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PROSTATE GLAND MASSAGING AND VARIABLE TEMPERATURE APPLICATOR

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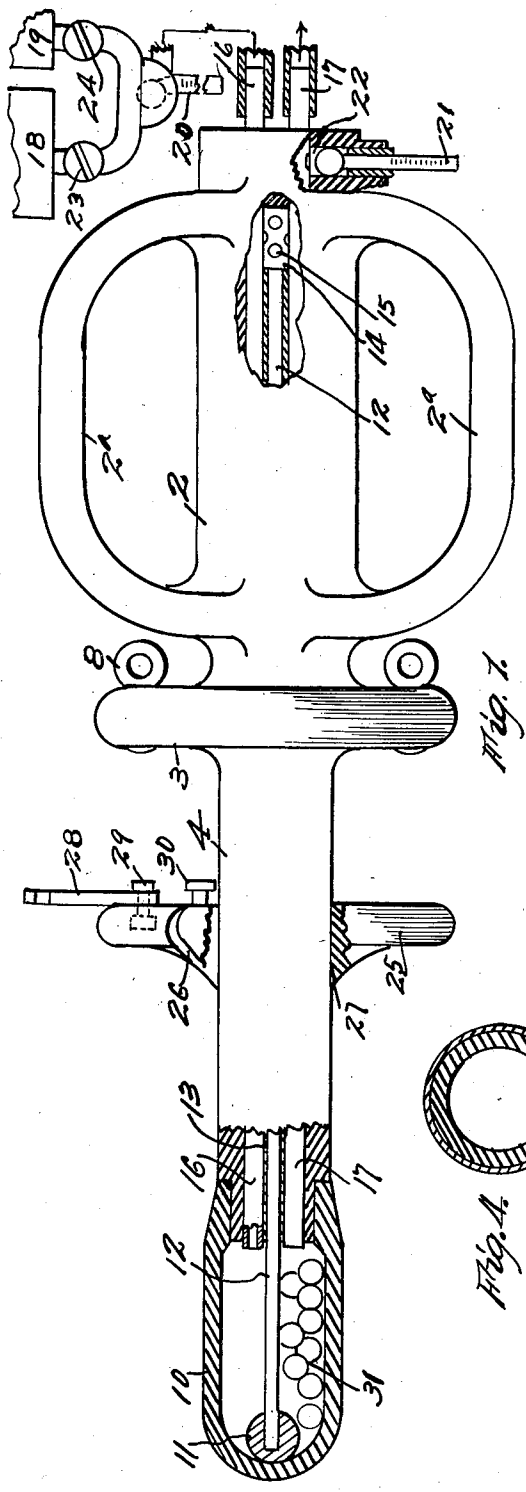


Fig. 1.

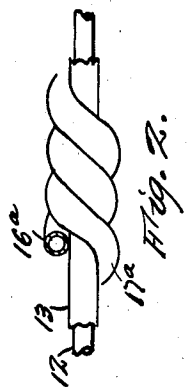


Fig. 2.

Fig. 4.

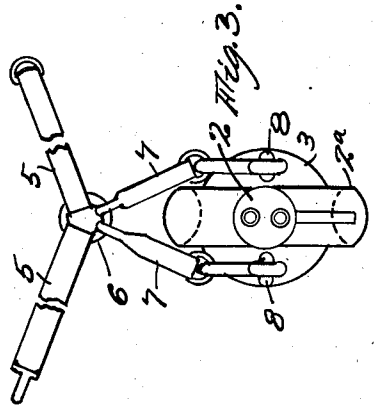


Fig. 3.

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PROSTATE GLAND MASSAGING AND VARIABLE TEMPERATURE APPLICATOR

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Application April 25, 1936, Serial No. 76,458

4 Claims. (Cl. 128—401)

This invention is an applicator for prostate gland massaging and for ready variation of temperature of the instrument while in use in the body cavity.

It is an object of the invention to provide an implement of this class with means for the localization of a desired degree of temperature at the gland being treated and to provide for the quick change of the temperature while the effective end of the instrument is in contact with the tissue adjacent to the gland.

A further object is to provide an applicator having an elongated shank and having means readily adjustable to predetermine the degree of insertion of the head end of the shank.

An additional object is to provide an improved handle and grip portion to facilitate introduction of the instrument into the cavity, and further to provide a means in the form of a harness whereby the instrument may be retained in situ for the desired period of time and thereby eliminate manually holding the applied device.

Another object is to provide an applicator of the massaging type with means for indicating the temperature of circulating liquid; both entering and leaving the applicator.

Also an object is to provide a flexible rubber applicator shank having a resilient stiffening rod with means for its secure attachment in and along the shank and providing a buttress for a hollow head on the entering end of the shank.

The invention consists of certain advancements in this art as set forth in the ensuing disclosure and having, with the above, additional objects and advantages as hereinafter developed, and whose construction, combination and details of means, and the manner of operation will be made manifest in the description of the herewith illustrative embodiment; it being understood that modifications, variations and adaptations may be resorted to within the scope, principle and spirit of the invention as it is more directly claimed hereinafter.

Figure 1 is a sectional, side elevation of the instrument. Figure 2 is a detail showing a modified form of fluid circulating ducts. Figure 3 is a handle-end view of the instrument and its attached, holding harness. Figure 4 is a cross-section of the head of the device in a form incorporating a soft latex jacket.

As here shown a substantial hilt part 2 for gripping in one hand of the user is provided with an axially extending and somewhat reduced cylindrical shank 4 between which and the hilt there is provided an integral, transverse disc or guard 3 of considerably larger diameter than the hilt and forming a shield for the user's hand.

The disc 3 further provides means for attachment of a suitable harness having belt straps 5—5 to be closed about the user's stomach after the instrument has been inserted in the cavity to be treated. The straps 5—5 connect with a ring or other suitable element, 6, from which extends suitable connectors 7—7 having hooks or other suitable means for attachment to eyes 8—8 which are securely fastened in the disc 3.

Formed with and about the hilt 2 is a plurality of handle-forming loops 2^a.

The outer end of the handle remote from the hilt there is provided an elongated, cylindrical, hollow massaging head 10 of somewhat larger diameter than the shank 4 and of rubber somewhat softer than the shank so as to be applied to the cavity tissue without undue irritation; this head being securely attached, as by vulcanizing, to the stem or shank of the implement.

The outer end of the hollow head 10 is buttressed by a ball, or other suitably formed part, 11, either rotative or fixed on the introduced end of a stiffening and safety device here shown as a spring rod 12 vulcanized in a rubber tube or jacket 13 which, in turn, is vulcanized to the rubber shank and hilt of the implement so that in case the shank should break into sections while in the cavity they would safely be connected by the rod; this being of metal of desired kind and size. The handle end of the rod 12 has an anchoring sleeve 14 perforated at 15 to make an interlocking connection with the handle material.

Means are provided for the circulation of fluid at desired temperature to the implement, and for the ready and quick change of the temperature. Fluid conduits 16 and 17, preferably of flexible metal tubing, extend from the outer end of the hilt 2 to the outer or head end of the shank 4. One conduit, as 16, is connected to a source of supply of hot and cold water, as to tanks 18 and 19 from which the water flows past and affects a thermometer 20 to indicate the temperature to the user applying the instrument to a cavity being treated. Water discharging from conduit 16 into the head 10 flows therefrom through the duct 17 and its temperature affects a thermometer 21 fixed in the outer end of the handle hilt 2; the duct 17 opening to a pocket 22 in which the bulb of the thermometer is exposed. Valves 23—24 in the outlets of the tanks provide for control of water flow and mixture of hot and cold water to the attached conduit 16.

It is desirable that means be incorporated

whereby to control the degree or length of insertion of the head and the shank of the implement into the cavity being treated for the reason that the prostate gland location differs in different individuals. Therefore, an adjustable stop device in the form of a rubber disc **25** which is radially split at **26** adjustably mounted on the shank **4**; the bore **27** of the disc having a snug fit so as to remain in adjusted position, in which it is secured by suitable means, here shown as including a hook **28** pivoted on an anchored stud **29** in the outer face of the stop disc **25**. The swinging end of the hook is adapted to hook onto a suitable receiver such as a stud **30** anchored in the disc **25** in a position on the opposite side of the radially slit part of the disc so that after this has been sprung open along the radial slit **26** and positioned on the shank at the desired distance from the head of the implement, then the split part of the disc is firmly locked closed by closure of the hook onto its keeper.

The water ducts **16** and **17** are laid as close to the axial metal rod **12** so that its temperature may be quickly changed during use of the implement. In Fig. **2** the ducts are in the form of helices **16a** and **17** wound close together and to the rod **12**.

In the hollow head **10** there is provided a number of freely movable balls or other small pieces, **31**, too large to enter the water ducts, which are of suitable metal, so that they will quickly take up or give off heat as determined by the temperature of the water being circulated. The loose balls will gravitate to the lower side of the head chamber and their temperature will quickly influence the temperature of the adjacent area of the head **10**; the object being to localize the temperature desired as much as possible on the tissue adjacent to the gland being massaged.

As shown in Fig. 4, in this form the exterior surface of portion of the implement entering the cavity is provided with thin, soft and smooth layer of latex **10a**.

What is claimed is:

1. A massaging applicator having a hollow, inwardly yieldable head provided with a plurality of freely gravitating metallic bodies to localize temperature effect on the head wall, an axial support for the head end and about which the said bodies may shift freely, and means for circulating fluid to the head and for heating or cooling the said bodies.

2. A massaging applicator having a hollow head having a flexible wall, an elongated solid, flexible shank one end of which is united with the said head, and a rod fixed axially in the shank about which the head forms a chamber and having an enlarged buttress part engaging the adjacent flexible end wall of the head to sustain it against shortening under inward pressure collapsing the wall; said rod being flexible and providing for the bending of the shank.

3. A device as set forth in claim 2 and the shank having inlet and outlet ducts lying in proximity to and along the said rod and communicating with the chamber in the said head.

4. A massaging applicator having a solid flexible shank provided with an enlarged, repressible-walled hollow head, and a spring rod fixed axially in the shank and having a bulbous buttress on one end engaging the romote end of the head to maintain its length and having an apertured anchoring sleeve on its opposite end bonded with the adjacent part of the shank; the head forming a fluid chamber around the rod.

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