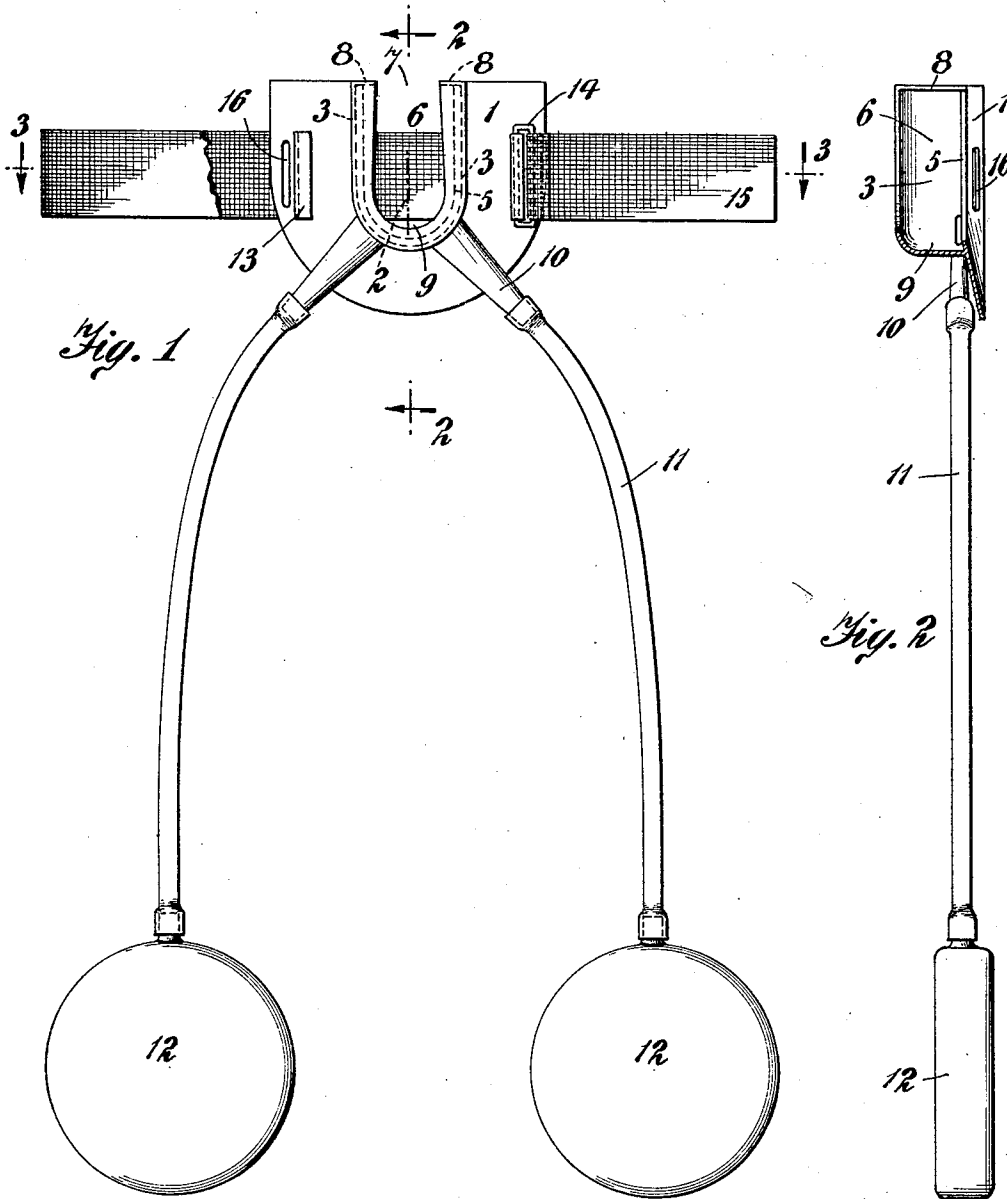
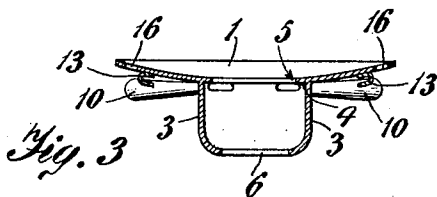


M. N. HOFSTETTER.
SURGICAL APPLIANCE.
APPLICATION FILED MAY 16, 1919.

1,318,872.

Patented Oct. 14, 1919.



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SURGICAL APPLIANCE.

1,318,872.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MORITZ N. HOFSTETTER, a citizen of the United States, and resident of the city of New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Surgical Appliance, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to surgical appliances, and particularly to an appliance which is to be utilized in connection with the care and dressing of the incision after an abdominal operation which is made incident to a bladder operation, or an abdominal operation of a different character, as a consequence of which the bladder becomes incised.

In such operations it is the practice to make a vertical incision at the middle of the lower part of the abdomen, and after the operation and sewing of the wound the urine tends to continually flow out through the incision until the wound becomes completely healed. This situation is usually cared for by means of applying heavy gauze dressings which absorb the urine as it flows out of the incision. But as the urine flows continuously it rapidly impregnates the dressing, which therefore requires frequent changing, and causes all the well known attendant disadvantages, inconveniences, and displeasures, due to such impregnations and constant redressing. Further change of dressing is likewise required when it is desired to treat the wound and when it is necessary to irrigate it.

The principal object of the invention is to provide means for remedying all of the above-mentioned disadvantages.

Another object is to provide a simple, inexpensive and efficient appliance which will take the place of the dressing required and will afford convenient means for maintaining the patient's body in dry state and provide access to the wound at all times for treatment and irrigation.

Other objects and advantages will hereinafter appear.

In the accompanying drawings,—

Figure 1 shows a general front elevation, of the surgical appliance.

Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the appliance shown in Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a cross-sectional plan view of the appliance, taken in the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

The appliance proper includes a plate 1, which is configurated to conform to the shape of the lower part of the abdomen at about the place where incision is made thereon for performing bladder operations. Said plate is furthermore made bow-shaped as shown, and so contrived that when it is in proper operative position upon the patient it surrounds the incision, indicated by the dot and dash line 2, on three sides, or may be said to adjoin said incision at its sides and at the lower extremity thereof. A wall 3, is secured to or forms part of the plate 1, and is joined to the latter in such manner that its base 4, follows the inner contour of the plate 1, and is preferably joined to the plate a little away from its inner edge 5. The wall 3 is shaped pocket-like and bulges away from the plate 1 in round form so as to roof over the incision. On the highest part and middle of the bulging wall 3, is provided an opening 6, which extends clear through the upper part 7 thereof, whereat the pocket is closed by the walls 8, said opening extending from its lower edge 9 which is located a little above the lowest point of the incision. Tubes 10, preferably two in number extend from the lower side of wall 3, and a suitable rubber pipe 11, connected to each of these tubes is joined to a flattened round glass bottle 12 or other suitable receptacle. At the outer side-edges of plate 1, are provided elongated hooks 13, over which are slipped the elongated eyes 14, forming the extremities of an elastic belt or strap 15, which may be passed around the back of the patient's body to thereby secure the appliance in required operative position. Openings 16 may be additionally provided adjacent the hooks 13, for use in tying bandages thereto in case it is desired to secure the appliance in operative state upon the patient in this manner.

When utilizing this appliance, it is secured to the patient's body in the proper operative position, as above described, and

thereafter it may be continuously worn until the incision has entirely healed and the wound closed up. Any urine that may issue out of the incision will be naturally collected by the wall 3, and directed to the tubes 10, wherefrom it will pass out through the pipes 11, into the bottles 12. The function of the plate 1 is to render the pocket 3 leak-proof and make certain that none of the matter will pass out around the base 4 of the wall and through the sides of the wall, but will be directed at all times to the tubes 10. The extension of the plate 1 beyond the wall 3 at 5, aids additionally in directing the issuing fluid toward the wall 3 and through the tubes 10.

It will be evident that the appliance may be provided with any number of tubes or outlets 10, to insure the urine passing out at all times, in whatever positions the patient may assume, whether lying, sitting, or standing, as the appliance is to be worn by the patient even after he becomes convalescent. When the patient is in a lying position the upper portions 5 of wall 3 serve to retain the urine within the appliance and to direct it to flow out through the tubes 10. The bottles 12 may be placed beside the patient when he is in bed and may be carried among his clothing when he is in sitting or walking position. Should it be necessary to attend to the incision wound in any way, ready access may be had thereto through the opening 6, and should it be required to irrigate the incision, the same may be done by directing a water nozzle over the wound and flushing it out through the outlet tubes 10, so that the irrigating fluid would pass out through the pipes 11, and be collected in the bottles 12, both of which operations may be carried out efficiently and conveniently without requiring the removal of the appliance from the patient. The appliance may be made of metal, hard rubber, or any other suitable material.

Variations may be resorted to within the scope of the invention, and portions of the improvements may be used without others.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:—

1. A surgical appliance having the combination of a plate configured to conform to the part of the body whereat incision is to be made and adapted to bear against the body, said plate having an opening the edges of which adjoin the sides and lower extremity of the incision, a wall projecting from said plate and extending along the edges of said opening; being adapted to gather matter issuing from the incision, a plurality of outlet tubes extending from said wall to carry off said matter, said wall being convexed in pocket-like configuration and having an opening for gaining access to

the incision and flushing it, and means to secure the appliance to the patient's body.

2. A surgical appliance having the combination of a plate configured to conform to the part of the body whereat incision is to be made and adapted to bear against the body, said plate having an opening the edges of which adjoin the sides and lower extremity of the incision, a wall projecting from said plate and extending along the edges of said opening; being adapted to gather matter issuing from the incision, means connected to said wall for carrying off said matter, said wall being convexed in pocket-like configuration and having an opening for gaining access to the incision and flushing it, and means to secure the appliance to the patient's body.

3. A surgical appliance having the combination of a plate configured to conform to the part of the body whereat incision is to be made and adapted to bear against the body, said plate having an opening the edges of which adjoin the sides and lower extremity of the incision, a wall projecting from said plate and extending along the edges of said opening being adapted to gather matter issuing from the incision, means connected to said wall for carrying off said matter, and means to secure the appliance to the patient's body.

4. A surgical appliance having the combination of a plate configured to conform to the part of the body whereat incision is to be made and adapted to bear against the body, said plate having an opening the edges of which adjoin the sides and lower extremity of the incision, a wall projecting from said plate and extending along the edges of said opening being adapted to gather matter issuing from the incision, a plurality of outlet tubes extending from said wall to carry off said matter in the horizontal position of the body as well as when it is in the upright position, and means to secure the appliance to the patient's body.

5. A surgical appliance for abdominal and bladder operations having the combination of a plate configured to conform to the lower part of the abdomen whereat incision is to be made and adapted to bear against the abdomen, said plate being shaped so as to adjoin the sides and lower extremity of the incision, a wall projecting from said plate and extending along the inner edge of the plate so as to adjoin the sides and lower extremity of the incision being adapted to gather matter issuing from the incision, means connected to said wall for carrying off said matter, and means to secure the appliance to the patient's body.

6. A surgical appliance having the combination of a plate configured to conform to the part of the body whereat incision is to

be made and adapted to bear against the body, said plate having an opening the edges of which adjoin the sides and lower extremity of the incision, a wall projecting
5 from said plate and extending along the edges of said opening being adapted to gather matter issuing from the incision, means connected to said wall for carrying-off said matter, means to secure the appli-

ance to the patient's body, and said plate 10 extending beyond said wall in a direction toward the incision to direct the matter toward the wall.

Signed at the city of New York, in the county of New York, and State of New 15 York, this 14th day of May, A. D. 1919.

MORITZ N. HOFSTETTER.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."