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(54) **A MALE UNDERGARMENT**
MÄNNERUNTERWÄSCHE
SOUS-VÊTEMENT MASCULIN

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Description

[0001] The present invention relates to a male undergarment adapted to cover solely the male genital organs, according to the preamble to Claim 1, see e.g. Document US 6061840.

[0002] Conventionally, even those briefier undergarments which are intended solely for covering the genitals are fitted on and held in place by means of belts or ties which extend around the waist or buttocks.

[0003] This may sometimes be disadvantageous, for example, when the waist fastening is awkward or fiddly or when the largest possible body area is to be freely exposed, for example, to permit uniform tanning or other treatment thereof.

[0004] US 6 487 728 describes a tubular male undergarment made of elasticized cotton and having open ends, which is suitable for being worn on the genitals and has an opening through which the scrotum can project so that the garment covers and protects solely the penis. It is intended to eliminate the inconveniences caused by conventional pouch-like undergarments which receive the penis and the scrotum in a single space, leading to abrasions, pruritis, uncomfortable compression of the organs into close contact with one another, and an increase in perspiration with the risk of infections.

[0005] Furthermore, owing to its configuration, the garment is not suitable to be worn alone and the wearer has to put on a further garment to protect and cover the genitals completely.

[0006] Moreover, the invention of US 6 487 728 has the further disadvantage that, precisely because it has a distal opening which allows the wearer to urinate easily without having to remove the garment, the protection of the genitals from external agents and factors is minimal.

[0007] The object of the present invention is to provide a complete male undergarment which protects the genitals entirely whilst still having the ease of use of the garments of the prior art.

[0008] According to the present invention, this object is achieved by means of a male undergarment having the characteristics specified in Claim 1.

[0009] Further characteristics and advantages of the invention will be explained in further detail in the following detailed description of an embodiment thereof which is given by way of non-limiting example with reference to the appended drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a schematic view of the garment of the invention in the fitted condition, in a first configuration of use, and

Figure 2 is a schematic view of the garment of the invention in the fitted condition, in a second configuration of use.

[0010] A male undergarment of the invention is generally indicated 10.

[0011] The garment is constituted by a pliable, tubular

body 12, for example, made of elasticized fabric, and is adapted to be worn in a substantially close-fitting manner on a man's genitals 14.

[0012] The garment has a first open end 16 through which it can be fitted on and which is intended to reach the base of the genitals in a fitted condition; in the vicinity of this end 16 there is an annular elastic band 18 for preventing the garment from slipping off

[0013] At the end remote from the fitting end 16, a distal opening 20 is formed to permit urination, which can be closed by a hood-like cap element 22, for example, having a base cross-section of an area substantially corresponding to that of the opening so that it can be partially fitted onto the tubular body 12 in a condition such that it is not loose.

[0014] The cap element 22 is joined to the tubular body in the region of an edge of the opening 20 or in a position slightly behind the edge.

[0015] In a currently-preferred embodiment, the cap element 22 is formed at the distal end of the tubular body 12 by cutting along a circumferential opening arc but it may be formed separately from the body 12 and subsequently connected thereto by the sewing of an edge portion or section of its base circumference.

[0016] The cap element is adapted to adopt a stable position in which it closes the tubular body 12 in the region of the distal opening 20 thereof, as shown in Figure 1, and is adapted to allow temporary opening thereof, for example for urination, by being lifted upwards in the direction indicated by the arrow F, as shown in Figure 2.

[0017] The garment of the invention is advantageously a complete garment, that is, it covers and - protects the genitals entirely whilst allowing the person who is wearing it, for medical reasons or simply as clothing, to urinate without having to remove the garment, at the same time protecting the genitals from external agents and factors.

[0018] Different sizes may advantageously be provided, as for conventional undergarments.

[0019] The garment may be produced as a "disposable" garment, for example, to be given to clients in beauty and body-care centres during tanning treatment sessions when it is necessary to protect the genitals from radiation.

[0020] In its disposable configuration, the garment may be made of paper material as an alternative to the resiliently pliable fabric, so as to have an even lower cost.

[0021] In a variant (not shown), the tubular body 12 may be provided with means for quick connection to a garment wearable on the trunk, such as a thong or the like, for example, in the form of micro-hook inserts for the quick connection of pieces of fabric, which are commonly known by the trade name of Velcro®.

[0022] Naturally, the principle of the invention remaining the same, the forms of embodiment and details of construction may be varied widely with respect to those described and illustrated purely by way of non-limiting example, without thereby departing from the scope of protection of the present invention defined by the appended claims.

Claims

1. A male undergarment (10) adapted to cover solely the genitals, comprising:

- a pliable, tubular body (12) which is adapted to be fitted on the genitals (14) through a first open end (16) that is intended to reach the base of the genitals in the fitted condition, and in which a distal opening (20) is formed at the end remote from the fitting end (16) to permit urination, and
 - a cap element (22) connected to the tubular body (12) for closing the distal opening (20), wherein the cap element (22) is hood-shaped with a base cross-section of an area substantially corresponding to that of the distal opening (20) and is adapted to adopt a stable position in which it closes the tubular body (12) in the region of the distal opening (20) and is adapted to allow temporary opening thereof by being lifted upwards,

characterised in that the cap element (22) is connected to the tubular body (12) by the sewing of an edge portion or arc of its base circumference.

2. An undergarment (10) according to Claim 1, including an annular elastic band (18) arranged in the vicinity of the fitting end (16), for preventing the garment (10) from slipping off.
3. An undergarment (10) according to any one of the preceding claims, in which the cap element (22) is joined to the tubular body (12) in the region of the edge of the distal opening (20).
4. An undergarment (10) according to Claim 1 or 2, in which the cap element (22) is joined to the tubular body (12) in a position behind the edge of the distal opening (20).
5. An undergarment (10) according to any one of the preceding claims, **characterized in that** it is made of elasticized fabric and is adapted to be worn so as to fit substantially closely on the genitals.
6. An undergarment (10) according to any one of Claims 1 to 4, **characterized in that** it is made of paper material.
7. An undergarment (10) according to any one of the preceding claims, in which the tubular body (12) further includes means for quick connection to a garment wearable on the trunk.
8. An undergarment (10) according to Claim 7, in which the quick connection means comprise micro-hook inserts for the quick connection of pieces of fabric.

Patentansprüche

1. Unterbekleidung für Herren (10), die so ausgeführt ist, dass sie nur die Genitalien bedeckt, dabei umfassend:

- einen formbaren, röhrenförmigen Körper (12), der so ausgeführt ist, dass er auf die Genitalien (14) durch ein erstes offenes Ende (16) angepasst werden kann, um **dadurch** den Ansatz der Genitalien in angepassten Zustand zu erreichen, und in welchem eine distale Öffnung (20) am vom anpassenden Ende (16) entfernten Ende ausgebildet ist, um das Urinieren zu ermöglichen, und

- ein bedeckendes Element (22), das mit dem röhrenförmigen Körper (12) zum Verschließen der distalen Öffnung (20) verbunden ist, wobei das bedeckende Element (22) haubenförmig mit einem Basisquerschnitt einer Fläche ausgebildet ist, die im Wesentlichen jener der distalen Öffnung (20) entspricht, und so ausgeführt ist, dass es eine stabile Position einnimmt, in welcher es den röhrenförmigen Körper (12) im Bereich der distalen Öffnung (20) verschließt, und so ausgeführt ist, so dass ein temporäres Öffnen dieser durch ein Anheben nach oben ermöglicht wird,

dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass das bedeckende Element (22) mit dem röhrenförmigen Körper (12) durch Vernähen eines Kantenabschnitts oder Bogens seines Grundumfangs verbunden wird.

2. Unterbekleidung (10) nach Anspruch 1, umfassend ein ringförmiges elastisches Band (18), das in der Nähe des anpassenden Endes (16) angeordnet ist, um zu verhindern, dass die Unterbekleidung (10) abrutscht.
3. Unterbekleidung (10) nach einem der vorstehenden Ansprüche, worin das bedeckende Element (22) mit dem röhrenförmigen Körper (12) im Bereich der Kante der distalen Öffnung (20) zusammengeführt ist.
4. Unterbekleidung (10) nach Anspruch 1 oder 2, worin das bedeckende Element (22) mit dem röhrenförmigen Körper (12) in eine Position hinter der Kante der distalen Öffnung (20) zusammengeführt wird.
5. Unterbekleidung (10) nach einem der vorstehenden Ansprüche, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** sie aus einem elastischen Gewebe hergestellt und so angepasst ist, um so getragen zu werden, dass sie im Wesentlichen eng auf den Genitalien sitzt.
6. Unterbekleidung (10) nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 4, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** sie aus ei-

nem Papiermaterial gefertigt ist.

7. Unterbekleidung (10) nach einem der vorstehenden Ansprüche, worin der röhrenförmige Körper (12) weiters Mittel zum schnellen Verbinden mit einem Kleidungsstück, das auf dem Rumpf getragen wird, umfasst.
8. Unterbekleidung (10) nach Anspruch 7, worin die Mittel zum schnellen Verbinden Mikrohaken-Einsätze für die schnelle Verbindung der Gewebestücke umfassen.

Revendications

1. Sous-vêtement masculin (10) adapté pour ne recouvrir que les organes génitaux, comprenant :

un corps tubulaire pliable (12) qui est adapté pour être ajusté sur les organes génitaux (14) par le biais d'une première extrémité ouverte (16) qui est prévue pour atteindre la base des organes génitaux dans la condition ajustée, et dans lequel une ouverture distale (20) est formée au niveau de l'extrémité à distance de l'extrémité d'ajustage (16) pour permettre la miction, et

un élément de capuchon (22) raccordé au corps tubulaire (12) pour fermer l'ouverture distale (20),

dans lequel l'élément de capuchon (22) est en forme de capuche avec une section transversale de base d'une surface correspondant sensiblement à celle de l'ouverture distale (20) et est adapté pour adopter une position stable dans laquelle il ferme le corps tubulaire (12) dans la région de l'ouverture distale (20) et est adapté pour permettre son ouverture temporaire en étant levé vers le haut,

caractérisé en ce que l'élément de capuchon (22) est raccordé au corps tubulaire (12) par la couture d'une partie de bord ou arc de sa circonférence de base.

2. Sous-vêtement (10) selon la revendication 1, comprenant une bande élastique annulaire (18) agencée à proximité de l'extrémité d'ajustage (16), pour empêcher le glissement du vêtement (10).

3. Sous-vêtement (10) selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans lequel l'élément de capuchon (22) est assemblé au corps tubulaire (12) dans la région du bord de l'ouverture distale (20).

4. Sous-vêtement (10) selon la revendication 1 ou 2, dans lequel l'élément de capuchon (22) est assemblé au corps tubulaire (12) dans une position située

derrière le bord de l'ouverture distale (20).

5. Sous-vêtement (10) selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, **caractérisé en ce qu'il** est réalisé avec un tissu élastiqué et est adapté pour être porté afin de s'ajuster sensiblement étroitement sur les organes génitaux.

6. Sous-vêtement (10) selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 4, **caractérisé en ce qu'il** est réalisé à partir d'une matière en papier.

7. Sous-vêtement (10) selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans lequel le corps tubulaire (12) comprend en outre des moyens pour le raccordement rapide à un vêtement pouvant être porté sur le tronc.

8. Sous-vêtement (10) selon la revendication 7, dans lequel les moyens de raccordement rapide comprennent des inserts de micro-crochet pour le raccordement rapide des pièces de tissu.

FIG.1

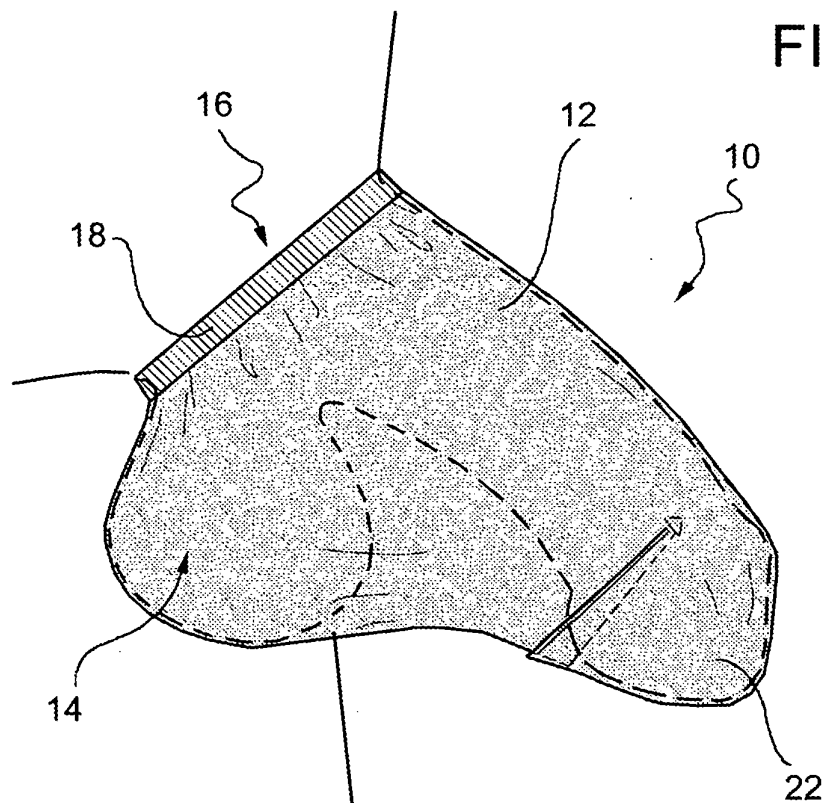
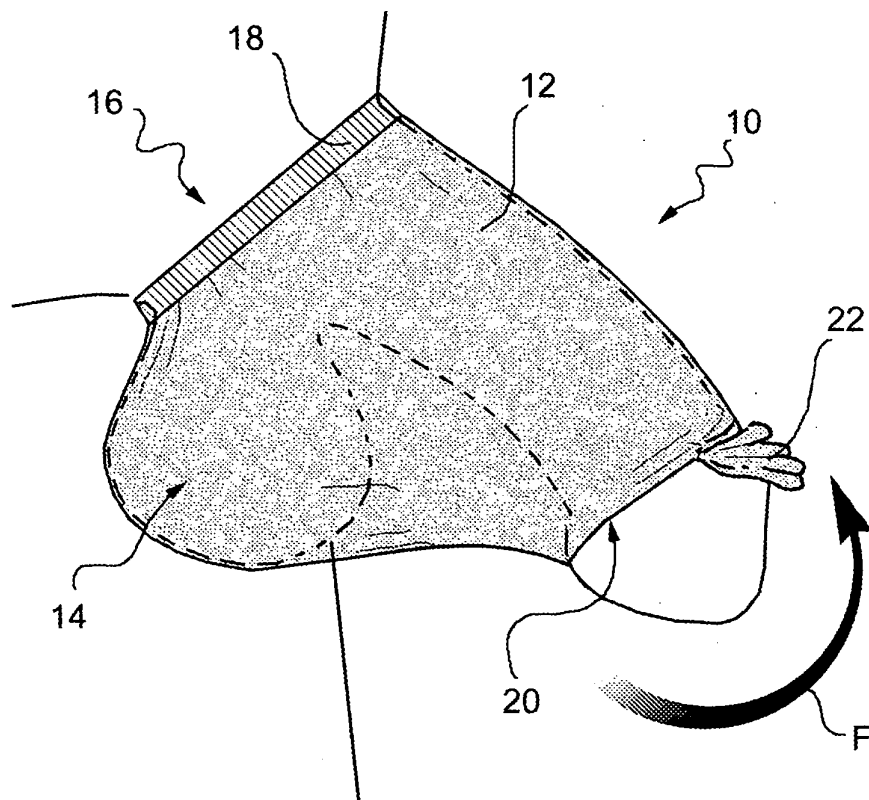


FIG.2



REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION

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