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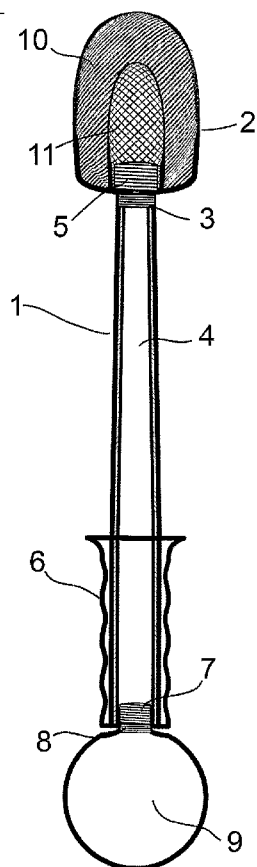
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(54) Title: DEVICE FOR VAGINAL CLEANING

Fig 1



(57) Abstract: For vaginal cleaning a sponge- like cleaning head (2) is mounted to a plastic style (4). For disposable application, this can be readily impregnated with a cleaning agent. The handle may be a tube, through which the detergent can be pumped to -and later evacuated from- said cleaning head by means of a compressible and self resetting body, as e.g. a rubber ball (9), mounted to the end of the tube.



EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU,
LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK,
SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ,
GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

— *of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv))*

Published:

— *with international search report (Art. 21(3))*

Declarations under Rule 4.17:

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

5 The present invention refers to the hygienic purpose of vaginal cleaning and, more precisely, the cleaning of the inner vagina together with the sheath forecourt.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

10 For vaginal cleaning so far mainly small shower heads and cleaning basins like Bidets are offered. However, with the latter only the range of the sheath forecourt is reached. Instead, particularly after a phase of the rule bleeding or after sexual intercourse, the cleaning of the inner vagina may be desired. Furthermore, in all cases a water drain is necessary with said devices. If this is not available –
15 e.g. on journeys – these means may not be applied.

PRIOR ART

20 There are a great number of propositions for preventing body fluids to drip from the vagina, like sanitary napkins and a variety of tampons are known. These might prevent unpleasant appearances, but leave the question of internal hygiene and cleanliness unanswered. On the other hand, quite a few vaginal showers or douches are known for vaginal cleaning, as in US 5.304.116 and 4.894053 and 3.817.247 and 10.967.353.
25 However, these devices always demand a toilet to be used or some kind of a drain during or after treatment.

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED

30 It therefore is the task of the present invention to find a cleaning means that works without water drain and that moreover provides a sense of cleanliness and freshness.

INVENTIVE STEP

The inventive step here is to apply a cleaning means that is anatomically adapted and wherein a cleaning fluid can be pumped into a cleaning head and also retraced, so to avoid a drain.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

5 The task of cleaning without water installation is achieved by means of a sponge-like cleaning head on top of plastic style, formed like a Tampon, the absorbent part of which is soaked with a cleaning agent.

This may be applied and consequently the cleaning head removed and both parts washed or –in particular the cleaning head– replaced.

10 In another embodiment of this invention, the handle is a pipe, so that cleaning agent can be pumped out of a compressible end piece, e.g. a removable syringe or rubber ball , to be pressed into and later again evacuated from the cleaning head.

15 In a further embodiment, in addition to cleaning agents, essential oils may be added for more agreeable exhalation, whereas also perfusion-enhancing or slightly irritant substance may be administered for libidinous climax.

20 DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION & DRAWINGS

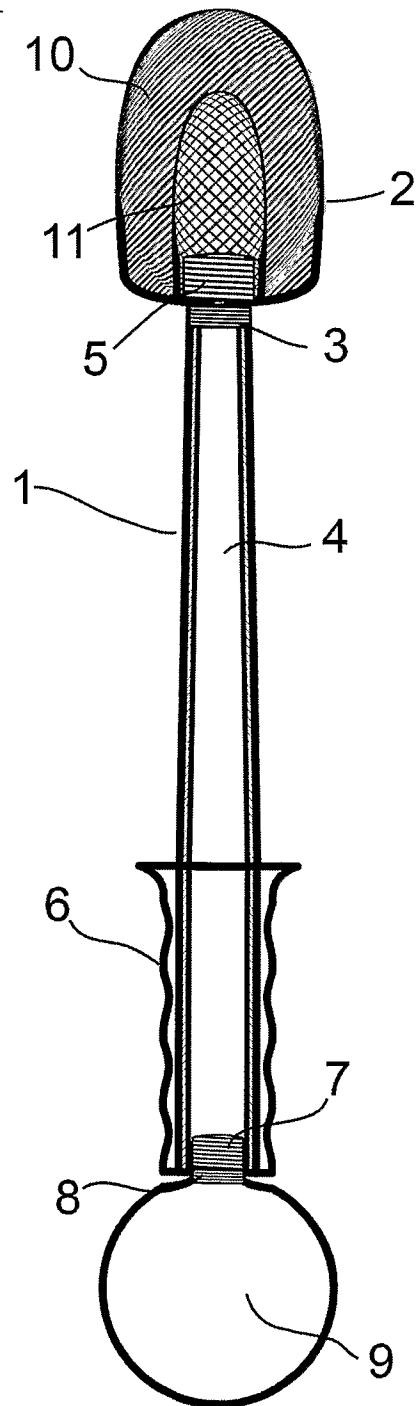
Fig. 1 demonstrates the components of said cleaning device 1, comprising the cleaning head 2 with the outer soft sponge 10, the integrated hard sponge 11, and a thread 3 therein for the tubular style 4, that has another thread 5 matching the former one. The tubular style 4 preferably
25 is made of transparent plastic, carrying a handle 6 with another thread 7 thereon to match the thread-piece 8, mated to a detachable syringe rubber balloon 9.

What is claimed is:

1. A device for vaginal cleaning, comprising a spongelike cleaning head, in form and size of a sanitary tampon, that is soaked with a cleaning agent and connected to a style for handling.
2. Device for vaginal cleaning according to claim 1, wherein the cleaning head consists of two joined sponges, the outer one has a particularly absorbent consistency, whereas the inside is made of a more rigid or semi-hard spongy material.
3. Device for vaginal cleaning according to claim 1, wherein that head and style are connected with one another by screwing.
4. Device for vaginal cleaning according to claim 1, wherein that head and style are glued together, or merged or welded with one another.
5. Device for vaginal cleaning according to claim 1, wherein the style contains a grip handle at its end, that comprises another thread.
6. Device for vaginal cleaning according to claim 1 and 5, wherein a pumping device can be screwed on the thread of claim 5.
7. Device for vaginal cleaning according to claim 6, wherein the pumping device consists of a rubber balloon.
8. Device for vaginal cleaning according to claim 6, wherein the pumping device is implemented like a medical syringe.

* * * * *

Fig 1



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/IB2010/002035

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. A61M3/02
ADD.

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
A61M

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

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

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	CA 2 585 826 A1 (MONTGOMERY CATHERINE [US]; BICHSEL JOHN [US]) 28 September 2008 (2008-09-28)	1,5-8
Y	page 6, lines 7-23 page 8, lines 19-21 page 9, line 21 - page 11, line 12; figures 2-8	3,4
Y	----- US 6 379 341 B1 (CHO YOUNG KU [KR]) 30 April 2002 (2002-04-30) column 3, lines 60-63; figure 2	3,4
X	----- US 4 772 274 A (LUKACS STEPHEN J [US]) 20 September 1988 (1988-09-20) column 2, line 37 - column 4, line 55; figures 1-4	1



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

18 May 2011

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26/05/2011

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Böttcher, Stephanie

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/IB2010/002035

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
CA 2585826	A1	28-09-2008	NONE
US 6379341	B1	30-04-2002	NONE
US 4772274	A	20-09-1988	NONE