S. M. HURTT.

POINT FOR NERVE CANALS OF TEETH.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 2, 1917.

1,312,120.

Patented Aug. 5, 1919.

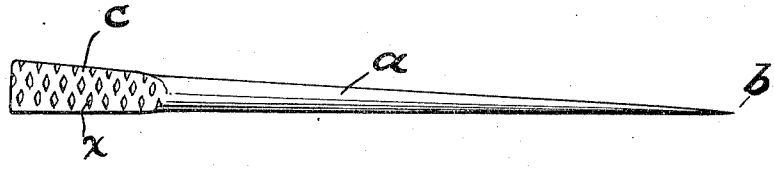

FIG. 1.

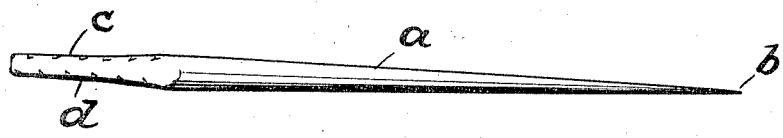

FIG. 2.

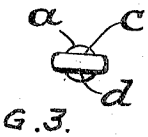

FIG. 3.

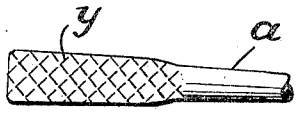

FIG. 4.

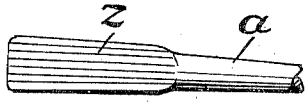

FIG. 5.

WITNESS:

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POINT FOR NERVE-CANALS OF TEETH.

1,312,120. Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented Aug. 5, 1919.**

Application filed June 2, 1917. Serial No. 172,385.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SPENCER M. HURTT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Ridley Park, county of Delaware, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Points for Nerve-Canals of Teeth, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to points adapted for use by dentists in filling the nerve canals of teeth from which the pulp or nerve has been removed.

Nerve canal points are usually manufactured of gutta percha in the shape of an elongated cone, as such shape most nearly approximates the shape of the nerve canal.

In applying the point, it is necessary to pick it up, near the large end, with a pair of dental pliers and insert the small end into the nerve canal of the tooth, the point being gradually hooked into the canal by manipulation of the pliers and finally tamped into place.

Considerable difficulty is met with in picking up and holding the point in the pliers due to its circular periphery and smooth surface, the tendency being for the point to slip and fly out of the grip of the pliers, particularly on coming into contact with the tooth, thus rendering the operation of inserting it in the canal a difficult one. This difficulty is only partially overcome by making the point in the shape of an elongated four-sided pyramid, but this shape is not adapted to the shape of the canal.

The object of my invention is to provide a nerve canal point which may be positively gripped and held by the pliers and which will have no tendency to slip on being inserted into the nerve canal, and which at the same time is of a shape adapted to properly fit the canal.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, in which I have illustrated a preferred embodiment of my invention:—

Figure 1 is a plan view of my improved point.

Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the point.

Fig. 3 is a rear view of the point.

Fig. 4 is a plan view of the rear portion of the point with a modified form of serrations.

Fig. 5 is a plan view similar to Fig. 4 with another modified form of serrations.

The point, preferably made of gutta percha, is composed of an elongated cone-shaped body portion *a* terminating at one end in the fine point or apex *b*. The rear portion of the body is flattened out at opposite sides, and preferably also increased in width and reduced in thickness, for a short distance from the rear end, forming two practically plane faces *c* and *d* extending substantially parallel to each other. Each of the faces *c* and *d* is roughened or serrated.

In practice, the faces *c* and *d* present flat surfaces to the gripping points of the pliers, which assures a firm grip and avoids any possibility of the point slipping out of their grip.

The roughening may be effected in various ways, preferably by serrations or grooves, which may extend transversely as at *x*, Figs. 1 and 2, diagonally, as at *y*, Fig. 4, or longitudinally, as at *z*, Fig. 5.

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

A point for nerve canals of teeth comprising an elongated body of conical shape from relatively near the base thereof toward the apex, the part between said conical portion and the base having two relatively wide, flat and roughened parallel faces adapting them to be readily grasped and held by pliers.

In testimony of which invention I have hereunto set my hand at Philadelphia on this 29th day of May, 1917.

SPENCER M. HURTT.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."