

Feb. 5, 1952

V. G. BELCHER
COLOSTOMY APRON

2,584,249

Filed April 12, 1949

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1

Fig. 1

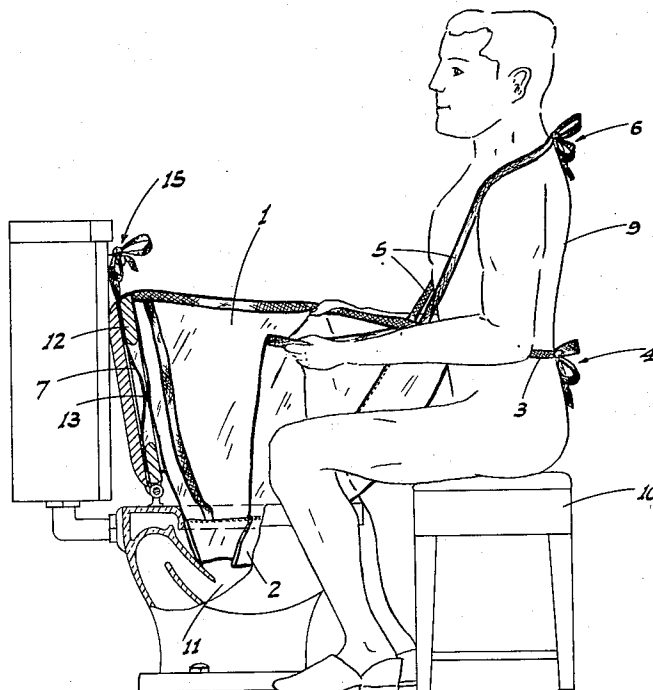
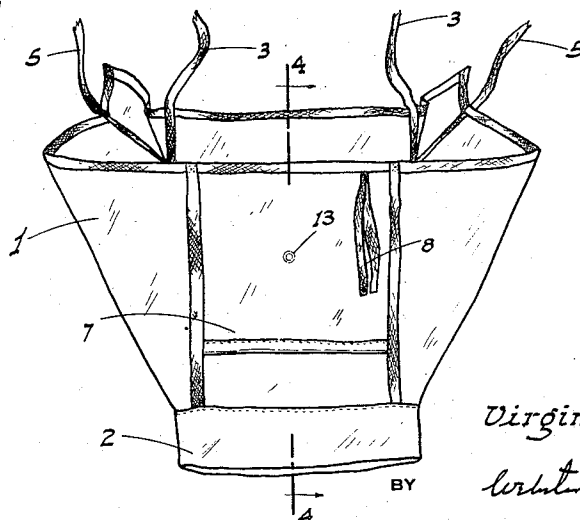


Fig. 3



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2

Fig. 2

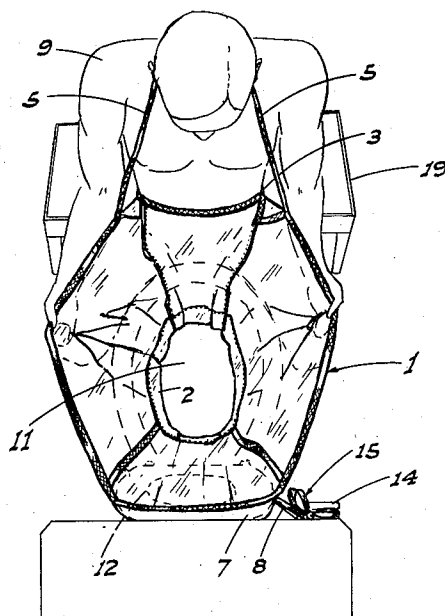
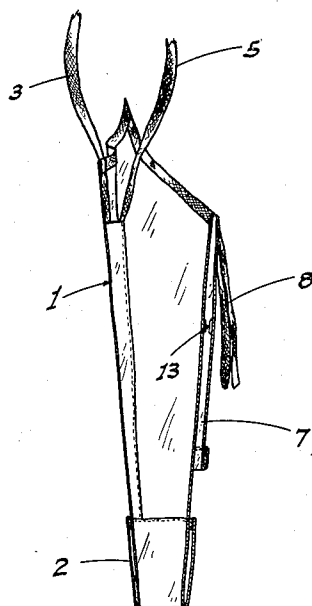


Fig. 4



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,584,249

COLOSTOMY APRON

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Application April 12, 1949, Serial No. 87,006

7 Claims. (Cl. 128—283)

1

This invention is directed to, and it is an object to provide, a novel colostomy apron for use in connection with the elimination by patients who have undergone a colostomy operation; the function of the apron being to enable the patient to conveniently evacuate through the colostomy opening either after having taken an enema, or otherwise, and to have the material so eliminated discharged readily into the toilet or other receptacle in a manner to prevent any of such material getting outside of the apron.

Another object of the invention is to provide a colostomy apron which comprises, generally, a funnel-like, material receiving apron of light weight, flexible, water-proof material adapted to connect adjacent the top to the patient's body and to engage at the bottom in a toilet or other receptacle.

A further object of the invention is to provide a colostomy apron, as above, whose design makes it readily adaptable to, and usable by, patients who have had various types of colostomy operations.

An additional object of the invention is to provide a colostomy apron which is washable, or can be immersed in a solution for cleaning and disinfecting purposes without injuring the apron.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a colostomy apron which can be folded into a small, compact bundle for carrying in an envelope or the like.

It is also an object of the invention to provide a colostomy apron which is simple in design, and capable of ready and economical manufacture.

Still a further object of the invention is to provide a practical and reliable colostomy apron, and one which will be exceedingly effective for the purpose for which it is designed.

These objects are accomplished by means of such structure and relative arrangement of parts as will fully appear by a perusal of the following specification and claims.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a side elevation, partly broken away, of the colostomy apron in use; the representation of the patient being fanciful.

Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the apron in use, as in Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a rear view of the apron, detached.

Fig. 4 is a cross section on line 4—4 of Fig. 3.

Referring now more particularly to the characters of reference on the drawings, the device comprises a material receiving apron 1 of funnel-like configuration, i. e. in the shape of an in-

2

verted truncated cone; such apron having a relatively large peripheral extent at the top and being manufactured of a light-weight, flexible water-proof material, such as a rubberized cloth or plastic sheet material.

At its lower end the funnel-like apron 1 is formed with a relatively short cuff 2, which cuff is of double thickness material, or otherwise reinforced so that it is somewhat stiffened.

At the top and front thereof the funnel-like material receiving apron 1 is formed with a pair of relatively widely spaced tie strings 3 adapted to encircle about the waist of a patient and to tie at the back, as at 4.

Additionally, at the front thereof, and laterally outwardly of the tie strings 3, the apron 1 includes another pair of spaced tie strings 5 adapted to extend upwardly over the shoulders of the patient and to tie behind the neck, as at 6.

At the back thereof the apron 1 is formed with a pocket 7 which is open at the bottom; the lower end of said pocket being some distance above the cuff 2. A pair of relatively short tie strings 8 are attached at a common point to the upper edge of the apron 1 at the back thereof adjacent one upper corner of the pocket 7; such tie strings being for the purpose hereinafter described.

In use of the above described colostomy apron, the patient, indicated fancifully at 9, sits on a stool or bench 10 in front of the toilet bowl 11 in facing relation thereto. The apron is then secured at the front about the waist of the patient at an appropriate height, having due regard to the location of the colostomy opening; the tie strings 3 being tied about the waist, and the tie strings 5 being tied about the neck, as previously described.

The apron 1 depends into the toilet bowl 11; the cuff 2 tending to hold the lower portion of the apron in proper position in said bowl.

The pocket 7 engages over the upturned toilet seat 12, whereby to maintain the back portion of the colostomy apron 1 at a proper height; there being a snap fastener 13 which detachably connects the front and back portions of the pocket 7 through the opening of the seat 12, so as to prevent said pocket 7 slipping upwardly.

In order to prevent the toilet seat 12 from falling forwardly when the apron is in use the tie strings 8 are tied to the flush handle 14 of the toilet, as at 15.

Opposite sides of the apron 1 are supported by the hands of the patient 9, in the manner shown.

3

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By enema, or otherwise, the material is eliminated through the colostomy opening into the material receiving funnel-like apron 1, and in turn is carried to the toilet bowl 11 for disposition. When the passing of material has been completed, the apron is then flushed on the inside with water, or with any other solution desired; the apron then being removed from the patient.

Thereafter, such apron is detached from the toilet and is cleansed or disinfected in any suitable manner.

The described colostomy apron represents an innovation and advance in the method and means of handling elimination from colostomy patients. Known practices do not embody any mechanical means whereby the material or secretions from a colostomy patient are confined within a funnel-like material receiving apron, and carried thereby directly to the toilet bowl or other receptacle for disposition.

The described apron greatly facilitates the handling of the elimination by a colostomy patient.

When not in use the apron can be folded into a small compact bundle for carrying in a bag or envelope.

From the foregoing description it will be readily seen that there has been produced such an article of manufacture as substantially fulfills the objects of the invention, as set forth herein.

While this specification sets forth in detail the present and preferred construction of the article of manufacture, still in practice such deviations from such detail may be resorted to as do not form a departure from the spirit of the invention, as defined by the appended claims.

Having thus described the invention, the following is claimed as new and useful, and upon which Letters Patent are desired:

1. A colostomy device comprising a material receiving apron of funnel-like shape adapted to extend at the lower end into the bowl of a toilet, means adapted to detachably secure the apron at the front and top closely to the waist of a patient seated facing said toilet bowl, and means adapted to detachably secure the apron at the back to the toilet above the bowl; said last named means including a tie string.

2. A colostomy device comprising a material receiving apron of funnel-like shape adapted to extend at the lower end into the bowl of a toilet, means adapted to detachably secure the apron at the front and top closely to the waist of a patient seated facing said toilet bowl, and means adapted to detachably secure the apron at the back to the toilet above the bowl; said last named means including a downwardly opening pocket on the back of the apron for engagement over the toilet seat when in upstanding position.

3. A colostomy device comprising a material receiving apron of funnel-like shape adapted to extend at the lower end into the bowl of a toilet, means adapted to detachably secure the apron at the front and top closely to the waist of a patient seated facing said toilet bowl, and means adapted to detachably secure the apron at the back to the toilet above the bowl; said last

named means including a downwardly opening pocket on the back of the apron for engagement over the toilet seat when in upstanding position, and a tie string on the apron at the back for tying to the flush handle of the toilet.

4. A colostomy device comprising a material receiving apron of funnel-like shape adapted to extend at the lower end into the bowl of a toilet, means adapted to detachably secure the apron at the front and top closely to the waist of a patient seated facing said toilet bowl, and means adapted to detachably secure the apron at the back to the toilet above the bowl; said last named means including a downwardly opening pocket on the back of the apron for engagement over the toilet seat when in upstanding position, there being a snap fastener adapted to couple between the front and back parts of the pocket through said toilet seat.

5. A colostomy device comprising a material receiving apron of funnel-like shape adapted to extend at the lower end into the bowl of a toilet, means adapted to detachably secure the apron at the front and top closely to the waist of a patient seated facing said toilet bowl, and means adapted to detachably secure the apron at the back to the toilet above the bowl; said last named means including a downwardly opening pocket on the back of the apron for engagement over the toilet seat when in upstanding position, there being a snap fastener adapted to couple between the front and back parts of the pocket through said toilet seat, and a tie string on the apron at the back for tying to the flush handle of the toilet.

6. A colostomy device comprising a material receiving apron of funnel-like shape adapted to extend at the lower end into the bowl of a toilet, said apron being formed of flexible, water-proof material and having a relatively large peripheral extent at the top, a relatively stiff cuff at the lower end of the apron, a plurality of tie strings on the apron at the front adjacent the top, and a pocket on the apron at the back, said pocket opening downward and terminating above the cuff.

7. A colostomy device comprising a material receiving apron of funnel-like shape adapted to extend at the lower end into the bowl of a toilet, means adapted to detachably secure the apron at the front and top closely to the waist of a patient seated facing said toilet bowl, and strings attached to the back of the apron and adapted to be detachably secured to the toilet above the bowl and above the seat.

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