

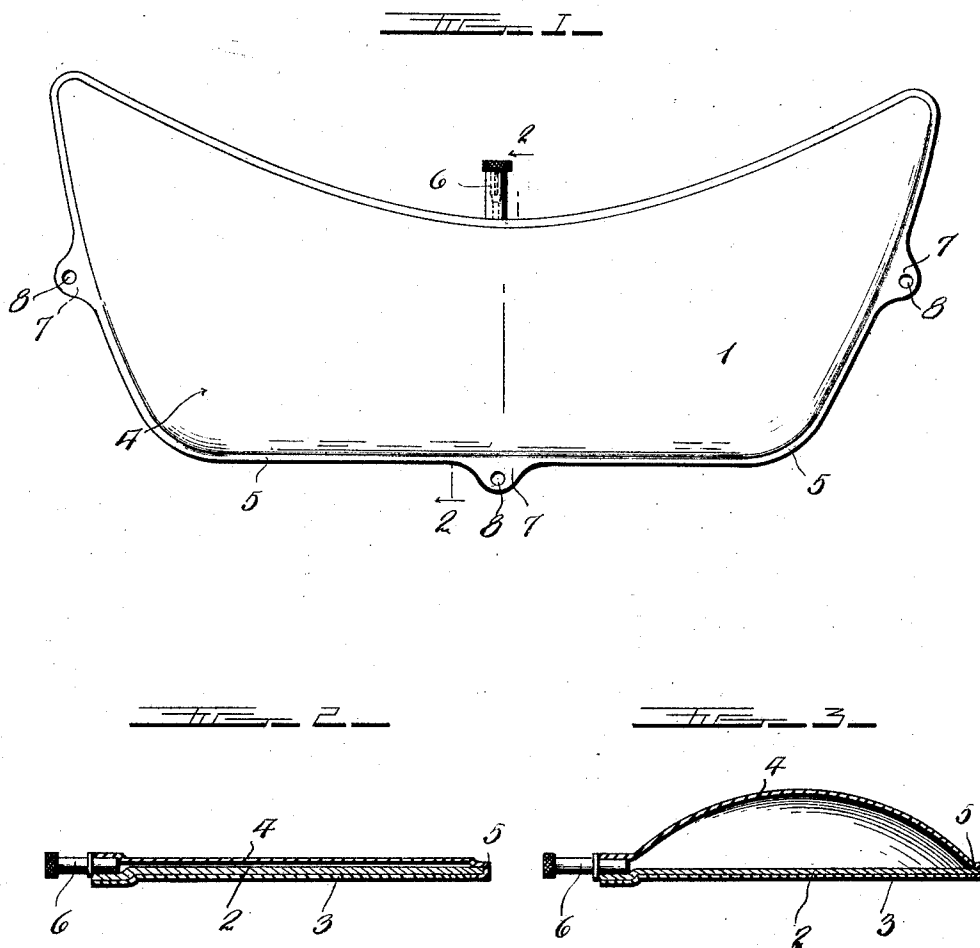
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J. C. KNAPP ET AL

STOMACH PAD

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Inventors
JOHN C. KNAPP,
JOHN J. DONNELLY
AND
D. A. CANNATELLA
By *E. H. Bond*
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN C. KNAPP, JOHN J. DONNELLY, AND DOMINICK A. CANNATELLA, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

STOMACH PAD.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOHN C. KNAPP, JOHN J. DONNELLY, and DOMINICK A. CANNATELLA, citizens of the United States, residing at Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Stomach Pads, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in stomach pads, and it has for its objects among others to provide an inflated air pressure pad, composed of suitable material, light and flexible, vulcanized or molded, and having placed therein, any flexible or semiflexible material to act as a permanent backing in order that the pad may be perfectly flat on one side if so desired, i. e. the side resting against the corset or supporter used for that particular case.

The pad is made to conform to, and retain any shape, and may be adjusted to any part of the body to exert a maximum pressure and support, with minimum discomfort. An additional wall for the back of the pad is also employed, this being composed of rubber, any suitable rubber material, or composition of rubber; this additional wall may be constructed either with, or without the flexible material as the case may require. The pad is made any size or shape, according to the requirements of each individual case, the size and shape being regulated by individual requirements. The front of the pad is to be made of suitable rubber material in order that it may be inflated to the desired height. A valve is situated at any desired point on the pad which is most convenient to the wearer. The pressure of the pad is controlled by the amount of inflation. The pad can be worn under any corset, abdominal support, or held in place in any suitable appliance, which may be most convenient to the wearer. Suitable eyelets of any material are placed at any desired point in order to fasten the pad.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will hereinafter appear and the novel features thereof will be particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

The invention, in its preferred form, is clearly illustrated in the accompanying

drawing, which, with the numerals of reference marked thereon, form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a face view of our improved pad.

Figure 2 is a section as on the line 2—2 of Figure 1, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Figure 3 is a similar view showing the same inflated.

Like numerals of reference indicate like parts throughout the different views.

Referring to the drawings, 1 designates the pad in its entirety. It comprises a back member 2 of suitable material, such as aluminum, substantially flat, and designed to remain so in use, not being changed to any appreciable extent when the pad is inflated.

The back member 2 is enclosed entirely within the pad, being covered on its outer face with rubber 3, as seen in Figures 2 and 3, the rubber being cemented or otherwise affixed thereto. The rubber is continued to form the front of the pad, as seen at 4, being intumed, as seen at 5, around the edge of the back member 2 and embracing the same closely. Thus a pad is provided that is composed all of rubber upon its exposed surfaces, the front portion 4 only of which, however, is designed to be inflated.

The pad may be inflated by any suitable manner. In the present instance a tube 6 is shown held in the pad, air-tight, by vulcanization or any other way, and provided with a valve of any well known or preferred type, so that the pad may be inflated to the desired extent. This tube is preferably arranged at the top of the pad in the center, the top edge of the pad being concaved, as seen in Figure 1.

In Figure 1 is shown the pad as provided with tabs or the like 7 having openings 8 which may or may not be provided with eyelets. These openings serve to receive ribbons or other means for fastening the pad in place upon the person, if desired.

When inflated the front, which is the part of the pad that comes in contact with the stomach, will be inflated as seen in Figure 3, the inflation being more or less as circumstances require, generally about one and a

half inches in an ordinary sized pad, the front only being inflated, the back remaining substantially flat. The pad may be raised to any desired height to suit the conditions of use.

Such a pad, when used in cases of ptosis of stomach, intestine or kidney, takes all strain from the abdominal region and insures against its rupture, either in whole or in part; during any sudden cases of gastroptosis or general visceral ptosis special attention must be given the artificial support of the abdomen. Such a pad is not burdensome to the patient, and it does not interfere with the routine habits of life. Where any irritation to the skin may arise from use of the pad, due to the rubber coming in direct contact with the body, the pad is to be covered with a suitable material that will absorb perspiration and so eliminate all further irritation. Such a pad can be worn indefinitely without any discomfort to the wearer, and fulfills every requirement, and at the same time the wearer is not conscious of the necessity of wearing a hard and burdensome pad for his or her condition.

Modifications in detail may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention or sacrificing any of its advantages.

What is claimed as new is:—

1. An inflatable stomach pad of elongated form embodying a rubber outer wall and a practically inflexible back member enclosed within the same and affixed to the adjacent wall thereof, and means inserted in one of the longer sides of the pad for inflating the same, the pad being provided with integral marginal means for its attachment to the body of a person.

2. An inflatable stomach pad of elongated form embodying a rubber outer wall and a practically inflexible back member enclosed within the same and affixed to the adjacent wall thereof, means inserted in one of the longer sides of the pad for inflating the same, and marginal tabs having openings.

3. An inflatable stomach pad of elongated form embodying a rubber outer wall and a practically inflexible back member enclosed within the same and affixed to the adjacent wall thereof, with the marginal edge of the back member tightly embraced by the rubber enclosing wall and means for inflating said pad.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures.

JOHN C. KNAPP.

JOHN J. DONNELLY.

DOMINICK A. CANNATELLA.