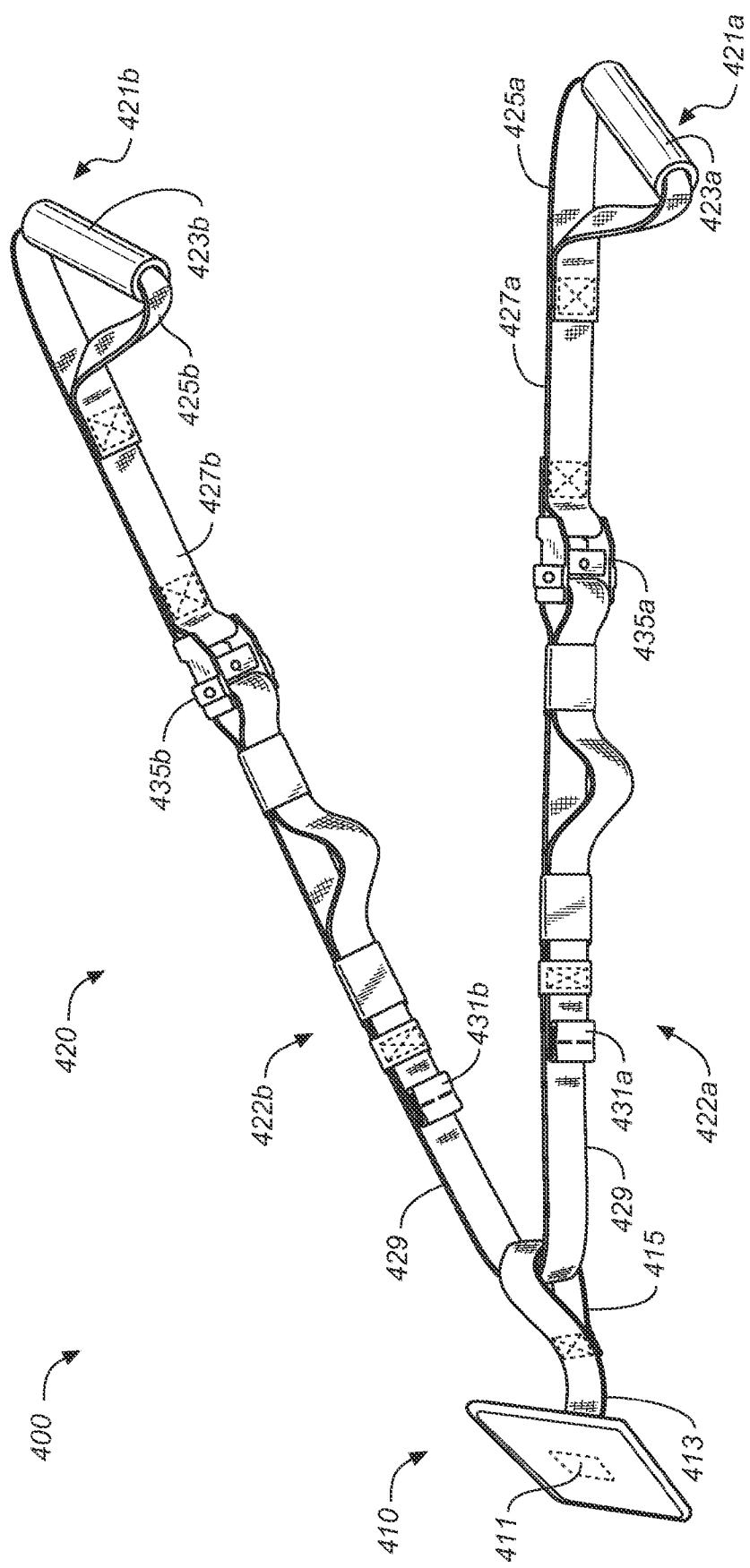


FIG. 4

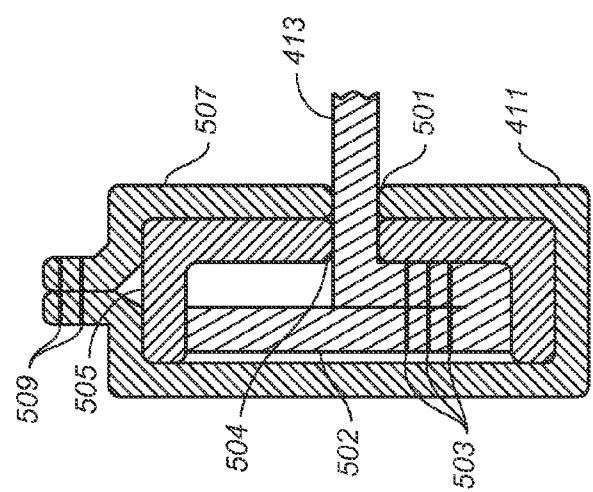
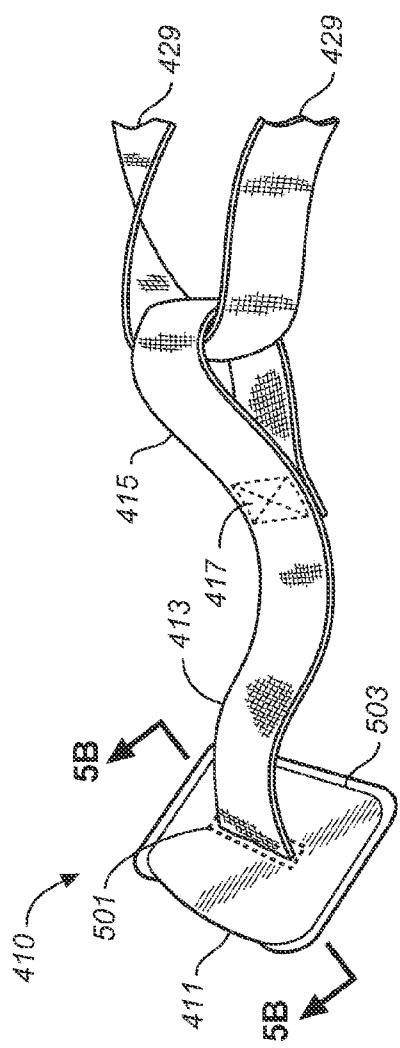


FIG. 5B

FIG. 5A



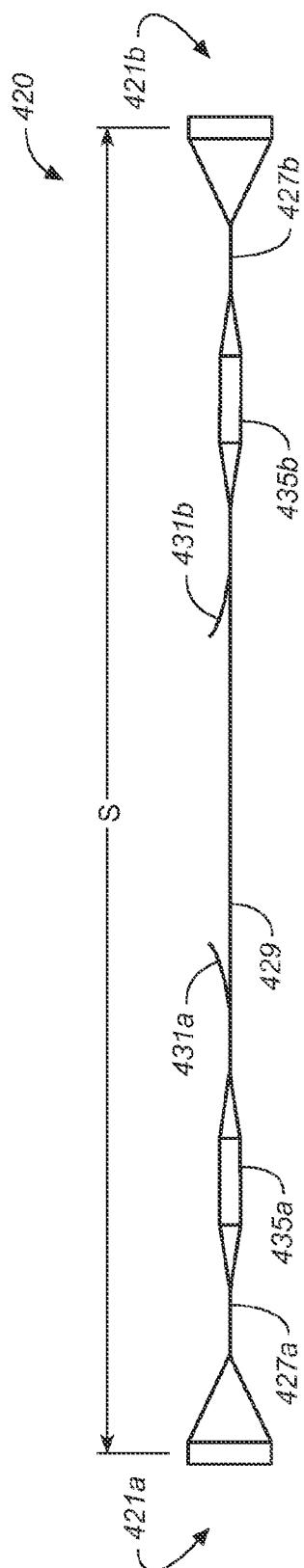


FIG. 6

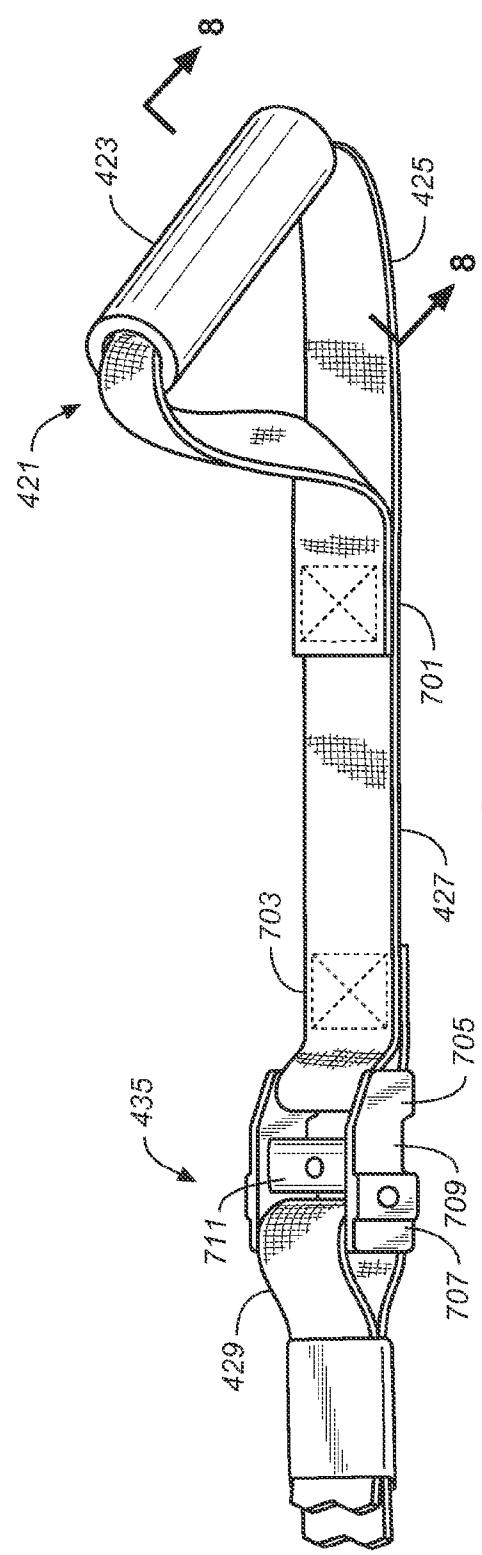


FIG. 7

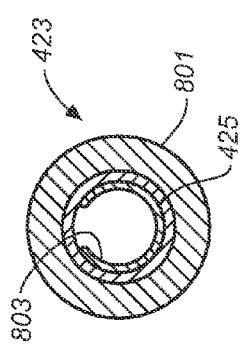


FIG. 8

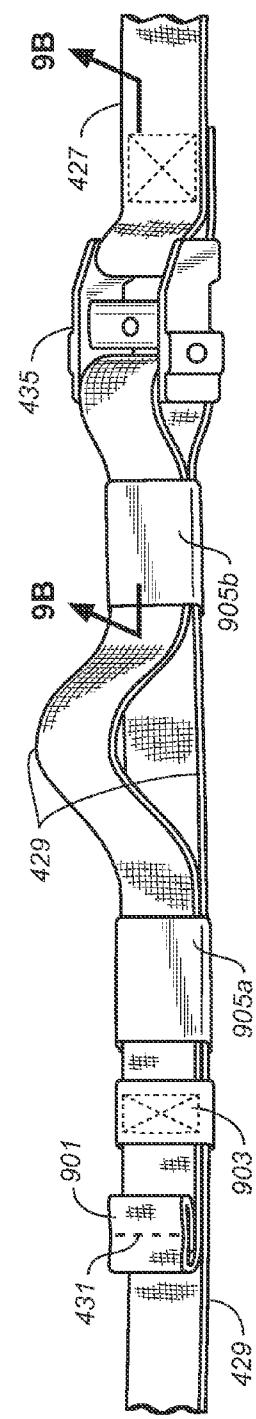


FIG. 9A

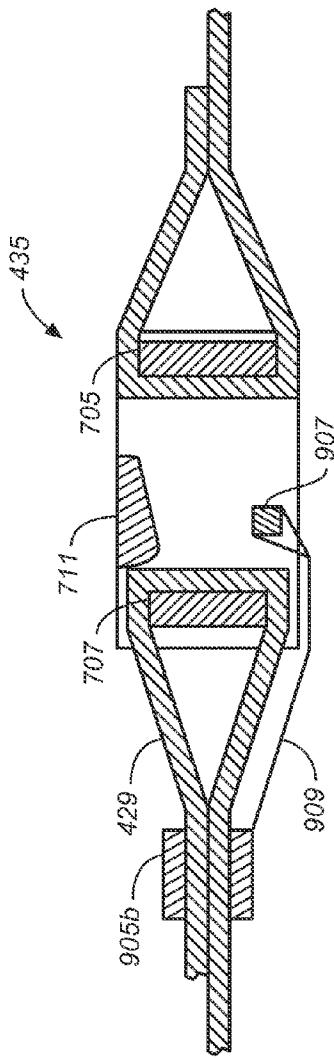


FIG. 9B

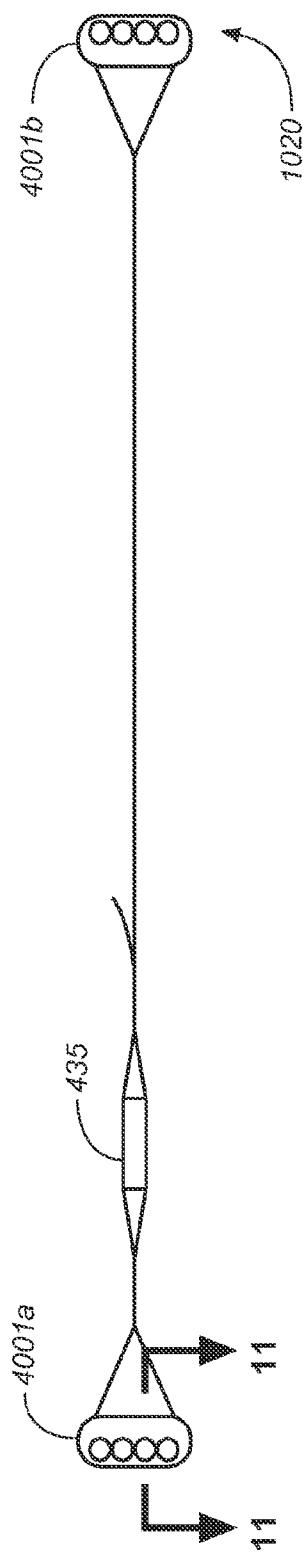


FIG. 10

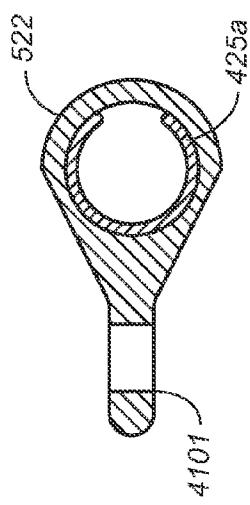


FIG. 11

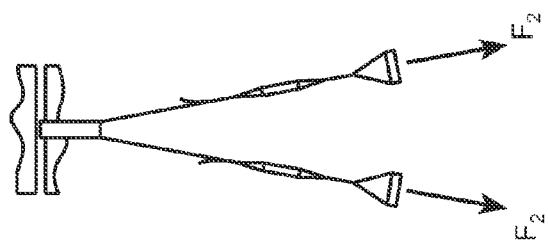


FIG. 12D

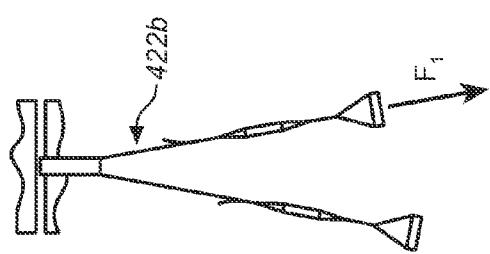


FIG. 12C

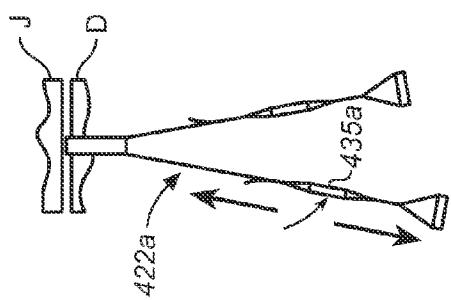


FIG. 12B

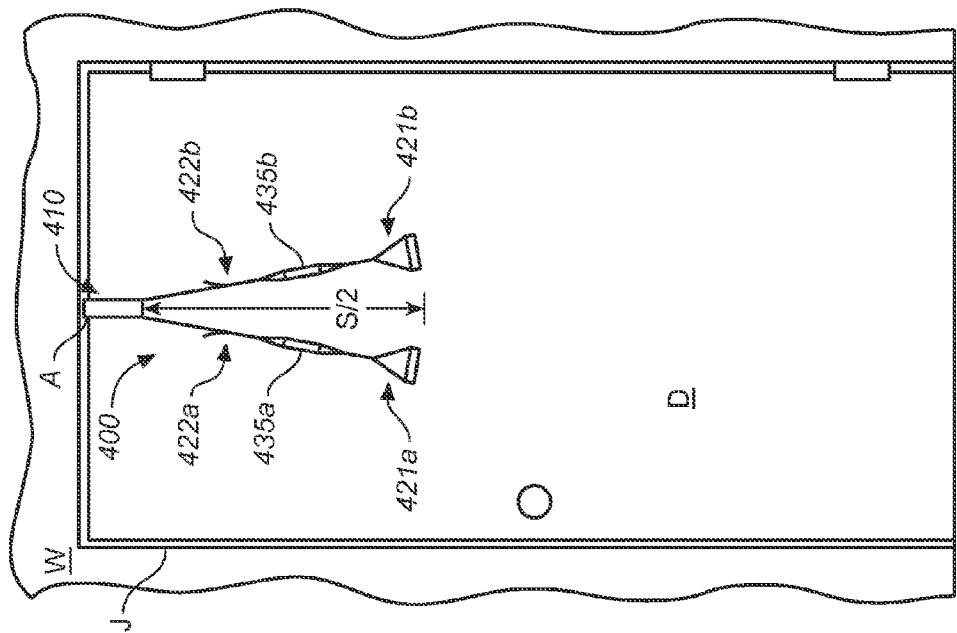


FIG. 12A

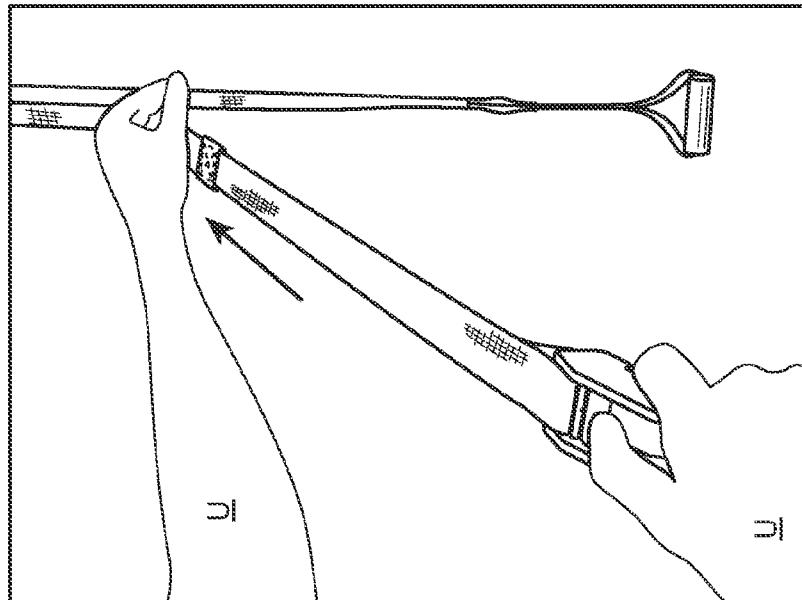


FIG. 12B''

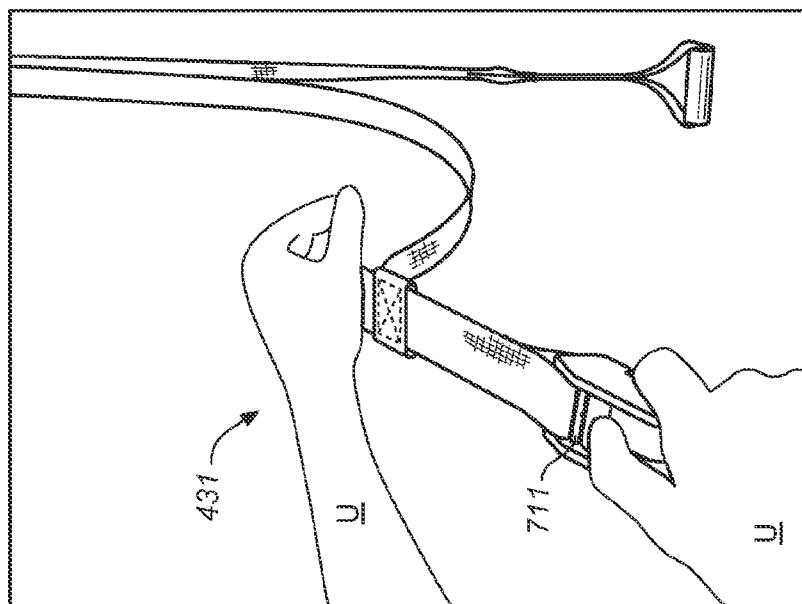


FIG. 12B'

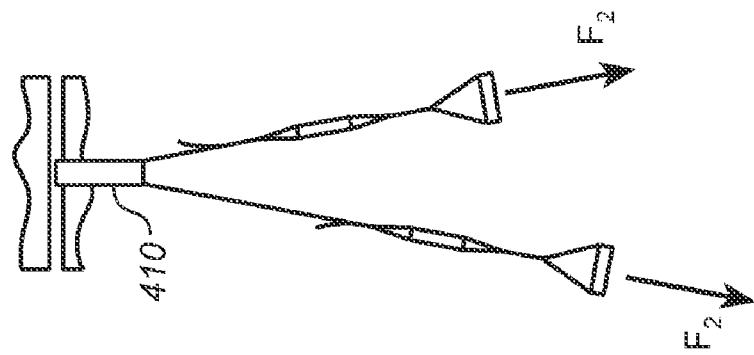


FIG. 13C

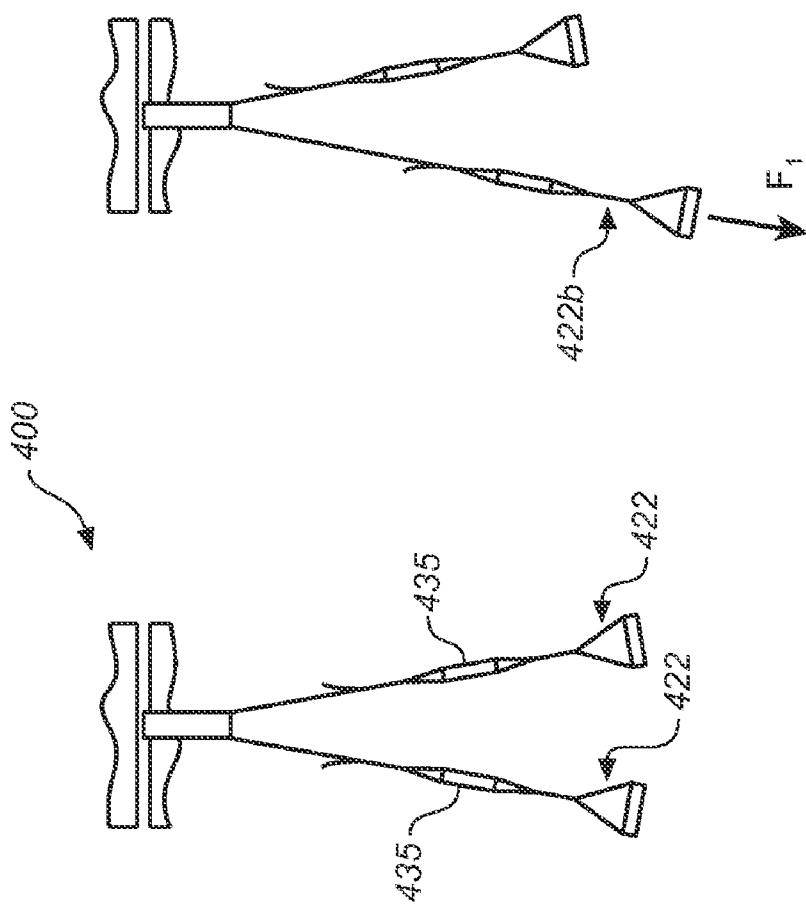


FIG. 13B

FIG. 13A

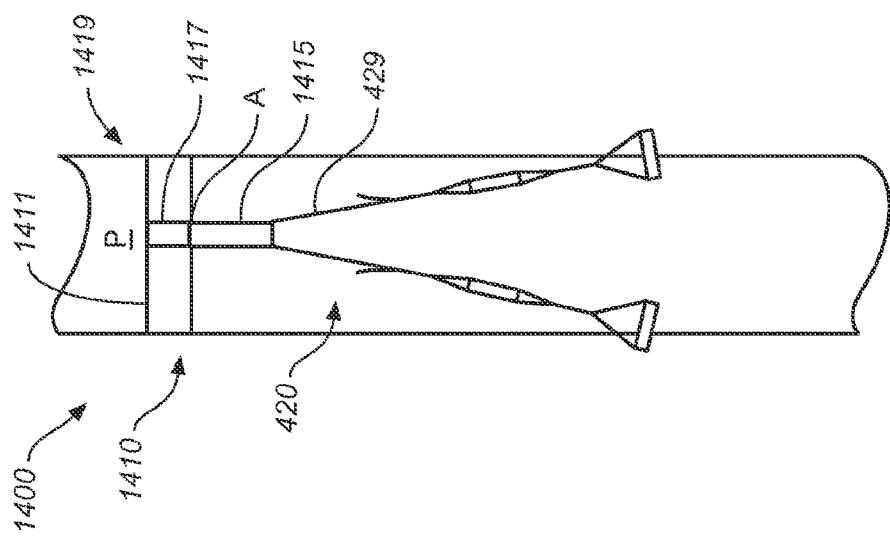


FIG. 14B

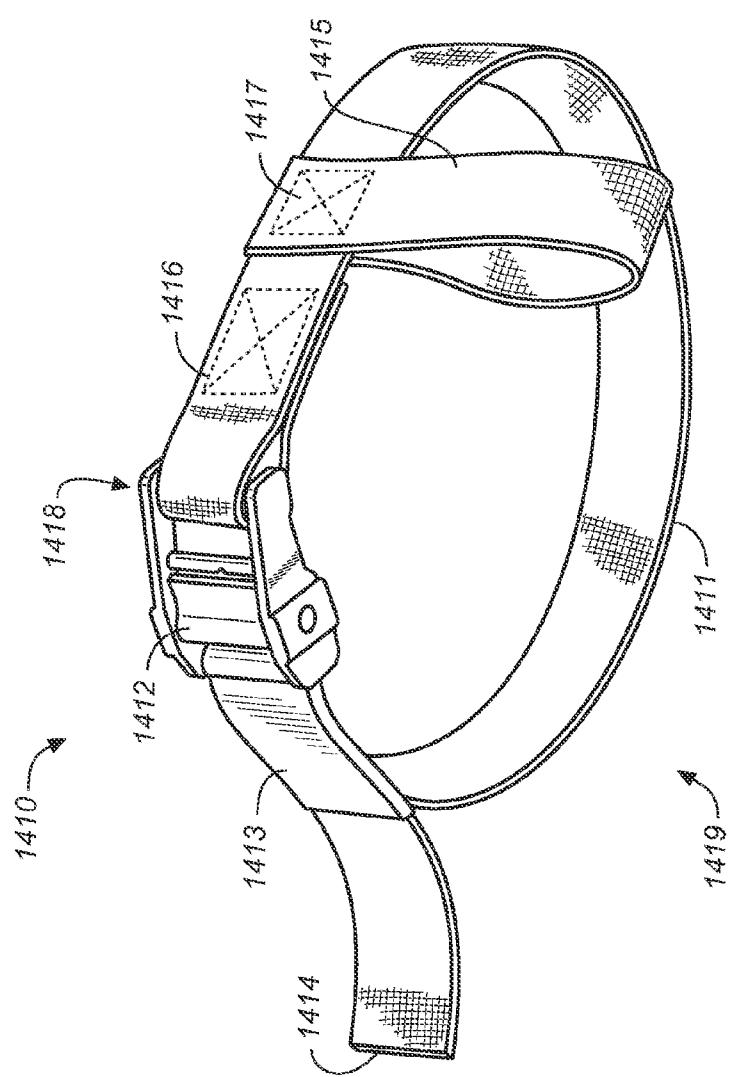


FIG. 14A

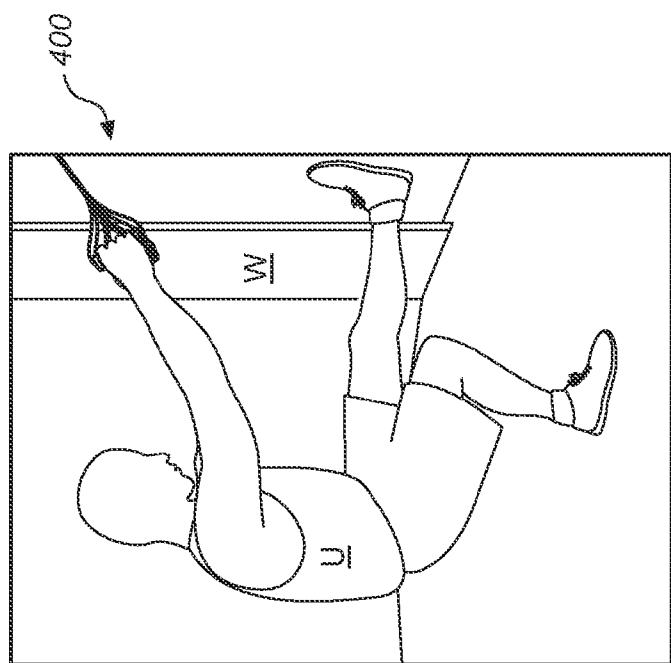


FIG. 15B

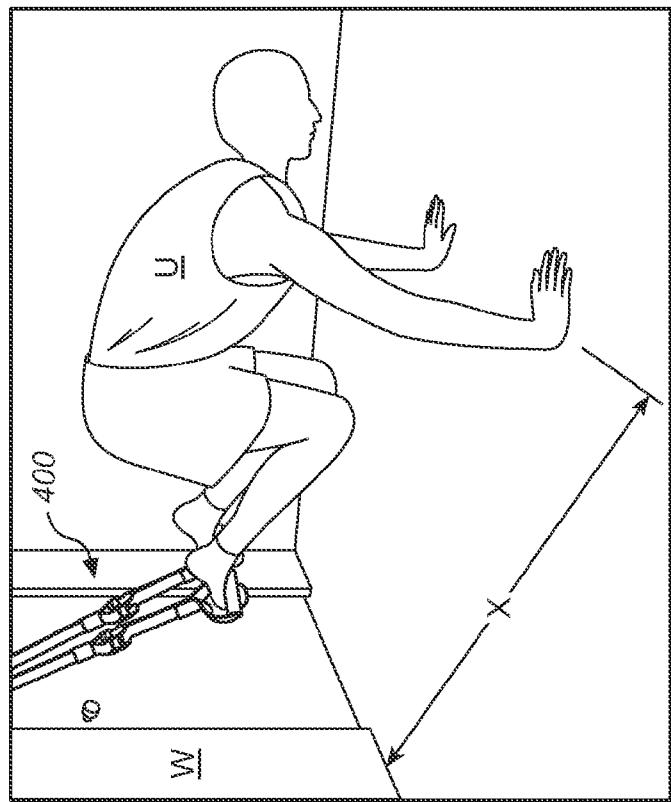


FIG. 15A

FIG. 15E

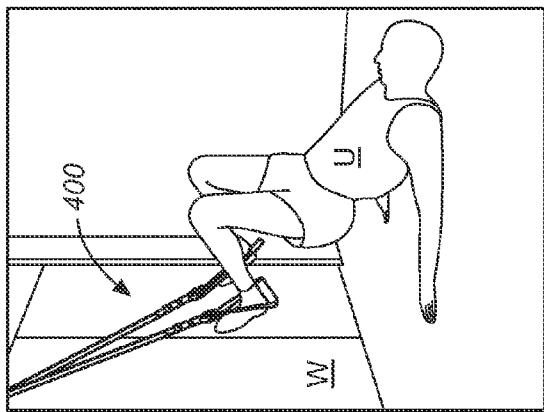


FIG. 15F

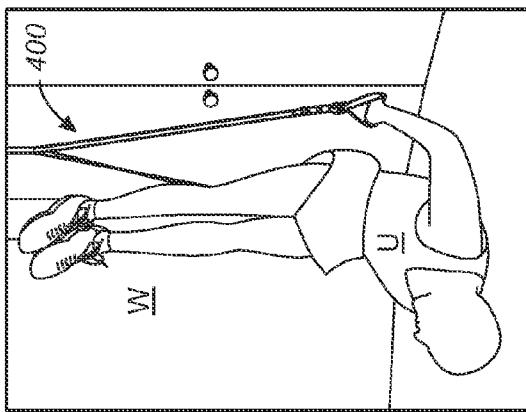


FIG. 15C

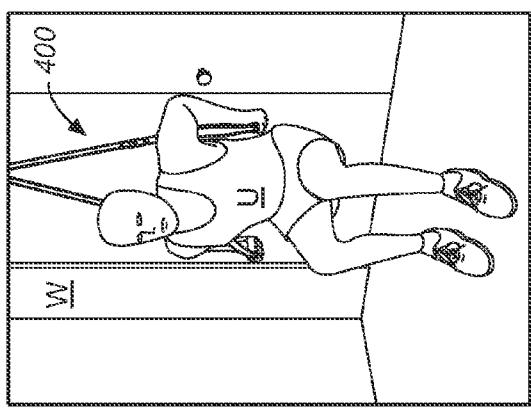
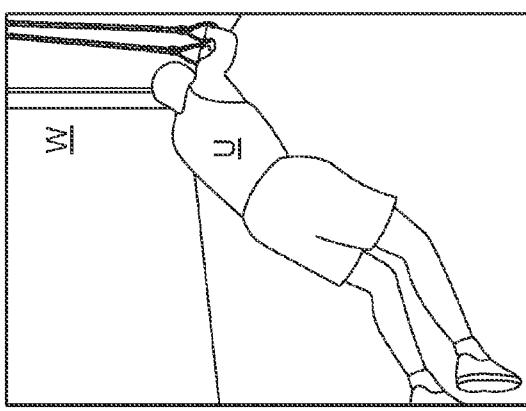


FIG. 15D



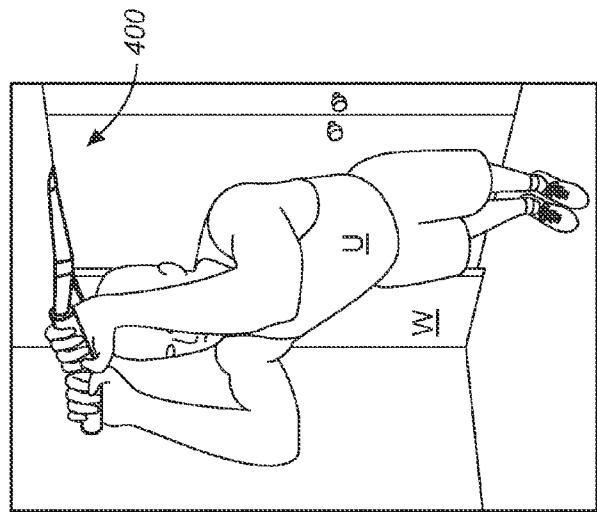


FIG. 15I

FIG. 15G

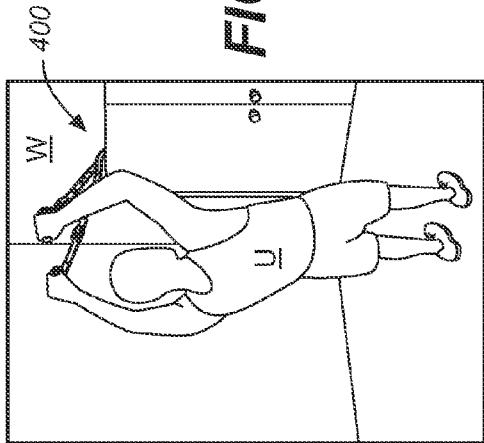
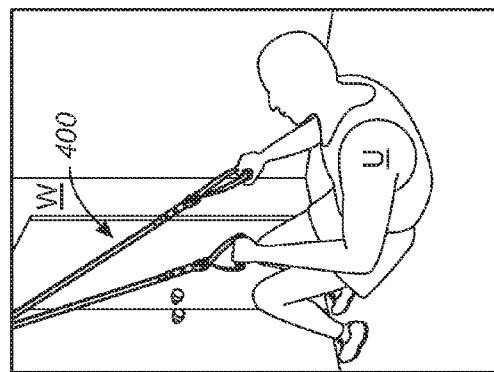


FIG. 15H



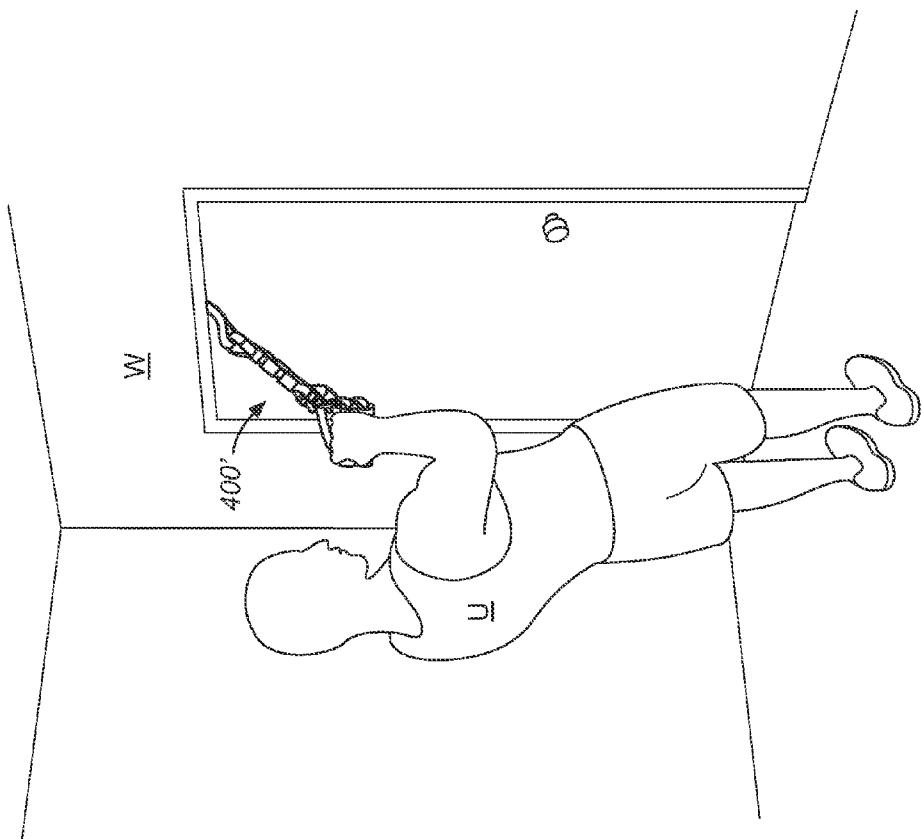


FIG. 16B

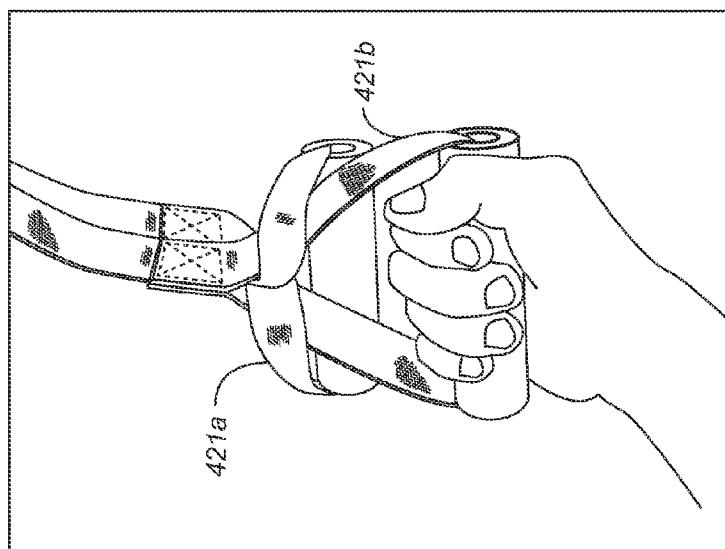
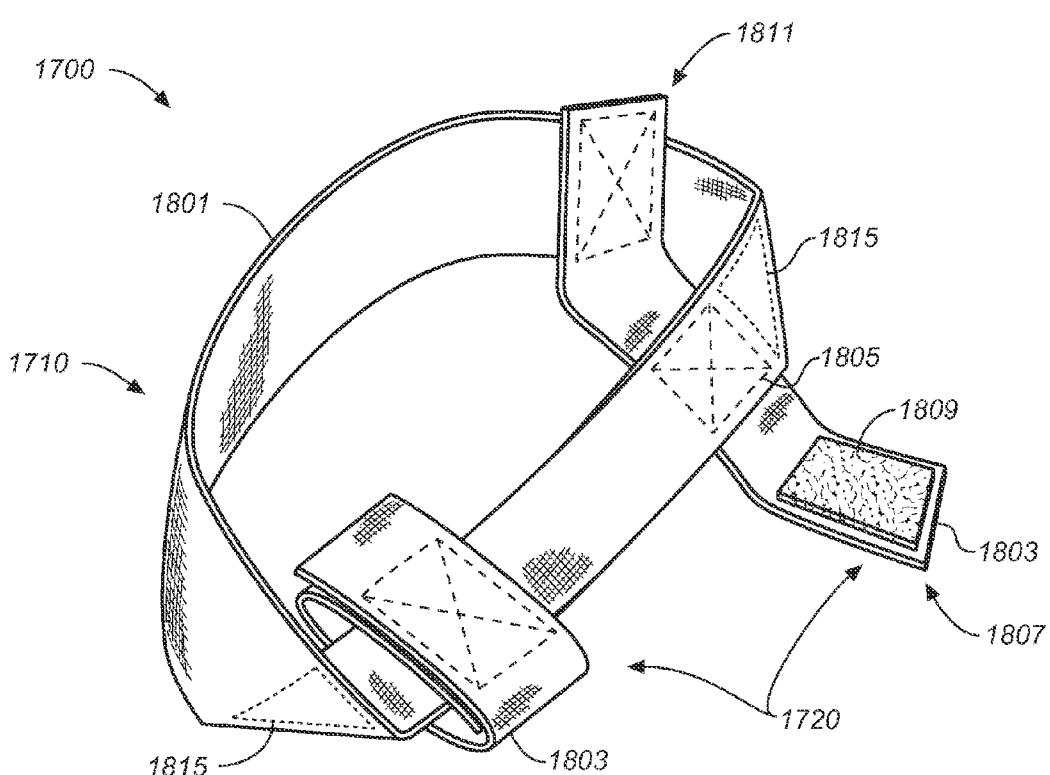
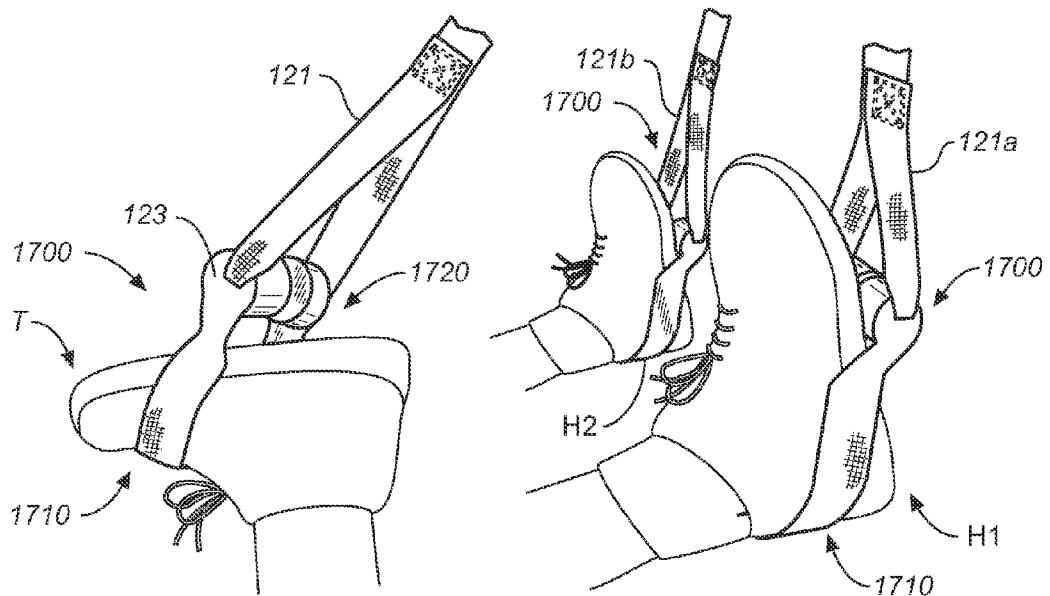


FIG. 16A



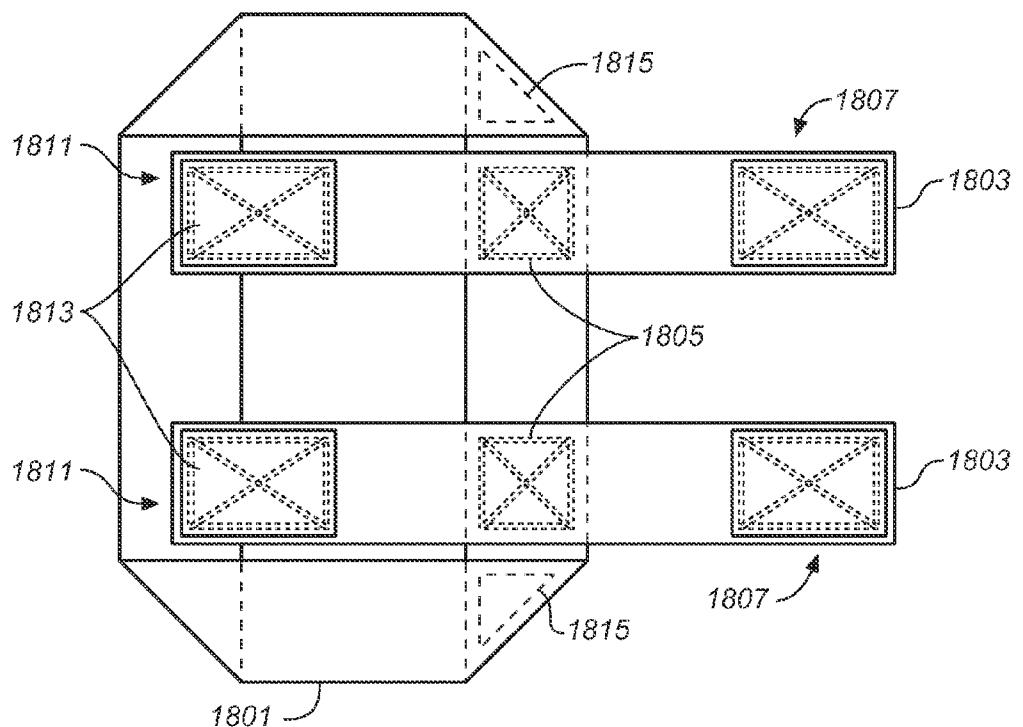


FIG. 18B

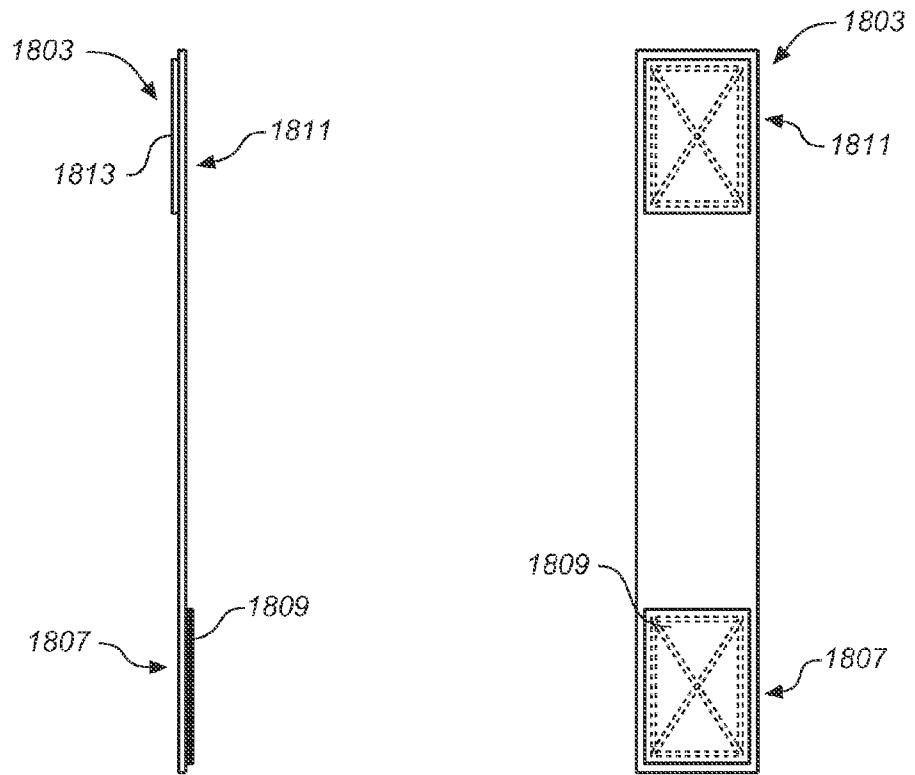


FIG. 18C

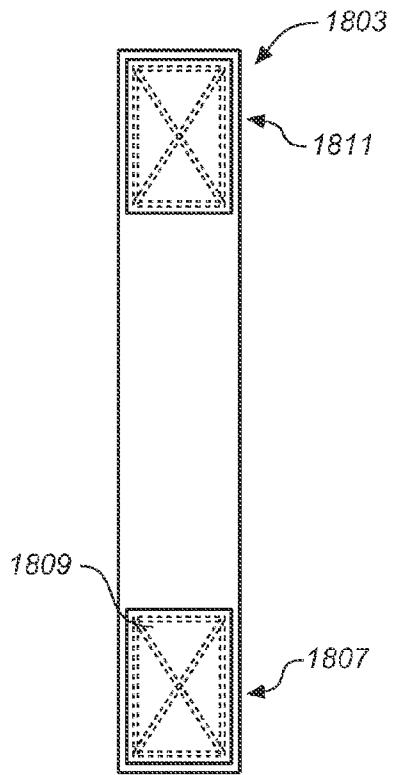


FIG. 18D

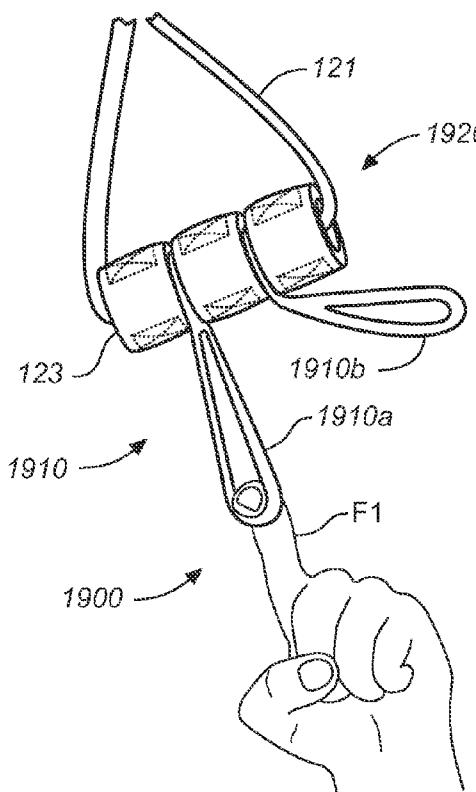


FIG. 19A

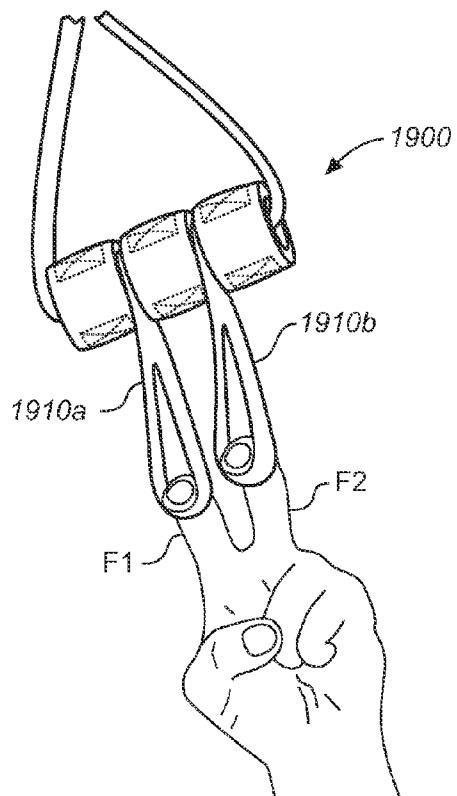


FIG. 19B

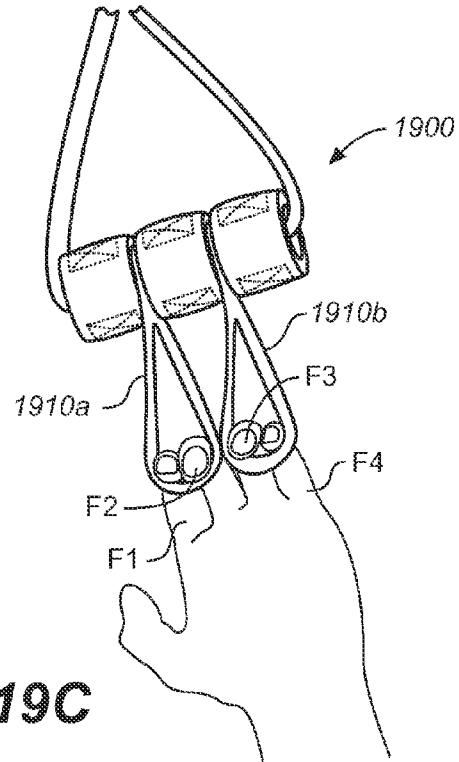
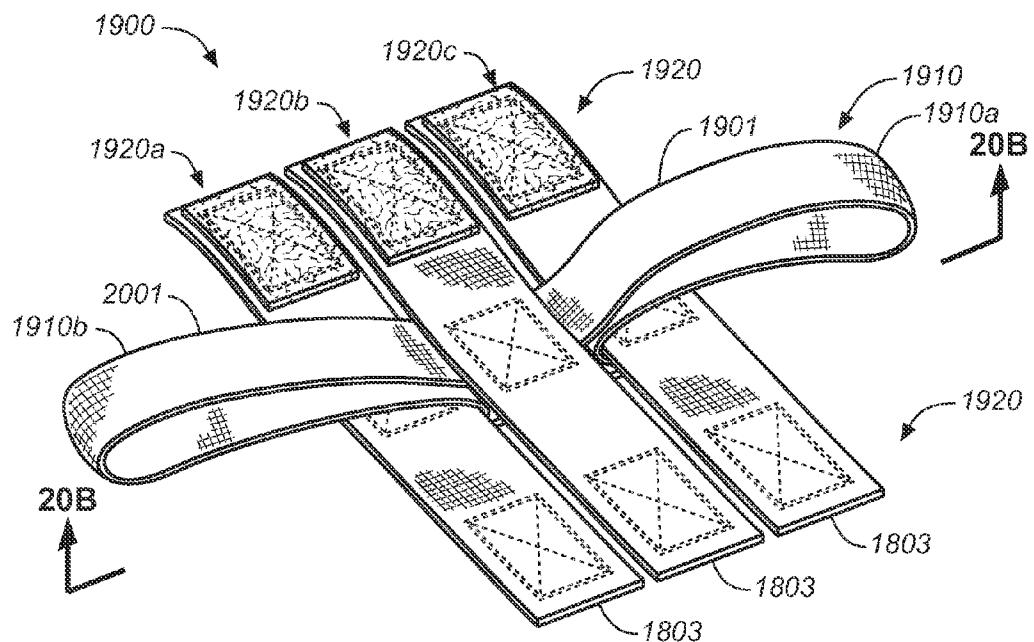
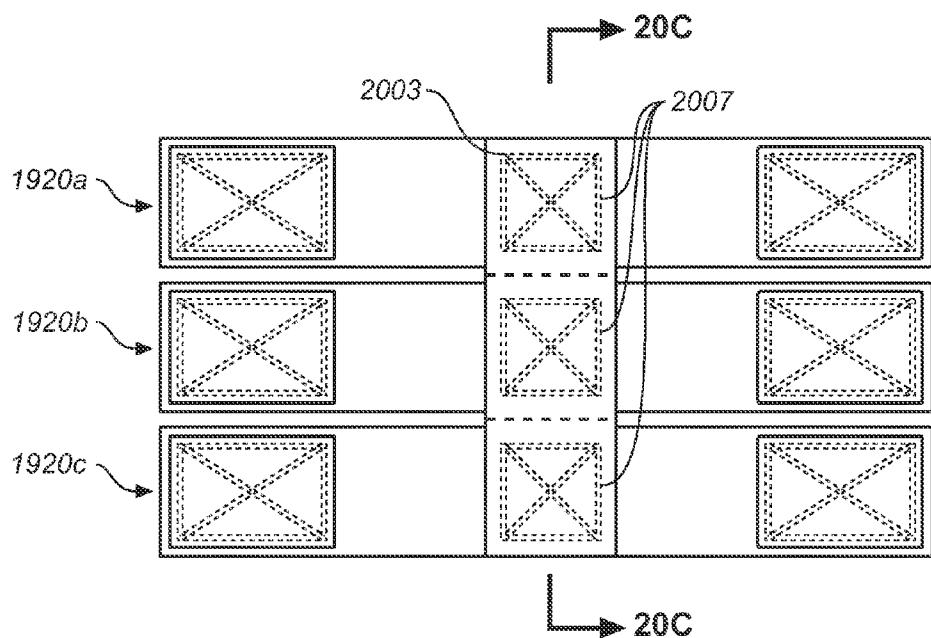


FIG. 19C

**FIG. 20A****FIG. 20B**

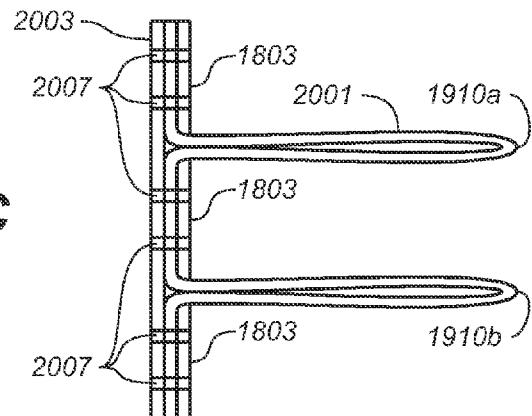


FIG. 20C

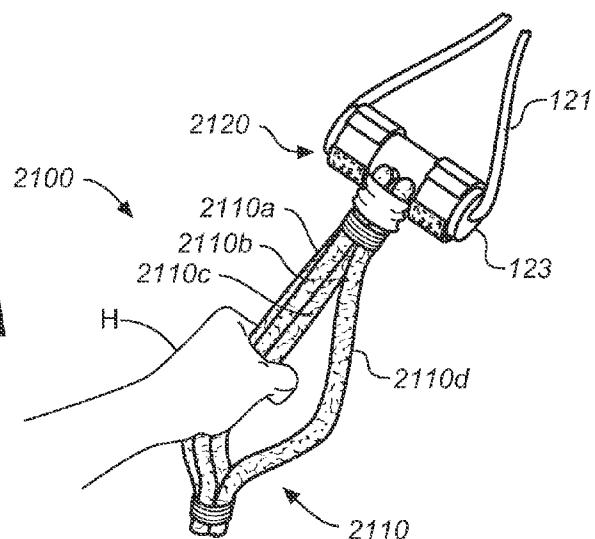


FIG. 21A

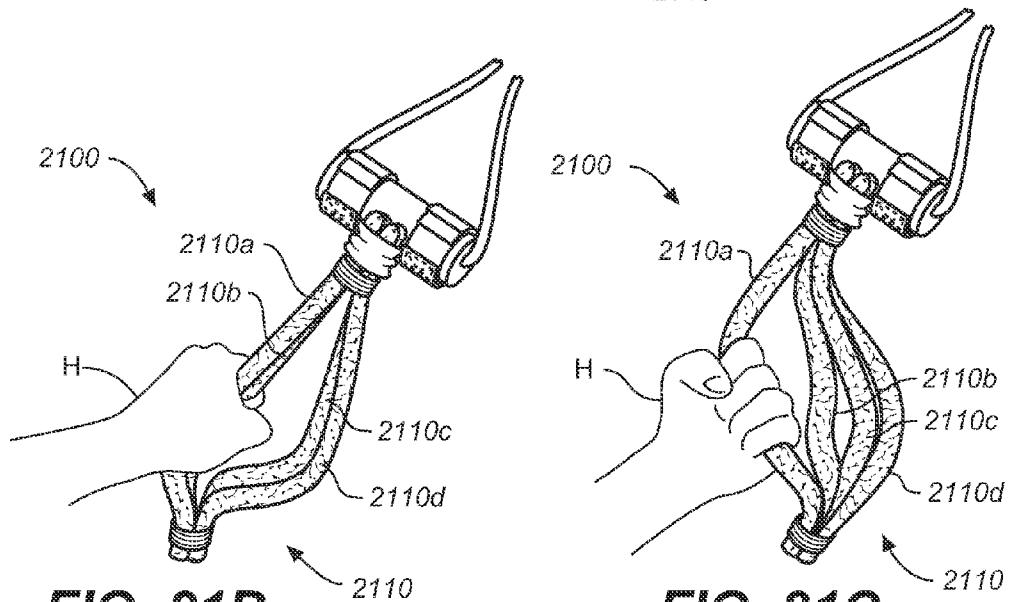


FIG. 21B

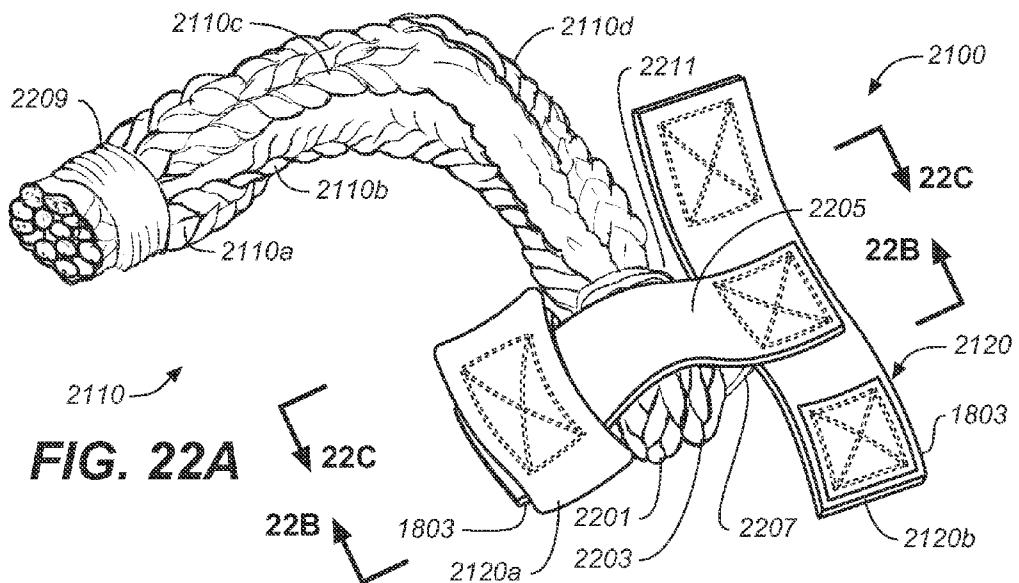


FIG. 22A

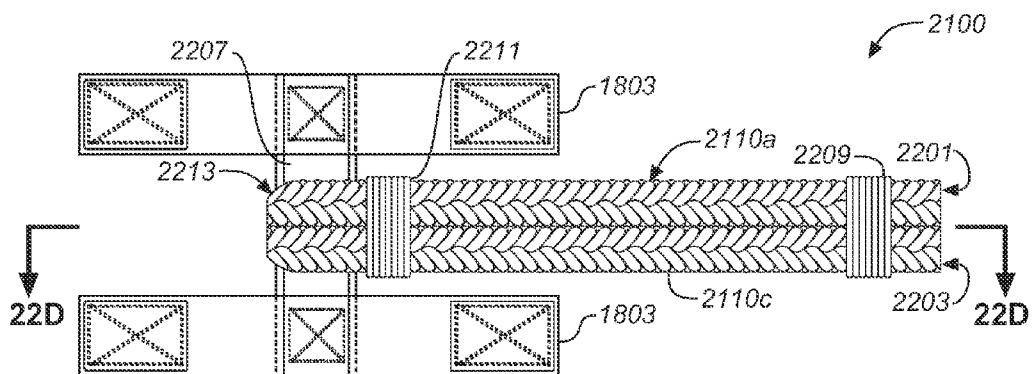


FIG. 22B

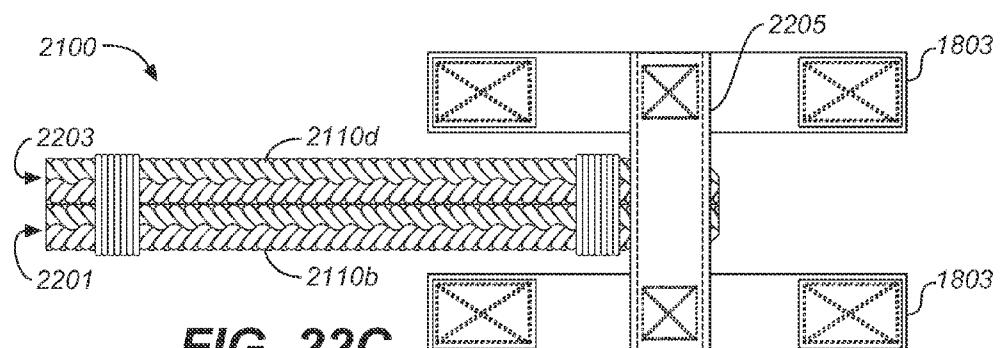


FIG. 22C

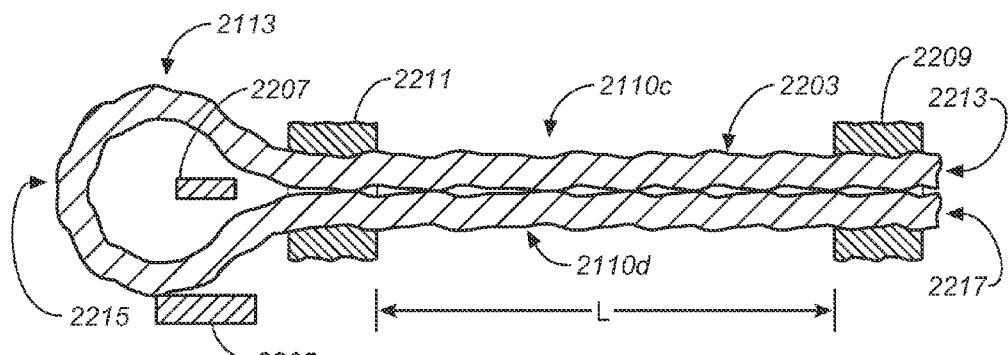


FIG. 22D

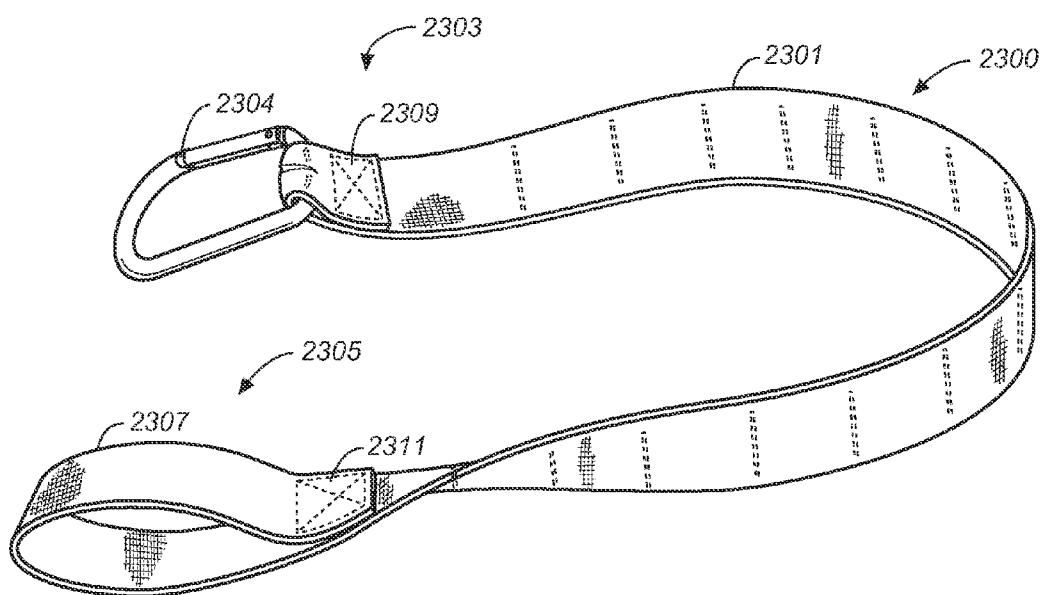


FIG. 23

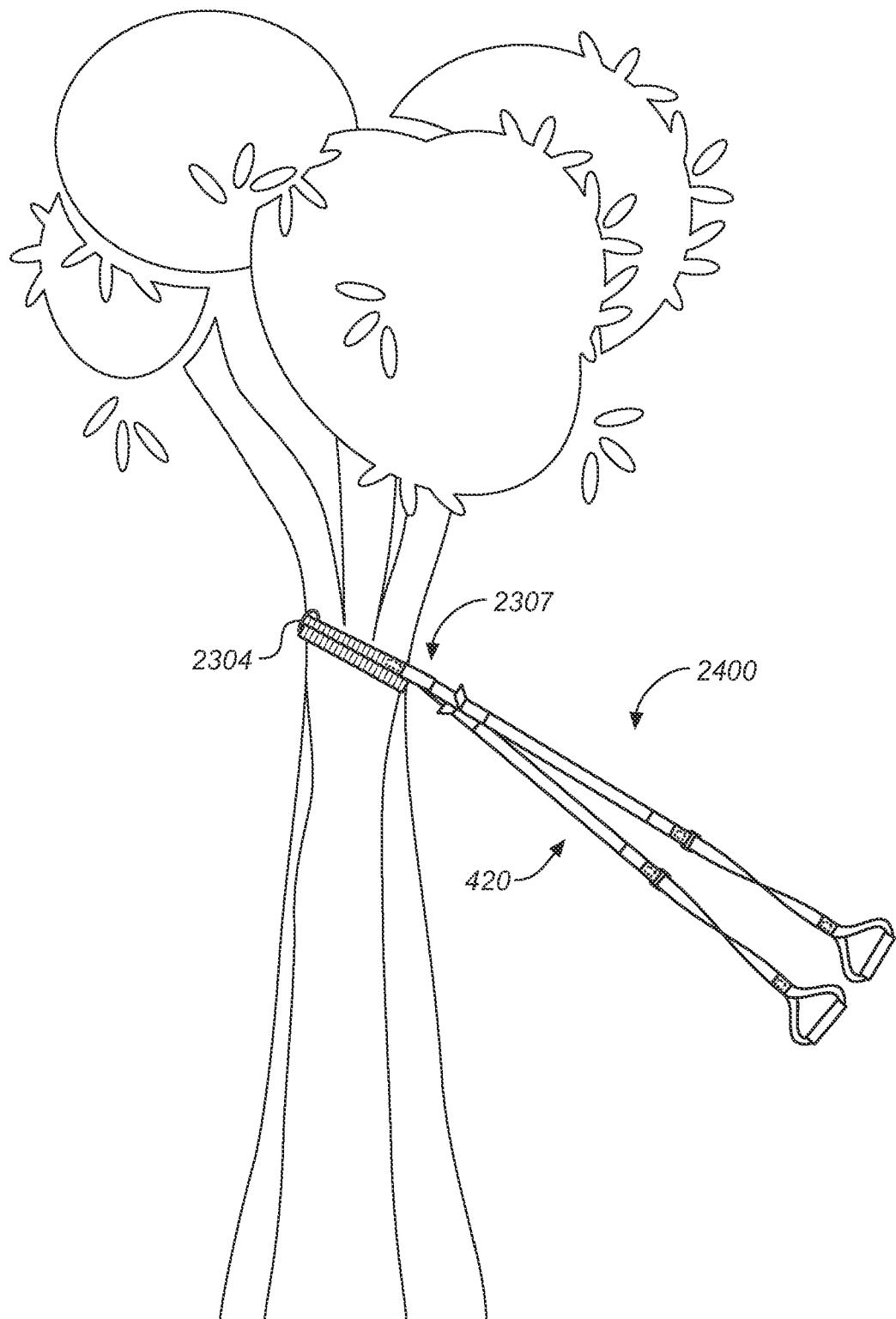


FIG. 24

FIG. 25

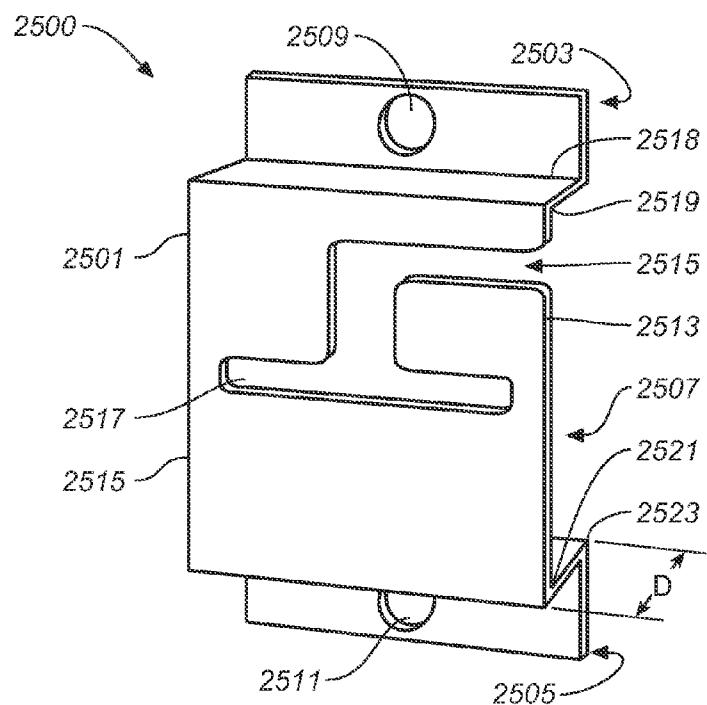
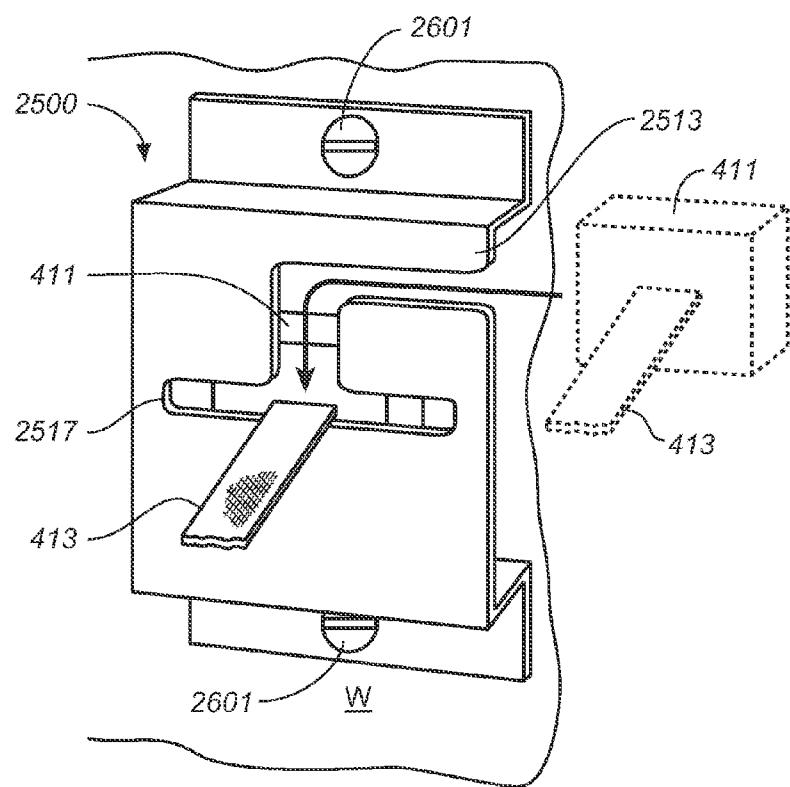


FIG. 26



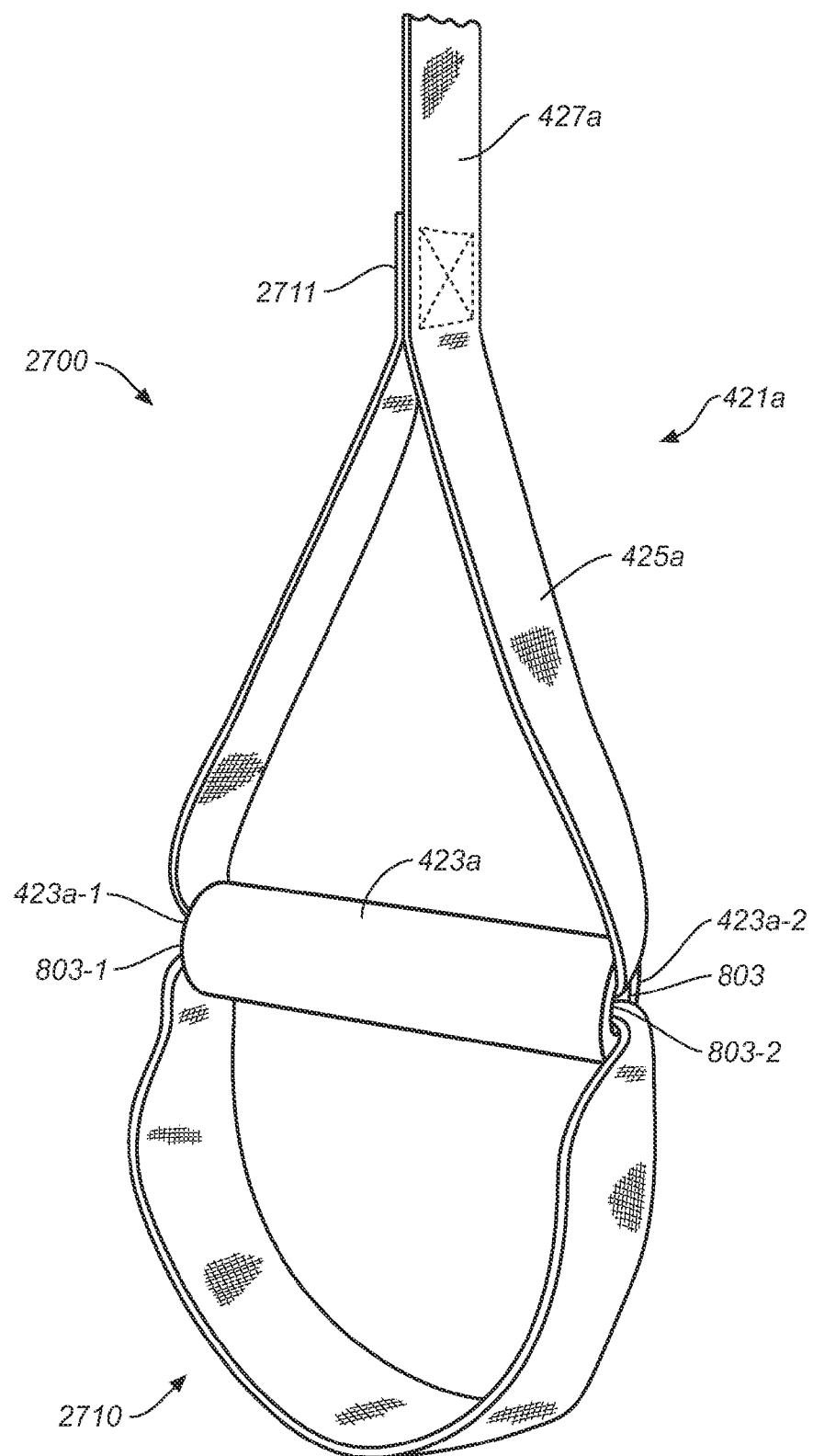


FIG. 27

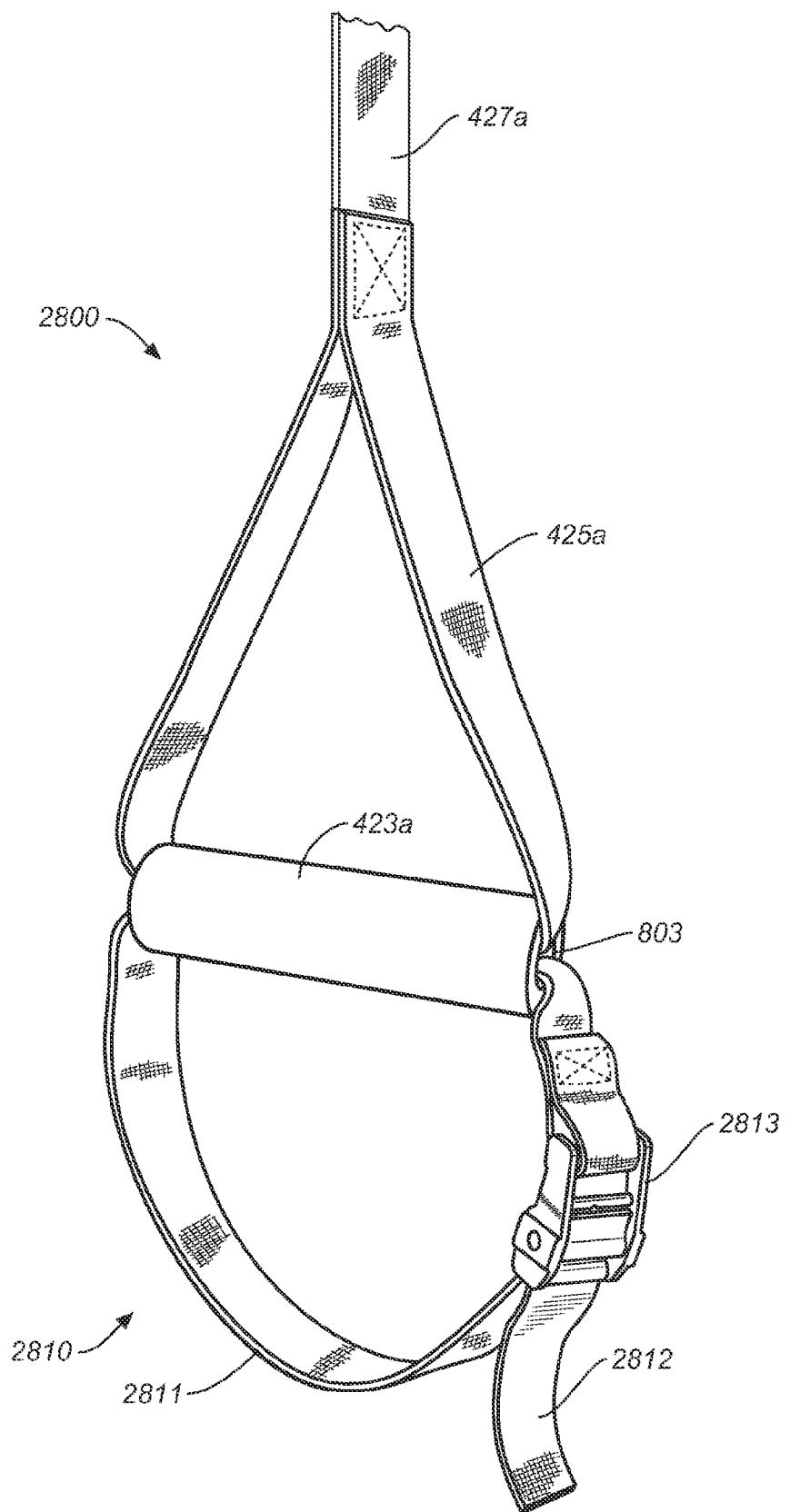


FIG. 28

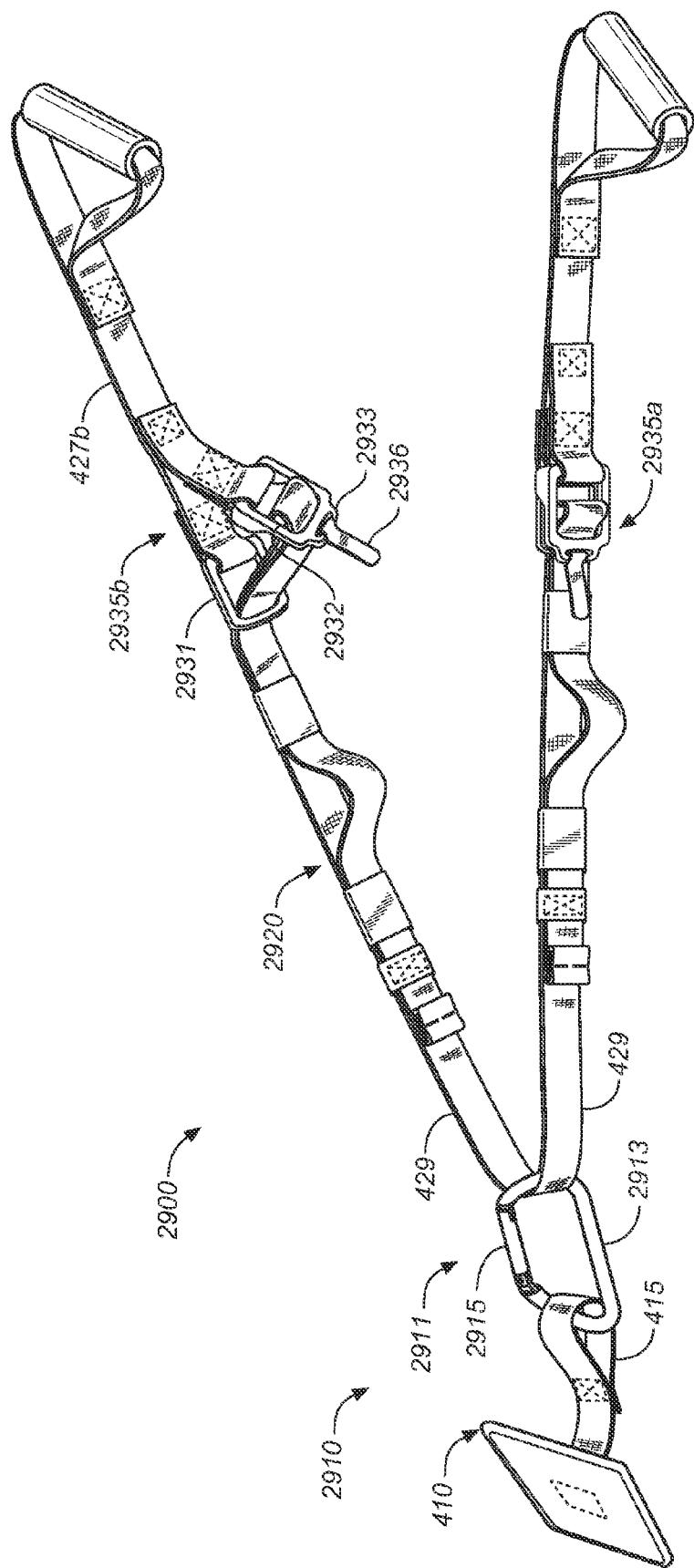


FIG. 29

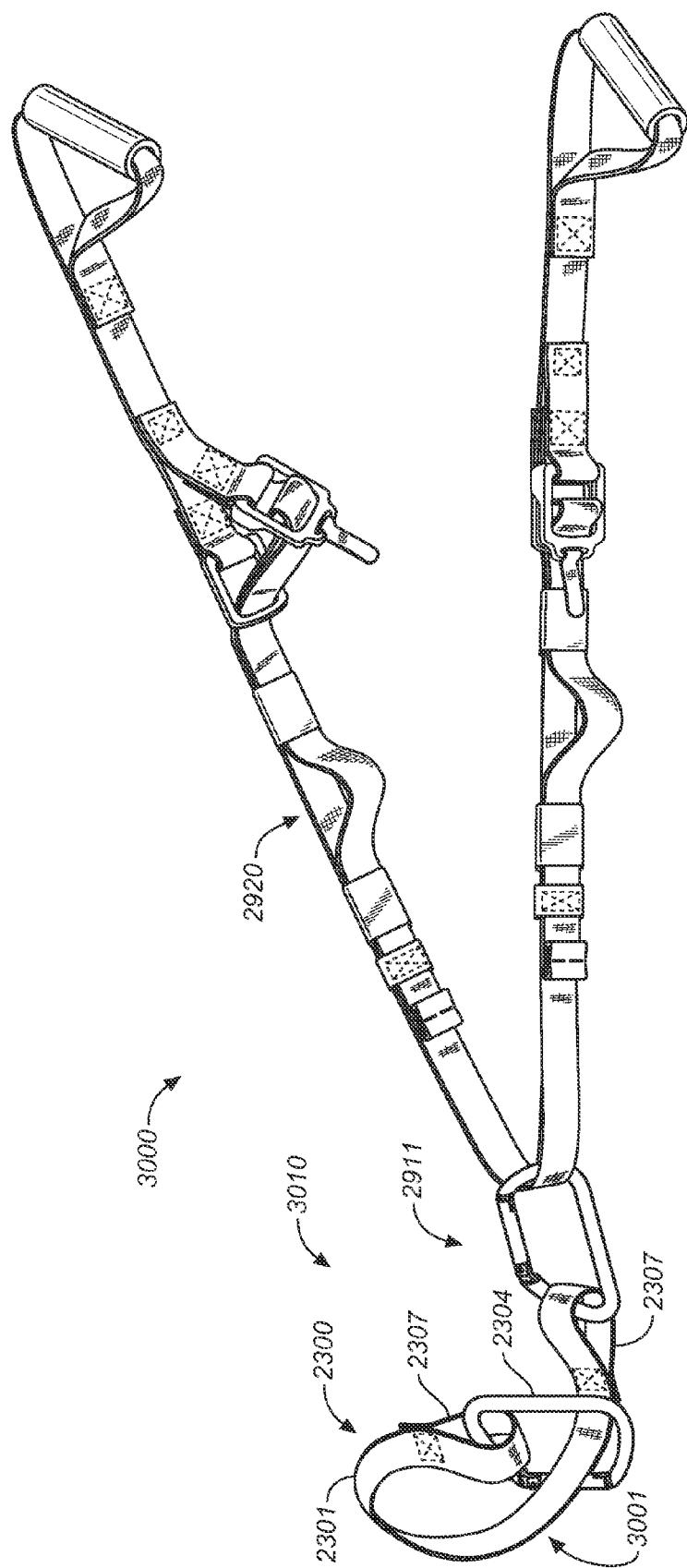


FIG. 30

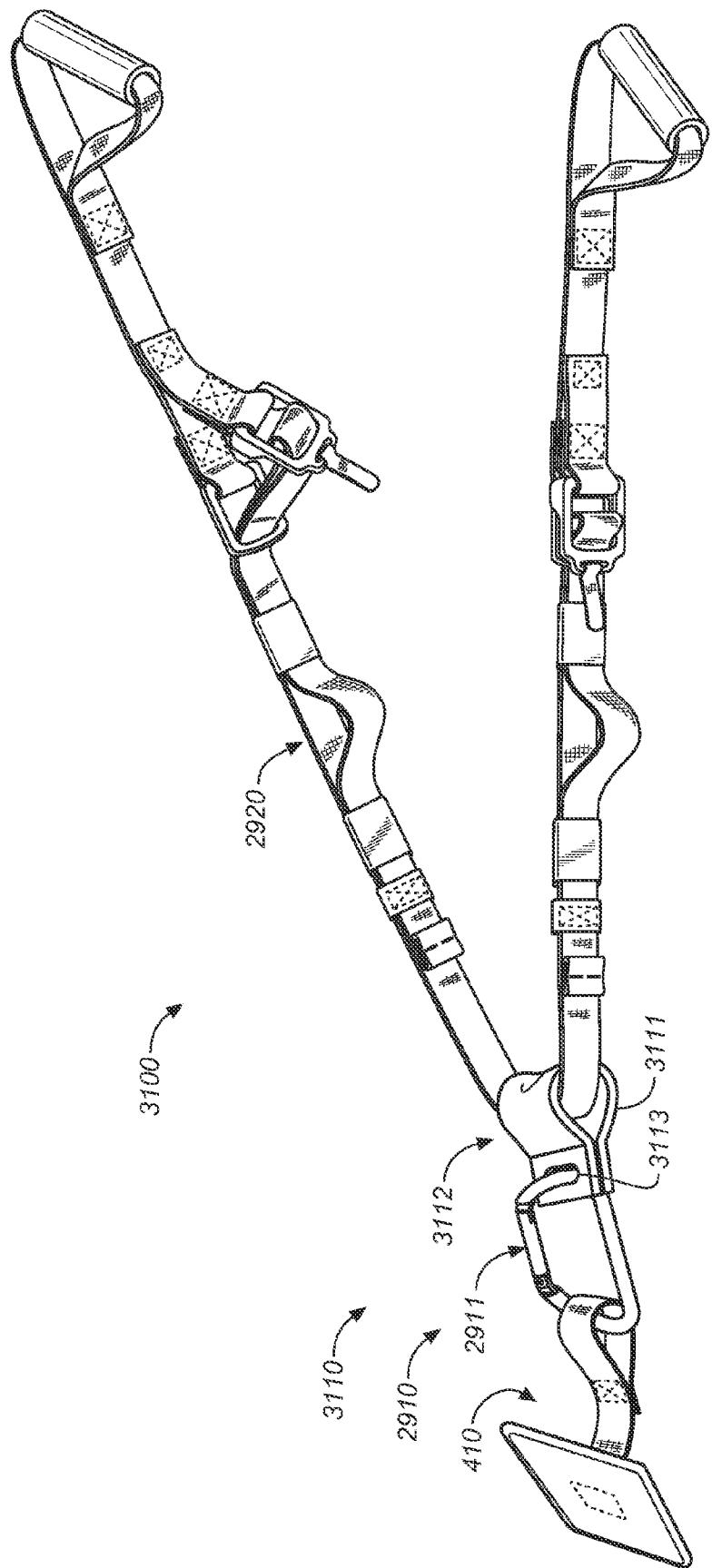


FIG. 31

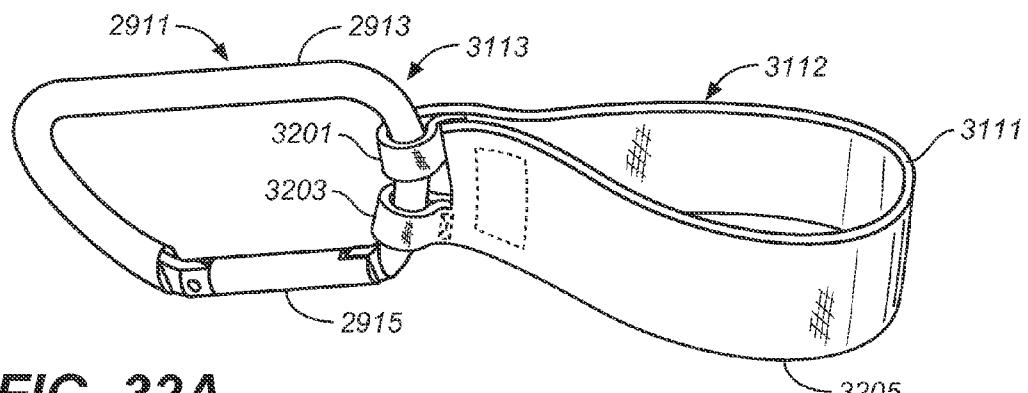


FIG. 32A

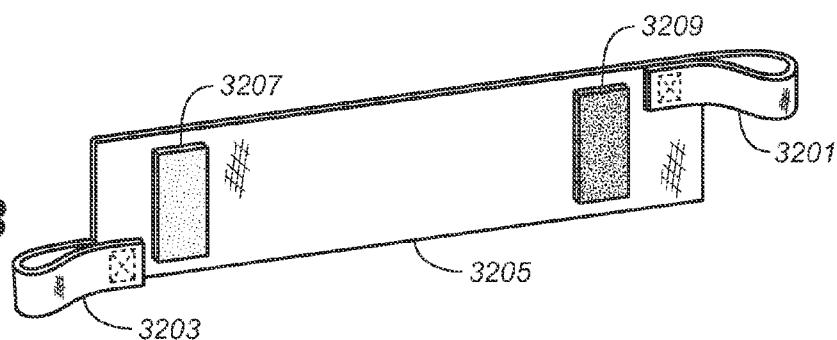


FIG. 32B

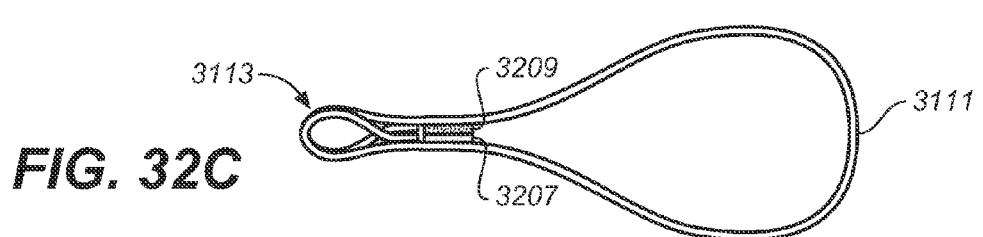


FIG. 32C

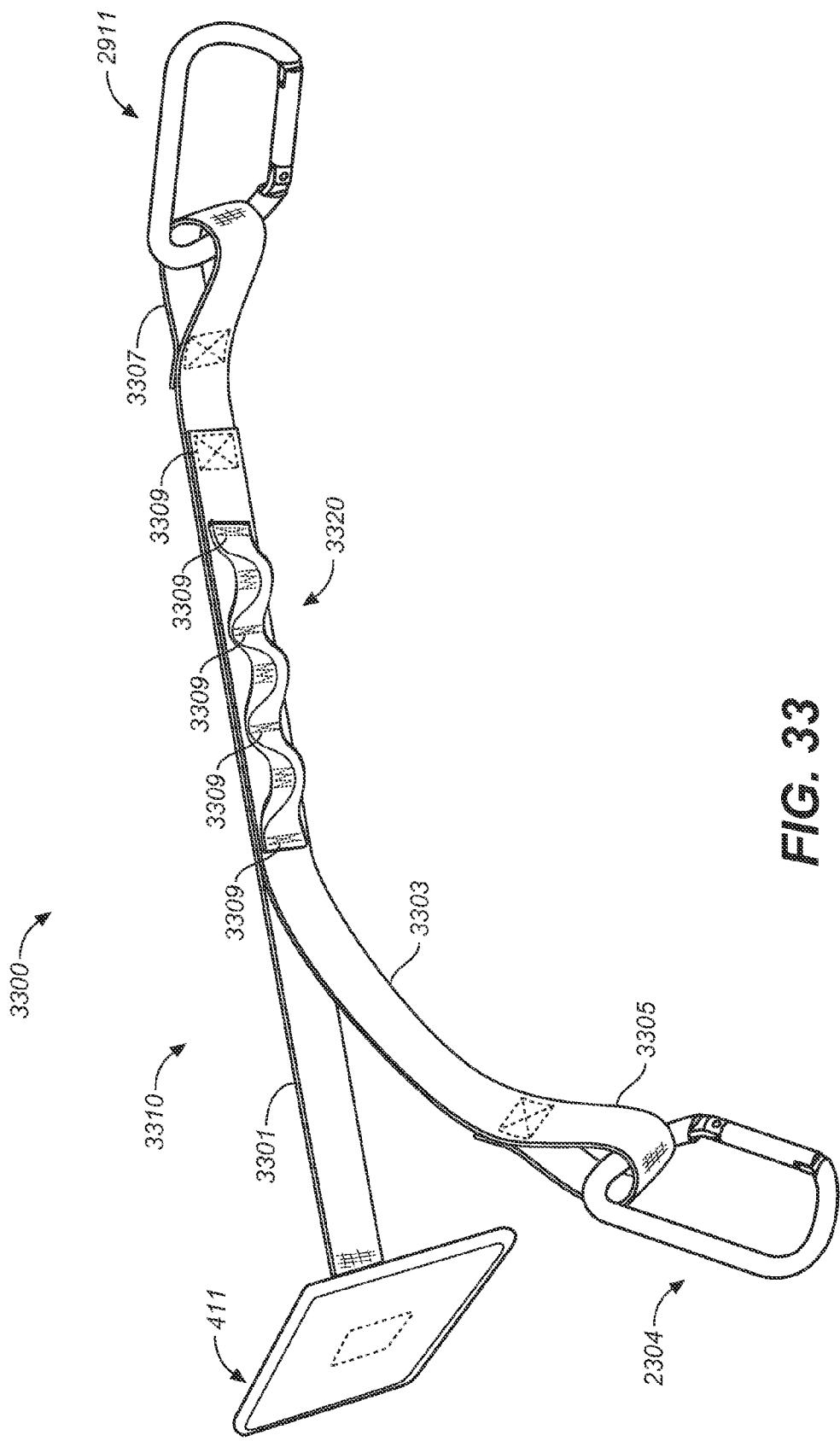


FIG. 33

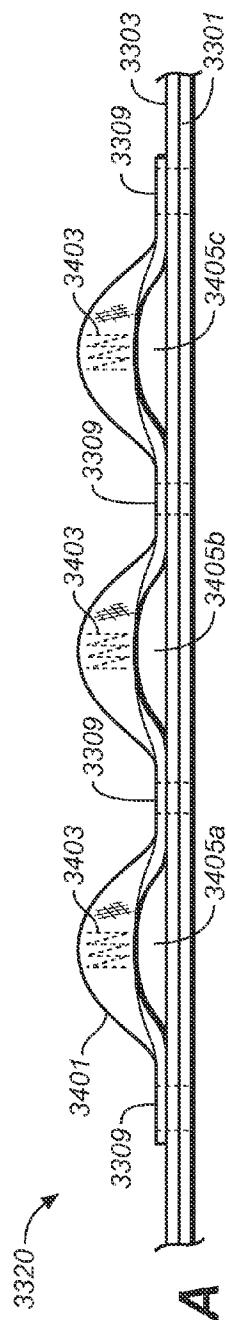


FIG. 34A

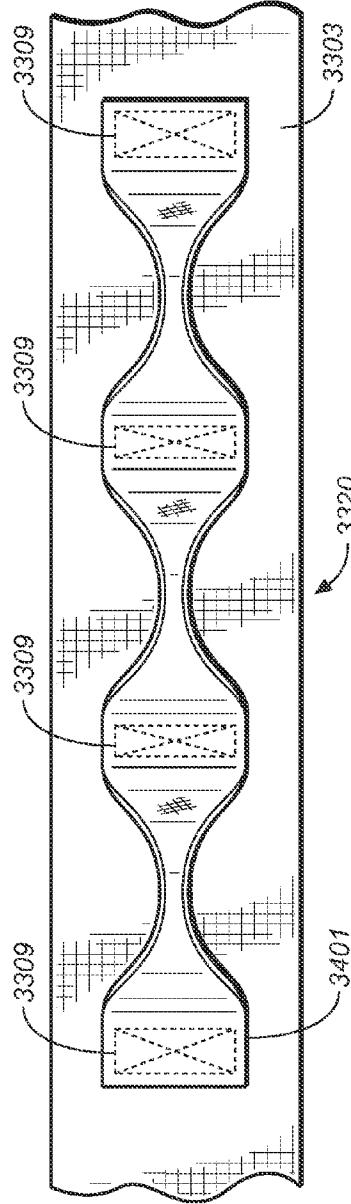


FIG. 34B

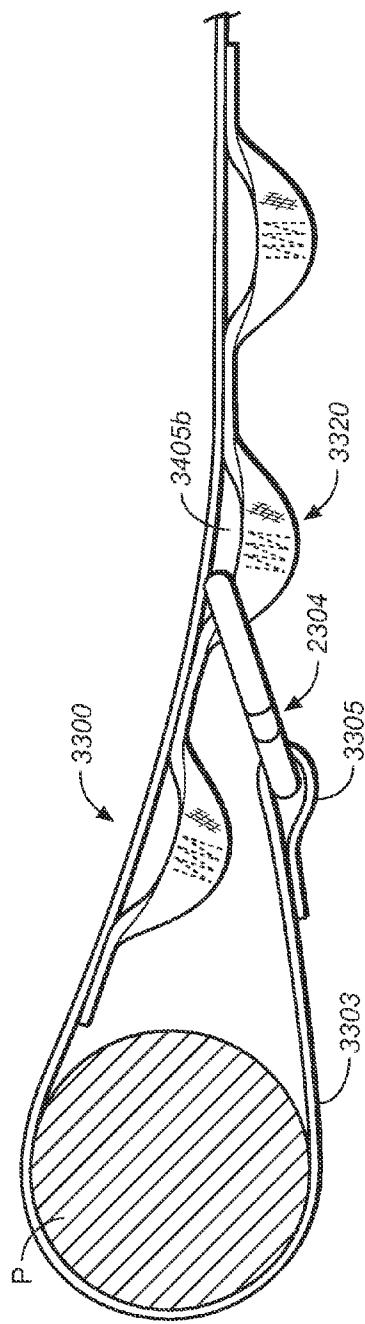


FIG. 35

COMBINATION ANCHOR FOR AN EXERCISE DEVICE**CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

[0001] This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/973,123, filed Sep. 17, 2007, the entire contents of which is hereby incorporated by reference herein and made part of this specification.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002] The present invention generally relates to exercise devices, and in particular to an anchor for an exercise device.

[0003] As an example of an exercise device, resistance exercise devices allow a user to exercise by providing a resistance to the movement of a user's arms, legs, or torso. Thus, for example, such devices allow a user to exercise by working one muscle against another, or by working against the weight of the user, by providing a resistance to the movement of a user's arms, legs, or torso. Some resistance exercise devices are anchored to a structure. Other devices are configured to removably attach to a particular type of a structure, such as between a door and a door jamb.

[0004] There is a need to provide an anchor for an exercise device that is capable of anchoring to a variety of structures. Such an anchor should be easy to use and provide the user with the ability to exercise in any one of a variety of locations.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0005] The present invention overcomes the disadvantages of prior art by providing an anchor for an exercise device that is easily configurable and mountable to a variety of structures. For example, certain embodiments described herein include an anchor that includes more than one type of anchoring device and a portion connectable to an exercise device.

[0006] In certain embodiments, an anchor to support an exercise device from a structure is provided. The anchor includes a portion connectable to the exercise device, a first anchor including a door anchor, and a second anchor including a connector. The first anchor or the second anchor is connectable to the structure.

[0007] In certain embodiments, an anchor to support an exercise device from a structure is provided. The anchor includes a first connector configurable to support the exercise device, a flexible material including an anchor loop to accept the first connector, a first anchor including a door anchor, and a second anchor including a second connector. The first anchor or the second anchor is connectable to the structure.

[0008] In certain other embodiments, an anchor to support a device used for exercising is provided. The anchor includes two or more portions each attachable to a structure. A first one of the two or more portions is attachable between a door and doorjamb of a closed door.

[0009] These features together with the various ancillary provisions and features which will become apparent to those skilled in the art from the following detailed description, are attained by the exercise device of the present invention,

embodiments thereof being shown with reference to the accompanying drawings, by way of example only, wherein:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWING

[0010] FIG. 1 is a schematic front view of a first embodiment of an exercise device as anchored between a door and door jamb;

[0011] FIG. 2 is a partial schematic sectional view 2-2 of FIG. 1 showing the exercise device anchored between a door and door jamb;

[0012] FIG. 3 is illustrative of a user performing a high row exercise with the exercise embodiment of FIG. 1;

[0013] FIG. 4 is a perspective view of a second embodiment of an exercise device;

[0014] FIGS. 5A and 5B are views of a first embodiment of an anchor of the exercise device of FIG. 4, where FIG. 5A is a perspective view, and FIG. 5B is sectional view 5B-5B;

[0015] FIG. 6 is a schematic top view of the elongated member of the embodiment shown in FIG. 4 having two lengthening mechanisms and two hand grips;

[0016] FIG. 7 is a perspective view showing details of the grip and the lengthening mechanism of the embodiment of FIG. 4;

[0017] FIG. 8 is a sectional view 8-8 of FIG. 7 showing the hand grip;

[0018] FIG. 9A is a perspective view showing details of the slack sleeves of the embodiment of FIG. 4;

[0019] FIG. 9B is a sectional view 9B-9B of FIG. 9A showing details of the buckle and attachment of the slack sleeves to the buckle;

[0020] FIG. 10 is a schematic top view of an alternative elongated member embodiment having one lengthening mechanism and two finger grips;

[0021] FIG. 11 is schematic sectional view 11-11 of the finger grip embodiment of FIG. 10;

[0022] FIGS. 12A-12D are schematic drawings illustrating the use of the exercise device, where FIG. 12A is the initial configuration, FIG. 12B illustrates lengthening the elongated member, further illustrated in FIGS. 12B' and 12B", FIG. 12C shows the application of force to the shorter leg of the elongated member, and FIG. 12D shows the application of force to the grips during an exercise;

[0023] FIGS. 13A-13C are schematic drawings illustrating the use of the exercise device having differing arm lengths, where FIG. 13A is the initial configuration, FIG. 13B shows the application of force to one of the pair of legs, and FIG. 13C shows the application of force to the grips during an exercise;

[0024] FIG. 14A is a second embodiment of an anchor that can be used for attaching the exercise device to a pole or railing, and FIG. 14B is a exercise device anchored to a pole using the alternative anchoring embodiment of FIG. 14A;

[0025] FIGS. 15A-15I illustrate poses of a user using an embodiment of an exercise device to perform exercises, where FIG. 15A is a reverse combination crunch, FIG. 15B is a single leg L-squat, FIG. 15C is a gymnast dip, FIG. 15D is a kneeling combination crunch, FIG. 15E is a lying leg curl, FIG. 15F is a hip lift, FIG. 15G is a front shoulder raise, FIG. 15H is a crunch, and FIG. 15I is a triceps extension;

[0026] FIGS. 16A and 16B illustrate an embodiment of the exercise device for doing one handed exercises, where FIG. 16A shows interlocking the handles for one handed exercises, and FIG. 16B illustrates the use of the exercise device in performing a one arm high row exercise;

[0027] FIGS. 17A and 17B show an embodiment of a foot grip accessory as attached to a grip of an exercise device, where FIG. 17A illustrates the foot grip accessory gripped by the user's toes, and FIG. 17B illustrates a pair of foot grip accessories with one accessory on each of the pair of grips of an exercise device and grasped by one of the user's heels;

[0028] FIGS. 18A, 18B, 18C and 18D show a first embodiment of the foot grip accessory of FIGS. 17A-B, where FIG. 18A is a perspective view of the foot grip accessory, FIG. 18B is a bottom view of the foot grip accessory, FIG. 18C is a side view of part of one of the grip attachment portions, and FIG. 18D is a top view of part of one of the grip accessory attachment portions;

[0029] FIGS. 19A, 19B, and 19C show an embodiment of a finger grip accessory as attached to a grip of an exercise device, where FIG. 19A illustrates the one finger placed through one of the loops, FIG. 19B illustrates one finger be placed through each of the two loops, and FIG. 19C shows two fingers placed through each of the two loops;

[0030] FIGS. 20A, 20B, and 20C show one embodiment of the finger grip accessory of FIGS. 19A-C, where FIG. 20A is a perspective view of the finger grip accessory, FIG. 20B is a top view 20B-20B of the finger grip accessory, and FIG. 20C is a sectional side view 20C-20C of the finger grip accessory;

[0031] FIGS. 21A, 21B, and 21C shown an embodiment of a grip accessory as attached to a grip of an exercise device, where FIG. 21A illustrates a hand gripping three cords, FIG. 21B illustrates the hand gripping two cords, and FIG. 21C illustrates the hand gripping one cord;

[0032] FIGS. 22A, 22B, 22C, and 22D show one embodiment of the grip accessory of FIGS. 21A-C, where FIG. 22A is a perspective view of the grip accessory, FIG. 22B is a top view of the grip accessory, FIG. 22C is a bottom view of the grip accessory, and FIG. 22D is sectional side view 22D-22D of FIG. 22C;

[0033] FIG. 23 shows a third embodiment of an anchor;

[0034] FIG. 24 illustrates the use of the anchor of FIG. 23 to anchor an exercise device to a tree;

[0035] FIGS. 25 and 26 shows an embodiment of a bracket for securing an exercise device by an enlarged first end of an anchor, where FIG. 25 is a perspective front view of a bracket for mounting an exercise device, and FIG. 26 illustrates the use of the bracket to anchor the exercise device;

[0036] FIG. 27 is a perspective view of a first embodiment combination grip;

[0037] FIG. 28 is a perspective view of a second embodiment combination grip;

[0038] FIG. 29 is a perspective view of an exercise device including a fourth embodiment of an anchor and a second embodiment of an elongated member;

[0039] FIG. 30 is a perspective view of an exercise device including a fifth embodiment of an anchor;

[0040] FIG. 31 is a perspective view of an exercise device including a sixth embodiment of an anchor;

[0041] FIGS. 32A-32C are views of one embodiment of a support for the exercise device of FIG. 31, where FIG. 32A, is a perspective view showing the support connected to a ring, FIG. 32B is perspective view of the support unfolded, and FIG. 32C is an end view of the support ready to accept a ring;

[0042] FIG. 33 is a perspective view of an embodiment of a combination anchor;

[0043] FIGS. 34A and 34B are a side view and a top view respectively, of one embodiment of an anchor support; and

[0044] FIG. 35 is a side view of one use of the anchor support of FIGS. 34A and 34B.

[0045] Reference symbols are used in the Figures to indicate certain components, aspects or features shown therein, with reference symbols common to more than one Figure indicating like components, aspects or features shown therein.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0046] For purposes of contrasting various embodiments with the prior art, certain aspects and advantages of these embodiments are described where appropriate herein. Of course, it is to be understood that not necessarily all such aspects or advantages may be achieved in accordance with any particular embodiment. Modifications and variations can be made by one skilled in the art without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention including, but not limited to: the use of inelastic members, which are described herein as straps, that are round or have some other cross-sectional shape, and/or which are formed from two or more members joined together, as by stitching or with an adhesive; or the use of different mechanisms for adjusting the length of inelastic member that are known in the field including, but not limited to, buckles, hooks, or winding the inelastic member about a rigid element. Moreover, any one or more features of any embodiment may be combined with any one or more other features of any other embodiment, without departing from the scope of the invention.

[0047] Disclosed herein is an inelastic exercise device that is supported by, or that can be easily attached to, a supporting structure, and that allows a user to perform a large number of exercises by easily adjusting the length of the device and thereafter balancing the device as the user's weight is transferred to the device. Several of the features will now be illustrated with reference to FIGS. 1-3. FIG. 1 is a schematic front view of a first embodiment of exercise device 100 that is anchored at a point A using a "door anchor," which anchors between a door D and door jamb J. FIG. 2 is a partial sectional view 2-2 of FIG. 1 taken through door D and showing exercise device 100 in profile, and FIG. 3 is illustrative of a user U exercising with the exercise device of FIG. 1.

[0048] Exercise device 100 includes an anchor 110 and an elongated member 120 having a pair of arms 122, indicated as a first arm 122a and a second arm 122b, on either side of the anchor, as shown schematically in FIGS. 1 and 2. A pair of grips 123 is provided, with one positioned at each end 121 of each arm 122, specifically first arm 122a has a first grip 123a, and second arm 122b has a second grip 123b. Elongated member 120 is substantially inelastic and flexible with a length S between the pair of grips 123, and includes a strap or cord or other inelastic, flexible member, and a lengthening mechanism 135 that provides for increasing or decreasing the length S, as indicated by double arrows ΔS .

[0049] As used herein, the noun "grip" encompasses any device that is interlockable with part of the human body, that is it can be connected in such a way that a person can transfer a force to the grip, preferably a force equal to some or all of the person's weight, and the verb "grip," when used herein, refers to the action of interlocking the device and a body part. When used in an exercise device, a grip is attached to other elements that permit the force to be transferred to another object, including but not limited to a stationary support, a device that can store or release energy, such as an elastic cord or a spring, or another body part. Grips include devices that can be sur-

rounded by a body part, for example flexible loop or a hook, or that a body part can surround, for example an elongated member that can fit within the grasp of the hand. In this context, a member that can be gripped, or is grippable, is one that can surround a body part or can be surrounded by a body part, and has a size and configuration that permits the transfer of forces from the user to the grip. A "hand grip" is grip that is sized for grasping by the hand, a "foot grip" is grip that is sized for grasping a foot, and a "finger grip" is grip that is sized for grasping by one or more fingers.

[0050] Anchor 110 provides a support for elongated member 120 that permits some amount of movement. Specifically, the interaction of anchor 110 and elongated member 120 allows the elongated member to be positioned along on the anchor, and may also provide resistance to the movement of the elongated member along the anchor. Preferably the resistance is sufficient so that, under some circumstances, the support prevents movement of elongated member 120 along anchor 110, even where there is some mis-match of forces on the ends of the elongated member. In this way exercise device 100 may be used for a variety of exercises, by changing the length of elongated member 120, for example, and also provide an exercise device that can provide support for the user while exercising.

[0051] One type of support is referred to herein, without limitation, as a "frictional support." Anchors that provide frictional support include, but are not limited to, an element or portion of an element that can support elongated member 120 during exercising, and over which the elongated member can slide. Resistance to the movement of elongated member 120 over anchor 110 may be determined, in part, by the frictional resistance of the elongated member sliding over the anchor. In several embodiments of methods of using exercise device 100, elongated member 120 slides along anchor 110 while a user positions herself. During exercising, a slight mis-match in the pulling forces on the grips is matched by static friction of the frictional support, and the grips do not move while exercising. That is, the static friction between elongated member 120 and anchor 110 generated by the frictional support is sufficient to permit exercises in which elongated member 120 does not slide through anchor 110 while exercising. Means that provide frictional support include elements or portions of elements that form part of or which are attached to an anchor and which can support an elongated member (that may, for example, include grips) and which can allow the elongated member to slide along the supporting anchor and provide frictional resistance to the motion of the elongated member during exercising.

[0052] Anchor 110 is used to provide a fixed anchor point for exercise device 100 and to support a user's weight as it is applied to arms 122 as indicated by an arrow F in FIG. 2 and as shown in FIG. 3. As shown in FIG. 2, anchor 110 is adapted for positioning exercise device 100 in a door and providing support to elongated member 120 by having an enlarged portion 111, a portion 113 that can be strap or cord, and an approximately triangular shaped loop 115 for slidably supporting the elongated member. With enlarged portion 111 on the opposite side of door D from elongated member 120, anchor 110 supports the weight of a user as grips 123 are pulled. In addition, anchor 110 provides for positioning the relative length of arms 122 as shown in FIG. 1 by double arrow C. Thus, the total length of elongated member 120 and distribution of that length between each of arms 122 can be easily adjusted through the lengthening mechanism 135 and

by pulling the ends of the elongated member. FIG. 2 shows arms 122 each having a length L.

[0053] When supported by a structure, such as door D (as shown, for example, in FIGS. 1-3) or a railing, pole or other support member (as shown, for example, in FIGS. 14B and 26) the inventive exercise device provides a pair of grips for a user to exercise against her weight according the user's position relative to the device, and provides for easily adjusting the length of the device. As described below, the inventive device can be used to exercise in any one of a large number of orientations according the selected adjustable length and according to where and how the user stands relative to the exercise device. In general, a user sets the exercise device to a desired length, positions herself on the ground near the exercise device, supports a portion of her body weight from the exercise device by her hands or feet, and exercises by moving her body with her weight supported by the ground and the exercise device. Examples of support on the ground and exercise device include, but are not limited to, standing on one or both legs, lying on the stomach or the back, kneeling, or by having the hands on the ground, and having the exercise device support ones weight by the hands or feet, as appropriate.

[0054] In an alternative embodiment (not shown), elongated member 120 does not include a lengthening mechanism 135. In this embodiment, elongated member 120 is thus substantially inelastic and has a fixed length S between the pair of grips 123.

[0055] With reference to FIG. 3, a user U is shown in one of the many exercise positions, in particular a high row exercise, gripping the pair of grips 123 with the user's hands and having the user's feet placed a horizontal distance X from anchor point A. When anchored to a door, it is preferred that anchor point A is on the inwards side of the door (that is, that the door open away from user U) so that jamb J can support the user's weight. The user U is shown leaning away from anchor point A and supporting a fraction of his or her weight through device 100. It is apparent that user U can vary the amount of supported weight, and thus the resistance of exercise device 100, by adjustment of his or her stance relative to anchor point A (distance X) and the length of arms 122 (length L). The user U of FIG. 3 performs a high row exercise by moving his body in a direction E towards and away from anchor point A. Note that other exercises are also possible with the user in this position by the user moving in other directions with the user's weight supported by the ground and exercise device 100.

[0056] Several embodiments will now be described with reference to the drawings. These embodiments are meant to be illustrative and not limiting to the scope of the claims. FIGS. 4-9 are various views of a second embodiment of an exercise device 400. Referring first to FIG. 4, a perspective view of exercise device 400 is shown as including a first embodiment of an anchor 410 and an elongated member 420. Exercise device 400, anchor 410, and elongated member 420 are generally similar to exercise device 100, anchor 110, and elongated member 120, respectively, except further detailed below. Where possible, similar elements are identified with identical reference numerals in FIGS. 1-9.

[0057] Anchor 410 includes an illustrative example of a door anchor which is not meant to limit the scope of the invention. Anchor 410 includes an inelastic, flexible strap 413 having an enlarged first end 411 that is wider than the strap, and a second end that forms a loop 415. Elongated member 420 passes through loop 415, defining a pair of arms 422,

indicated as arm **422a** and **422b**. Each arm **422** has a respective end **421**, shown as end **421a** and **421b**, each forming a loop **425**, shown as loop **425a** and **425b**, to support one of a pair of grips **423**, shown as grip **423a** and **423b**. Elongated member **420** also includes a pair of lengthening devices or buckles **435**, shown as buckle **435a** and **435b**, at either end of a central strap **429**. Either one or both of buckles **435** provide for the adjustment of the length of elongated member **420**. Specifically, strap **429** has a pair of ends **431**, indicated as **431a** and **431b**, that pass through buckle **435a** and **435b**, respectively. As described subsequently, elongated member **420** is substantially inelastic, with the length of the elongated member being adjustable through the action of one or both of the pair of buckles **435**.

[0058] FIGS. 4, 5A and 5B present several views of anchor **410**, where FIG. 5A is a perspective view of the anchor and FIG. 5B is a sectional view 5B-5B of the anchor. As noted previously, anchor **410** includes an inelastic, flexible strap **413**. In one embodiment, the majority of lengths of anchor **410** and elongated member **420** are formed of materials that include, but are not limited, to straps of a webbing of a natural or synthetic material having strength sufficient to support the weight of a device user. Webbing materials include, but are not limited to, one or more of a nylon, polypropylene or other polymeric fibers. It is to be understood that a single length of flexible material can alternatively comprise two or more pieces that are stitched, glued, or otherwise attached to one another. In one embodiment, the length of strap **413** is from 6 to 18 inches. In another embodiment, the length of strap **413** is approximately 12 inches.

[0059] Strap **413** has an enlarged first end **411** that is wider than the strap, and a second end **417** that is attached to the strap so as to form loop **415**. As shown in FIG. 5B, strap **413** has an end **502** forming the core of first end **411**. Since one of the intended uses of anchor **410** is to anchor exercise device **400** between a door and jamb, it is preferable that the end **411** include materials that are soft enough to prevent damage to a wood door or door frame and sturdy enough to support the weight of a user. One embodiment that is soft and sturdy is shown in FIG. 5B. Specifically, strap end **502** is partially surrounded by a recessed enclosure **505** and a pillow **507** that covers the strap end and the enclosure. Strap end **502** can further be held within end **411** by gluing and stitching the strap end to enclosure **505** and pillow **507**, and by closing the pillow with one or more stitches **509**. Strap **413** passes into first end **411** through a slot **504** in enclosure **505** and through slot **501** in pillow **507**. In one embodiment, first end **411** is approximately 3.5" by 2.5" and is oriented approximately perpendicular to strap **413**. In another embodiment, enclosure **505** is formed of a high-density, closed cell foam, and that pillow **507** is formed from a felt, and includes stitches **503**. Alternatively, a second strap or piece of another material could be sewn, glued or otherwise attached to the end of strap **413** to form end **502**. In another alternative embodiment, enclosure **505** can include another rigid member, such as a metal or hard plastic plate, to increase the rigidity of strap end **411**.

[0060] Elongated member **420** is shown in greater detail in FIGS. 6-9, where FIG. 6 is a schematic top view of the elongated member, FIG. 7 is a perspective view of one of the pair of grips **421** and the corresponding one of the pair of buckles **435**, FIG. 8 is a sectional view 8-8 of one of the pair of grips **421**, and FIG. 9A is a perspective view showing details of one of the pair of buckles and the adjoining strap

429. As shown in FIG. 6, the elongated member **420** has length **S**, and includes two inelastic strap portions **427**, indicated as **427a** and **427b**, strap **429** and the pair of buckles **435** for adjusting the length **S**. The portion of elongated member **420** from each end to the nearest buckle has a fixed length—that is, each of the two portions from one of the pair of ends **421** to the corresponding one of the pair of buckles **435** has a fixed length. In one embodiment, the length **S** is adjustable over a length that allows for a wide range of exercises. Thus, for example and without limitation, length **S** can be varied in length from approximately 6 feet to 12 feet. In another embodiment, elongated member **420** has a width of approximately 1.5". When used for exercising, strap **429** and loop **415** can slide the elongated member **420** along anchor **410**, while providing enough friction so that there can be some mismatch in forces on the two ends **421** without the elongated member sliding through the anchor while a user is exercising.

[0061] The details of one of the pair of ends **421**, including strap **429** to grip **423**, and including buckle **435** are shown in FIGS. 7, 9A and 9B. Buckle **435** is a cam buckle, the design and use of which are well known in the art. Buckle **435** is attached to strap **427**, and thus the length of each of end **421** is not adjustable. Buckle **435** is also slidably accepts and grips strap **429**, allowing for adjustment of the length **S**.

[0062] Buckle **435** has a frame **709**, a first strap bar **705**, a second strap bar **707**, and a user movable cam **711**. First strap bar **705** supports a loop of strap **427** that is preferably secured by stitches **703**. Alternatively, strap **427** can be secured to bar **705** through a second member, such as another looped strap or a plastic or metal piece that loops about bar **705** and provides a location to attach strap **427**. Strap **427** has an opposite end that is bound with stitches **701** to form loop **425** to secure grip **423**, as described subsequently. Second strap bar **707** and cam **711** supports strap **429**. It is to be understood that the use of stitches as described herein to fasten strap portions can also be accomplished through the use of other methods of fastening, such as glue or by melting strap portions together.

[0063] Cam **711** is spring loaded such that it normally restrains a strap **429**, and that under the action of a user, such as by pushing or pulling the cam, the cam is moved to allow the strap to move. The distance between cam **711** and bar **707** is adjusted by the user and a spring within buckle **435** by pushing on cam **711**, allowing strap **429** to slide between cam **711** and bar **707**. Thus, the length **S** can be adjusted by the user actuating cam **711** of buckle **435**.

[0064] Grip **423** is shown in greater detail in the sectional view of FIG. 8. Grip **423** has a generally tubular shape, with an outer cover **801** and an inner cylindrical tubular portion **803**. Cover **801** has a length and outer diameter to allow a hand to easily grab grip **423**, and is formed from a material that permits a user to hold it while exercising. In one embodiment, the material for cover **801** is a high-density foam. Portion **803** provides the strength of grip **423** and can be formed from a length and diameter of plastic or other rigid material to match the size of cover **801** and to provide space for a loop **425** to pass through the center of portion **803**. In one embodiment, portion **803** is formed from a rigid and light material, such as PVC tubing.

[0065] One of the pair of free ends **431** is shown in greater detail in FIG. 9A. Each end **431** is preferably folded back, and is held in place, for example by a stitch **901**, to form an easily manipulated end. Elongated member **420** also includes several sleeves, shown as sleeves **903**, **905a** and **905b** that twice surrounds strap **429** to prevent ends **431** from moving about.

Specifically, sleeves 903 and 905 are placed between buckles 435, ends 431 and strap 429. Thus sleeves 903 and 905 restrain the portion of strap 429 from a buckle 435 to the corresponding end 431 from moving about as exercise device 420 is moved. As shown in FIG. 9A, sleeve 903 is affixed near end 431, while sleeve 905 can be slid along the length of strap 429. FIG. 9B is a sectional view 9B-9B of FIG. 9A showing details of the cam buckle and attachment of sleeve 905b. In particular, FIG. 9B shows a bar 907 that spans buckle 435 and a strap 909 that is attached both the bar and to sleeve 905b. Strap 909 keeps sleeve 905b from sliding too far down strap 429 during adjustment of the length of the exercise device. It is preferred that sleeves 905b are elastic so that they can easily move and hold together the portions of strap 429.

Alternative Anchor Embodiments

[0066] Several anchor embodiments are shown in FIGS. 14A, 14B, 23 through 26, and 29 through 32A-32C. Except where explicitly stated, any of the anchors may be used to support any of the elongated members of the exercise device. In the following discussion, the anchor embodiments are meant to be illustrative and not to be limiting. Thus, for example and without limitation, embodiments of an exercise device can be anchored in a door, about a pole, railing or stanchion, from a hook installed in a wall, or can be permanently affixed to a wall or exercise structure, for example.

[0067] FIG. 14A is a second embodiment of an anchor 1410 that can be used for attaching the exercise device to a pole or railing, and FIG. 14B is an embodiment of an exercise device anchored to a pole using the alternative anchoring embodiment of FIG. 14A.

[0068] FIG. 14A shows alternative embodiment anchor 1410 which includes an adjustable loop 1419 and an anchor loop 1415. As described subsequently, anchor 1410 is an alternative anchor, and can, for example, present an anchor loop 1415 for accepting elongate member 420 to form an exercise 1400. Alternatively, anchor 1410 can support elongate member 120 or any of the other elongate members described herein. Adjustable loop 1419 is formed from a flexible strap 1411 and a cam buckle 1412 as follows. Cam buckle 1412 can be, for example, cam buckle 435 shown in detail in FIG. 9B. Flexible strap 1411 has a free, first end 1414 that is threaded through the cam portion of cam buckle 1412, for example by threading the strap between the second strap bar 707 and movable cam 711 of cam buckle 435. Flexible strap also has a second end 1418 that is attached to cam buckle 1412, for example, by looping the second end about first strap bar 705 of cam buckle 435 and providing a stitching 1416 through a double thickness of strap 1411. Strap 1411 thus threaded through buckle 1412 has forms an adjustable loop 1419 that can be increased or decreased in size by actuating cam buckle 1412 to release strap 1411, moving the strap through the cam buckle, and releasing the cam. End 1414 is held against strap 1411 by a slack sleeve 1413. An anchor loop 1415 is attached to strap 1411 by a stitching 1417.

[0069] It is preferred that the majority of lengths of anchor 1410 are formed of materials that include, but are not limited, to straps of a webbing of a natural or synthetic material having a strength sufficient to support the weight of a device user. Webbings include, but are not limited to, webbings made of one or more of nylon, polypropylene or other polymeric fibers. It is understood that alternative embodiments of a

single length of flexible material include, but are not limited to, two or more pieces that are stitched, glued, or otherwise attached to one another.

[0070] FIG. 14B shows exercise device 1400 formed from anchor 1410 and elongated member 420. Adjustable loop 1413 of anchor 1410 is tightened about a pole P, for example, by placing the adjustable loop over the top of the pole and tightened using cam buckle 1412. Alternatively, strap 1411 can unthreaded from cam buckle 1412, wrapped about pole P, and then threaded through the cam buckle and tightened. In either case, end 1414 is the pulled through cam buckle 1412 and adjustable loop 1419 is tightened about pole P with sufficient force to allow exercise device 1400 to support a user's weight.

[0071] In addition to being attached to a pole, anchor 1410 can be tensioned to support exercise device 1400 about a railing, post, or other member. Alternately, the anchor can be attached to a carabiner that is fixed to a wall or other structure.

[0072] FIG. 23 shows a third embodiment of an anchor 2300 including a flexible strap 2301 with a first end 2305 having a loop 2307 held in place with stitching 2311 and a second end 2303 having a ring 2304 held within a loop created by stitching 2309, and FIG. 24 illustrates the use of anchor 2300 to anchor the elongated member 420, which could also be elongated member 120, to a tree. In one embodiment, ring 2304 is a gated ring, such as a carabiner. In another embodiment, ring 2304 is a snap ring. It is preferred that the majority of lengths of strap 2301 are formed of materials that include, but are not limited to, straps of a webbing of a natural or synthetic material having a strength sufficient to support the weight of a device user. Preferred webbings include, but are not limited to, webbings made of nylon, polypropylene or other polymeric fibers. FIG. 24 shows an exercise device 2400 formed from anchor 2300 and elongated member 420. Strap 2103 is be wrapped about a tree with ring 2304 accepting the strap. Loop 2307 accepts strap 429, allowing the user to exercise against a tree or other object small enough for strap 2103 to be wrapped about.

[0073] FIGS. 25 and 26 shows a bracket 2500 for securing an anchor, such as the first end 411 of anchor 410, where FIG. 25 is a perspective front view of the bracket, and FIG. 26 illustrates the use of the bracket to anchor the exercise device. Bracket 2500 has a first flange 2503 with a mounting hole 2509 and a second flange 2505 with a mounting hole 2511 and a face 2507 that extends from the first flange to the second flange and includes a slot 2515 that extends into the face a face edge 2513 and includes a central slot 2517. In a preferred embodiment, bracket 2500 is formed from a single sheet 2501 of sheet metal, for example that has crease 2518 in flange 2503, crease 2523 in flange 2505, and creases 2519 and 2521 between face 2507 and flanges 2503 and 2505, respectively. In one embodiment, the thickness of sheet 2501 is from 0.05 to 0.10 inches, or more preferably approximately 0.0625 inches, and creases 2518, 2519, 2521, and 2523 are placed to such that face 2507 is parallel to and separated from flanges 2503 and 2505 by a distance D of from approximately 1 to 2 inches, or in another embodiment, approximately 1.5 inches. Mounting holes 2509 and 2511 are, in one embodiment, between approximately 1/4 inch and approximately 1/2 inch in diameter, and in another embodiment approximately 3/8 inch in diameter.

[0074] FIG. 26 illustrates the use of bracket 2500. Bracket 2500 is mounted to a wall W, and held in place by a pair of screws 2601 through mounting holes 2509 and 2511. A por-

tion of anchor **410** is shown in phantom on the right side of FIG. 26, specifically enlarged portion **411** and flexible strap **413**. Anchor **410** is placed in bracket **2500** as indicated by the arrow. Specifically, strap **413** is slid through the slot **2515** in face edge **2513**, with enlarged portion between bracket **2500** and wall **W** and into central slot **2517**. Slot **2515** is sized to be large enough to allow strap **413** to slide through the slot but not so large as to allow enlarged portion **411** to pass through the slot. The use of bracket **2500** allows for exercise device **400**, which was previously shown as being mountable in a door jamb, to be mounted against any wall to which the bracket can be mounted.

[0075] Several embodiments provide an anchor for an exercise device formed of components that are removably attached. Thus, for example, embodiments include an anchor having a portion to attach to a structure that is removably attached to a portion to support an elongated member. Thus for example, and without limitation, any one of anchors **110**, **410**, or **2300** may include interlinking or interlocking components. This may permit the replacement or interchanging of anchor components or the addition of additional components, such as straps to lengthen the anchor.

[0076] FIG. 29 is a perspective view of an exercise device **2900** including a fourth embodiment of an anchor **2910** and a second embodiment of an elongated member **2920**. Exercise device **2900**, anchor **2910**, and elongated member **2920** are generally similar to exercise devices **100** or **400**, anchors **110**, **410**, or **2300** and elongated members **120** or **420**, respectively, except further detailed below. Where possible, similar elements are identified with identical reference numerals in the Figures.

[0077] Anchor **2910** includes a ring **2911** that passes through loop **415** to form an extension of anchor **410**. Ring **2911** is a closed or closable loop of material capable of supporting a user when exercising. The material of ring **2911** may be a metal or plastic having sufficient strength to support an exercising user. An alternative embodiment of ring **2911** is any loop capable of supporting elongated member **2920**, and includes, but is not limited to, an open loop, a hook, a ring that deforms (as in a snap ring) or has a movable portion (as in a gated ring) to permit the ring to open or close. FIG. 29 illustrates, without limitation, one embodiment, where ring **2911** is a ring **2913** having a spring loaded gate **2915**. In another alternative embodiment, anchor **410**, which does not necessarily include loop **415**, includes one or more holes, which are preferably reinforced with metal, through which ring **2911** may pass.

[0078] Elongated member **2920** includes a pair of buckles **2935**, shown as buckle **2935a** and **2935b**. As shown in detail with respect to buckle **2935a**, buckle **2935** includes a first ring **2931** and a second ring **2933** having a center bar **2932** and a tab **2936**. Strap **427** is attached to both ring **2931** and **2933**, and strap **429** passes through ring **2931**, around bar **2932**, and back through ring **2931**. Buckle **2935a** illustrates the buckle restraining straps **429** and **427**. When tab **2932** is pulled to separate rings **2931** and **2933**, as shown for buckle **2935b**, the length of elongated member **2920** may be changed.

[0079] When configured for exercising, anchor **410** may pass through a doorjamb, as described above, and strap **429** of elongated member **2920** passes through ring **2911** of anchor **2910**.

[0080] FIG. 30 is a perspective view of an exercise device **3000** including a fifth embodiment of an anchor **3010** and elongated member **2920**. Exercise device **3000** is generally

similar to exercise devices **100**, **400**, or **2900**, and anchor **3010** is generally similar to anchor **2910**, except as explicitly detailed below. Where possible, similar elements are identified with identical reference numerals in the Figures.

[0081] Anchor **3010** includes anchor **2300** and ring **2911**, where the ring passes through loop **2307**. Anchor **3010** may be used to secure exercise device **3000** to one of a variety of supports with ring **2911** supporting elongated member **2920**. In one embodiment, ring **2304** may be attached to a ring affixed to a structure. In another embodiment, strap **2301** may be looped about a structure. Thus, for example, FIG. 30 shows ring **2304** positioned to arrange strap **2301** in a loop **3001**. Loop **3001** may, for example, be placed about a pole to support exercise device **3000**.

[0082] FIG. 31 is a perspective view of an exercise device **3100** including a sixth embodiment of an anchor **3110** and elongated member **2920**. Anchor **3110** includes anchor **2910** and a support **3112**. Exercise device **3100** is generally similar to exercise devices **2900** or **3000**, and anchor **3110** is generally similar to anchors **2910** or **3010**, except as explicitly detailed below. Where possible, similar elements are identified with identical reference numerals in the Figures.

[0083] Support **3112** has a first portion **3111** for interacting with elongated member **2920** and a second portion **3113** for connecting to ring **2911** of anchor **2910**. Anchor **2910** is described above with regard to the embodiment of FIG. 29. In one embodiment, the material of support **3112** may include, but is not limited, to a webbing of a natural or synthetic material having strength sufficient to support the weight of a device user. Webbing materials include, but are not limited to, one or more of a nylon, polypropylene or other polymeric fibers. It is to be understood that a single length of flexible material can alternatively comprise two or more pieces that are stitched, glued, or otherwise attached to one another. In another embodiment, the material of elongated support **3112** includes or is formed entirely of a metal or a plastic. When configured for exercising, anchor **410** may pass through a door jamb, as described above, and strap **429** of elongated member **2920** passes through first portion **3111** of support **3112**.

[0084] FIGS. 32A, 32B, and 32C are views of one embodiment of support **3112**, or a portion thereof, where FIG. 32A, is a perspective view of support **3112** and ring **2911**, FIG. 32B is perspective view of the support unfolded, and FIG. 32C is an end view of the support ready to accept a ring. Support **3112** of FIGS. 32A, 32B and 32C is generally similar to the support of FIG. 31, except further detailed below. Where possible, similar elements are identified with identical reference numerals in the Figures.

[0085] As shown in FIG. 32A, support **3112** includes a strap **3205** that forms first portion **3111** and second portion **3113**. Second portion **3113** includes a first loop **3201** and a second loop **3203** that are formed or attached to strap **3205**. As shown in FIG. 32B, loops **3201** and **3203** are on opposite ends of strap **3205** and are offset so that loops **3201** and **3203** align when strap **3205** is folded to form second portion **3113** as shown in FIG. 32C.

[0086] When assembled for exercising, strap **3205** is folded to align loops **3201** and **3203**, and ring **2911** is placed through the aligned loops. Ring **2911** is also attached to anchor **410**, which may be placed through a door jamb. Elongated member **2920** is placed through second portion **3111**, and a user may exercise as described herein.

[0087] While exercise device 100, and more specifically exercise devices 400, 2900, 3000, and 3100 have been described with respect to a particular embodiment, there are many alternative embodiments. Thus, for example, there are many embodiments that provide for an adjustable length, substantially inelastic, strap-like member that has an easily adjustable length and balance of the two sides of the strap-like member about the anchor.

[0088] FIG. 33 is a perspective view of an embodiment of a combination anchor 3300. Combination anchor 3300 may be generally similar to any of the previous anchors, except as explicitly detailed below. Where possible, similar elements are identified with identical reference numerals in the Figures.

[0089] Combination anchor 3300 includes ring 2911, enlarged first end 411, and ring 2304, that are connected with a flexible material 3310. End 411 or ring 2304 may be attached to a structure, and ring 2911 may support an elongated member, including but not limited to elongated member 120 or another exercise device to be supported by a structure. Flexible material 3301 may be, for example and without limitation, one or more webbings as described above with reference to the material of elongated member 420 and may include joints, such as may be formed by stitching the material to itself (to form loops, for example) or to adjacent portions.

[0090] In the embodiment of FIG. 33, flexible material includes a first strap 3301 and a second strap 3303. Strap 3301 includes end and a loop 3307 that can support ring 2911. Strap 3303 includes a loop 3305 that supports ring 2304 and one or more stitches 3305 that attached the strap to strap 3301.

[0091] Combination anchor 3300 is shown having an optional ring support 3320, which is shown in greater detail in FIGS. 34A and 34B, which are a side view and a top view respectively, of one embodiment of the ring support. Support 3302 includes a strap 3401 that is held in place on strap 3303 by stitches 3309. The portions between stitches 3309 are sewn with stitches 3403, forming a series of ring loops 3405 (shown as loops 3405a, 3405b, and 3405c).

[0092] FIG. 35 is a side view of one use of the anchor support of FIGS. 34A and 34B. Strap 3303 is wrapped about a pole P, with ring 2304 placed through loop 3305 and ring loop 3405b. With combination anchor 3300 in this configuration, an elongated member, including but not limited to elongated member 120 can be attached to ring 2911. Alternatively, ring 2304 may be attached directly to a structure, such as to an eye bolt attached to a wall (not shown).

Alternative Grip Embodiments

[0093] The use of exercise device 100 is determined by the grips available to a user. Grips allow the user to grip, such as by squeezing with sufficient force to support her weight, and include devices that can hold the user within a loop or hook as the user pulls on the exercise device. In this context, a “grippable” portion refers to the ability to either wrap a body part around and squeeze that portion of the grip, or place a portion of the body through a loop or hook of the grip so that the user can pull against the exercise device and keep the body part within the grip.

[0094] Grips are usable for applying forces to various part of the body, including the neck, all or part of the hand, arms, legs, toes, or the heel. Several embodiments of grips are described herein as grips that may be used, for example and without limitation, by the hand, foot, or fingers. The grips

described herein may be integral to device 100 or, alternatively, may be attached to, or attachable to, one of the pair of grips that are part of an exercise device, including but not limited to grips 123. The term “accessory” grip is used herein to denote a grip that may be attached to an existing grip on exercise device 100. It is to be understood that the scope of the present invention extends to the integral information of the accessory grips into exercise device 100.

[0095] The user may choose to exercise with the pair of grips having the same or different accessories, or without a grip accessory. In addition, several embodiments of the exercise device include a grip attachment portion to removably attach the grip of an exercise device, such as exercise device 100 or any exercise device having two grips, and a portion that is grippable by the hand, foot, fingers, or other parts of the body. The use of grip accessories allow a user to build additional strength in the hand or fingers by providing for different types of hand or finger gripping, and allows for additional exercises to be performed, as with the foot grip accessory. In addition, the pair of grips can be coupled, as discussed in reference to FIGS. 16A and 16B, allowing a user to exercises using one grip accessory.

[0096] One alternative embodiment is shown in FIGS. 10 and 11, where FIG. 10 is a schematic top view of an alternative elongated member 1020 having one cam buckle 435 as a lengthening device, and two finger grips 4001, and FIG. 11 is a sectional view 11-11 of alternative finger grips. The use of one buckle 435 provides a lighter exercise device 400, but results in a smaller useful range of lengths for elongated member 1020. Finger grips 4001 include four holes 4101 for the user's fingers, and allows for exercise of one or more finger muscles.

[0097] One example of a grip accessory is foot grip accessory 1700, which is illustrated in FIGS. 17A-17B as being attached to grips 123 of exercise device 100. Specifically, FIG. 17A illustrates foot grip accessory 1700 attached to exercise device 100 and gripped by toes T, and FIG. 17B illustrates a pair of foot grip accessories, one on each of the pair of grips 123, and each grasped by one of the user's heel H1 and H2. Each foot grip accessory 1700 has a flexible loop 1710 and a grip attachment portion 1720. It is preferred that the portion of loop 1710 that extends from grip 123 is approximately 12 inches long to provide enough room for either a user's heel or toe fit through the loop. With foot grip accessory 1700 so secured, the toes (FIG. 17A) or heel (FIG. 17B) can be placed through loop 1710, and a force can be exerted by the foot against exercise device 100.

[0098] It is preferred that the majority of foot grip accessory 1700 is formed of materials that include, but are not limited, to straps of a webbing of a natural or synthetic material having a strength sufficient to support the weight of a device user. Preferred webbings include, but are not limited to, polymeric fiber webbings made of, for example, nylon or polypropylene or some other polymeric fiber. It is understood that a single length of flexible material can alternatively comprise two or more pieces that are stitched, glued, or otherwise attached to one another.

[0099] In a first embodiment foot grip accessory 1700, flexible loop 1710 is removably attachable, as discussed subsequently, to one of the pair of grips 123. A specific embodiment of foot grip accessory 1700 is illustrated in FIGS. 18A-D, where FIG. 18A is a perspective view of the foot grip accessory, FIG. 18B is a bottom view of the foot grip accessory, FIG. 18C is a side view of part of one of the grip

attachment portions, and FIG. 18D is a top view of part of one of the grip accessory attachment portions. As shown in FIGS. 18A and 18B, foot grip 1700 is formed from three straps: a loop strap 1801 and two attachment straps 1803. With the three straps attached, as described subsequently, loop strap 1801 forms loop 1710 and the two attachment straps 1803 forms the grip attachment portion 1720.

[0100] Loop strap 1801 is formed from a length of strapping having ends that are joined to form a loop. Loop strap 1801 is preferably polymeric fiber webbing 20 inches long and 1.5 inches wide. In the preferred embodiment, the loop includes two triangular shaped double stitched portions 1815, one of which joins the two ends of loop strap 1801. Each of the two grip attachment straps 1803 is formed from a length of strapping having a first end 1807 with a first fastening surface 1809 and a second end 1811 with a second fastening surface 1813. Attachment straps 1803 are preferably polymeric fiber webbing. In one embodiment straps 1803 have a length of 7.5 inches and a width of 1.5 inches. Fastening surfaces 1809 and 1811 are, in one embodiment, attached to loop strap 1801 by double stitching 1817, and grip attachment straps 1803 are preferably joined midway between ends 1807 and 1811 to the loop strap by double stitching 1805.

[0101] Each attachment strap 1803 includes fastening surfaces 1809 and 1813 are on opposite sides of the strap. In one embodiment, fastening surfaces 1809 and 1813 are matching surfaces, such as matching hook and loop surfaces of a hook and loop fastening system, such as VELCRO® brand hook and loop fasteners. In one embodiment, fastening surfaces 1809 and 1813 are each approximately 2 inches by 1.25 inches.

[0102] Foot grip accessory 1700 is removably attachable and is used as follows. Grip attachment portion 1720 of foot grip accessory 1700 is removably attachable to one of the pair of grips 123, by wrapping the length of each strap 1703 about grip 123a and contacting fastening surfaces 1809 and 1813 on each strap 1803. Stitching 1815 allows loop 1710 to open without twisting and provides a secure strap for securing the foot.

[0103] Another example of a grip accessory is finger grip accessory 1900, which is illustrated in FIGS. 19A-19C with three different exercises when attached to grips 123 of exercise device 100. Finger grip assembly 1900 has loops 1910 adapted for receiving and being gripped by the thumb and one or more fingers and a grip attachment portion 1920 for attaching the accessory to the grip of an exercise device. Grip attachment portion 1920 is removably attachable to one of the pair of grips 123. In one embodiment, there are two loops 1910: a first loop 1910a, and a second loop 1910b. With finger grip accessory 1900 so secured, a finger F1 can be placed through one of the loops, for example first loop 1910a as shown in FIG. 19A, a finger F1 can be placed through the first loop and a finger F2 can be placed through second loop 1910b as shown in FIG. 19B, or two fingers, F1 and F2 can be placed through the first loop and a finger F3 and a finger F4 can be placed through the second loop, as shown in FIG. 19C.

[0104] In one embodiment, each of the pair of grips 123 is provided with one finger grip accessory 1900. With the finger or fingers so placed through at least one of loops 1910, a force can be exerted by the pulling against exercise device 100. Finger grip accessory 1900 has similar functionality as finger grips 4001.

[0105] A specific embodiment of finger grip accessory 1900 is illustrated in FIGS. 20A-C, where FIG. 20A is a

perspective view of the finger grip accessory, FIG. 20B is a top view 20B-20B of the finger grip accessory, and FIG. 20C is a sectional side view 20C-20C of the finger grip accessory. Finger grip accessory 1900 includes two loops 1910, first loop 1910a and second loop 1910b, and grip attachment portion 1920 includes three portions 1920a, 1920b, and 1920c. More specifically, finger grip accessory 1900 is formed from five straps: a loop strap 2001, three attachment straps 1803, and a backing strap 2003. With the five straps attached, as described subsequently, loop strap 2001 forms first loop 1910a and finger loop 1910b, that can each receive one or more fingers, and each of the three attachment straps 1803 forms one of grip attachment portion 1920a, 1920b, and 1920c. It is preferred that the majority of finger grip 1900 is formed of the same materials as hand grip 1700.

[0106] In one embodiment, loop strap 2001 is constructed from a polymeric fiber webbing having a length of 21.5 inches long and a width of 1 inch, and backing strip 2003 is a polymeric fiber webbing having a length of 2 inches and a width of 1 inch. Finger grip accessory 1900 is assembled by three stitches 2007 that each pass through one of the three attachment straps 1803 and through loop strap 2001 and backing strap 2003. In the preferred embodiment, stitching 2007 is double stitched portions. As is shown in FIGS. 20A and 20C, a portion of loop strap 2001 protrudes between each of the three attachment straps 1803 to form loops 1910a and 1910b. It is preferred that loops 1910a and 1910b are formed from lengths of loop strap 1901 that are approximately 8 inches. Loop strap 2001 preferably extends the length of backing strap 2003, with two loops 1910a and 1910b between adjacent attachment straps 1803.

[0107] Finger grip accessory 1900 is removably attachable and is used as follows. Grip attachment portion 1920 of finger grip accessory 1900 is removably attachable to one of the pair of grips 123 by the contact of fastening surfaces 1809 and 1813 on each strap 1803. With finger grip accessory 1900 so secured, a finger may be placed through one of the loops, for example loop 1910a as shown in FIG. 20A, one finger can be placed through each of loop 1910a and 1910b as shown in FIG. 20B, or two fingers can be placed through each of loop 1910a and 1910b as shown in FIG. 20C. With the finger or fingers so placed through at least one of loops 1910, a force can be exerted by the user against exercise device 100.

[0108] A third example of a grip accessory is grip accessory 2100, which is illustrated in FIGS. 21A-21C as being attached to grips 123 of exercise device 100. Grip accessory 2100 has several cords 2110 that can be gripped in different combinations, as explained subsequently, and a grip attachment portion 2120. In general, the number of cords 2110 can be from one to five, or more, with four being the number in one embodiment, and with each cord having the same diameter and length. In one embodiment cords 2110 have a grippable length large enough for a human hand, for example a length from 4 inches to 6 inches, and that there is enough additional length to allow the user to pass her hand between cords, as illustrated in FIGS. 21A-21C. In one embodiment, grip accessory 2100 has four cords, denoted as a first cord 2110a, a second cord 2110b, a third cord 2110c, and a fourth cord 2110d. The cords can be gripped in almost any combination so that a user can grip any number of cords, from one cord to all 4 cords. FIG. 21A illustrates hand H gripping three cords, for example the first cord 2110a, second cord 2110b, and third cord 2110c, FIG. 21B illustrates the hand gripping

two cords, for example the first and second cords, and FIG. 21C illustrates the hand gripping one cord, for example the first cord.

[0109] Grip attachment portion 2120 is removably attachable, as discussed subsequently, to one of the pair of grips 123. With grip accessory 2100 so secured, between one and all of cords 2210 can be gripped, and a force can be exerted by pulling against exercise device 100. In one embodiment, each of the pair of grips 123 is provided with one grip accessory 2100.

[0110] One embodiment of grip accessory 2100 is illustrated in FIGS. 22A-D, where FIG. 22A is a perspective view of the grip accessory, FIG. 22B is a top view of the grip accessory, FIG. 22C is a bottom view of the grip accessory, and FIG. 22D is sectional side view 22D-22D of FIG. 22C. Grip accessory 2100 is formed from four straps, specifically a backing strap 2205, a front strap 2207, and two attachment straps 1803, and two cords 2201 and 2203. Cords 2110 are formed from two longer cords 2201 and 2203, and grip attachment portion 2120 is formed from straps 2205, 2207, and 1803.

[0111] The two straps 1803 forming grip attachment portion 2120 are attached at their respective central portions between the ends of backing strap 2205 and front strap 2207. The four cords 2110a-d are formed from the longer cords 2201 and 2203. Specifically, as shown in FIG. 22B, cords 2201 and 2203 are side-by-side and folded in half. Each cord forms a loop 2213 near the middle of cords 2201 and 2203, with both cords lashed together by whipping 2211 and to form a loop 2213 and with the four ends of cords 2201 and 2203 lashed by whipping 2209. In the sectional view of FIG. 22D, cord 2203 is shown with a first end 2213 and second end 2217 lashed together by whipping 2209, and a central portion 2215 forming loop 2213 about strap 2207. Each cord 2201 and 2203 is folded in half, and thus each cord forms two cords between whippings 2209 and 2211. Specifically, cord 2201 forms cords 2210a and 2210b, and cord 2203 forms cords 2210c and 2210d.

[0112] In one embodiment, straps 2205 and 2207 are polymeric fiber webbings, backing strap 2205 has a length of 5 inches and a width of 1 inch, and front strap 2207 preferably has a length of 6 inches and a width of 1 inch. Cords 2201 and 2203 are, in one embodiment, cotton cord having a length of from approximately 20 inches to approximately 30 inches, and, in another embodiment, have a length of from approximately 22 inches to approximately 26 inches. In yet another embodiment, the length is approximately 24 inches. In one embodiment, cords 2201 and 2203 have a diameter that is preferably from $\frac{1}{2}$ inch to 1 inch, or, in another embodiment, approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ inches. The joints between straps 2205 and 2207 and attachment straps 1803 are preferably double stitched. The resulting grip attachment 2100 has four cords with approximately 10 inches of grippable length, allowing enough room for a human hand to pass between and grip cords 2110.

[0113] Grip accessory 2100 is removably attachable and is used as follows. Grip attachment portion 2120 is removably attachable to one of the pair of grips 123 by the contact of fastening surfaces 1809 and 1813 on each strap 1803. With finger grip accessory 2100 so secured, one, two, three, or all four of cords 2110a-d may be gripped by the hand. For example, FIG. 22A illustrates cords 2110a, 2110b, and 2110c gripped by a user, FIG. 22B illustrates cords 2110a and 2110b gripped by a user, and FIG. 22C illustrates cord 2110a

gripped by a user. With cords 2110 so gripped, a force can be exerted by the user against exercise device 100.

[0114] FIG. 27 is a perspective view of a grip which may be used as either a hand grip or a foot grip, and which is referred to herein without limitation as a "combination" grip 2700. Grip 2700 may be generally similar to the grips or accessory grips of exercise device 100, except as explicitly detailed below. Where possible, similar elements are identified with identical reference numerals in the Figures.

[0115] In general, combination grip 2700 includes two elements which may be used as grips, which may be at one end or at both ends of the exercise devices described herein including, but not limited to, exercise device 100 or 400. Thus, for example, combination grip 2700 may be at both of ends 121, on both of ends 421, or on one of ends 421a or 421b. In the embodiment of FIG. 27, grip 2700 includes a hand grip 423a supported by loop 425a from strap 427a. Specifically, the material of strap 427a continues through loop 425a and is affixed to the strap by stitching 2711. Grip 2700 further includes a loop 2710 supported at end 421a.

[0116] In one embodiment, loop 2710 is a strap formed from one or more inelastic pieces that are attached together to form a continuous loop through portion 803, and the loop is thus integrally attached to hand grip 423. Thus, for example, hand grip 423a has a first end 423a-1 and 423a-2 that correspond to a first end 802-1 and a second end 803-2, respectively, of inner cylindrical tubular portion 803. In one embodiment, loop 2710 is formed from one or more pieces of webbing with ends sewed together form a single loop through portion 803, resulting in a portion of the loop hanging below the hand grip.

[0117] FIG. 28 is a perspective view of a second embodiment of a combination grip 2800 which may be generally similar to grip 2700, except as explicitly detailed below. Where possible, similar elements are identified with identical reference numerals in the Figures.

[0118] Combination grip 2800 includes a flexible loop 2810 that includes a strap 2811 having an end 2812, and a length adjustment mechanism 2813. Strap 2811 passes through tubular portion 803 and length adjustment mechanism 2813 permits the size of loop 2810 to be adjusted by moving end 2812 through the mechanism. Mechanism 2813, which may be, for example, a cam buckle, as illustrated, or a VELCRO® brand hook and loop fastener, permits the user to adjust the length of loop 2810 to the user's body size. Strap 2811 may either be removable from hand grip 423a, or may have ends that are too large to permit removal of the grip, and thus is not removable from the hand grip. In an alternative embodiment (not shown), strap 2811 and end 2812 have matching fasteners, such as a VELCRO® brand hook and loop fastener, to prevent dangling of the strap end.

[0119] In one embodiment, grip 423 is 5 inches long, and loop 2710 is approximately 20 inches long. In another embodiment, a portion of loop 2710 that is not within portion 803 is padded with $\frac{1}{8}$ inch of a soft material, including but not limited to a rubber based on polychloroprene, such as neoprene. In another embodiment, and loop 2810 is adjustable from approximately 12 inches long to approximately 23 inches long.

[0120] In yet another embodiment, loop 2711 or 2811 does not form a loop through portion 803, but is attached at or near the ends 803-1, 803-2.

Methods of Exercising

[0121] The use exercise device 120 is illustrated in FIGS. 12A-12D, where FIG. 12A is an initial configuration, FIG.

12B illustrates lengthening the elongated member 420, further illustrated in FIGS. 12B' and 12B", FIG. 12C shows the application of force to the shorter leg of the elongated member, and FIG. 12D shows the application of force to the grips during an exercise. FIGS. 12A-12D are illustrative, and in general apply to the exercise devices of the present invention. [0122] For illustrative purposes, FIG. 12A is assumed to be an initial configuration of an anchored device, and it is assumed that the user wishes to increase the length S while keeping the pair of arms 422 the same length (approximately one half of S). First, the user actuates one or both buckles 435. FIG. 12B schematically shows the result of actuating buckle 435a and elongating leg 422a as indicated by the arrows on that figure. FIG. 12B' shows the user U pushing cam 711 and grabbing end 431, and FIG. 12B" shows the user pulling end 431 away from the cam, as indicated by the arrow, to shorten the device.

[0123] The user then preferentially pulls on the shorter leg 422b as indicated by force vector F1 of FIG. 12C. With both of the pair of legs 422 having approximately the same, longer length the user can then exercise, as indicated in FIG. 12D, by applying equal forces F2 to each handle grip. In practice, it is not necessary for the two forces of FIG. 12D to be equal, as the application of force to legs 422 away from anchor 410 increases the friction between elongated member 420 and the anchor, allowing the lengths to not change, even under some mis-match of applied forces. Alternatively, exercise device can be adjusted to provide shorter legs 422 by pulling on end 431 to shorten the length S.

[0124] In addition to being equally balanced between the two arms, it is possible to use the inventive device to provide differing arm lengths for exercising. FIGS. 13A-13C illustrate the use of an exercise device having differing lengths of arms 422, where FIG. 13A is an initial configuration, FIG.

13B shows the application of force to one of the pair of arms 422, and FIG. 13C shows the application of force to the grips during an exercise. For illustrate purposes, FIG. 13A is assumed to be an initial configuration of an anchored device, and it assumed that the user wishes to adjust the length of arms 422 to different lengths. First, the user preferentially pulls on the shorter leg 422b as indicated by force vector F1 of FIG. 13B. The user can then exercise, as indicated by the equal forces F2 of FIG. 13C. In practice, it is not necessary for the two forces of FIG. 13C to be equal, since as illustrated in FIG. 12, as the application of force to legs 422 away from anchor 410 increases the friction between elongated member 420 and the anchor also increases. This limits the possibility that the arm lengths will change, even under some mis-match of applied forces. The adjustment of arms 422 to different lengths can be combined with the lengthening or shortening of the length S by actuating one or both of buckles 435.

[0125] The inventive exercise device allows for a wide range of exercises. Examples of the many exercises that are possible are presented in TABLE 1 for the inventive device placed over the top of a door. FIGS. 3 and 15 illustrate three of the many exercise positions. In each of these positions the user has selected a length for exercise device 100 or 400, adjusted as explained with reference to FIGS. 12 or 13, has positioned himself on the ground a desired horizontal distance X from anchor point A with a portion of his weight being supported by the exercise device. With his weight so supported, as shown in FIGS. 3 and 15, he moves his body in directions appropriate to the type of exercise to be performed, for example by moving his body toward or away from the wall or ground, by bending his arms or legs while supporting his weight by the exercise device, or performing other movements that exercise his muscles.

TABLE 1

Several Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced Over the Door Anchor Exercises.

| Basic Exercises | Intermediate | Advanced |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Pull functions | Pull functions | Pull/lateral functions |
| Low row | One-arm low row | Lateral raise |
| High row | One-arm high row | Front shoulder raise |
| Pull-up | One-arm pull-up | Reverse-grip curl |
| High curl | One-arm high curl | Combination row/kickback |
| Low curl | One-arm low curl | Internal rotator cuff |
| Back fly | Lower chest/lat crunch | External rotator cuff |
| Wrist curl | Reverse-grip wrist curl | 2-Way forearm flexors |
| Core Strength | Core Strength | Core Strength |
| Crunch | Kneeling combination crunch | Standing combination crunch |
| Reverse single leg raise | Reverse leg raise w/ hip lift | Reverse leg raise w/ hip lift |
| Oblique crunch | V-sit-up | Reverse oblique raise |
| Reverse crunch | Hip lift | V-balance |
| Bicycle | Reverse bicycle | Reverse combination crunch |
| Back Bridge | | |
| Legs | Legs | Legs |
| Squat | Lying hamstring pedal | Lying hamstring curl |
| Hip hinge | Tip-toe squat | Single-leg hip hinge |
| Squat lunge | Step-back lunge | Single leg L-squat |
| Sumo squat | Single leg squat | Diagonal Step-back lunge |
| Side-to-side lunge | Single calf raise | Crossover off-balance squat |
| Calf raise | Jumping Ski PT | |

TABLE 1-continued

Several Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced Over the Door Anchor Exercises.

| Basic Exercises | Intermediate | Advanced |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Push functions | Push functions | Push functions |
| Standard press | One-arm incline press | Triceps kickback |
| Chest fly | Low chest press (outside grip) | One-arm concentration fly |
| Shoulder press | Reverse Push-up | Reverse crunch/push-up |
| Overhead triceps extension | One-arm triceps extension | One-arm shoulder press |
| Lat-Pullovers | | Gymnast dip |

[0126] Specifically illustrated in FIGS. 3 and 15 are single poses of a user U performing a variety of exercises including a high row exercise (FIG. 3), a reverse combination crunch (FIG. 15A), a single leg L-squat (FIG. 15B), a gymnast dip (FIG. 15C), a kneeling combination crunch (FIG. 15D), a lying leg curl (FIG. 15E), a hip lift (FIG. 15F), a front shoulder raise (FIG. 15G), a crunch (FIG. 15H), and a triceps extension (FIG. 15I). It is apparent from FIGS. 3 and 15 that many different types of exercises are possible with the inventive exercise device according to the length of the device, the positioning of the body, and how the handles are gripped. In addition, the inventive device can be used to perform one handed exercises as illustrated in FIGS. 16A and 16B. Specifically, FIG. 16A shows an exercise device 400' having interlocking the ends 421a and 421b for one handed exercises, and FIG. 16B illustrates the use of the exercise device 400' in performing a one arm high row exercise.

[0127] Although the invention(s) presented herein have been disclosed in the context of certain preferred embodiments and examples, it will be understood by those skilled in the art that the invention(s) extend beyond the specifically disclosed embodiments to other alternative embodiments and/or uses of the invention(s) and obvious modifications and equivalents thereof. Thus, it is intended that the scope of the invention(s) herein disclosed should not be limited by the particular embodiments described above, but should be determined only by a fair reading of the claims that follow.

What is claimed is:

1. An anchor to support an exercise device from a structure, said anchor comprising:
 - a portion connectable to the exercise device;
 - a first anchor including a door anchor; and
 - a second anchor including a connector,
 where said first anchor or said second anchor is connectable to the structure.
2. The anchor of claim 1, where said connector includes a loop.
3. The anchor of claim 2, where said loop is formable into a closed ring.
4. The anchor of claim 2, where said connector material includes a substantially rigid material.
5. The anchor of claim 1, where said structure includes a closed door and a doorjamb, where said door anchor includes a strap that is passable between said closed door and said door

jamb and an enlarged end that is not passable between said closed door and said doorjamb.

6. The anchor of claim 1, where said second anchor includes a strap passable through said connector, and where said second anchor is adapted to wrap about a portion of the structure.

7. The anchor of claim 1, where said second anchor includes a strap having one or more loops, where said connector is passable through said one or more loops, and where said second anchor is adapted to wrap about a portion of the structure.

8. The anchor of claim 1, where said portion, said first anchor, and said second anchor are connected with a flexible material.

9. The anchor of claim 8, where said flexible material includes a webbing.

10. An anchor to support an exercise device from a structure, said anchor comprising:

- a first connector configurable to support the exercise device;
- a flexible material including
 - an anchor loop to accept said first connector,
 - a first anchor including a door anchor, and
 - a second anchor including a second connector,
 where said first anchor or said second anchor is connectable to the structure.

11. The anchor of claim 10, where said first connector includes a first loop.

12. The anchor of claim 11, where said first loop is formable into a closed ring.

13. The anchor of claim 11, where said first connector material includes a substantially rigid material.

14. The anchor of claim 10, where said second connector includes a second loop.

15. The anchor of claim 14, where said second loop is formable into a closed ring.

16. The anchor of claim 14, where said second connector material includes a substantially rigid material.

17. The anchor of claim 10, where said structure includes a closed door and a doorjamb, and where said door anchor includes a strap that is passable between the closed door and the door jamb and an enlarged end that is not passable between the closed door and said the jamb.

18. The anchor of claim 10, where said second anchor includes a strap passable through said second connector, and where said second anchor is adapted to wrap about a portion of the structure.

19. The anchor of claim **10**, where said second anchor includes a strap having one or more loops, where said second connector is passable through at least one of said one or more loops, and where said second anchor is adapted to wrap about a portion of the structure.

20. The anchor of claim **10**, where said flexible material includes a webbing.

21. The anchor of claim **10**, where said first anchor and said second anchor are connected with a flexible material.

22. An anchor to support, from a structure, a device used for exercising, said anchor comprising:

two or more portions each attachable to a structure, where a first one of said two or more portions is attachable between a door and door jamb of a closed door.

23. The anchor of claim **22**, where a second one of said two or more portions includes a hook or ring attachable to the structure.

24. The anchor of claim **22**, where a second one of said two or more portions includes a loop and a hook or ring attachable to said loop.

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