Abstract: A piercing hygiene apparatus for a body piercing includes a rod having a diameter sized to maintain a piercing open when the rod is inserted into a body piercing channel, a removable head at one end of the rod and a fastener that can be removably attached at the opposite end of the rod. The head and fastener are sized such that they prevent the rod from falling out of the piercing channel when both are attached to the rod. The rod includes raised surfaces that extend outwardly along substantially the length of the rod such that an open space is created between the raised surfaces and the body piercing channel such that a passive airflow is generated by a temperature gradient between the body piercing channel surface and the ambient air temperature.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/US2006/049123

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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)
A44C

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, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
<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>X</td>
<td>GB 1 247 653 A (ABRAMOWITZ HERBERT [US]) 29 September 1971 (1971-09-29) page 2, line 75 - line 78; figures 2,7 page 2, line 58 - line 63; claim 2</td>
<td>1,3,10, 11,13,20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>GB 2 190 046 A (MOORE BRYAN) 11 November 1987 (1987-11-11) page 1, line 115 - line 121; figure 2</td>
<td>1-20</td>
</tr>
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<td>A</td>
<td>US 5 632 163 A (INOUE TAKEO [JP]) 27 May 1997 (1997-05-27) column 4, line 47 - line 65; figures 2,3</td>
<td>1-20</td>
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Date of the actual completion of the international search
18 June 2007

Date of mailing of the international search report
02/07/2007

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| Patent document cited in search report | Publication date | Patent family member(s) | Publication date |
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| GB 1247653 A                          | 29-09-1971     | NONE                    |                |
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| US 5632163 A                          | 27-05-1997     | NONE                    |                |