Oct. 5, 1954 L. MALY 2,690,748

SUPPORTING PAD

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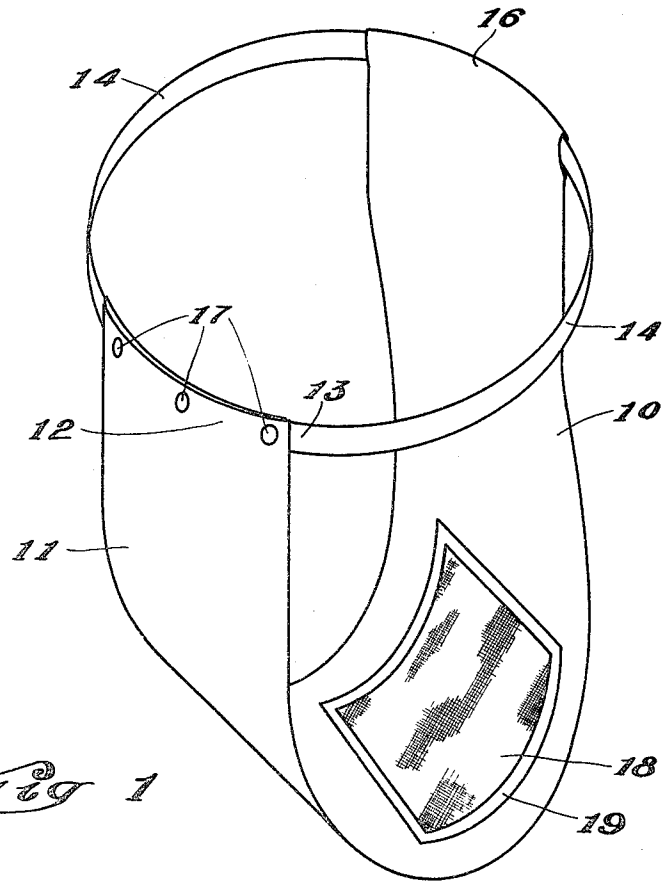


Fig 1

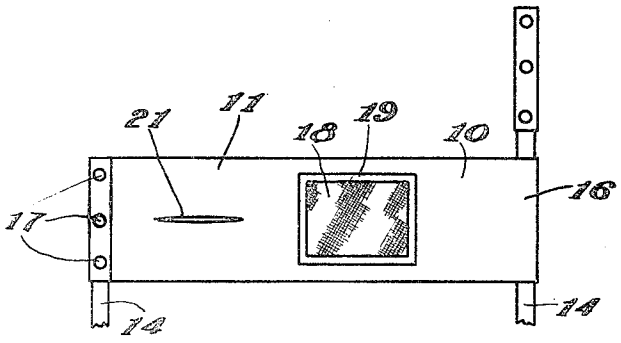


Fig 2

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SUPPORTING PAD

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1 Claim. (Cl. 128—168)

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This invention relates in general to a supporting means and in particular to a combination pad and support for a rectal resection patient.

Rectal resection operations are often performed on patients with malignant and non-malignant growths in their lower intestines. Colostomies are generally performed in conjunction with rectal resections and the fecal matter is removed through an opening formed in the lower abdomen of the patient. This opening is generally on the lower left side of the abdomen. The rectal resection results in many of the lower muscles being severed and a cylindrical opening of perhaps six inches in length and three inches in diameter is left by the surgeon and must grow together from the inside of the wound to the outer surface. Prior to this invention such patients have worn pads of the well-known sanitary napkin type but due to the size of the opening and the narrowness of such pads they have been very uncomfortable and unsatisfactory. Such sanitary pads have been used by fastening their ends to narrow belts worn around the patient's abdomen, but they tend to gather and irritate the wound. Irritation requires that the body furnish plasma to the source of irritation and plasma causes more drainage from the wound.

It is an object of this invention, therefore, to provide a combination rectal support and pad for resection patients.

Another object of this invention is to provide a non-gathering pad.

Yet another object of this invention is to provide a combination support and pad for rectal resection patients which has a flexible waistband to allow for gaseous distention of the patient.

Further objects, features, and advantages of this invention will become apparent from the following description and claim when read in view of the drawings, in which;

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the pad of this invention; and,

Figure 2 is a plan view of the pad when flat.

Figure 1 illustrates a rectangular supporting portion forming a back portion 10 and a front portion 11. The upper end 12 of the portion 11 has one end 13 of a flexible belt 14 attached thereto. The belt 14 passes through a loop formed in the upper end 16 of the portion 10. The belt 14 passes from the loop 16 back to the portion 12 where it is detachably connected, as for example, with snaps 17.

Adjacent the bottom of the portions 10 and 11 and extending partially up the portion 10 is mounted a pad 18 of a generally square shape. A retaining pocket holds the pad 18 and is formed with overlapping edges 19 about the pad.

The pad 18 may be made of folded gauze or of other suitable absorbent material. The portions 10 and 11 may be made, for example, from cotton flannel so as to be soft and warm to the patient. It should be remembered that such patients are

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emaciated and the warmth and softness of cotton flannel is to be preferred over rubber or plastic.

The pads 18 are flat and relatively wide thus resulting in no curling. This prevents irritation to the affected area. The relatively large size of the pad in combination with the belt 14 assures that the pad stays in place and simultaneously aids in supporting the scrotum. This is beneficial because many of the muscles are severed during rectal resection operations.

The flexible belt 14 might be made from soft cotton elastic which will allow the patient's abdomen to expand due to gaseous distention without causing discomfort. Such operations result in gaseous distention and if desired the belt 14 may be adjusted to a different snap 17.

As best shown in Figure 2 an opening 21 may be made in the portion 11 for male patients.

After the patient leaves the hospital he may change his own dressing merely by inserting a new pad 18 in the pocket formed by the portions 19. This comprises a great psychological comfort to the patient.

It is seen that this invention provides means for supporting and covering a wound formed by rectal resection.

Although this invention has been described with respect to preferred embodiments thereof it is not to be so limited as changes and modifications may be made therein which are within the full intended scope of this invention as defined by the appended claim.

I claim:

A combination pad and support for a rectal resection patient comprising a rectangular portion adapted to pass between the legs of the patient, front and rear portions of said rectangular portion, said front portion having a flexible belt attached to one edge thereof, said back portion formed with a loop through which said flexible belt extends, the free end of said belt detachably connected to the opposite edge of said front portion, a generally square relatively large pocket formed on said rectangular portion at the lower part thereof, and an absorbent pad received in said pocket.

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