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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): AUGUSTINE MEDICAL, INC. [US/US]; Suite 100, 10393 West 70th Street, Eden Prairie, MN 55344 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): AUGUSTINE, Scott, D. [US/US]; 9017 Cavell Circle, Bloomington, MN 55438 (US), ARNOLD, Randall, Charles [US/US]; 14810 McGinty Road West, Minnetonka, MN 55391 (US). McGRAIL, Thomas, Wayne [US/US]; 424 Oak Hill Road, Chaska, MN 55318 (US).

(74) Agent: MEADOR, Terrance, A.; Gray Cary Ware & Freidenrich, LLP, 401 B Street, Suite 1700, San Diego, CA 92101-4297 (US).

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With international search report.

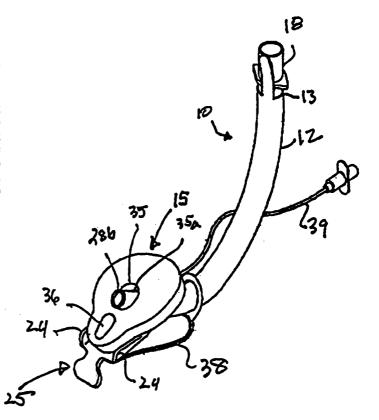
(88) Date of publication of the international search report:

16 November 2000 (16.11.00)

(54) Title: AIRWAY DEVICE WITH PROVISION FOR COUPLING TO AN INTRODUCER

(57) Abstract

A laryngeal airway device (10) for sealing against the laryngeal opening includes an air tube (12) with proximal (13) and distal (14) ends and a sealing member (15) attached to the distal end (14). The sealing member (15) includes a coupler (25) for coupling the device (10) to an introducer (11). Complementing the laryngeal airway device (10) is an introducer (11) that includes a track (46) for receiving the coupler (25) of the larvngeal airway device (10) and guiding the sealing member (15) to a sealing position with respect to the laryngeal inlet. The introducer (11) may include an epiglottic engager (52) on a distal end (41) to engage the epiglottis and retain it while the sealing member (15) is being tracked to engagement with the laryngeal inlet.



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International Application No PCT/US 99/23269

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61M16/04 A61B1/267 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) IPC 7 A61M A61B 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) C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. EP 0 533 371 A (DINGLEY JOHN) 1,6,9,12 Α 24 March 1993 (1993-03-24) column 2, line 30 - line 33 column 3, line 23 - line 42 figures 1,7 US 5 529 582 A (FUKUHARA TOMIO) 1,6,9,12 A 25 June 1996 (1996-06-25) column 3, line 60 - line 63 figure 3 WO 98 16273 A (AUGUSTINE MEDICAL INC 9-11,13, Α ;AUGUSTINE SCOTT D (US); ARNOLD RANDALL C (U) 23 April 1998 (1998-04-23) cited in the application page 12, line 7 - line 30 figure 5A -/-ĺχ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. ΙX Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention citation or other special reason (as specified) cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 1 4. **06.** 2000 24 February 2000 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo ni, Lakkis, A Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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International Application No
PCT/US 99/23269

	tion) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	int nassages	Relevant to claim No.
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Inter nal application No. PCT/US 99/23269

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)
This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:
1. Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).
Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)
This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
See additional sheet
As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.: 1-18
Remark on Protest The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest. No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

- 1. Claims: 1-18
 - 1.1: Claims 1-8: An airway device comprising a coupler
 - 1.2: Claims 9-11: A combination for airway management comprising an airway device that includes a coupler and an introducer that includes a track
 - 1.3: Claims 12-18: An introducer comprising a track
- 2. Claims: 19-24

A blade device comprising an epiglottic engager.

tion on patent family members

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PCT/US 99/23269

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