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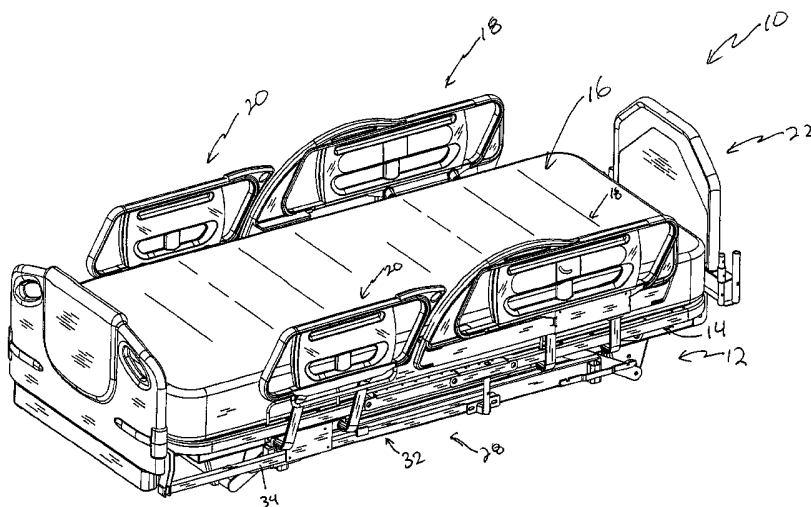
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(54) Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CLOSING HOSPITAL BED GAPS



(57) Abstract: A patient support (10) is provided. Patient support (10) includes a frame (12), a mattress (16) supported by frame (12), and a set of siderails (18, 20) configured to block egress of patient from patient support (10). Siderails (18, 20) are configured to reduce gaps defined between siderails (18, 20) and the other components of patient support (10).



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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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X,P	US 6,401,281 A (Younge) 11 June 2002 (11.06.2002), Figs. 1-3, columns 3 and 4.	38,39,41,42,43
X	US 5,987,666 A (Zigmont) 23 November 1999 (23.11.1999), Figures 2-4.	44,45
X	US 5,197,156 A (Stryker et al) 30 March 1993 (30.03.1993), Figs. 5 and 6.	48,50,51
X	US 5,060,327 A (Celestina et al) 20 October 1991 (10.29.1991), Figures 1-7.	58,59
X	US 6,058,531 A (Carroll) 09 May 2000 (09.05.2000), columns 7-9.	58,59
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A,P	US 6,430,766 A (Henley et al) 13 August 2002 (13.08.2002)	46,47



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C. (Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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A	US 6,397,416 A (Brooke et al) 04 June 2002 (04.06.2002)	
A	US 6,347,422 A (Heavrin) 19 February 2002 (19.02.2002)	
A,P	US 6,427,264 B1 (Metz et al) 06 August 2002 (06.08.2002)	
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A	US 5,035,014 A (Blanchard) 30 July 1991 (30.07.1991)	
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