F. J. STUART.

SURGICAL GARMENT.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 19, 1913.

1,127,544. Patented Feb. 9, 1915.

Fig. 1.

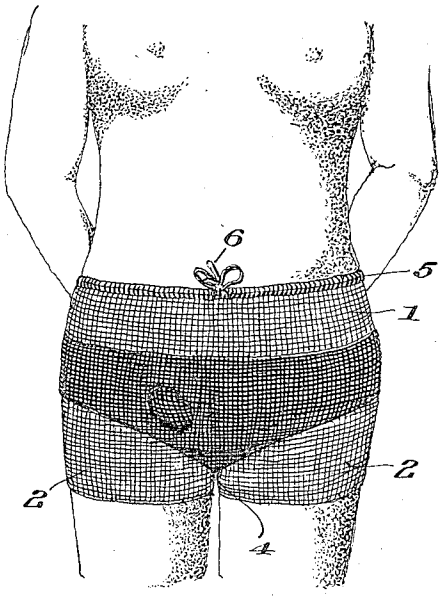
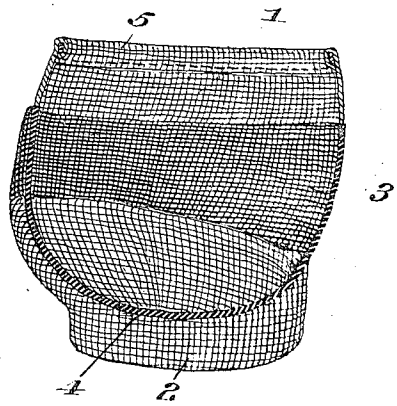


Fig. 2.



Witnesses

Gerald Hennessy.

James A. Koehler

Inventor

F. J. Stuart,

By Victor J. Evans

Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK J. STUART, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

SURGICAL GARMENT.

1,127,544. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 9, 1915.

Application filed August 19, 1913. Serial No. 785,532.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK J. STUART, a citizen of the United States, residing at St. Louis, in the State of Missouri, have invented new and useful Improvements in Surgical Garments, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to surgical garments and particularly a garment which may be used as a support for hernia, prolapsed abdomen or all cases where the abdominal walls are weak and it is necessary to sustain any extra strain on the abdominal muscles and one which may be worn by athletes and which will be capable of protecting the muscles in a manner which will prevent a dilation of the natural openings.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a garment wherein the abdominal supporter portion thereof may be effectually held in a proper applied position.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a garment wherein the abdominal supporter portion thereof may effectually serve as a retainer for securing a pad in applied position against the affected part of the body and the garment thereby made to serve as a truss for retaining hernia.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists of certain novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings:—Figure 1 is a view illustrating the application of the garment; and Fig. 2 is a vertical section through the garment.

The garment is preferably in the form of trunks, and is shown to consist of an upper semi-elastic continuous fabric body 1, lower relatively short legs 2 and an intermediate elastic abdominal supporter forming portion 3, which is made up of rubber and interwoven in the threads of the fabric semi-elastic portions 1 and 2 of the garment, said portion 3 being continuous and having such inherent elasticity as will permit of its effective engagement against the abdomen with such pressure as will warrant the effectiveness of the garment for the purpose intended. Between the front and the back of the portion 3 and connected with the legs 2 of the garment is a connecting portion 4, which as shown, may be an integral part of the elastic portion 3 of the garment.

The construction of the garment as described is such that the short legs 2 thereof and the portion 4 serve to sustain the garment in applied position and to hold the portion 3 thereof against working in an upward direction beyond its point of application to the body thus obviating the necessity of the usual understraps in trusses or garments. With a further view to retaining the garment in an applied position, I provide the portion 1 with a hem 5, in which is arranged a draw-string whose terminals 6 are arranged in front of the garment, whereby they may be drawn together and the portion 1 contracted against the body. The construction of the elastic intermediate portion 3 is such as to render the garment extremely effective toward furnishing the necessary support over the abdomen, while such portion 3 is so formed that under its normal elasticity a pad, such as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1, may be applied against the body and held thereagainst under the action of said portion 3 and the garment then made to serve the purpose of a truss.

It is described that the portions 1 and 2 of the garment are semi-elastic. By this, it is meant that such portions may be made of interwoven cotton or woolen threads, however, should it be deemed advisable such portions may be constructed of a combination of interwoven cotton or woolen threads together with threads of rubber, but in either event it is to be understood that the portions 1 and 2 are chiefly intended for the purpose of maintaining an applied position of the intermediate elastic abdominal supporter portion 3 of the garment. It is also stated that while it is preferred to associate the portions 1 and 2 with the portion 3, so that the threads of the latter may be interwoven with the threads of said portions 1 and 2, it may be also found efficient to construct the portion 3 of a continuous body of sheet rubber or the like and to connect the same with the portions 1 and 2 in any obvious manner.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, the construction and operation of the invention will be readily understood without requiring a more extended explanation.

Various changes in the form, proportion and the minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the

principle or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention, as claimed.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:—

1. An abdominal supporter comprising leg-embracing portions of semi-elastic material, an upper portion of semi-elastic material, and an intermediate portion of elastic material interwoven in the threads of the main body of the fabric.

2. An abdominal supporter comprising leg embracing portions of semi-elastic material, an upper portion of semi-elastic material, an intermediate portion of elastic material, and a connecting portion of elastic material between and connecting the front and back of the supporter and above the crotch.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

FRANK J. STUART.

Witnesses:

M. M. WOLTJEN,

FRED RIMSA.