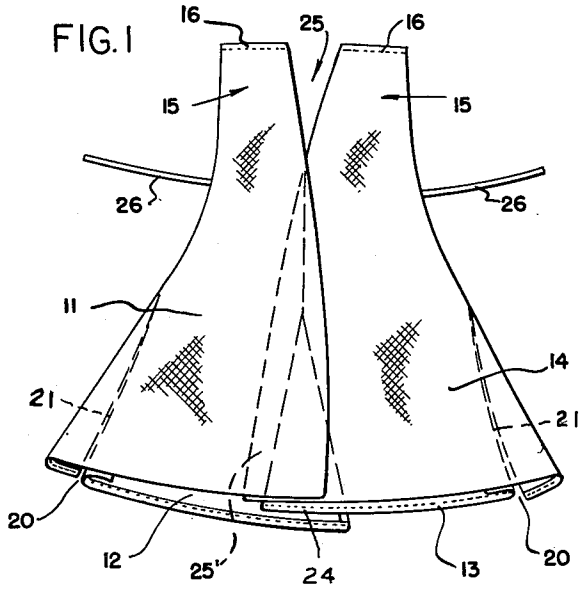
Dec. 15, 1964 G. E. MacDONALD 3,160,891

MEDICAL EXAMINATION GOWN

Filed June 15, 1961

FIG. 1



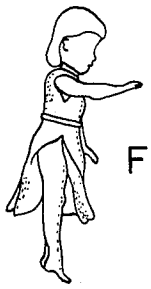


FIG. 3



FIG. 4

FIG. 2

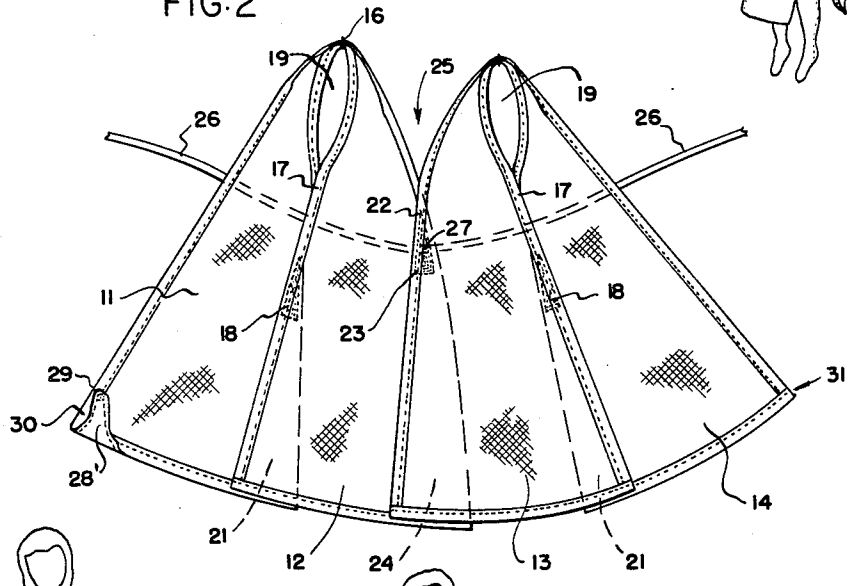




FIG. 5

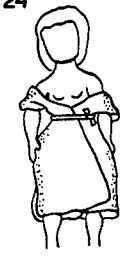


FIG. 6

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MEDICAL EXAMINATION GOWN

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1 Claim. (Cl. 2—69)

The present invention relates to a medical examination gown or cape.

Heretofore, over the years very little has been done to improve upon examination gowns for patients with the result that the patient is exposed unnecessarily and to a degree much greater than required for the particular examination. The disadvantage of the old type of examination gown was the excessive or unnecessary exposure produced discomfort and tension so that the patient was unrelaxed, unable to concentrate as clearly as one might otherwise on symptoms to be discussed.

The "Ethical Gown" was designed by a registered nurse at the request of patients and to doctors' specifications for the benefit of all three, and to lend better patient-doctor diagnosis relationship. With less exposure and discomfort there is less tension leaving the patient relaxed and able to concentrate more clearly on symptoms.

It is an object of this invention to provide an examination gown which consists of four sections plus one tie belt attached to the middle back. The garment is designed for self-multi-drape and cut to overlap bias. Back sections overlapped and joined from low V-neck to waistline, forming double panel from there, that may be parted at the waist and allow draping even for proctoscopic examination. By self-multi-drape is meant an arrangement of overlapping panels so that with any number of examinations, such as proctoscopic, pelvic, chest, femur, etc., the remainder of the anatomy stays draped or protectively covered.

It is another object to construct the gown so that the sides are joined from underneath armholes to hips, front over back lap to assure closure when sitting, leaving double side panels that may be parted at hips for thigh and femur examination.

It is another object to provide a gown wherein the top slides quickly and easily from over the shoulders permitting front and back exposures. With no sleeves, the arms are free for blood pressure tests.

It is another object to provide a gown wherein the front parts for easy abdominal examination and wherein the front panels are designed wide enough for ample pelvic drape.

It is another object to provide for wider drape, if desired as for obstetrical cases. The right front lower corner of the panel has a tab through which the left front lower corner may be drawn, doubling the width of drape quickly.

It is another object to eliminate the extra drape sheet and towel and provide for less ironing, less handling, less labor, time and cost and provide for only one garment and less overhead.

It is another object to provide an examination gown wherein only one portion of the user is exposed at a time, resulting in more convenience for the doctor and more dignity for the patient.

It is another object to provide a gown which provides simplicity, beauty and neatness, with efficiency; and the answer to many problems for the patient and the doctor, through the eyes of a registered nurse.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide a slightly different form of reversible examination gown which consists of three sections rather than four sections and wherein one section may be regarded as a front section and a pair of additional sections, the rear sections, and wherein the outer edges of the rear sections are joined to outer edge portions of the front section and wherein further the inner edges of the rear sections are arranged in overlapped relationship and tied together. This section variation is also designed to achieve each of the objects set forth and primarily provision of a garment wherein any part of the anatomy may be easily examined individually without complete exposure to the patient.

These and other objects will be seen from the following specification and claim in conjunction with the appended drawings in which;

FIG. 1 is a front elevational view of the present medical examination gown with the panels assembled and arranged as they would for use.

FIG. 2 is a front elevational view thereof with the panels opened up so as to lie in substantially single plane for inspection.

FIG. 3 is a perspective view on a reduced scale showing one use of the garment for examination purposes.

FIGS. 4, 5, and 6 are additional similar perspective views showing other usages of a garment for examination purposes.

FIG. 7 is a rear elevational view of a slightly different form of medical examination gown with the sections or panels arranged in overlapped relation as it would be used.

FIG. 8 is an elevational view thereof with the rear panels opened out so as to lie substantially in a single plane with the front panel for inspection purposes.

FIGS. 9, 10, 11 and 12 are perspective views on a reduced scale illustrating various usages of an examination gown designed to permit examination of portions of the body without complete exposure thereof.

It will be understood that the above drawings illustrate merely a prefered embodiment of the invention and that other embodiments are contemplated within the scope of the claim hereinafter set forth.

Referring to the drawings, and particularly FIGS. 1 through 6, one form of the present medical examination gown is shown, which as particularly noted from FIGS. 1 and 2, consists of four panels, namely the elongated panels **11**, **12**, **13** and **14** with each of the panels tapered downwardly and outwardly as shown. In other words, the present medical examination gown comprises what is hereafter referred to as a first and second pair of panels, the pairs being regarded as the first pair, namely panels **11** and **12**, and the second pair as panels **13** and **14**.

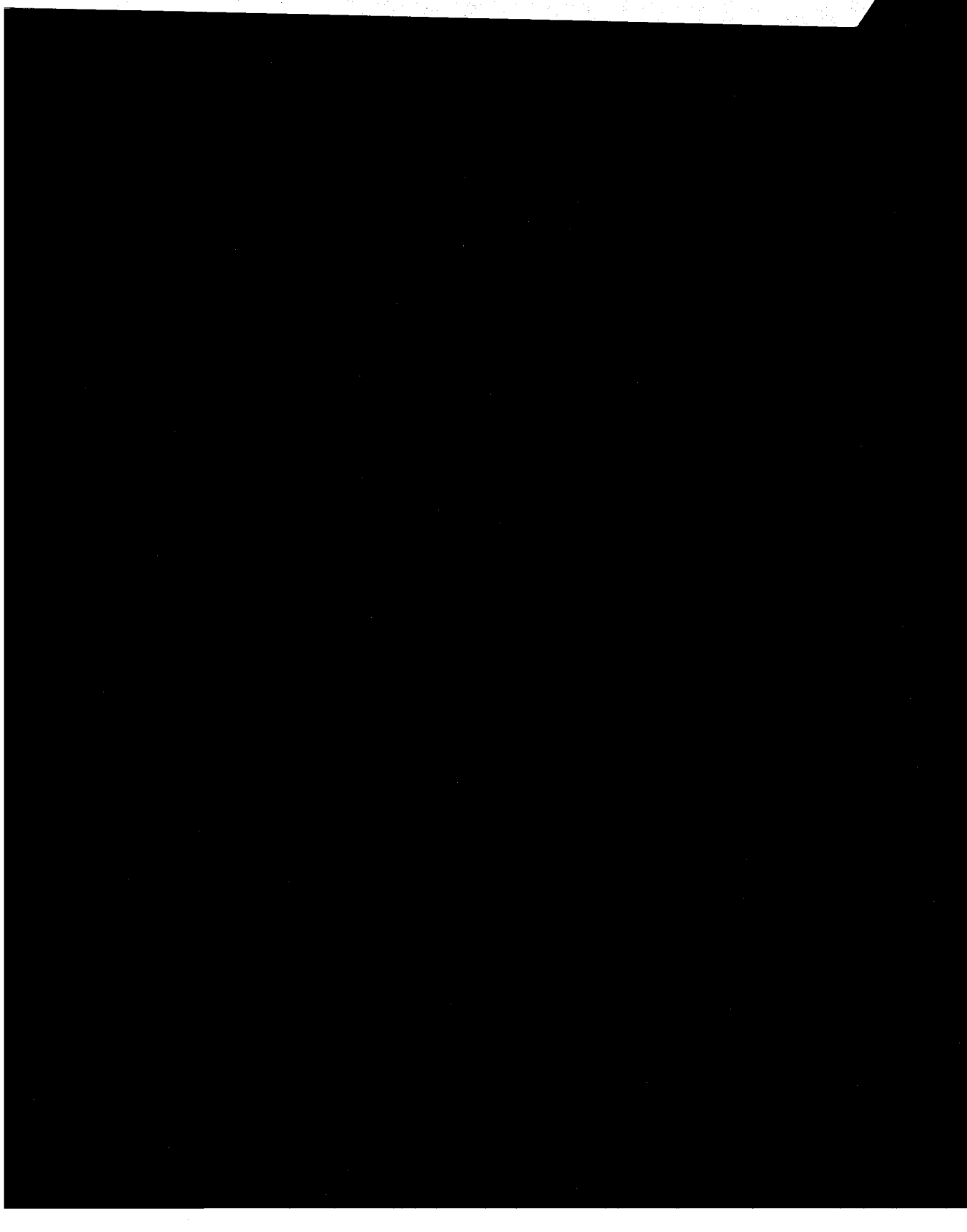
Furthermore, it is noted that from the drawing, panels **11** and **14** may be regarded as front panels and panels **12** and **13** may be regarded as rear panels.

With respect to each pairs of panels, namely the pair **11–12** and the pair **13–14**, the panels at their upper ends are reduced as at **15**, and means are provided, namely stitching by which the upper edge portions of the said panels are transversely joined together, said stitching being shown at **16**, FIG. 1.

Accordingly, for each of the pair of panels defining the examination garment, there are provided shoulders. The front and rear panels of each of the said pairs of panels at their adjacent inner edges are connected together by securing means such as the stitching **17**, which stitching extends downwardly throughout points intermediate the upper and lower edges of the said panels as to points **18**.

The adjacent edge portions of the respective panels are there below losely overlapped as at **21** to thus define the side portions of the garment and to the extent of the overlap are thus double in protecting the user from unnecessary exposure.

The portions of the respective pairs of panels in be-



of the present invention is achieved, namely the production of an "Ethical Gown," which provides for less exposure and discomfort and tension for the patient, but which at the same time is fully effective in protecting the patient, yet permits easy and simple examination of the desired parts of the anatomy without full exposure to the patient, and of course, such an examination gown may be used for any type of body or pelvic examination, may be used on obstetrical cases, may be used for X-ray or for any other treatment purposes and represents a substantial improvement over what has been done before.

Having described my invention, reference should now be had to the following claim.

I claim:

A medical examination gown comprising four similarly shaped flat cut panels; each very narrow at its upper end and each having side edges diverging very considerably toward its lower end; the four panels being identified respectively as left front, left rear, right rear, right front;

with adjacent upper ends of the left panels being stitched to each other and with the adjacent upper ends of the right panels being stitched to each other, to provide shoulder straps;

with adjacent side edges of the left panels, and with adjacent side edges of the rear panels, and with adjacent side edges of the right panels, respectively, being stitched to each other longitudinally for the length of the approximately middle third only of such side edges, to define two side stitchings and a rear center stitching, all approximately waist high;

the width of the panels below such longitudinal stitchings being such that the widened lowermost parts of such panels overlap, with the front panels overlapping relative to each other when they are drawn together to enclose a human form inside the garment;

and a tie belt extending transversely of the garment across all four panels and secured by additional stitchings at the rear center stitching which secures the rear panels together, such belt drawing the front panels together;

with the upper parts of the adjacent edges of the rear panels defining a rear V-neck, and the upper parts of the adjacent edges of the front panels defining a front V-neck when the garment is drawn closed.

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