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(54) **MULTI-PIECE BRA**

Publication Classification

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

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(22) Filed: **Apr. 21, 2005**

Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation-in-part of application No. 10/937,907, filed on Sep. 10, 2004.

(60) Provisional application No. 60/502,014, filed on Sep. 11, 2003. Provisional application No. 60/511,880, filed on Oct. 16, 2003.

The device of the present invention provides a backless, strapless bra that provides support and/or cleavage to a wearer's breasts and the components of which are not visible, even when worn with a wide variety of revealing outer garments. A first aspect of the invention provides a backless and strapless bra comprising a first cup member, a second cup member, a connecting member residing between the first and second cup members, and at least one support member for supporting an underside of a wearer's breast, wherein each cup member is unattached to any support member.

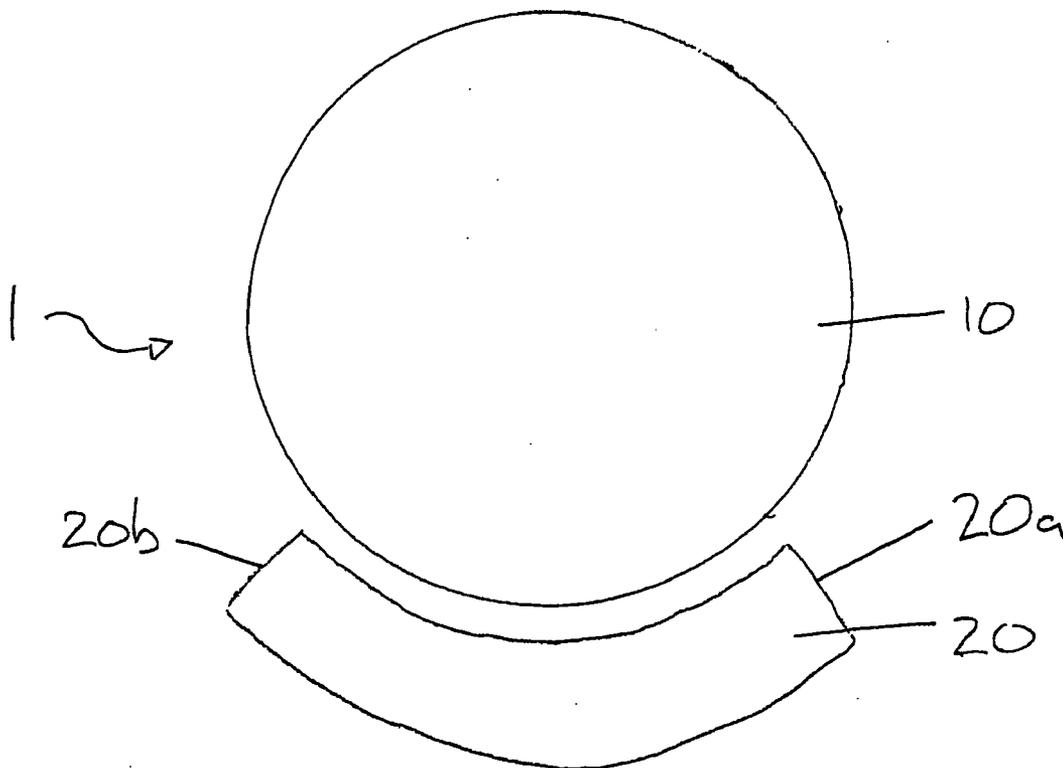


FIG. 1A

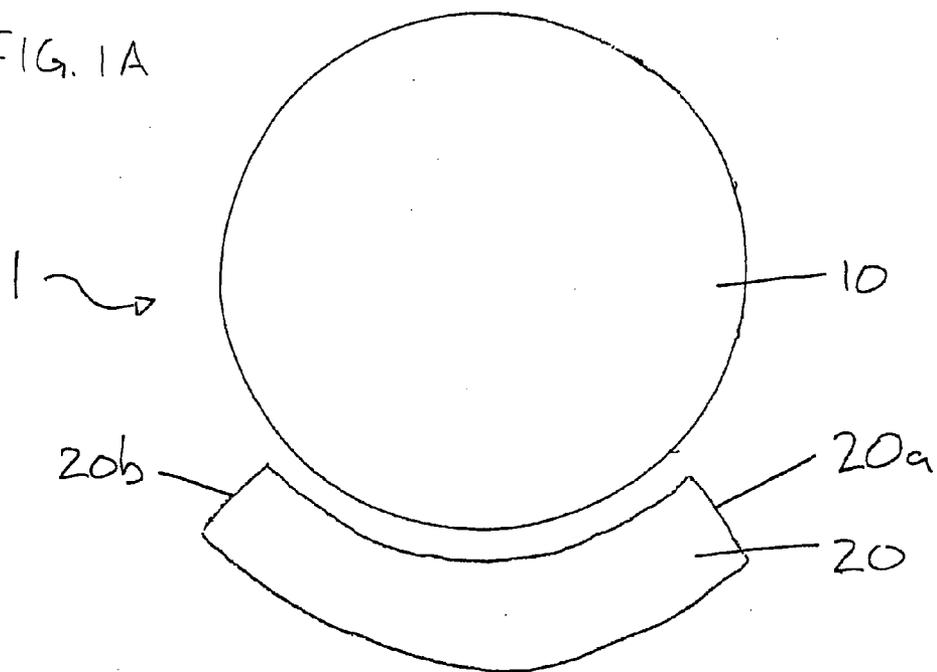


FIG. 1B

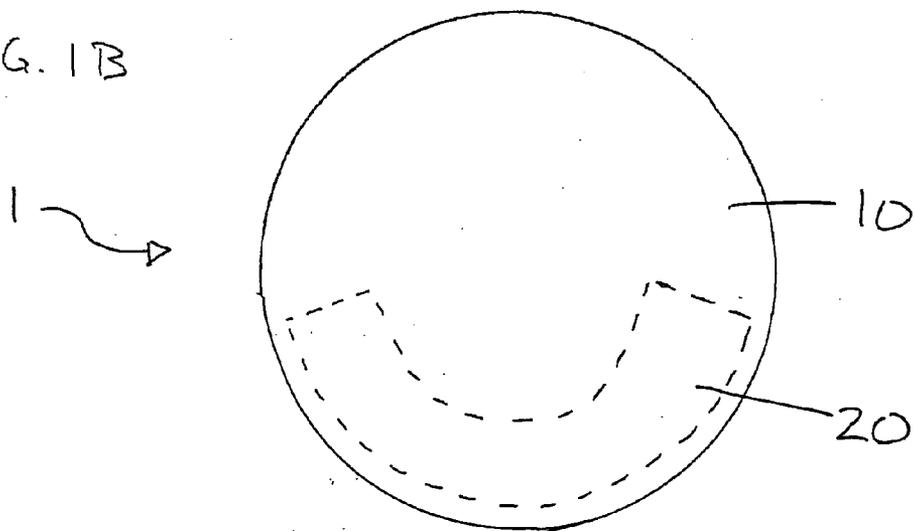


FIG. 1C

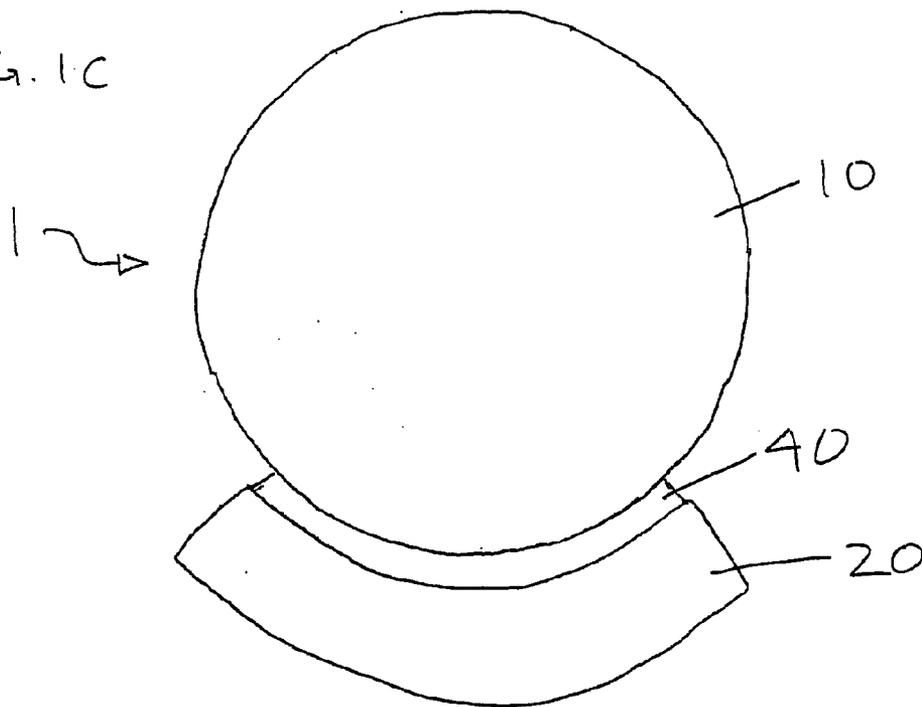


FIG. 1D

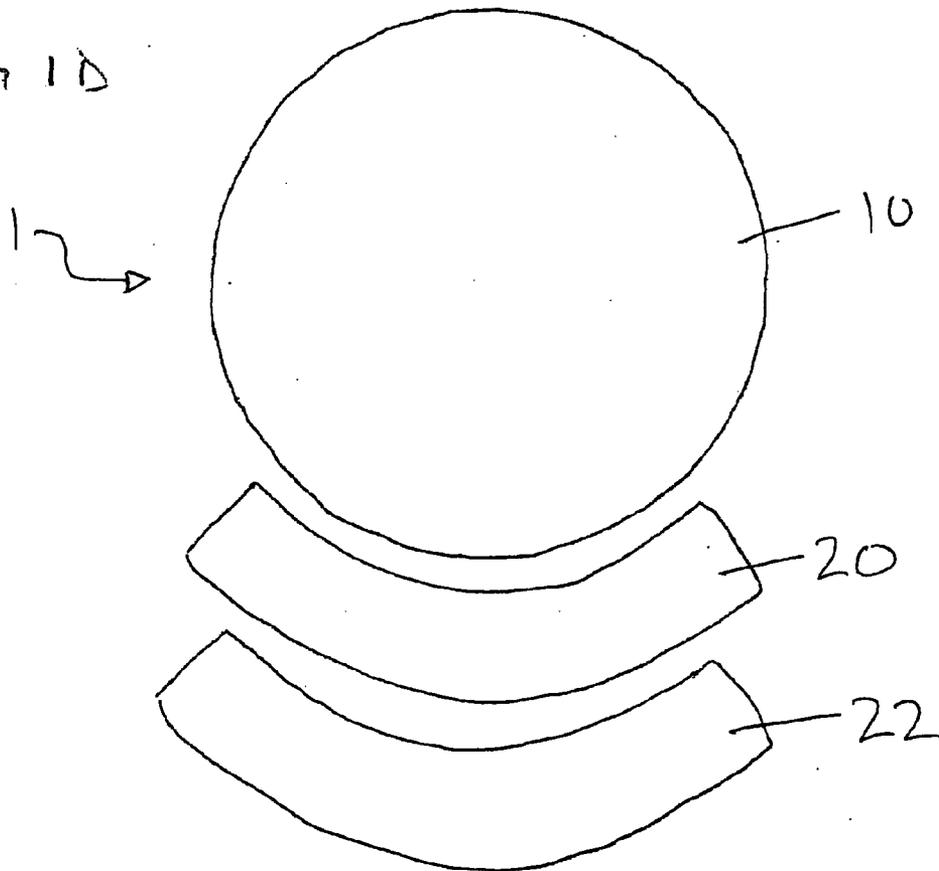


FIG. 1E

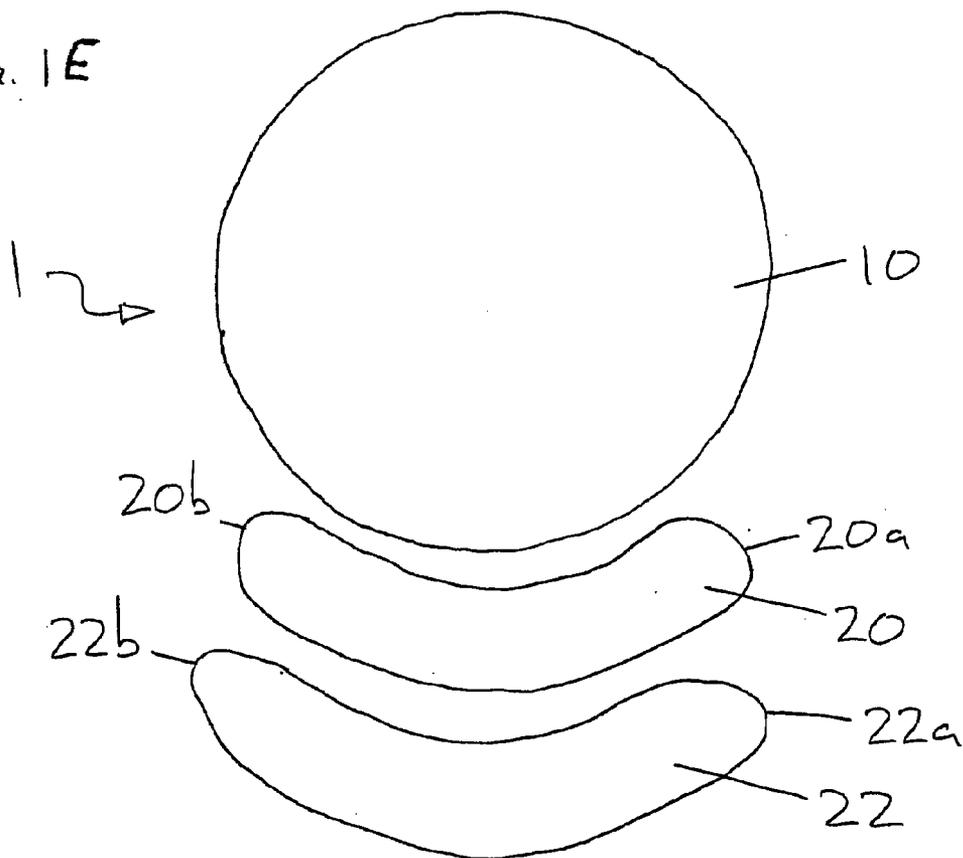
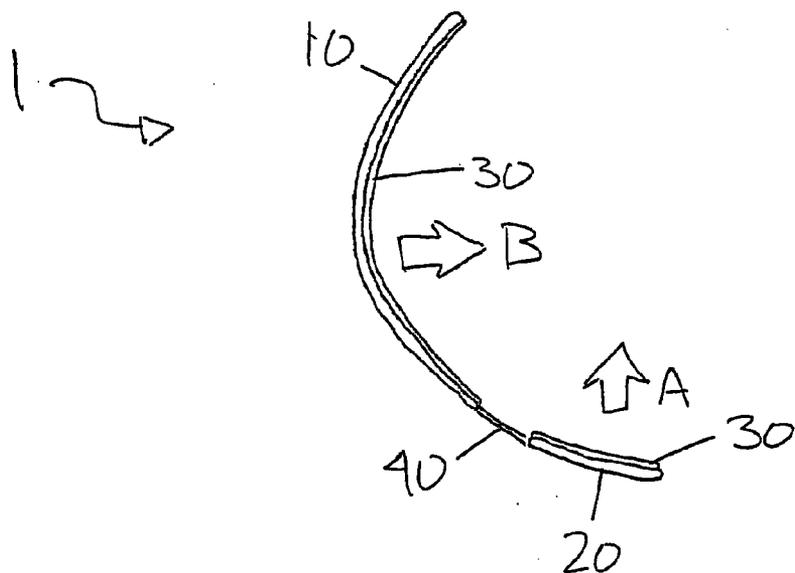


FIG. 1F



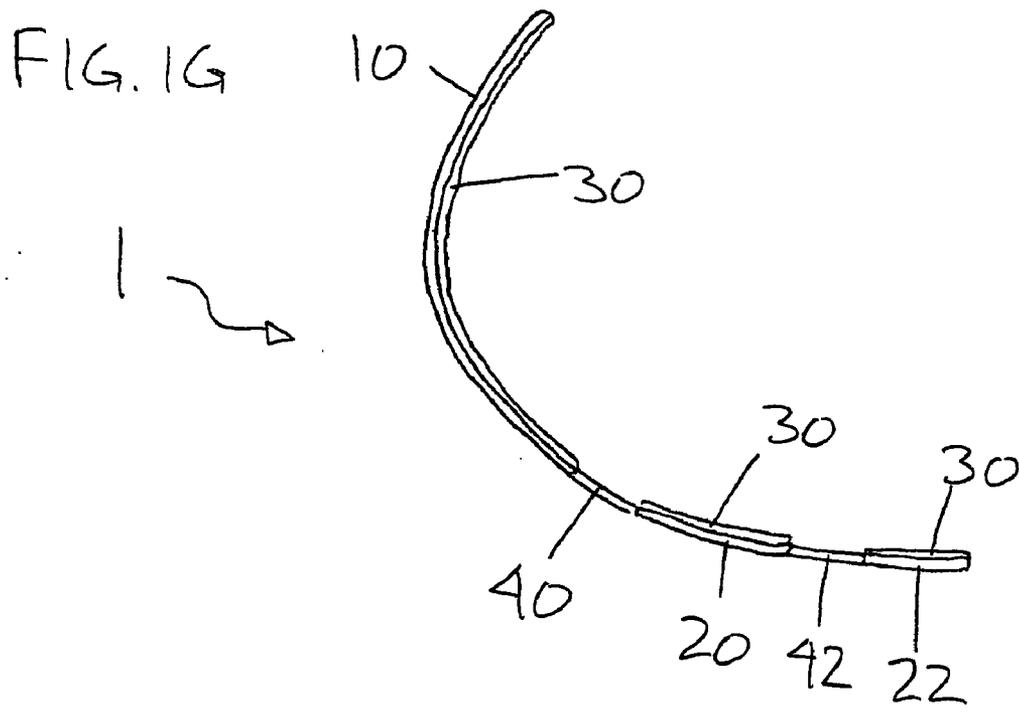


FIG. 1H

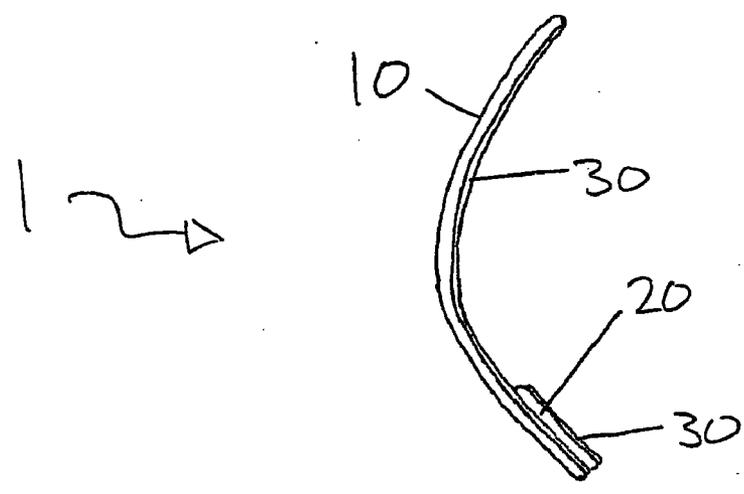


FIG. 1I

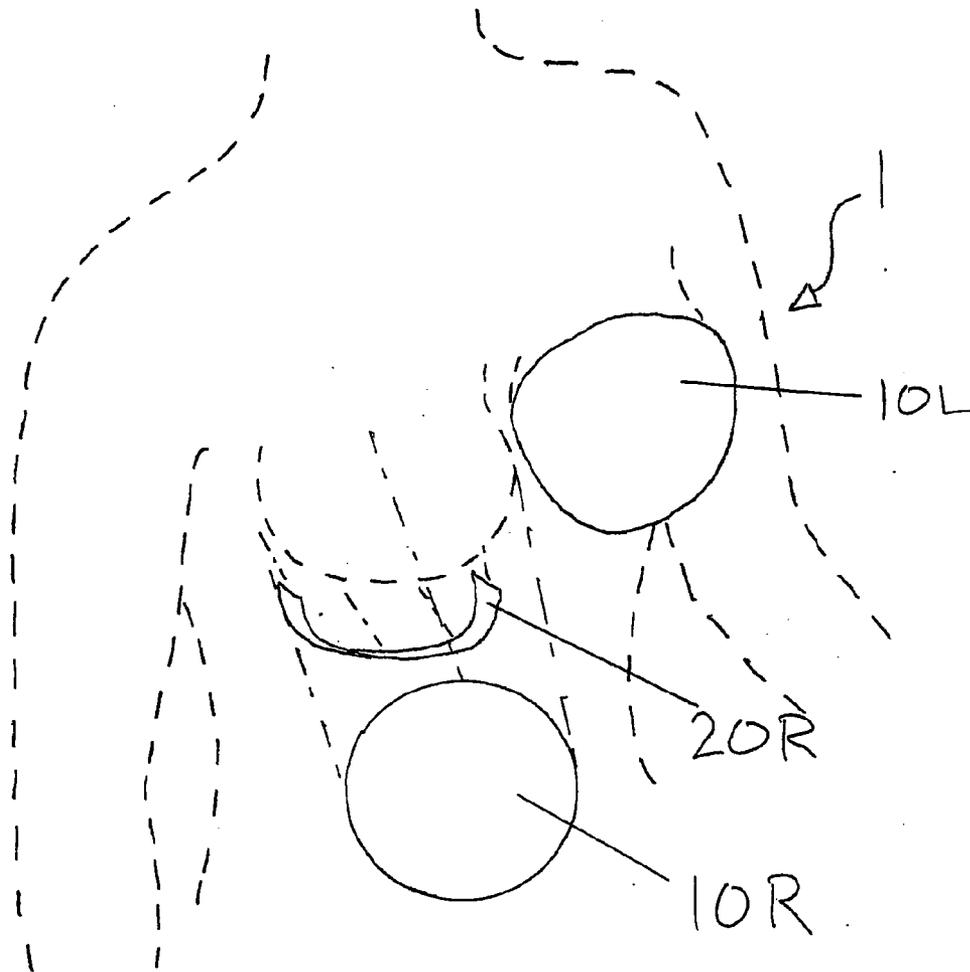


FIG. 2A

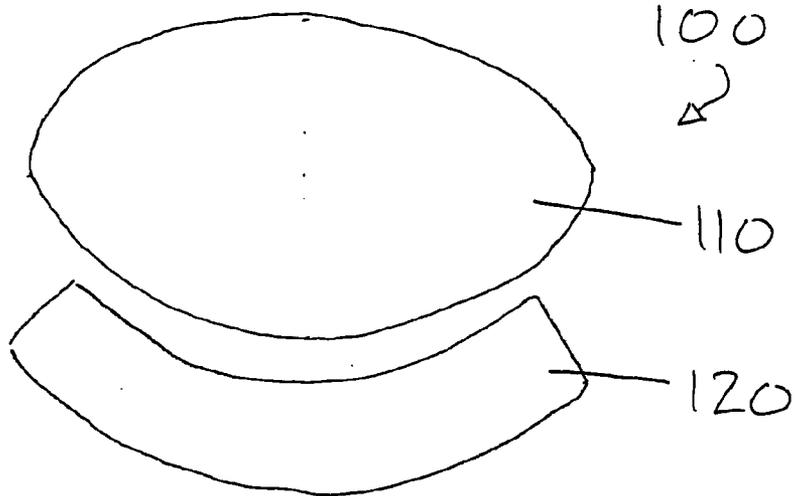


FIG. 2B

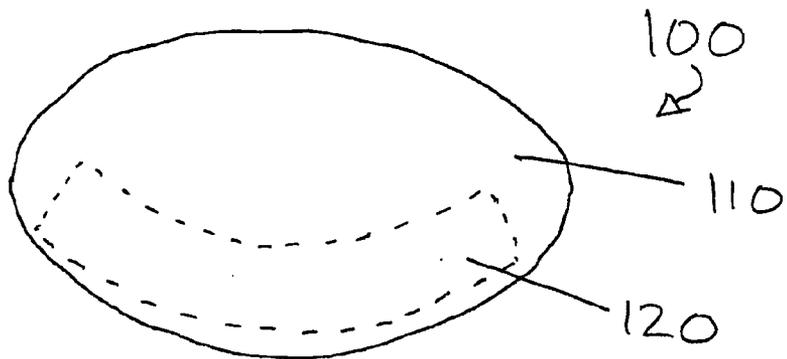


FIG. 2C

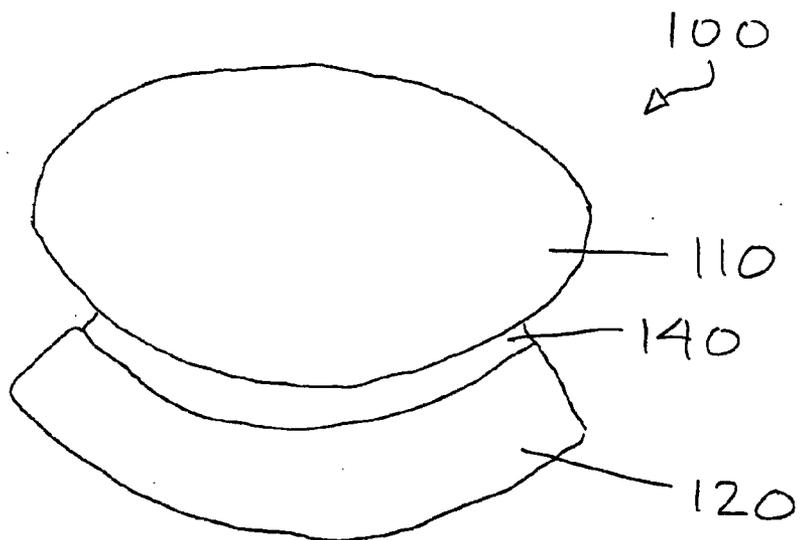


FIG. 2D

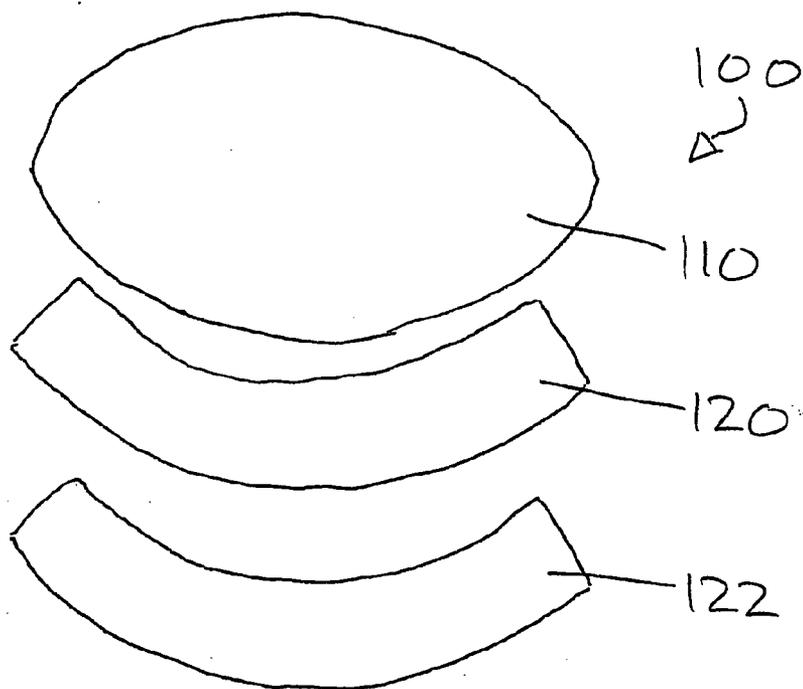


FIG. 2E

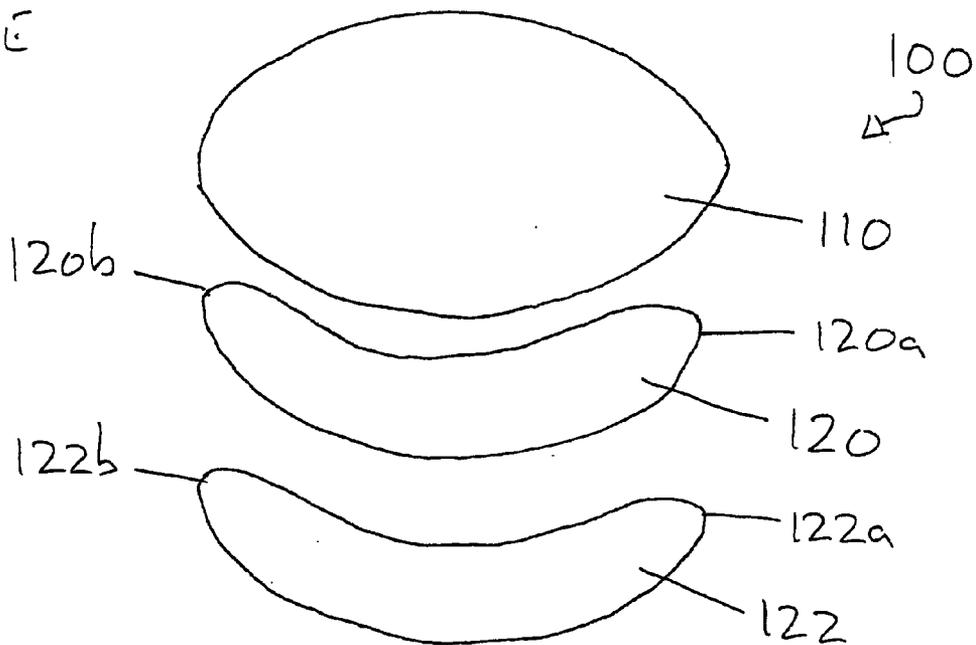


FIG. 3A

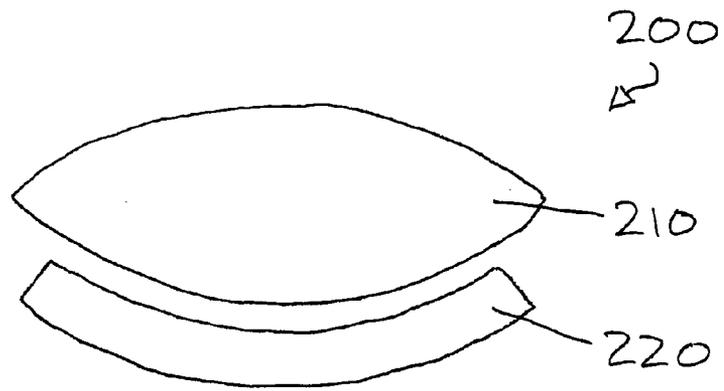


FIG. 3B

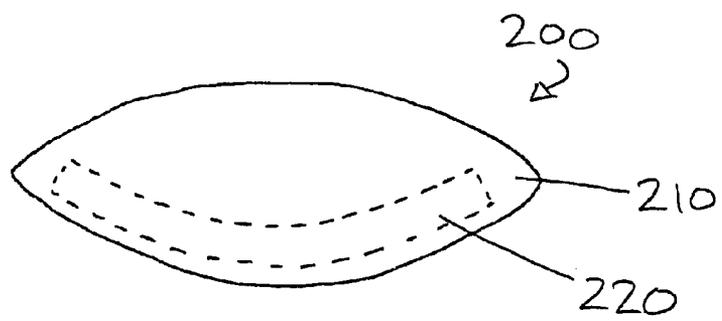


FIG. 3C

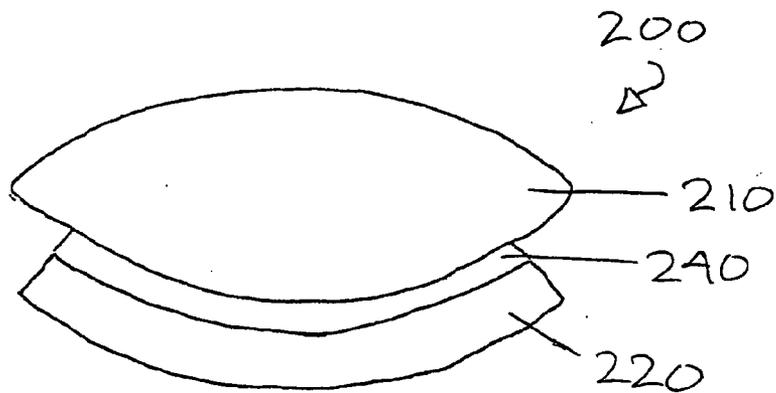


FIG. 3D

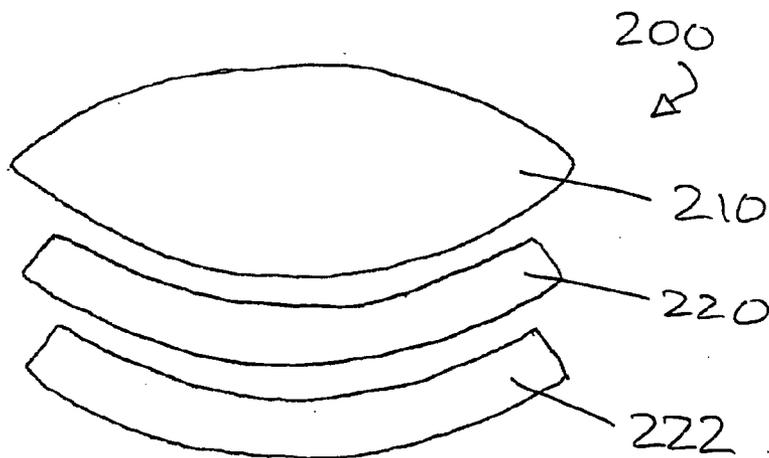


FIG. 3E

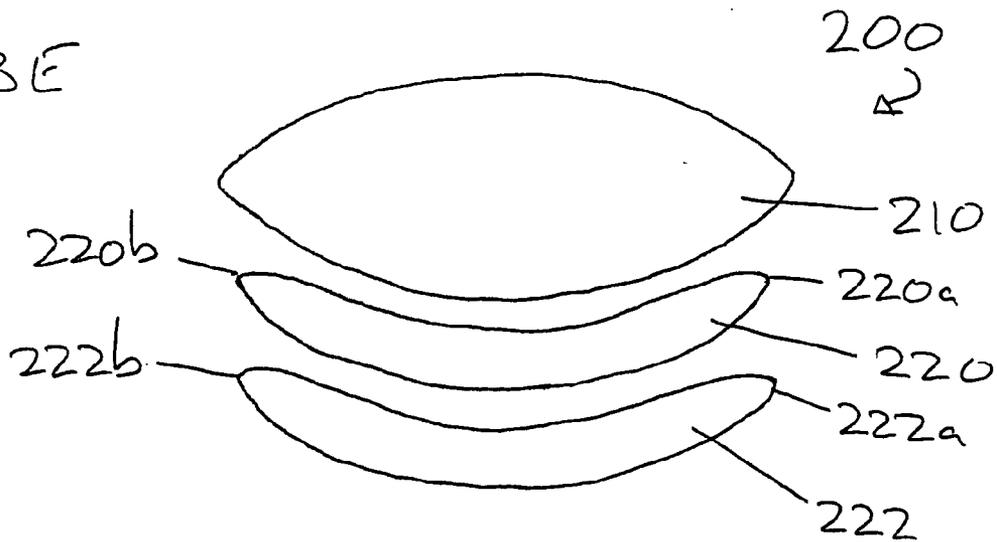


FIG. 3F

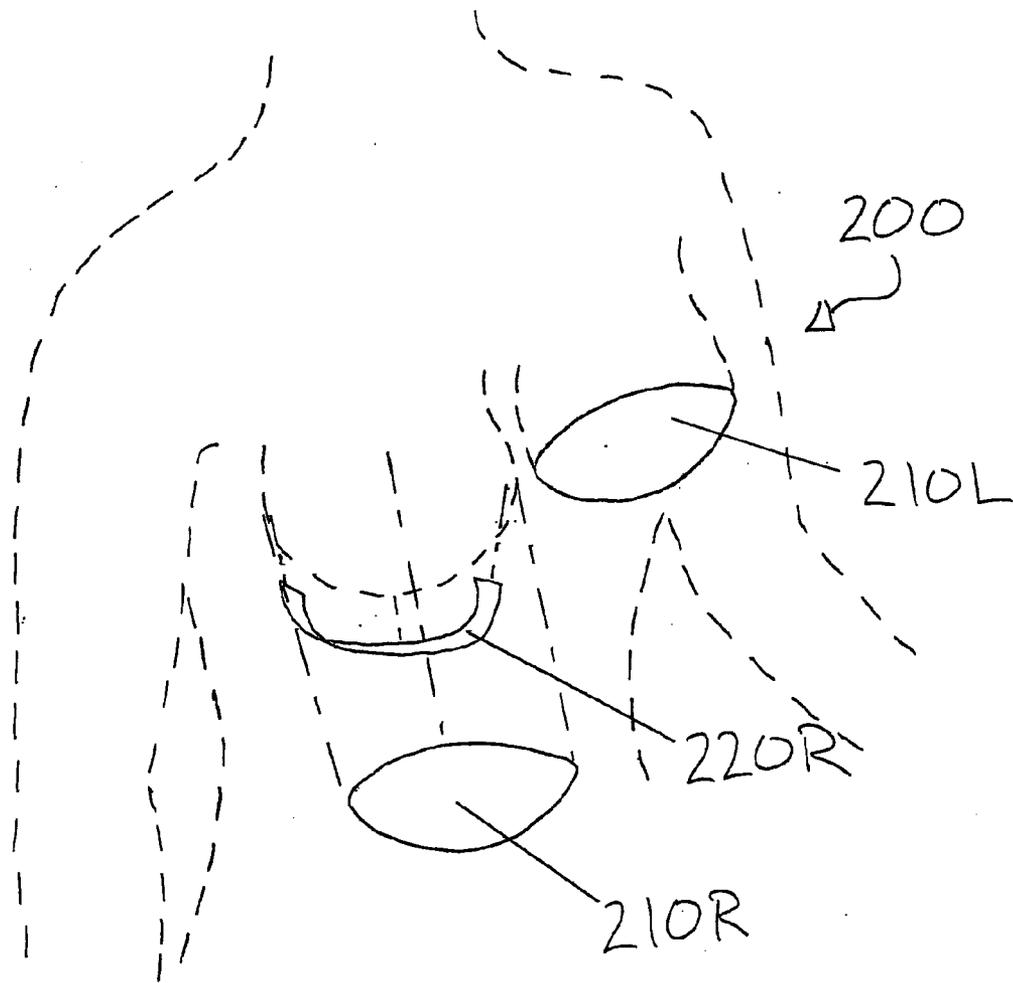


FIG 4A

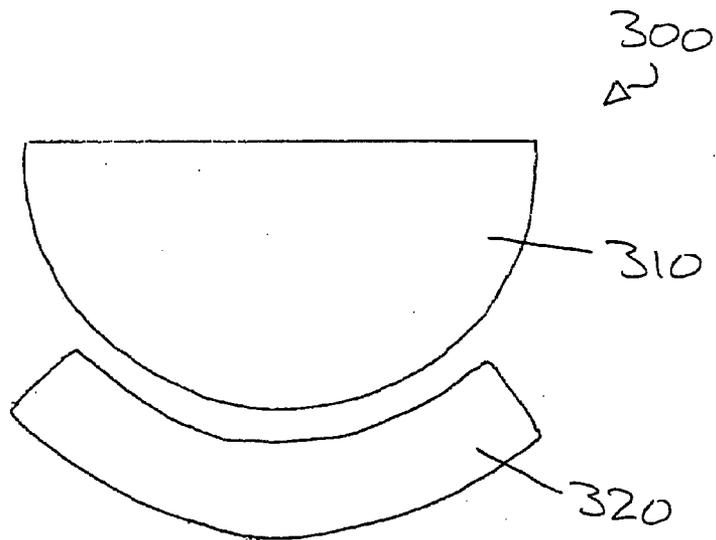


FIG. 4B

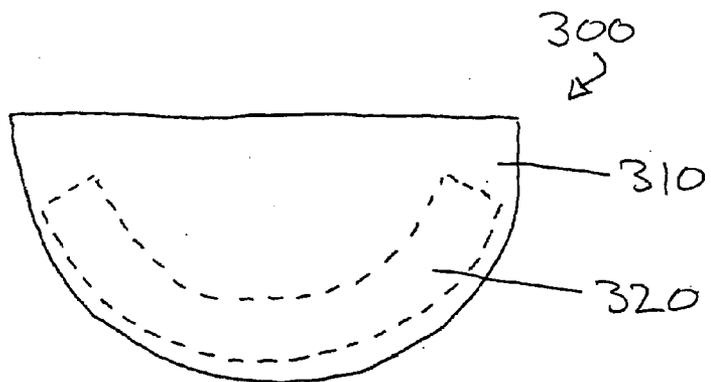


FIG. 4C

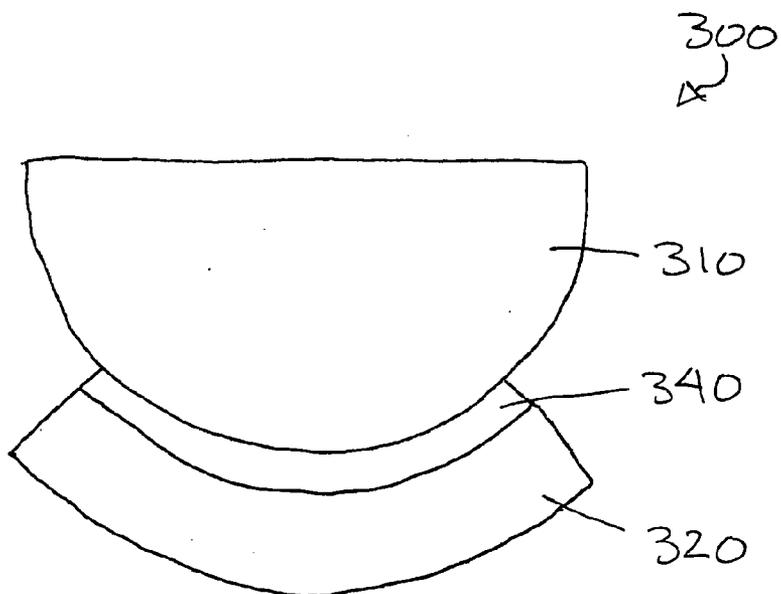


FIG. 4D

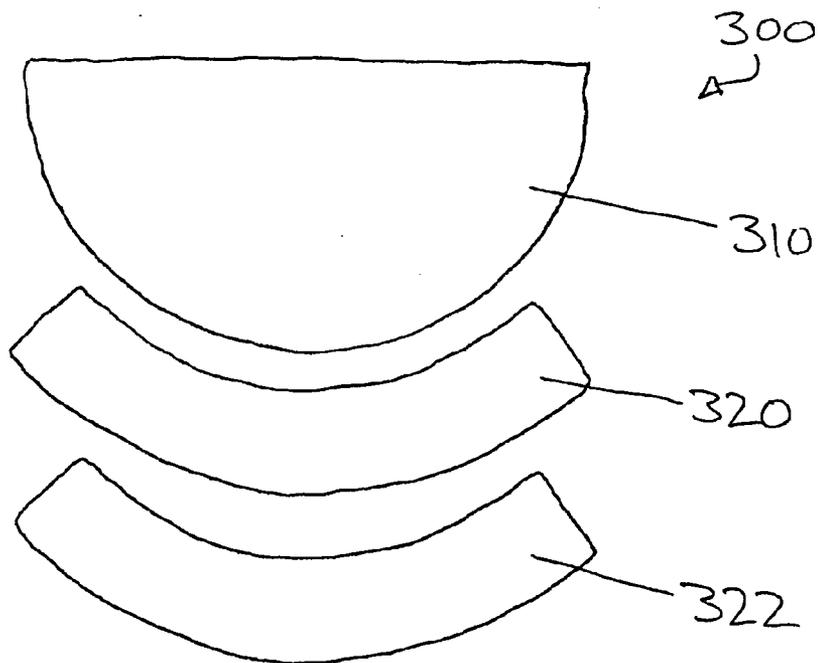


FIG. 4E

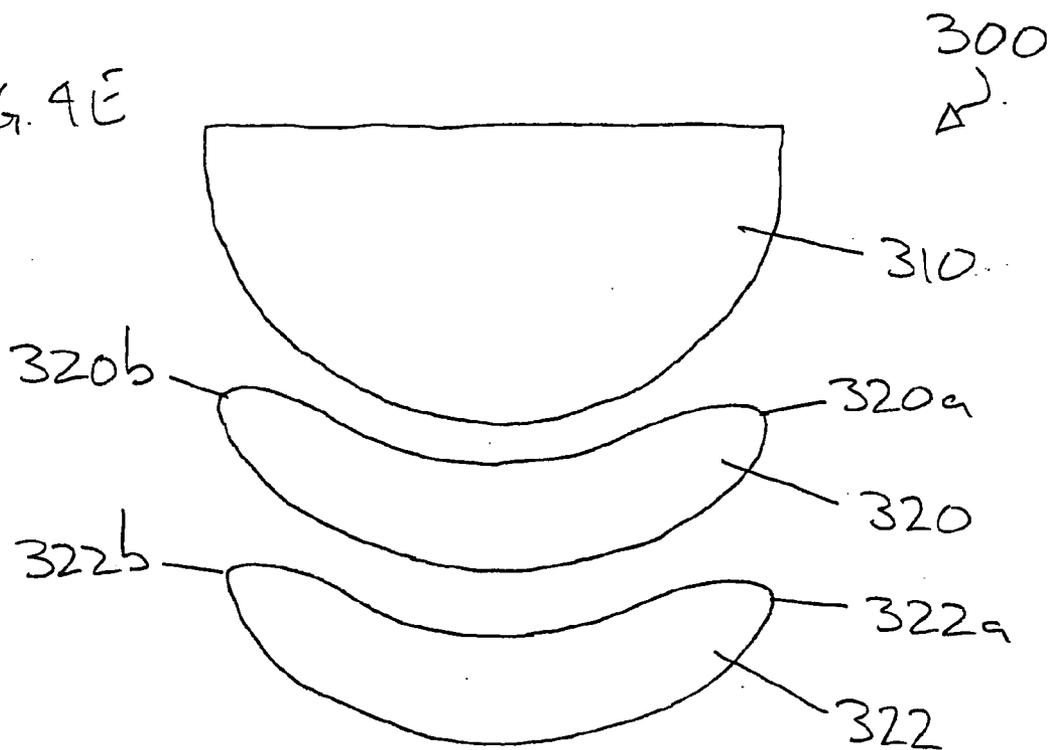


FIG. 4F

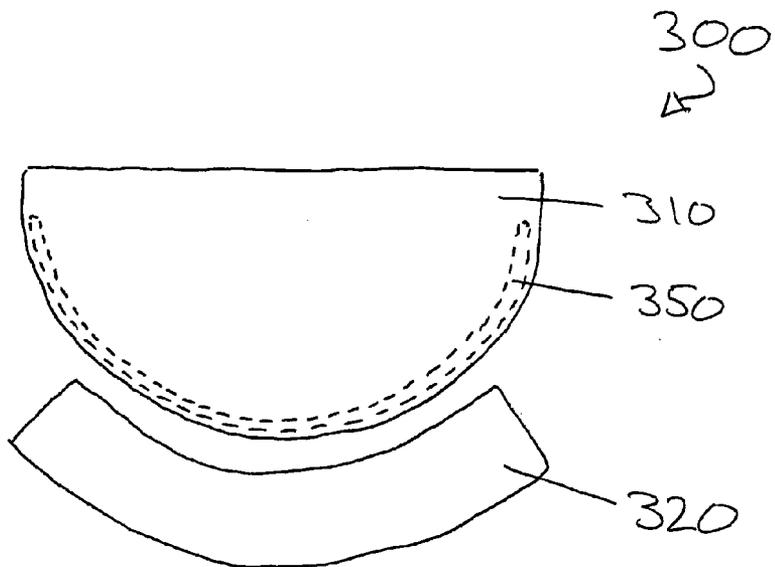


FIG. 4G

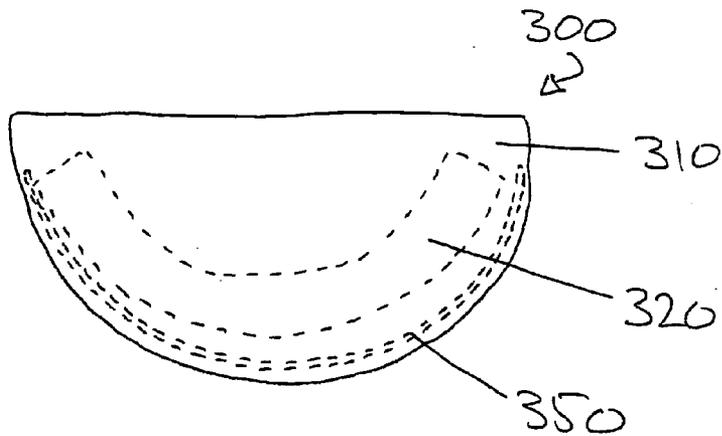


FIG. 4H

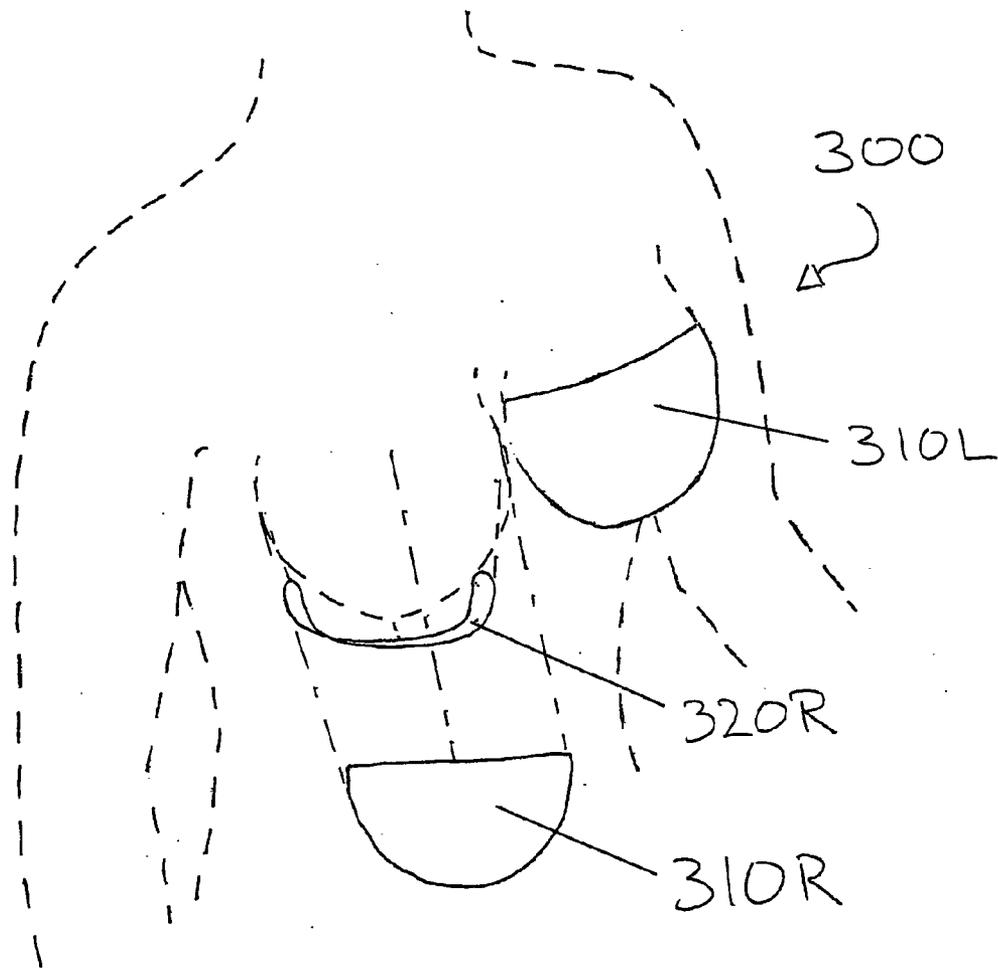


FIG. 5A

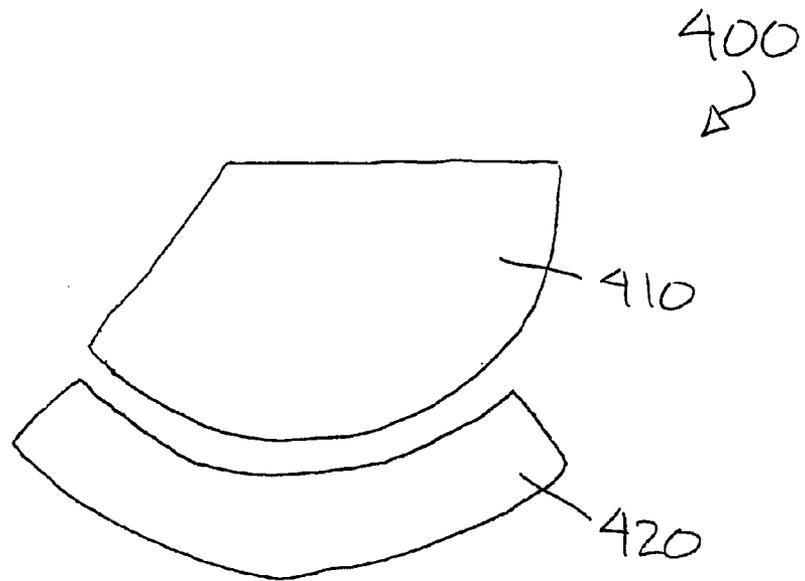


FIG. 5B

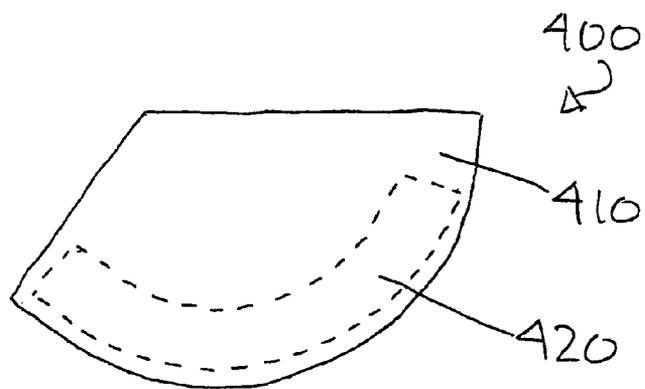


FIG. 5C

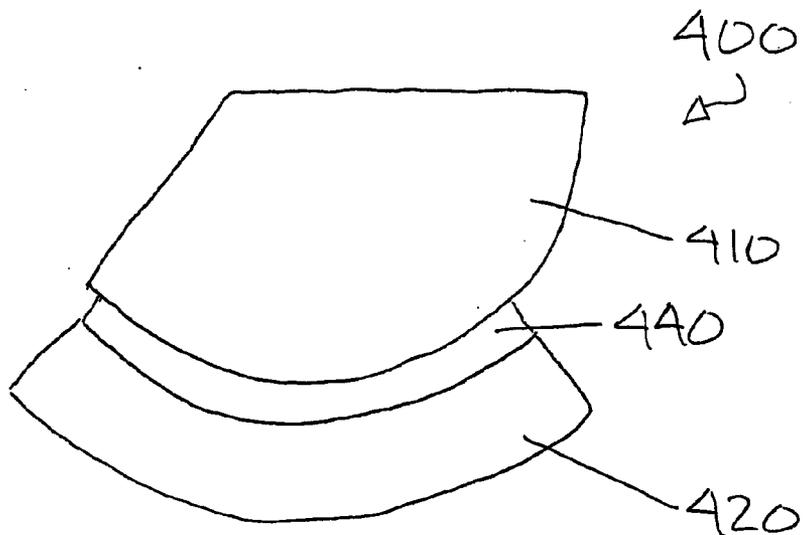


FIG. 5D

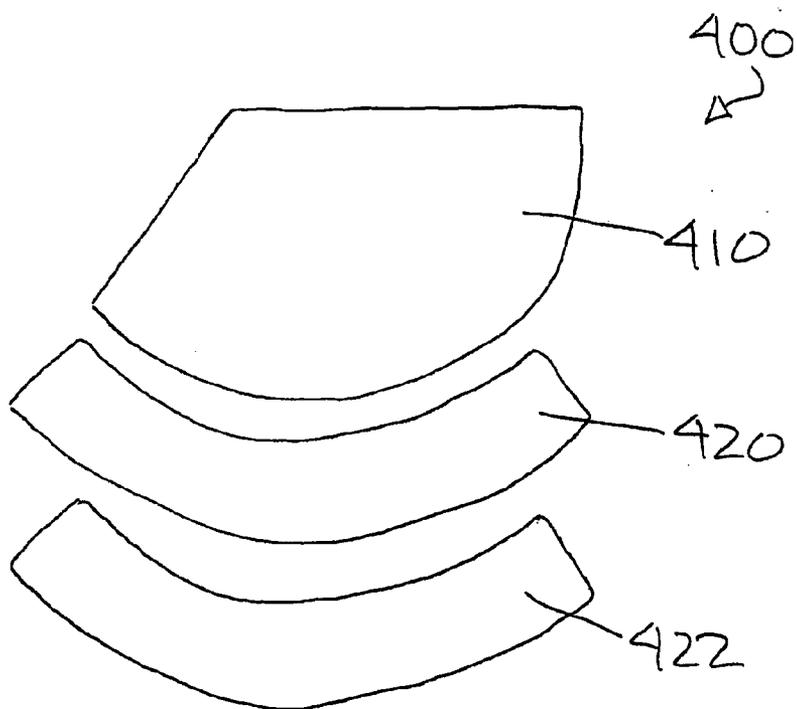


FIG. 5E

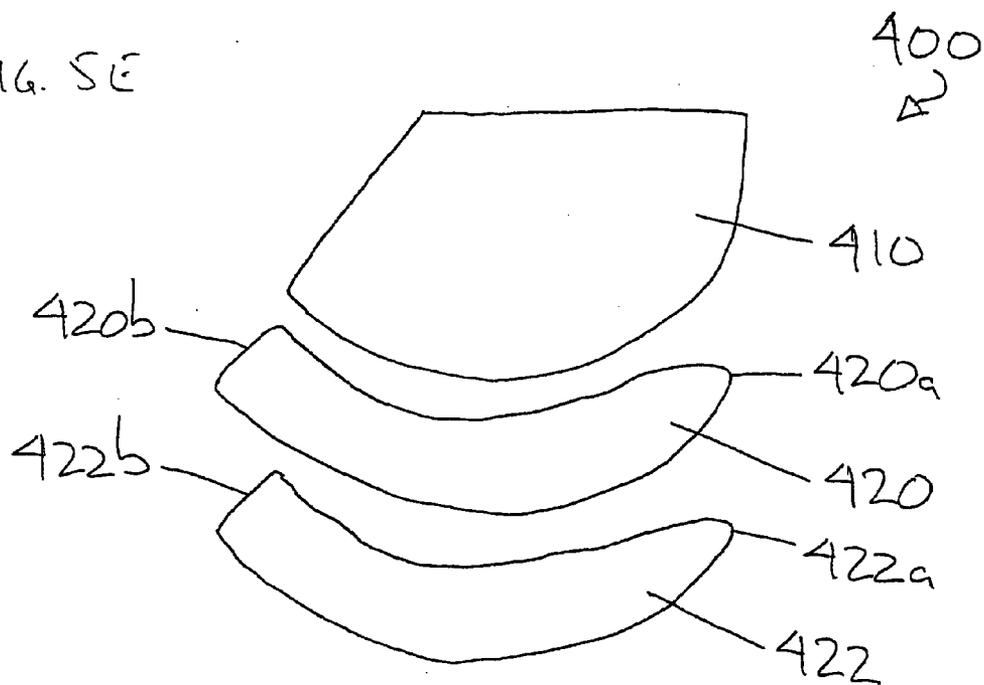


FIG. 5F

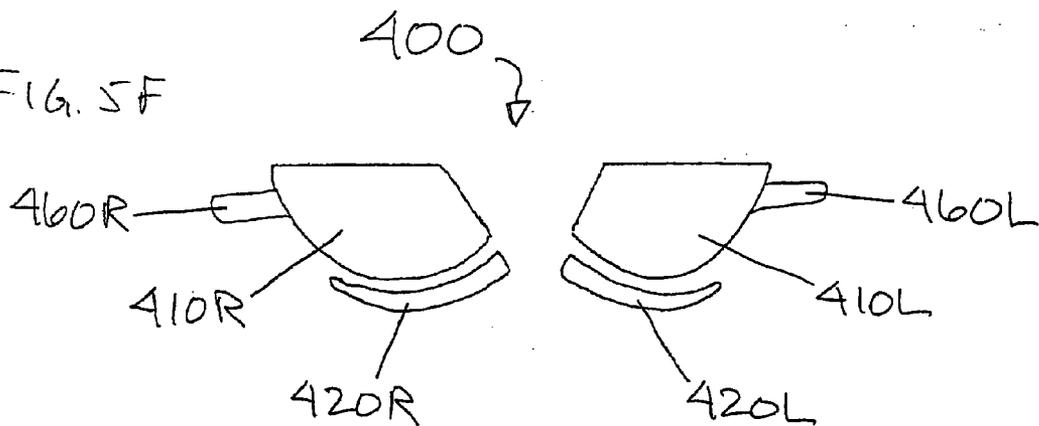


FIG. 5G

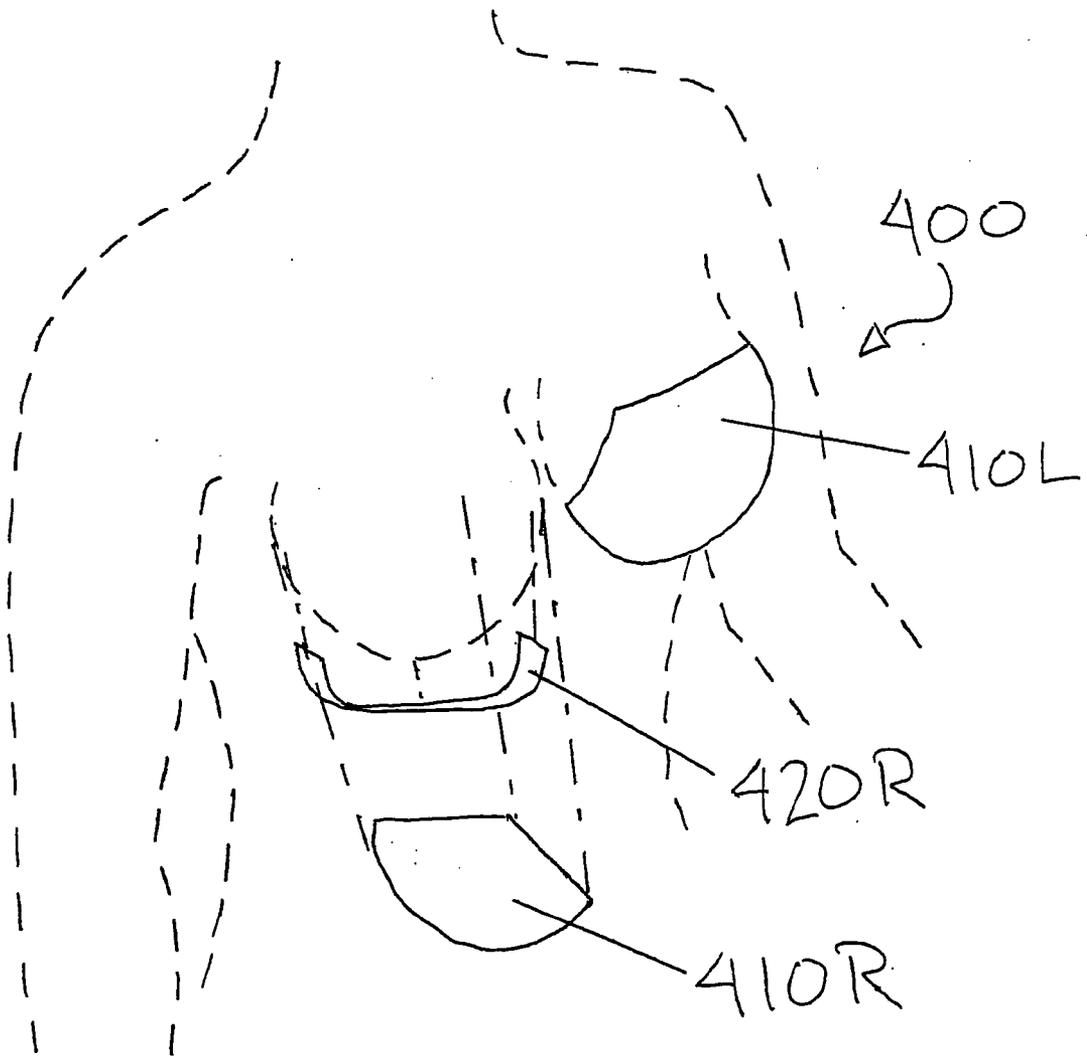


FIG. 6A

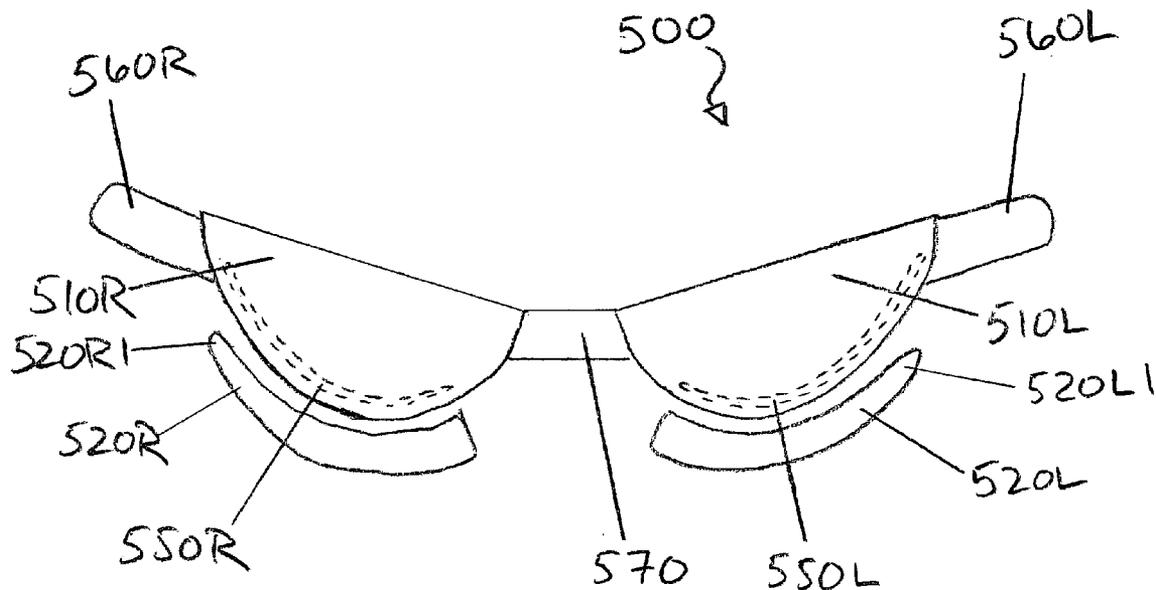


FIG. 6B

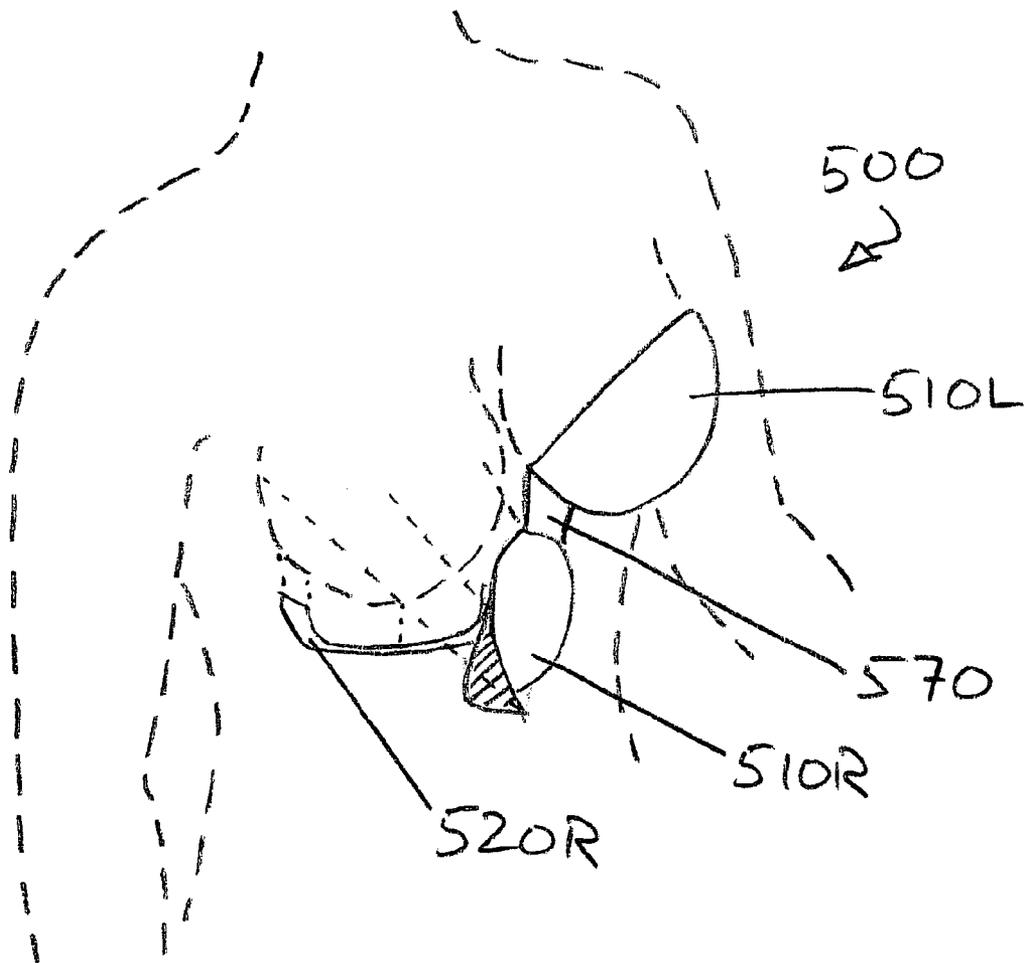


FIG. 7A

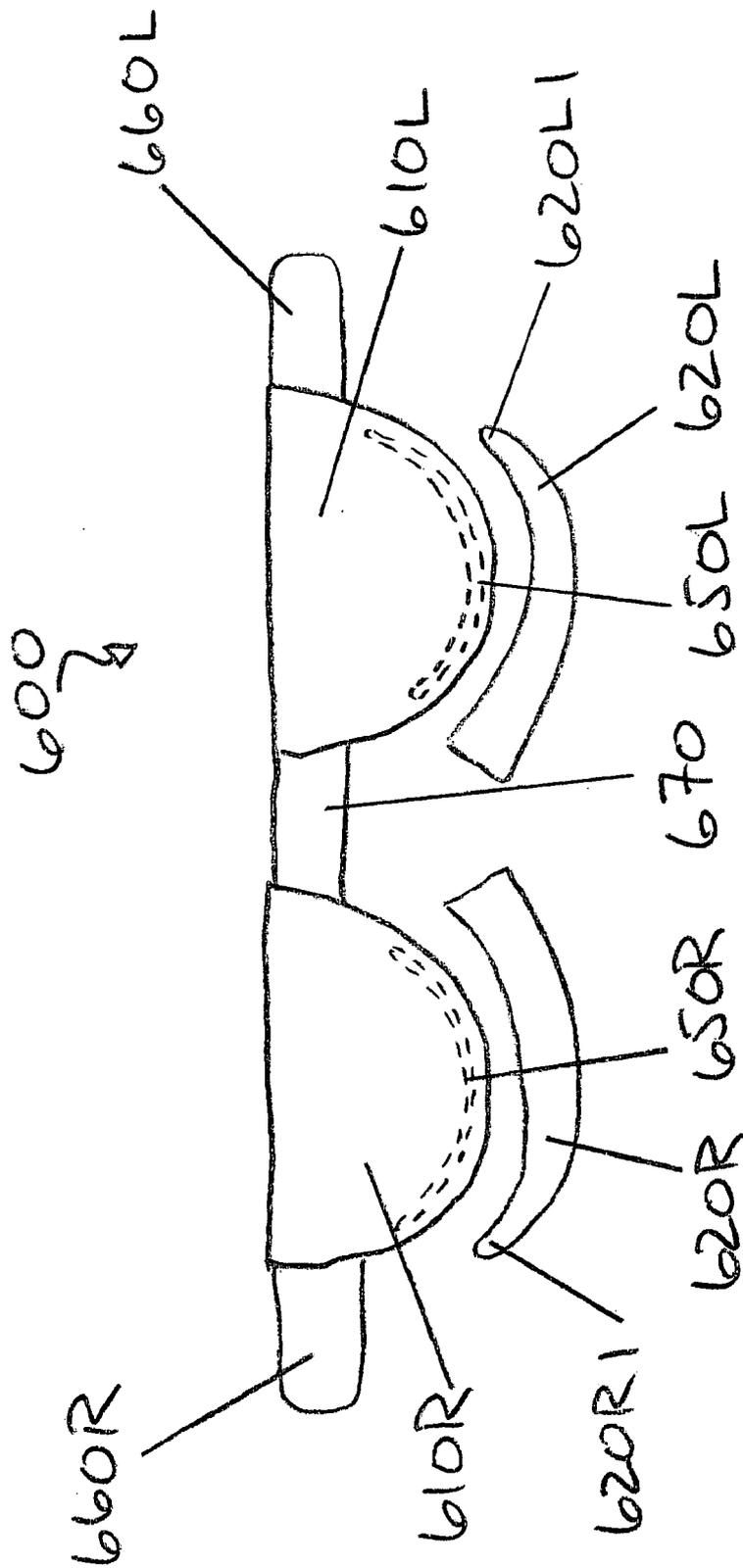
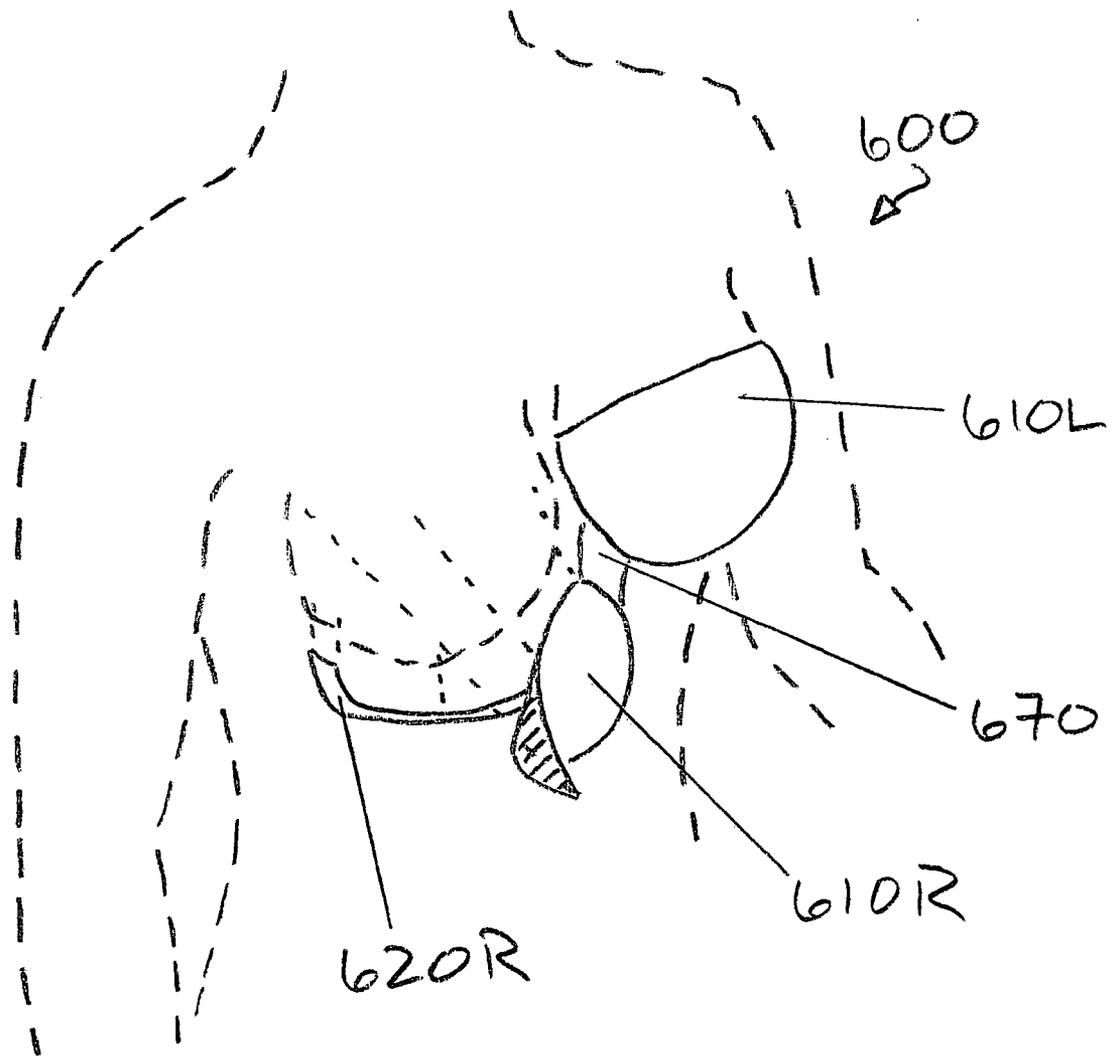


FIG. 7B



MULTI-PIECE BRA

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] The current application claims the benefit of co-pending U.S. application Ser. No. 10/937,907 filed Sep. 10, 2004, U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/502,014 filed Sep. 11, 2003, U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/511,880 filed Oct. 16, 2003, co-pending U.S. Design Patent Application No. 29/202,935 filed Apr. 7, 2004, and co-pending PCT Patent Application No. PCT/US2004/029750 filed Sep. 10, 2004, each of which is hereby incorporated herein by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002] (1). Technical Field

[0003] The present invention relates generally to the field of undergarments and more specifically to a backless and strapless multi-piece bra.

[0004] (2). Related Art

[0005] Bras have long been used to provide support to a wearer's breasts. However, traditional bras are unacceptable when worn with backless or shoulderless outer garments, as various parts, including their straps, will be visible. As a result, various backless and/or strapless bras have been developed for use with such outer garments.

[0006] For example, U.S. Pat. No. 6,780,081 to Chen et al. describes a backless, strapless bra having cups held to a wearer's breasts with an adhesive. However, the device of the Chen et al. patent utilizes a connector between the cups of the bra that is intended to provide cleavage to a user's breasts. As such, the device cannot be worn with outer garments having plunging necklines, as the connector and possibly the cups of the device will be visible. In addition, the device would provide little support for the underside of a wearer's breast.

[0007] Accordingly, a need exists for a bra that is backless and strapless and is capable of providing support and/or cleavage to a wearer's breasts while being usable with a wide range of revealing outer garments.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0008] The device of the present invention provides a backless, strapless bra that provides support and/or cleavage to a wearer's breasts and the components of which are not visible, even when worn with a wide variety of revealing outer garments. A first aspect of the invention provides a backless and strapless bra comprising a first cup member, a second cup member, a connecting member residing between the first and second cup members, and at least one support member for supporting an underside of a wearer's breast, wherein each cup member is unattached to any support member.

[0009] A second aspect of the invention provides a backless and strapless bra comprising at least one molded cup member for supporting a front surface of a wearer's breast and at least one support member for supporting an underside of a wearer's breast, wherein each cup member is unattached to any support member and any other cup member.

[0010] The foregoing and other features of the invention will be apparent from the following more particular description of embodiments of the invention.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0011] The embodiments of this invention will be described in detail, with reference to the following figures, wherein like designations denote like elements, and wherein:

[0012] FIGS. 1A-I show several views and embodiments of a multi-piece bra having a round cup according to the invention.

[0013] FIGS. 2A-F show several views and embodiments of a multi-piece bra having an oval cup according to the invention.

[0014] FIGS. 3A-F show several views and embodiments of a multi-piece bra having an "eye-shaped" cup according to the invention.

[0015] FIGS. 4A-H show several views and embodiments of a multi-piece bra having a half-round cup according to the invention.

[0016] FIGS. 5A-G show several views and embodiments of a multi-piece bra having a partial half-round push-up cup according to the invention.

[0017] FIGS. 6A-B show several views and embodiments of a three-piece bra having a "plunging" cup according to the invention.

[0018] FIGS. 7A-B show several views and embodiments of a three-piece bra having a full cup according to the invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0019] Referring to FIGS. 1A-B, a first embodiment of the invention is shown. FIG. 1A shows a front view of the device 1, comprising a round cup member 10 and a support member 20. Support member 20 is depicted as an elongate member having squared ends 20a, 20b. One or both ends 20a, 20b may similarly be rounded. Cup member 10 and support member 20 may each be composed of one or more of a number of materials, including, for example, cloth and silicone. An exemplary cloth material is a tricot available from MBK Enterprises, Inc. of Chatsworth, Calif., U.S.A. Optionally, cup member 10, support member 20, or both may be composed of a stretchable foam material. In addition, cup member 10 may include various devices common to the manufacture of bras, including, for example, padding to provide the appearance of a larger breast.

[0020] FIG. 1B shows a front view of device 1 as it would be applied to a wearer. Support member 20 resides along an underside of a wearer's breast while cup member 10 is placed along a front surface of the breast. While both cup member 10 and support member 20 are substantially flat before application, each conforms to the shape of a wearer's breast upon application. As shown, cup member 10 may partially or completely cover support member 20 when applied.

[0021] FIG. 1C shows device 1 with optional mesh member 40 connecting cup member 10 and support member 20.

Mesh member **40** may be of the same material or a different material as cup member **10** and support member **20**.

[0022] FIG. 1D shows device **1** having a first support member **20** and a second support member **22** residing below first support member, and each residing below cup member **10**. First and second support members may be of the same or different materials.

[0023] FIG. 1E shows device **1** of FIG. 1D with optionally rounded ends **20a**, **20b**, **22a**, **22b** on each of first support member **20** and second support member **22**. It should be appreciated that while each end of first support member **20** and second support member **22** is shown having a rounded shape, it is within the scope of the present invention that one end of either or both support members may be rounded while the other end is squared.

[0024] FIG. 1F shows a side view of device **1** as it would be located on a wearer's breast. Cup member **10** and support member **20** are secured to a wearer's breast by an adhesive **30** along an inner surface of each of cup member **10** and support member **20**. Adhesive **30** may be provided upon one or both of cup member **10** and support member **20** or it may be applied to the inner surfaces of each by a wearer prior to application of device **1**. Adhesive **30** may cover one or more portions or an entire interior surface of cup member **10** and support member **20**. Substances suitable for use as adhesive **30** include skin-sensitive, pressure-sensitive, hypoallergenic, acrylate adhesives that are non-toxic and non-irritating to a wearer's skin. Such adhesives are available from, for example, 3M Inc. of St. Paul Minn., U.S.A.

[0025] In a particularly preferred embodiment, adhesive **30** is a layer of silicone having properties making it adhesive or "tacky" to the touch. Such a material provides sufficient adhesion to a wearer's breast that cup member **10** and support member **20** are held in place and provide sufficient support to a wearer's breast but may be easily removed without causing discomfort to a wearer's skin. Optionally, cup member **10**, support member **20**, or both may be composed of such a silicone, obviating the need for a separate layer of adhesive **30**.

[0026] Support member **20** is an elongate member placed substantially along an underside of a breast, providing support in direction A similar to that of an underwire in a traditional bra. Cup member **10** is placed over a front surface of a breast, providing support in direction B, holding the breast toward the wearer's body. Optionally, a mesh member **40** may connect cup member **10** and support member **20**. Preferably, there is no adhesive **30** on an interior surface of mesh member **40**. As such, mesh member **40** may provide additional support to a breast while still allowing the independent movement of cup member **10** and support member **20**.

[0027] FIG. 1G shows a side view of device **1** as it would be located on a wearer's breast. First support member **20** is connected to cup member **10** and second support member **22** by first mesh member **40** and second mesh member **42**, respectively. Such an embodiment may be useful, for example, where a wearer requires additional support for the underside of a breast. As in FIG. 1F, adhesive **30** may be applied to a portion or an entire interior surface of cup member **10**, first support member **20**, and second support member **22**.

[0028] FIG. 1H shows a side view of device **1**, wherein cup member **10** is applied to cover support member **20**. As in FIGS. 1F-G, adhesive **30** may be applied to a portion or an entire interior surface of cup member **10** and support member **20**.

[0029] FIG. 1I shows a partially exploded side elevational view of device **1** as applied to a wearer (shown in phantom). Two cup members **10L**, **10R** are provided, one for each of a wearer's breasts. Right cup member **10R** and right support member **20R** are shown before application to the wearer's right breast. Right support member **20R** is to be applied to an underside of the wearer's right breast while right cup member **10R** is to be applied to a front surface of the wearer's right breast. Left cup member **10L** is shown applied to the wearer's left breast. As applied, left cup member **10L** covers left support member (not shown), which has been applied to an underside of the wearer's left breast. It should be understood, of course, that left cup member **10L** or any other cup member may similarly cover only a portion of a support member or none of the support member, depending, for example, on the size of a wearer's breast and/or the particular sites of application of the cup member and the support member.

[0030] While FIGS. 1A-I show cup member **10** having a substantially round shape, other shapes are possible and within the scope of the present invention. Such shapes include, for example, half-rounds, partial half-rounds, ovals, half-ovals, partial half-ovals, "eye" shapes, ellipses, and "plunging" cups. In addition, cup members **10** may be molded (i.e. having a pre-formed shape approximating that of a breast) or non-molded (i.e. having a flat shape prior to application to a breast). Exemplary embodiments are described below with reference to FIGS. 2A-F, 3A-F, 4A-H, 5A-G, 6A-E, and 7A-E.

[0031] Referring to FIGS. 2A-F, various embodiments of device **100** are shown, wherein cup member **110** has an oval shape. FIG. 2A shows a front view of device **100**, comprising an oval cup member **110** and a support member **120**. Cup member **110** and support member **120** may each be composed of one or more of a number of materials, including, for example, cloth and silicone.

[0032] FIG. 2B shows a front view of device **1** as it would be applied to a wearer. Support member **120** resides along an underside of a wearer's breast while cup member **110** is placed along a front surface of the breast. While both cup member **10** and support member **120** are substantially flat before application, each conforms to the shape of a wearer's breast upon application. As shown, cup member **110** may partially or completely cover support member **120** when applied.

[0033] FIG. 2C shows device **100** with optional mesh member **140** connecting cup member **110** and support member **120**. Mesh member **140** may be of the same material or a different material as cup member **110** and support member **120**.

[0034] FIG. 2D shows device **100** with a first support member **120** and a second support member **122** residing below first support member, and each residing below cup member **110**. First and second support members may be of the same or different materials.

[0035] FIG. 2E shows device **100** of FIG. 2D with optionally rounded ends **120a**, **120b**, **122a**, **122b** on each of

first support member **120** and second support member **122**. It should be appreciated that while each end of first support member **120** and second support member **122** is shown having a rounded shape, it is within the scope of the present invention that one end of either or both support members may be rounded while the other end is squared.

[0036] FIG. 2F shows a partially exploded side elevational view of device **100** as applied to a wearer (shown in phantom). Two cup members **110L**, **110R** are provided, one for each of a wearer's breasts. Right cup member **110R** and right support member **120R** are shown before application to the wearer's right breast. Right support member **120R** is to be applied to an underside of the wearer's right breast while right cup member **110R** is to be applied to a front surface of the wearer's right breast. Left cup member **110L** is shown applied to the wearer's left breast. As applied, left cup member **110L** covers left support member (not shown), which has been applied to an underside of the wearer's left breast. It should be understood, of course, that left cup member **110L** or any other cup member may similarly cover only a portion of a support member or none of the support member, depending, for example, on the size of a wearer's breast and/or the particular sites of application of the cup member and the support member.

[0037] Referring to FIGS. 3A-F, various embodiments of device **200** are shown, wherein cup member **210** has an exaggerated oval or "eye" shape. FIG. 3A shows a front view of the device **200**, comprising an "eye-shaped" cup member **210** and a support member **220**. Cup member **210** and support member **220** may each be composed of one or more of a number of materials, including, for example, cloth and silicone.

[0038] FIG. 3B shows a front view of device **200** as it would be applied to a wearer. Support member **220** resides along an underside of a wearer's breast while cup member **210** is placed along a front surface of the breast. While both cup member **210** and support member **220** are substantially flat before application, each conforms to the shape of a wearer's breast upon application. As shown, cup member **210** may partially or completely cover support member **220** when applied.

[0039] FIG. 3C shows device **200** with optional mesh member **240** connecting cup member **210** and support member **220**. Mesh member **240** may be of the same material or a different material as cup member **210** and support member **220**.

[0040] FIG. 3D shows device **200** with a first support member **220** and a second support member **222** residing below first support member, and each residing below cup member **210**. First and second support members may be of the same or different materials.

[0041] FIG. 3E shows device **200** of FIG. 3D with optionally rounded ends **220a**, **220b**, **222a**, **222b** on each of first support member **220** and second support member **222**. It should be appreciated that while each end of first support member **220** and second support member **222** is shown having a rounded shape, it is within the scope of the present invention that one end of either or both support members may be rounded while the other end is squared.

[0042] FIG. 3F shows a partially exploded side elevational view of device **200** as applied to a wearer (shown in

phantom). Two cup members **210L**, **210R** are provided, one for each of a wearer's breasts. Right cup member **210R** and right support member **220R** are shown before application to the wearer's right breast. Right support member **220R** is to be applied to an underside of the wearer's right breast while right cup member **210R** is to be applied to a front surface of the wearer's right breast. Left cup member **210L** is shown applied to the wearer's left breast. As applied, left cup member **210L** covers left support member (not shown), which has been applied to an underside of the wearer's left breast. It should be understood, of course, that left cup member **210L** or any other cup member may similarly cover only a portion of a support member or none of the support member, depending, for example, on the size of a wearer's breast and/or the particular sites of application of the cup member and the support member.

[0043] Referring to FIGS. 4A-H, various embodiments of device **300** are shown, wherein cup member **310** has a half-round shape, wherein cup member **310** is substantially U-shaped and a top portion of cup member **310** has sides that are substantially parallel. FIG. 4A shows a front view of the device **300**, comprising a half-round cup member **310** and a support member **320**. Cup member **310** and support member **320** may each be composed of one or more of a number of materials, including, for example, cloth and silicone.

[0044] FIG. 4B shows a front view of device **300** as it would be applied to a wearer. Support member **320** resides along an underside of a wearer's breast while cup member **310** is placed along a front surface of the breast. While both cup member **310** and support member **320** are substantially flat before application, each conforms to the shape of a wearer's breast upon application. As shown, cup member **310** may partially or completely cover support member **320** when applied.

[0045] FIG. 4C shows device **300** with optional mesh member **340** connecting cup member **310** and support member **320**. Mesh member **340** may be of the same material or a different material as cup member **310** and support member **320**.

[0046] FIG. 4D shows device **300** with a first support member **320** and a second support member **322** residing below first support member, and each residing below cup member **310**. First and second support members may be of the same or different materials.

[0047] FIG. 4E shows device **300** of FIG. 4D with optionally rounded ends **320a**, **320b**, **322a**, **322b** on each of first support member **320** and second support member **322**. It should be appreciated that while each end of first support member **320** and second support member **322** is shown having a rounded shape, it is within the scope of the present invention that one end of either or both support members may be rounded while the other end is squared.

[0048] FIG. 4F shows device **300** of FIG. 4A, wherein cup member **310** further comprises an underwire **350**. Such an embodiment may be desirable, for example, where a wearer desires more upward support of a breast than is provided by support member **320**.

[0049] FIG. 4G shows a front view of device **300** as it would be applied to a wearer. Support member **320** resides along an underside of a wearer's breast while cup member **310**, which includes underwire **350**, is placed along a front

surface of the breast. While both cup member 310 and support member 320 are substantially flat before application, each conforms to the shape of a wearer's breast upon application. As shown, cup member 310 may partially or completely cover support member 320 when applied.

[0050] FIG. 4H shows a partially exploded side elevational view of device 300 as applied to a wearer (shown in phantom). Two cup members 310L, 310R are provided, one for each of a wearer's breasts. Right cup member 310R and right support member 320R are shown before application to the wearer's right breast. Right support member 320R is to be applied to an underside of the wearer's right breast while right cup member 310R is to be applied to a front surface of the wearer's right breast. Left cup member 310L is shown applied to the wearer's left breast. As applied, left cup member 310L covers left support member (not shown), which has been applied to an underside of the wearer's left breast. It should be understood, of course, that left cup member 310L or any other cup member may similarly cover only a portion of a support member or none of the support member, depending, for example, on the size of a wearer's breast and/or the particular sites of application of the cup member and the support member.

[0051] Referring to FIGS. 5A-G, various embodiments of device 400 are shown, wherein cup member 410 has a partial half-round shape, designed to raise and move a wearer's breast to a medial position, thus providing cleavage. FIG. 5A shows a front view of the device 400, comprising a partial half-round cup member 410 and a support member 420. Cup member 410 and support member 420 may each be composed of one or more of a number of materials, including, for example, cloth and silicone.

[0052] FIG. 5B shows a front view of device 400 as it would be applied to a wearer. Support member 420 resides along an underside of a wearer's breast while cup member 410 is placed along a front surface of the breast. While both cup member 410 and support member 420 are substantially flat before application, each conforms to the shape of a wearer's breast upon application. As shown, cup member 410 may partially or completely cover support member 420 when applied.

[0053] FIG. 5C shows device 400 with optional mesh member 440 connecting cup member 410 and support member 420. Mesh member 440 may be of the same material or a different material as cup member 410 and support member 420.

[0054] FIG. 5D shows device 400 with a first support member 420 and a second support member 422 residing below first support member, and each residing below cup member 410. First and second support members may be of the same or different materials.

[0055] FIG. 5E shows device 400 of FIG. 5D with optionally rounded ends 420a, 420b, 422a, 422b on each of first support member 420 and second support member 422. It should be appreciated that while each end of first support member 420 and second support member 422 is shown having a rounded shape, it is within the scope of the present invention that one end of either or both support members may be rounded while the other end is squared.

[0056] FIG. 5F shows device 400 comprising a pair of cup members 410R, 410L and support members 420R, 420L as

well as optional tab members 460R, 460L located on or adjacent a lateral surface of each cup member 410R, 410L. That is, tab members 460R, 460L may be attached to cup members 410R, 410L by any means known in the art or may be applied as independent members to areas adjacent cup members 410R, 410L. Tab members 460R, 460L provide additional support to a wearer's breast by further securing cup member 410R, 410L to a side of the wearer's body. Accordingly, an adhesive such as that described above may be applied to a portion or an entire interior surface of tab member 460R, 460L. Tab members 460R, 460L may be of the same or a different material than cup member 410R, 410L and support member 420R, 420L.

[0057] FIG. 5G shows a partially exploded side elevational view of device 400 as applied to a wearer (shown in phantom). Two cup members 410L, 410R are provided, one for each of a wearer's breasts. Right cup member 410R and right support member 420R are shown before application to the wearer's right breast. Right support member 420R is to be applied to an underside of the wearer's right breast while right cup member 410R is to be applied to a front surface of the wearer's right breast. Left cup member 410L is shown applied to the wearer's left breast. As applied, left cup member 410L covers left support member (not shown), which has been applied to an underside of the wearer's left breast. It should be understood, of course, that left cup member 410L or any other cup member may similarly cover only a portion of a support member or none of the support member, depending, for example, on the size of a wearer's breast and/or the particular sites of application of the cup member and the support member.

[0058] Referring to FIGS. 6A-B, various embodiments of device 500 are shown, wherein cup members 510L, 510R are "plunging" cups. FIG. 6A shows a front view of the device 500, comprising a pair of plunging cup members 510L, 510R and a pair of support members 520L, 520R. Cup members 510L, 510R are each joined at a medial surface by a connecting member 570. Cup members 510L, 510R, support members 520L, 520R, and connecting member 570 may each be composed of one or more of a number of materials, including, for example, cloth and silicone. Each of cup members 510L, 510R, support members 520L, 520R, and connecting member 570 may be of the same or different materials.

[0059] Support members 520L, 520R may each optionally include one or more rounded edges, as described above and shown here as 520L1 and 520R1. Each cup member 510L, 510R may optionally further comprise an underwire 550L, 550R and/or a tab member 560L, 560R. Tab members 560L, 560R may be located on or adjacent a lateral surface of each cup member 510L, 510R. That is, tab members 560L, 560R may be attached to cup members 510L, 510R by any means known in the art or may be applied as independent members to areas adjacent cup members 510L, 510R. Tab members 560L, 560R provide additional support to a wearer's breast by further securing cup member 510L, 510R to a side of the wearer's body. Accordingly, an adhesive such as that described above may be applied to a portion or an entire interior surface of tab member 560L, 560R. Tab members 560L, 560R may be of the same or a different material than cup members 510L, 510R, support members 520L, 520R, and connecting member 570.

[0060] FIG. 6B shows a partially exploded side elevational view of device 500 as applied to a wearer (shown in phantom). Right cup member 510R and right support member 520R are shown before application to the wearer's right breast. Right support member 520R is to be applied to an underside of the wearer's right breast while right cup member 510R is to be applied to a front surface of the wearer's right breast. Left cup member 510L is shown applied to the wearer's left breast. As applied, left cup member 510L covers left support member (not shown), which has been applied to an underside of the wearer's left breast. It should be understood, of course, that left cup member 510L or any other cup member may similarly cover only a portion of a support member or none of the support member, depending, for example, on the size of a wearer's breast and/or the particular sites of application of the cup member and the support member.

[0061] Referring to FIGS. 7A-B, various embodiments of device 600 are shown, wherein cup members 610L, 610R have a full cup shape, designed to provide additional support and coverage to a wearer's breast. FIG. 7A shows a front view of the device 600, comprising a pair of full cup members 610L, 610R and a pair of support members 620L, 620R. Cup members 610L, 610R are each joined at a medial surface by a connecting member 670. Cup members 610L, 610R, support members 620L, 620R, and connecting member 670 may each be composed of one or more of a number of materials, including, for example, cloth and silicone. Each of cup members 610L, 610R, support members 620L, 620R, and connecting member 670 may be of the same or different materials.

[0062] Support members 620L, 620R may each optionally include one or more rounded edges, as described above and shown here as 620L1 and 620R1. Each cup member 610L, 610R may optionally further comprise an underwire 650L, 650R and/or a tab member 660L, 660R. Tab members 660L, 660R may be located on or adjacent a lateral surface of each cup member 610L, 610R. That is, tab members 660L, 660R may be attached to cup members 610L, 610R by any means known in the art or may be applied as independent members to areas adjacent cup members 610L, 610R. Tab members 660L, 660R provide additional support to a wearer's breast by further securing cup member 610L, 610R to a side of the wearer's body. Accordingly, an adhesive such as that described above may be applied to a portion or an entire interior surface of tab member 660L, 660R. Tab members 660L, 660R may be of the same or a different material than cup members 610L, 610R, support members 620L, 620R, and connecting member 670.

[0063] FIG. 7B shows a partially exploded side elevational view of device 600 as applied to a wearer (shown in phantom). Right cup member 610R and right support member 620R are shown before application to the wearer's right breast. Right support member 620R is to be applied to an underside of the wearer's right breast while right cup member 610R is to be applied to a front surface of the wearer's right breast. Left cup member 610L is shown applied to the wearer's left breast. As applied, left cup member 610L covers left support member (not shown), which has been applied to an underside of the wearer's left breast. It should be understood, of course, that left cup member 610L or any other cup member may similarly cover only a portion of a support member or none of the support

member, depending, for example, on the size of a wearer's breast and/or the particular sites of application of the cup member and the support member.

[0064] While this invention has been described in conjunction with the specific embodiments outlined above, it is evident that many alternatives, modifications and variations will be apparent to those skilled in the art. Accordingly, the embodiments of the invention as set forth above are intended to be illustrative, not limiting. Various changes may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as defined in the following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A backless and strapless bra comprising:
 - a first cup member;
 - a second cup member;
 - a connecting member residing between the first and second cup members; and
 - at least one support member for supporting an underside of a wearer's breast,
 wherein each cup member is unattached to any support member.
2. The bra of claim 1, wherein each cup member is one of a plunging cup and a full cup.
3. The bra of claim 1, wherein the support member is an elongate member residing on an underside of a wearer's breast.
4. The bra of claim 1, wherein at least one end of the support member is rounded.
5. The bra of claim 1, wherein the material of the cup members and the support member includes at least one of a cloth or a silicone.
6. The bra of claim 5, wherein the cloth is a tricote.
7. The bra of claim 1, further comprising an adhesive for securing at least one of a cup member or a support member to a wearer's breast.
8. The bra of claim 7, wherein the adhesive is pressure sensitive.
9. The bra of claim 8, wherein the adhesive is applied to a portion of at least one of a cup member or a support member.
10. The bra of claim 1, wherein at least one cup member includes an underwire.
11. The bra of claim 1, wherein at least one cup member is padded.
12. The bra of claim 1, wherein at least one cup member is molded.
13. The bra of claim 1, further comprising at least one support tab.
14. The bra of claim 13, wherein the at least one support tab is attached to the cup member.
15. A backless and strapless bra comprising:
 - at least one molded cup member for supporting a front surface of a wearer's breast; and
 - at least one support member for supporting an underside of a wearer's breast,
 wherein each cup member is unattached to any support member and any other cup member.
16. The bra of claim 15, wherein a shape of the at least one molded cup member is selected from a group consisting of

round, oval, "eye-shaped," half-round, half-oval, partial half-round, partial half-oval, and elliptical.

17. The bra of claim 15, wherein the support member is an elongate member residing on an underside of a wearer's breast.

18. The bra of claim 15, wherein at least one end of the support member is rounded.

19. The bra of claim 15, wherein a first support member and a second support member reside on an underside of a wearer's breast, the second support member being more proximal than the first support member.

20. The bra of claim 19, wherein at least one end of at least one of the first support member and the second support member is rounded.

21. The bra of claim 15, wherein the material of at least one of the molded cup member or the support member includes at least one of a cloth and a silicone.

22. The bra of claim 21, wherein the cloth is a tricote.

23. The bra of claim 15, further comprising an adhesive for securing at least one of the molded cup member or the support member to a wearer's breast.

24. The bra of claim 23, wherein the adhesive is pressure sensitive.

25. The bra of claim 23, wherein the adhesive is applied to a portion of at least one of the molded cup member or the support member.

26. The bra of claim 15, wherein the cup member includes at least one underwire.

27. The bra of claim 15, wherein the cup member is padded.

28. The bra of claim 15, further comprising at least one support tab.

29. The bra of claim 28, wherein the at least one support tab is attached to the at least one molded cup member.

30. The bra of claim 15, wherein the at least one molded cup member and the at least one support member comprise sufficient adhesion to secure the at least one molded cup member and the at least one support member to a wearer's breast.

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