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(54) Title: INFANT HIP JOINT POSITIONING DEVICE AND ASSOCIATED METHODS

Fig. 16

(57) Abstract: A device and method are provided for positioning an infant's hips, and for maintaining the hip joint in a physiological position, during early months of life. The hip-positioning device includes a flexible base having a pair of opposed, outwardly extending side portions. The side portions are dimensioned for supporting thighs of an infant at an acute angle greater than zero relative to a dorsal plane of the infant, with knees of the infant in a flexed position. The base further has a downwardly extending, generally central portion that is adapted for positioning between the infant thighs and dimensioned for retaining the infant thighs in an abducted position. The device additionally includes an element for retaining the base on the infant.
A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

A61F 5/01(2006.01)i, A61F 13/06(2006.01)i, A61L 15/20(2006.01)i, A61F 5/04(2006.01)i

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
A61F 5/01; A61F 5/02; A61F 5/00; A61F 13/16

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
Korean utility models and applications for utility models
Japanese utility models and applications for utility models

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)
eKOMPASS(KIPO internal) & Keywords: hip-positioning device, flexed position, abducted position

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category*</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>US 05618264 A (Nectar D. Vasquez) 08 April 1997. See the whole document.</td>
<td>1-14</td>
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<td>A</td>
<td>US 04964058 A (Michael Livny) 23 October 1990. See the whole document.</td>
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<td>A</td>
<td>US 03759252 A (Seymour S. Berman) 18 September 1973. See the whole document.</td>
<td>1-14</td>
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<td>A</td>
<td>US 04574700 A (Ulf Wellershans) 11 March 1986. See the whole document.</td>
<td>1-14</td>
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</table>

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

Date of the actual completion of the international search
14 DECEMBER 2011

Date of mailing of the international search report
14 DECEMBER 2011

Name and mailing address of the ISA/KR
Korean Intellectual Property Office
Government Complex-Daejeon, 189 Cheongsa-ro, Seo-gu, Daejeon 302-701, Republic of Korea
Facsimile No. 82-42-472-7140

Authorized officer
CHANG, BONG HO
Telephone No. 82-42-481-3353

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 2009)
Box No. II  Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.: 15  
   because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

   The claim pertains to a method for preventing or treating hip dysplasia in an infant, and thus relates to a subject matter which the International Searching Authority is not required to search, under Article 17(2)(a)(i) of the PCT and Rule 39.1(iv) of the regulations under the PCT.

2. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
   because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
   because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III  Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.

2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest  ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.

☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant’s protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.

☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

Form PCT/ISA/210 (continuation of first sheet (2)) (July 2009)
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<th>Patent family member(s)</th>
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<tr>
<td>US 05618264 A</td>
<td>08.04.1997</td>
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<td>18.09.1973</td>
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<td>US 04574790 A</td>
<td>11.03.1986</td>
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