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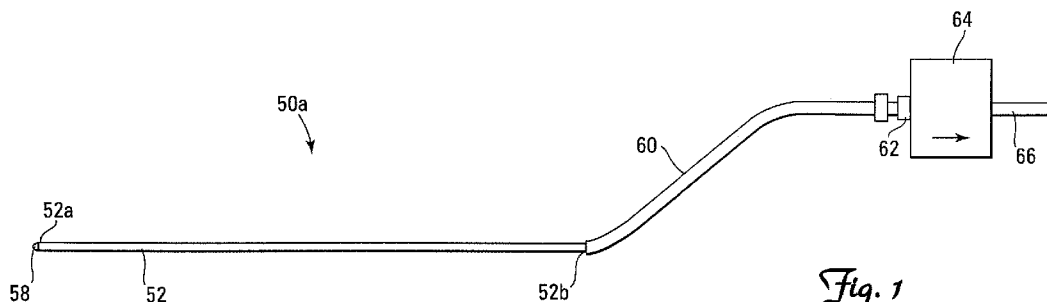


Fig. 1

(57) Abstract: A method and system, together with corresponding apparatus and components, and corresponding kits, for use in performing topical wound therapy by using topical negative pressure (TNP) in combination with one or more hollow fiber catheters. In one embodiment, the method provides hollow fiber catheters for the removal of fluid or fluid components from the wound area by ultrafiltration. In another embodiment the hollow fiber catheters are connected to an infusion pump and used to deliver therapeutic fluids to the wound area. In yet another embodiment, a first set of hollow fiber catheters is connected to a vacuum pump and a second set is connected to an infusion pump to simultaneously remove excess tissue fluid and deliver therapeutic fluid to the wound site.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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<p>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER                  IPC(8) - A61M 27/00 (2008.04)                  USPC - 604/543                  According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC</p>																				
<p>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</p> <p>Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)                  IPC(8) - A61M 27/00 (2008.04)                  USPC - 604/543</p> <p>Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched</p> <p>Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)                  PubWest (USPT, PGPB, EPAB, JPAB), Google Scholar, WIPO, PubMed</p> <p>Search terms - Catheter, hollow fiber, wound, negative pressure, vacuum pump, drainage,</p>																				
<p>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Category*</th> <th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th> <th>Relevant to claim No.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Y</td> <td>US 6,537,241 B1 (ODLAND) 25 March 2003 (25.03.2003), esp (col 17, ln 10-18), (col 15, ln 38-47), (col 26, ln 51-53), Figure 7</td> <td>1-17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Y</td> <td>US 7,128,735 B2 (WESTON) 31 October 2006 (31.10.2006), esp (col 17, ln 27-31), (col 18, ln 13-19), (col 4, ln 31-34),</td> <td>1-17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Y</td> <td>US 2004/0243073 A1 (LOCKWOOD et al) 2 December 2004 (02.12.2004), esp para [0037][0038], Figure 12, para [0026]</td> <td>3,4,6,8,10-17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Y</td> <td>US 2006/0025727 A1 (BOEHRINGER et al) 2 February 2006 (02.02.2006) esp para [0020],[0027]</td> <td>5-11, 16-17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A</td> <td>"Consensus statement on negative pressure wound therapy (VAC therapy) for the management of diabetic foot wounds". NDROS George ; ARMSTRONG David G. ; ATTINGER Christopher E. ; BOULTON Andrew J. M. ; FRYKBERG Robert G. ; JOSEPH Warren S. ; LAVERY Lawrence A. ; MORBACH Stephan ; NIEZGODA Jeffrey A. ; TOURSARKISSIAN Ostomy/wound Management. June 2006, pp. 1-32, SUP.</td> <td>1-17</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.	Y	US 6,537,241 B1 (ODLAND) 25 March 2003 (25.03.2003), esp (col 17, ln 10-18), (col 15, ln 38-47), (col 26, ln 51-53), Figure 7	1-17	Y	US 7,128,735 B2 (WESTON) 31 October 2006 (31.10.2006), esp (col 17, ln 27-31), (col 18, ln 13-19), (col 4, ln 31-34),	1-17	Y	US 2004/0243073 A1 (LOCKWOOD et al) 2 December 2004 (02.12.2004), esp para [0037][0038], Figure 12, para [0026]	3,4,6,8,10-17	Y	US 2006/0025727 A1 (BOEHRINGER et al) 2 February 2006 (02.02.2006) esp para [0020],[0027]	5-11, 16-17	A	"Consensus statement on negative pressure wound therapy (VAC therapy) for the management of diabetic foot wounds". NDROS George ; ARMSTRONG David G. ; ATTINGER Christopher E. ; BOULTON Andrew J. M. ; FRYKBERG Robert G. ; JOSEPH Warren S. ; LAVERY Lawrence A. ; MORBACH Stephan ; NIEZGODA Jeffrey A. ; TOURSARKISSIAN Ostomy/wound Management. June 2006, pp. 1-32, SUP.	1-17
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<p>Date of the actual completion of the international search                  30 July 2008 (30.07.2008)</p>		<p>Date of mailing of the international search report  <b>08 AUG 2008</b></p>																		
<p>Name and mailing address of the ISA/US                  Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US, Commissioner for Patents                  P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450                  Facsimile No. 571-273-3201</p>		<p>Authorized officer:                  Lee W. Young</p> <p>PCT Helpdesk: 571-272-4300                  PCT OSP: 571-272-7774</p>																		