Nov. 9, 1943. L. I. BLACKBURN ET AL 2,333,839

SURGICAL SUPPORT

Filed Dec. 5, 1941

Fig. 1.

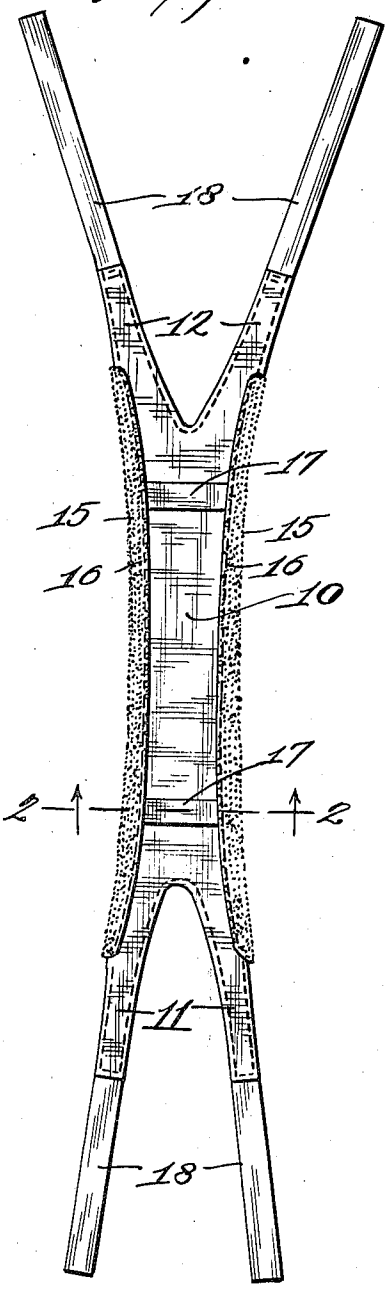


Fig. 3.

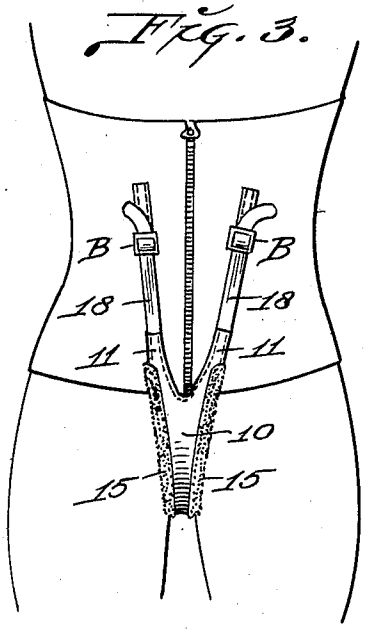


Fig. 4.

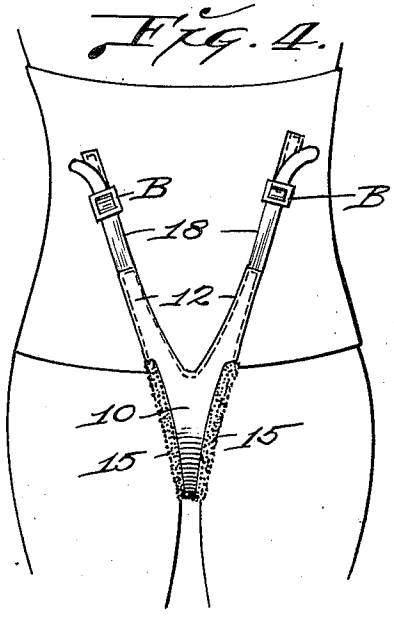
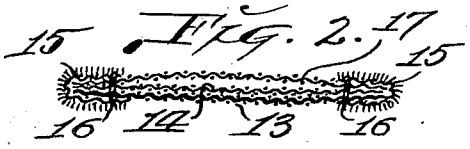


Fig. 2.



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SURGICAL SUPPORT

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Los Angeles, Calif.

Application December 5, 1941, Serial No. 421,703

1 Claim. (Cl. 128—290)

Our invention relates to a surgical support and has for its principal object to provide a relatively simple, practical and convenient support, especially designed to be worn by females for the firm and helpful support of prolapsed abdominal organs, or those organs which tend to prolapse, for instance, the uterus, bladder, lower colon and rectum.

Further objects of our invention are, to provide a surgical bandage of the character referred to that may be worn with the entire comfort of the wearer, and which may be easily and conveniently adjusted so as to exert an appreciable and desired degree of lifting effect to the lower portion of the wearer's abdomen and the organs therein, and further, to provide the main body of the support with simple and efficient means for receiving and holding in place, a hernia pad, a protective member such as a napkin, or a catamenial pad.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, our invention consists in certain novel features of construction and arrangement of parts which will be hereinafter more fully described and claimed and illustrated in the accompanying drawing in which:

Fig. 1 is plan view of a surgical support constructed in accordance with our invention.

Figure 2 is a cross-sectional view at line 2—2 in Figure 1.

Fig. 3 is a front elevational view of a portion of a woman's body and showing the support in proper position therefrom.

Fig. 4 is rear elevational view of a portion of a woman's body and showing the rear portion of the support.

Referring by numerals to the accompanying drawing, 10 designates a strap or bandage like member approximately eighteen or twenty inches in length and having a width of approximately three inches at its center.

From its center the strap gradually increases in width toward its ends and the latter are bifurcated to form diverging front straps 11 and rear straps 12. The divergence of the rear straps 12 is somewhat greater than that of the front straps 11.

Strap 10 is composed of an under layer of firmly woven fabric 13, such as coutil, and an upper layer of soft, flexible fabric 14, such as canton flannel. The under layer of coutil or other firmly woven fabric imparts to the support of the desired degree of body and stiffness and enables said support to maintain its proper shape while in use.

Overlying the side edges of the layers of fabric 13 and 14 forming the body of the strap are covered with strips of fabric 15 having a soft nap or pile such as velvet, plush or the like, which together with the upper layer 14 of soft flexible fabric produces a comfortable effect upon the wearer's skin. These strips 15 are secured to the fabric layers 14 and 14 by rows of stitching 16.

Positioned on top of the upper layer 14 of the body 10, at short distances inwardly from the bifurcated ends thereof, are transversely disposed straps 17 of cotton tape or webbing which serve to retain in position on top of the supporting strap, articles such as a hernia pad or a napkin. The ends of these straps underlie the edging strips 15 and are secured thereto and the strap 10 by the stitching 16.

Secured to the ends of the straps 11 and 12 are short straps 18 of suitable webbing, which when the support is worn are adjustably attached to buckles B that are secured on the front and rear sides of the wearer's girdle or corset, preferably at points slightly above the waistline as illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4.

When our improved support is in position for use the intermediate portion of member 10 passes through the wearer's crotch with the diverging end strap 10 and the straps 18 that are connected thereto, extending upwardly over the medial line of the lower portion of the abdomen of the wearer and with the widely diverging strips 12 and straps 18 that are connected thereto, extending upwardly on the medial portion of the wearer's back.

In applying the support to the body, the straps 18 are adjusted upwardly through the buckles B so that the member 10 normally exerts a certain degree of upward pull or lift on the lower portion of the abdomen thereby lifting and supporting any prolapsed organ or organs, and at the same time firmly holding in proper place any organ or organs that may tend to prolapse.

The degree of upward pull and lifting effect may be accurately regulated by adjustment of the straps 11 in buckles B.

Thus it will be seen that we have provided a surgical support that is simple in construction, inexpensive of manufacture and very effective in performing its intended functions.

It will be understood that minor changes in size, form and construction of the various parts of our improved surgical support may be made and substituted for those herein shown and described without departing from the spirit of our invention, the scope of which is set forth in the following claim.

We claim as our invention:

A surgical support comprising an elongated body member which gradually increases in width

toward its ends, both ends of said body member being bifurcated to form pairs of straps, extension straps secured to the ends of said diverging straps, transverse straps overlying the upper side of the body member near the ends thereof, the ends of which transverse straps are secured to said body member adjacent its side edges, strips of velvet-like material secured to the sides of said body member and overlying the upper and lower faces thereof adjacent its edges, and which strips extend from the diverging straps at one end of the body member to the diverging straps at the other end.

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