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CAMILLE DREYFUS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

SURGICAL DRESSING

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This invention relates to surgical dressings, bandages or receptors made of or containing organic derivatives of cellulose.

An object of my invention is to provide surgical dressings of all kinds, which dressings contain a textile material that is relatively nonabsorbent with respect to blood, pus, etc.

Other objects of my invention will appear from the following detailed description.

Surgical bandages and dressings are ordinarily made of materials such as cotton that tend to absorb blood, pus and other secretions. The use of such absorbent material in that part of the bandage that comes in contact with the skin or flesh is objectionable, since the blood and the other fluids absorbed by the bandage coagulate or otherwise harden and cause the bandage to adhere rather firmly to the skin or flesh, so that the removal of the bandage or dressing causes unnecessary pain and suffering.

I have found that fabrics containing yarns of organic derivatives of cellulose, and particularly cellulose acetate, tend to absorb blood or pus but little, if at all, and therefore their use as at least part of surgical dressings of all kinds obviate the disadvantages attending the use of absorbent material for this purpose.

In accordance with my invention, I prepare surgical dressings, bandages, receptors, etc. of all kinds, by the use of a textile material made of or containing organic derivatives of cellulose. The surgical dressing need not consist wholly of organic derivatives of cellulose material but may also contain cotton or other absorbent material as a part thereof.

In one form of my invention, the surgical dressing may comprise gauze or other woven or knitted fabric containing yarns or filaments of organic derivatives of cellulose, and may be applied directly to the wound or other opening of the body that is bleeding or secreting or excreting fluids.

In another form of my invention the surgical dressing or receptor may be made with a filling of fluffed filaments or yarns made of organic derivatives of cellulose, enclosed in a fabric containing organic derivatives of cellulose. In other words, a surgical dressing may be made wholly of organic derivatives of cellulose, wherein the required absorbent properties for the retention of the blood, pus, secretions or excretions is obtained by the intersticial spaces between the fluffed yarns or filaments but which has a relatively non-absorbent face for contacting with the skin or flesh.

In another form of my invention, a surgical dressing is prepared in a composite manner. Such dressing may be built up when being applied to the patient by first applying a layer of gauze or other woven or knitted fabric containing yarns or filaments of organic derivatives of cellulose and then superposing thereon one or more layers of material containing more absorbent substances such as cotton, gauze, raw cotton, specially treated cellulosic material, etc. Or else the dressing or receptor may be made separately by wrapping such more absorbent material with a woven or knitted fabric containing organic derivatives of cellulose.

Obviously other methods may be used for preparing the surgical dressing or receptor, since the foregoing descriptions are merely given by way of example. It will be seen that the surgical dressings made in accordance with my invention may be readily removed from the skin or flesh, since the layer of the same that comes in contact with the skin or flesh contains organic derivatives of cellulose, which are relatively non-absorbent with respect to blood, pus or other body secretions or excretions so that these fluids are not absorbed to coagulate or otherwise harden to cause adherence of the bandage to the skin or flesh.

An important application of my invention is in the preparation of surgical dressings known as catamenial packs or pads which may be made by any of the methods above described. Moreover, because of their non-absorbent qualities, the organic derivative of cellulose textile materials are eminently suited for the preparation of belts or supports for such catamenial packs or pads, since any secretions or excretions that may be retained by them may be readily removed

by washing. Such catamenial pads, belts or supports are included in the term, surgical dressings.

Of the organic derivatives of cellulose that may be used for the preparation of the filaments, yarns or fabrics above described, I prefer the cellulose acetate. However, other organic esters of cellulose such as the formate, propionate and butyrate or cellulose ethers such as methyl cellulose, ethyl cellulose and benzyl cellulose may be used for the purpose. By the term "organic derivative of cellulose" employed in the claims, I means such organic esters of cellulose and cellulose ethers.

It is to be understood that the foregoing details are given merely by way of illustration and that many variations may be made therein without departing from the spirit of this invention.

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

1. A surgical dressing having the surface thereof that is adapted to contact with the body made of a fabric consisting essentially of organic derivative of cellulose filaments or yarns and having a layer of more absorbent material.

2. A surgical dressing having the surface thereof that is adapted to contact with the body made of a fabric consisting essentially of cellulose acetate filaments or yarns and having a layer of more absorbent material.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name.

CAMILLE DREYFUS.