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M. W. WENTWORTH

1,748,403

METHOD OF DIAGNOSING FOR LIGHT TREATMENT

Filed Aug. 6, 1928

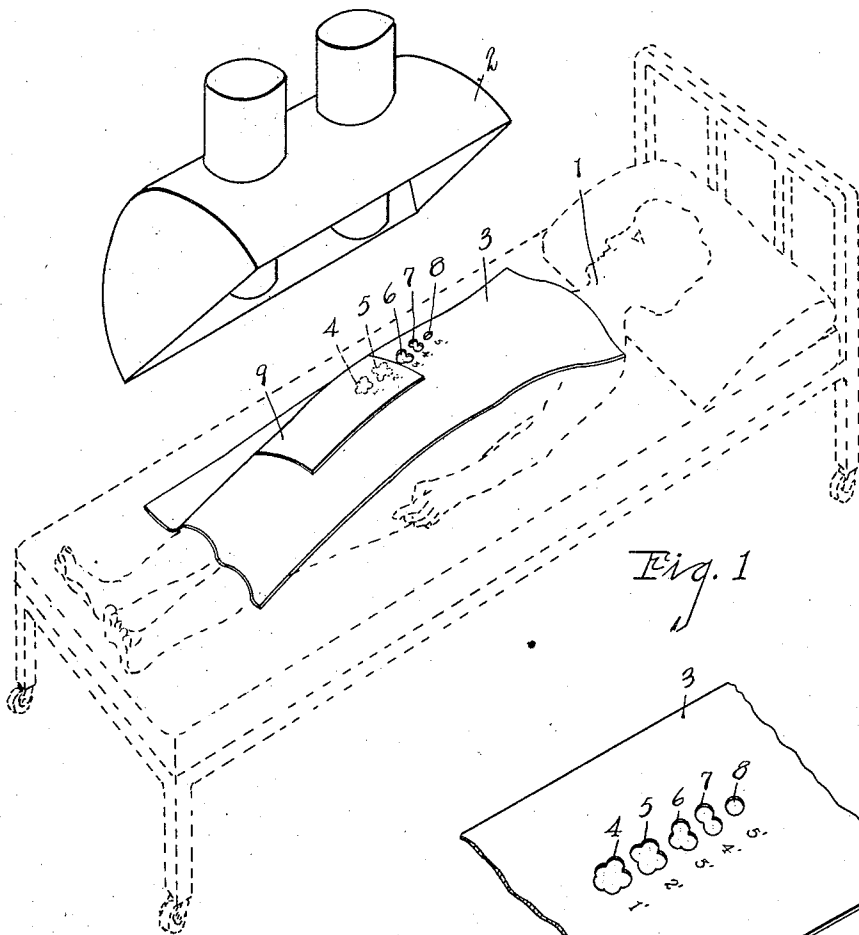


Fig. 1

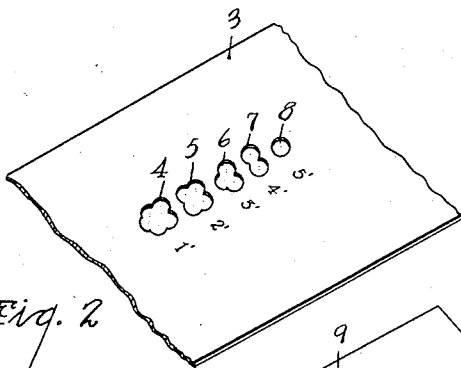


Fig. 2

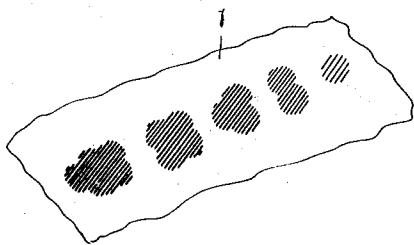


Fig. 4

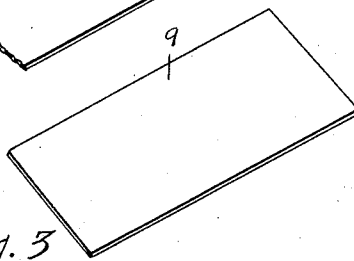


Fig. 3

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METHOD OF DIAGNOSING FOR LIGHT TREATMENT

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In the administering of treatments by means of therapeutic lamps or artificial light, it is frequently difficult to determine the proper period of exposure to secure the best results and to avoid the undesired results arising from successive exposure.

It is the main object of this invention to provide a method of diagnosing for determining the proper period of exposures for a particular patient or subject.

A further object is to provide a method of this character which can be carried out with a very simple apparatus.

In the accompanying drawing I have illustrated an apparatus of the character employed by me and also certain steps of my method.

Fig. 1 is a perspective view illustrating the apparatus and the method of using the same.

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary view of a shield or screen which may be satisfactorily used in the practice of my improved method.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a cover or shutter for use in connection with the screen shown in Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary perspective view representing a portion of the body of the patient after the diagnosing exposure and the development of the results thereof.

Referring to the drawing, 1 represents a patient resting upon a cot and 2 the lamp. I provide a sheet or screen 3 of suitable material to exclude light rays, preferably a closely woven fabric with a coating of rubber or other material which will render the sheet opaque.

This screen has a series of openings as 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 therein which are of different configurations or distinctive conformations. This sheet or screen is arranged so as to protect the body of the patient from the light rays except as the surface may be exposed through these openings.

A second sheet or screen 9 preferably of the same material is provided and is of such dimensions as to effectively cover the openings in the screen 3. With the sheet 3 arranged on the patient and all the openings exposed, the lamp is turned on. At the end of a predetermined period, for instance, one

minute, one of the openings, as 4, is covered. At the end of two minutes the opening 5 is covered; at the end of three minutes the opening 6 is covered; at the end of four minutes the opening 7 is covered, and at the end of five minutes the opening 8 is covered and the lamp turned off.

At the expiration of considerable time, preferably several hours, the exposures are examined, and from the evidence furnished thereby can be determined the proper length of exposure for the particular patient and the lamp used.

It will be understood, of course, that one patient may be benefited by a length of treatment or exposure which would be either insufficient or excessive for another, owing to the variation in texture and pigmentation of the skin of the patients.

The diagnosing of the patient by this method prior to the administering of the treatments also eliminates the necessity for constant attention on the part of the operator, which is otherwise quite essential where powerful lamps are employed.

The apparatus I have illustrated is very simple and effective but obviously may be considerably varied. The numerals indicating the period of exposure appearing on the screen 3 are not essential but are desirable as a matter of convenience.

Having thus described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. The method of diagnosing for therapeutic lamp treatments consisting of covering a portion of the body of the patient with a flexible light ray excluding material having a plurality of holes therein of different configurations, exposing all of the openings to the rays of the lamp for a predetermined period and successively covering the holes at the end of like periods, and examining and comparing the exposed spots after the lapse of such period of time as will permit the development of the effect of the exposures.

2. The method of diagnosing for therapeutic lamp treatments consisting of covering a portion of the body of the patient with a flexible light ray excluding sheet having a

plurality of holes therein of different configuration, exposing all of the holes to the rays of the lamp for a predetermined period, and successively covering the holes at the end of the like periods.

5 3. The method of diagnosing for therapeutic lamp treatments consisting of applying directly to a portion of the body of the patient a flexible ray excluding material having a plurality of holes therein of identifying
10 configurations, and permitting the rays to pass through said holes for different predetermined periods.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my
15 hand.

MERTON W. WENTWORTH.

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