

No. 655,206.

Patented Aug. 7, 1900.

A. J. DAVIDSON.

TRUSS PAD.

(Application filed Mar. 8, 1900.)

(No Model.)

FIG. 1.

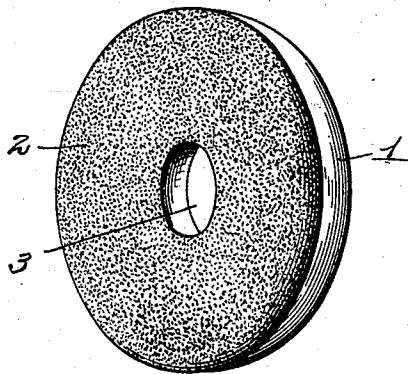


FIG. 2.

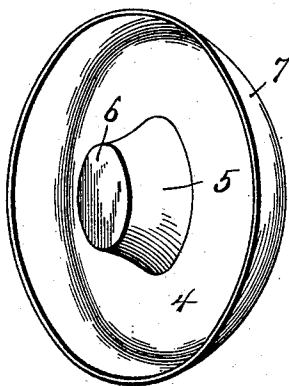


FIG. 3.

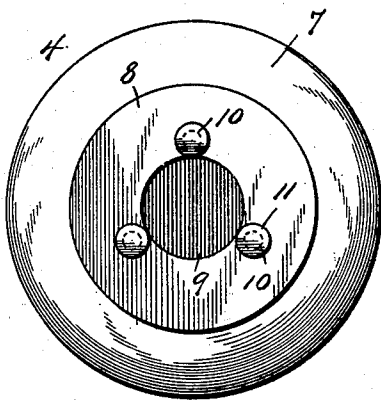


FIG. 4.

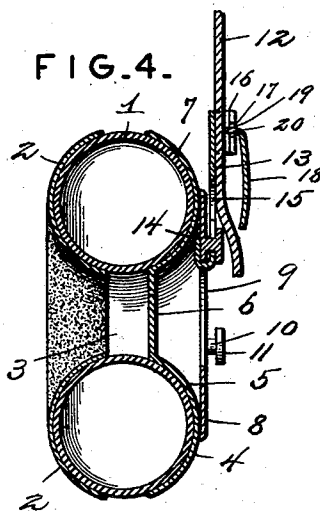


FIG. 5.

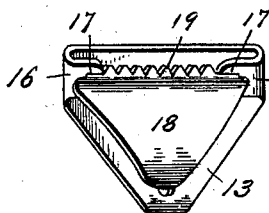


FIG. 6.

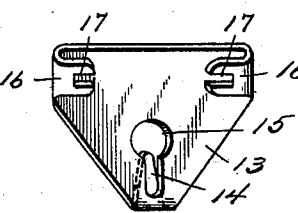
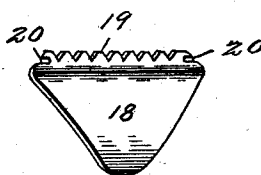


FIG. 7.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

AUSTIN J. DAVIDSON, OF DOUGLAS CITY, CALIFORNIA.

TRUSS-PAD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 655,206, dated August 7, 1900.

Application filed March 8, 1900. Serial No. 7,845. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, AUSTIN J. DAVIDSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Douglas City, in the county of Trinity and State of California, have invented a certain new and useful Truss-Pad, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to truss-pads for the retention of hernia. Truss-pads for the purpose specified are ordinarily oval in shape, and when they become worn they act to press the rupture open, thereby producing more or less discomfort.

One object of the present invention is to provide a pad in which the pressure is exerted around the rupture or opening and not directly into it.

The pad forming the subject-matter of this invention is in the form of an annular air-cushion which bears with a soft yielding pressure against the body and is free from any sharp or angular edges, so as to accommodate all the movements of the body without annoying the wearer.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will appear in the course of the ensuing description.

The invention consists in a truss-pad embodying certain novel features and details of construction, as hereinafter fully set forth, illustrated in the drawings, and incorporated in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the pad *per se*. Fig. 2 is a similar view of the pad-holder. Fig. 3 is a view in elevation of the pad-holder looking toward the opposite side from that shown in Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a central cross-section through the pad and holder, showing also the means for attaching the holding-strap. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the buckle which connects the strap and pad-holder. Fig. 6 is a detail view of the buckle-frame. Fig. 7 is a similar view of the buckle tongue or clasp.

Similar numerals of reference are employed to indicate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

The truss-pad contemplated in this invention consists of a hollow ring or annulus 1, which is inflated or filled with air. The pad is formed of soft rubber of any desired thick-

ness, and after being inflated is sealed so as to permanently retain the air therein. The pad is lined or covered upon that side which bears against the body with a piece of textile material 2, having a fibrous or fleecy surface which will be agreeable to the skin and avoid irritation. The formation of the pad in annular shape leaves a central opening 3, which extends transversely through the pad. In this way pressure is brought to bear around the point of rupture and not directly into the rupture, as is the case where the pad has a continuous flat or rounded surface.

In connection with the pad I employ a pad-holder 4, which is preferably formed of thin sheet metal and pressed into shape to provide a central hollow boss or projection 5, closed at its end, as shown at 6. In pressing the holder into shape a surrounding rim or flange 7 is also provided, and the device as a whole is thus formed to resemble a cup with a central projection which enters the opening in the center of the pad, while the outer flange or rim of the cup embraces and extends around the outer edge of the pad, so that the pad is firmly seated in the cup-shaped holder and properly backed by the holder at all points. The pad is preferably secured within the cup-shaped holder by cementation or in any other desired manner. The back of the holder is partially closed by a disk-shaped plate 8, secured in any convenient manner thereto and provided with a central opening 9. This plate forms an inwardly-extending annular flange with and beneath which the hook hereinafter described engages. The plate 8 is also provided at intervals with studs 10 with or without heads 11, said studs being intended to receive buckles attached to a suitable strap 12, by means of which the truss pad and holder are secured to the body.

The buckle comprises a frame 13 approximating a triangle in form and having one end bent or recurved to form a hook 14, the body of the buckle being further provided with a keyhole-slot 15, designed to receive any one of the studs 10. The buckle-frame is also provided with opposite extensions 16, which are bent inward toward each other and provided in their extremities with notches 17, forming fulcrum-steps for the tongue or clasp of the buckle, which is indicated at 18. This

tongue or clasp is preferably triangular in form and has one edge bent at an angle and provided with teeth 19 to engage the strap 12, which passes beneath the buckle-tongue and also beneath the bent portions 16 of the buckle-frame. The tongue or clasp 18 is provided with notches 20, and these notches are brought into engagement with the notches 17 of the buckle-frame in the operation of assembling the two parts of the buckle. This provides a pivotal connection between the buckle-frame and buckle-tongue without the use of pins or pivots as such. Further, the buckle-frame is preferably formed of spring material, and when the teeth of the clasp or tongue are in engagement with the strap the bent portions 16 of the buckle-frame act to force the teeth with considerable pressure into the material of the strap 12, so that it is impossible for the strap to become disengaged from the buckle.

When the buckle is attached to the pad-holder, the hook 14 passes into the opening 9 of the holder and engages the inner edge of the plate 8. At the same time the stud 10 passes into engagement with the slot 15 of the buckle-frame. The head 11 of the stud passes through the enlarged portion of the keyhole-slot 15, and as linear strain is brought upon the strap the head 11 of the stud engages under the buckle-frame and prevents any liability of the strap becoming detached from the pad-holder. The strap may be of any suitable length to pass around a given portion of the body and is provided at its ends or other suitable points with buckles, such as that described, for engaging the holder and sustaining the pad in proper position upon the body.

Other means than that above described may be employed for attaching the pad to the body of the wearer, and I therefore do not desire to be limited to the exact details of construction shown and described, but reserve the right to change, modify, or vary the construction within the scope of this invention.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new, and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination with a hollow annular truss-pad having a central opening extending

therethrough, of a cup-shaped holder having a central imperforate knob or boss which fits the central opening in the pad, substantially as described.

2. The combination with a truss-pad having a central opening therethrough, of a cup-shaped holder therefor having a central opening, and a hollow inwardly-projecting knob or boss extending across the opening in the holder and adapted to engage the central opening of the pad, substantially as described.

3. The combination with an open-center truss-pad, of a cup-shaped holder therefor having a central opening, headed studs arranged in a circle around said opening, and a strap provided with a terminal hook to engage said opening, the hook having a slot to receive one of the studs, substantially as described.

4. The combination with a hollow annular truss-pad having a central opening extending therethrough, of a cup-shaped holder, a plate at the back thereof provided with a central unobstructed opening, and studs disposed in a circle around said opening, in the plate, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

5. The combination with a hollow annular truss-pad having a central opening extending therethrough, of a cup-shaped holder having a hollow central boss extending across said opening in the holder and fitting the opening in the pad, and a centrally-apertured plate at the back of the holder forming an inwardly-extending annular flange, the inner edge of which is left free and unobstructed, substantially as specified.

6. A holder for truss-pads comprising a cup-shaped body having an annular groove forming a depressed seat for the pad, a hollow boss extending across the space encircled by the seat, and a plate fastened to the back of the holder and provided with an unobstructed opening and forming an inwardly-extending flange the edge of which is left free, substantially as and for the purpose described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

AUSTIN J. DAVIDSON.

Witnesses:

MART FOSTER,
WM. FRANCK.