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(54) Irrigation system comprising dual pumps

Bewässerungssystem mit Doppelpumpen

Système d'irrigation comprenant des pompes doubles

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Description

Technical Field

[0001] The present invention relates to an irrigation system, comprising a reservoir for an irrigation liquid, a probe for arrangement in a user, and a control unit. The irrigation system is particularly intended for rectal irrigation, and is suitable for self-administration of an irrigation liquid.

Background of the Invention

[0002] The present invention relates to an irrigation device. Administering an irrigation liquid is a common medical procedure whereby liquid is injected into a bodily cavity, such as into the rectum and lower intestine of a patient in order to induce bowel movement. The need for such a procedure typically arises in patients suffering from certain physical ailments in which voluntary bowel control is impaired or when the bowel needs to be cleaned before e.g. a colonoscopy or a surgical operation. To this end, irrigation systems may be used e.g. by people suffering from spinal cord injuries, spina bifida or multiple sclerosis. For such users, irrigation may improve quality of life by preventing constipation, reducing time spent for bowel emptying procedures, reducing fecal incontinence, and by increasing independency in general.

[0003] Irrigation is nowadays often performed outside medical attendance premises, such as in the patient's home, and is also often performed by the patient himself, i.e. by self-administration. Hereby, the patient need to do multiple tasks at the same time, or immediately following on each other, such as inserting the probe in a correct position, adequately fixating the probe in the bodily cavity, enabling the liquid to be discharged for irrigation and discharge a correct dose of irrigation liquid, and removing the probe after use. Further, many of the users of irrigation systems have reduced dexterity, which makes the operation even more cumbersome.

[0004] It is further of importance that the irrigation system is of a limited size, and portable. Portability of the irrigation system is important to disabled persons who are not hospitalised or bed-ridden if they are to live as normal a life as possible. This is particularly important if they travel away from their home, for instance, to someone else's home or if they stay in a hotel. In this situation, they need to be able to deal with their bowel function easily.

[0005] Various irrigation systems are known in the art, such as is disclosed in WO 2008/087220, WO 2009/092380, WO 03/030969, WO 2011/023196 and WO 03/030968. However, despite the attempts to make these devices user friendly, all of these irrigation devices are still relatively complicated to use, especially for self-administration of the irrigation liquid, and also, most of these known devices are made of many different components and are relatively costly to produce.

[0006] There is therefore a need for an irrigation device which can be used safely, easily and conveniently for self-administration of the irrigation liquid, and which can be produced in a cost-efficient way.

Summary of the Invention

[0007] In view of the above mentioned need, a general object of the present invention is to provide an irrigation system which alleviates the above-discussed problems of the prior art, and at least partly fulfils the above-discussed needs.

[0008] This and other objects are achieved with an irrigation system according to the appended claims.

[0009] According to the invention, there is provided an irrigation system comprising:

- a reservoir for an irrigating liquid;
- a probe for arrangement in a user, wherein said probe comprises an inflatable balloon for fixing the catheter in a body cavity;
- a first pump for indirectly pumping irrigation liquid from the reservoir to the probe;
- a second pump for pumping a fluid to the balloon for inflation;
- a control unit for controlling the transfer of said irrigation liquid and said fluid, wherein said control unit further comprises a valve for releasing fluid from the balloon for deflation, said valve being provided with a manually operable balloon control element, and preferably a control button; and
- tubing providing fluid communication between said reservoir, control unit and probe;
- wherein said control unit and said first and second pumps are arranged as an integrated unitary component, and wherein said manually operable balloon control element is arranged in the vicinity of the second pump.

[0010] The irrigation system of the present invention comprises relatively few and uncomplicated components, which makes the irrigation system relatively easy and cost-efficient to produce. Further, the irrigation system lends itself well for automated or semi-automated manufacturing.

[0011] Further, the provision of the integrated control unit makes the irrigation system safe and easy to use, also for persons with reduced dexterity. This also makes the irrigation system highly suitable for self-administration of the irrigation liquid. The provision of the first and second pump together in the control unit makes it easy to access the pumps with one hand only, and to switch between the pumps. The provision of separate pumps for discharge of the irrigation liquid and for filling of the balloon, respectively, also alleviates the risk that the pumps are used erroneously, e.g. by further filling the balloon when a discharge of irrigation liquid is intended. Still further, the provision of a valve for releasing fluid

from the balloon for deflation ensures that the balloon can be easily deflated after irrigation, and also that the filling level of the balloon can be precisely controlled, which makes it possible to adjust and optimize the filling level of the balloon during initial inflation, when the probe is fixed in the bodily cavity, or during irrigation. The arrangement of the manually operable balloon control element in the vicinity of the second pump is particularly advantageous, since it enables quick switching between inflation and deflation. By this arrangement, it is e.g. possible to operate the balloon control element with one finger, e.g. the thumb, and to operate the pump with the rest of the fingers. Hereby, the pump and the valve can be operated more or less simultaneously, which provides a very convenient and precise controllability of the filling level of the balloon.

[0012] When air is used as a balloon filling fluid, the valve for releasing fluid from the balloon may open up to a vent channel. The valve is in this embodiment closed by default, and opened up whenever the balloon filling fluid is to be released.

[0013] Preferably, at least one of the first and second pump is a manually operable pump, such as a bulb or a bellow pump. A manually operable pump is very cost-efficient, which lowers the overall costs of the product. Further, a manually operable pump provides a very precise controllability for the user. In particular, it is preferred that at least the second pump, i.e. the pump used for pumping fluid to the balloon for inflation, is a manually operable pump, since a very limited fluid volume is needed for adequate inflation of the balloon, and since it is of importance that the balloon is inflated with precision. Too low inflation may result in a too weak fixation, which may result in the probe falling out during irrigation. Too high inflation may be painful and even potentially harmful to the user.

[0014] Preferably, the manually operable pump is a bulb pump, comprising an inlet provided with a one-way valve, allowing a fluid to enter but not exit the pump, a pumping compartment and an outlet, provided with a one-way valve, allowing a fluid to exit but not enter the pump. The pumping compartment is made of a resilient, squeezable material, which retains its shape when unloaded. By squeezing the pumping compartment, the fluid is pumped out through the outlet, and when the squeezing is relieved, the pumping compartment retains its original shape, thereby sucking in fluid through the inlet.

[0015] For inflation of the balloon, any fluid may be used. For example, it is possible to connect the pump to the reservoir, and use irrigation liquid for filling of the balloon. It is also possible to provide a separate supply of another fluid, liquid or gas, for filling of the balloon. However, preferably ambient air is used for inflation of the balloon.

[0016] When air is used to fill the balloon, the valve may be a vent, discharging air out from the system for deflation. If e.g. irrigation liquid is used, the valve may instead release the irrigation liquid back to the reservoir

or into the probe for discharge during irrigation. However, it is also possible to release the fluid from the balloon into a drain compartment or the like.

[0017] In one embodiment, both the first and second pumps are manually operable pumps, such as bulb or bellow pumps. Preferably, both pumps are of the same type, and preferably bulb pumps.

[0018] Preferably, the control unit further comprises a reservoir control valve for releasing pressure from the reservoir, said valve being provided with a manually operable reservoir control element, and preferably a control button. Hereby, a possible overpressure in the reservoir can easily be released after irrigation, and prior to removal of the probe from the patient. This makes removal of the probe more comfortable, and also reduces the risk of spillage. Preferably, the manually operable reservoir control element is arranged in the vicinity of the first pump, i.e. the pump used for directly or indirectly pumping irrigation liquid from the reservoir to the probe. Hereby, switching between the pump and the control element becomes easy. By this arrangement, it is e.g. possible to operate the control element with one finger, e.g. the thumb, and to operate the pump with the rest of the fingers. Hereby, the pump and the valve can be operated more or less simultaneously, which provides a very convenient and precise controllability.

[0019] The tubing preferably comprises a first tube connecting the first pump and the reservoir, a second tube connecting the reservoir and the probe, and a third tube connecting the second pump and the probe.

[0020] Preferably, the first pump and second pump are arranged to be visibly discernible from each other, and preferably by having at least one of different shapes and different colours. For example, the pump used for inflation of the balloon may be of a colour resembling air, such as grey or light blue, whereas the pump used for irrigation may be of a colour resembling water, such as deep blue. Additionally or alternatively, the pump used for inflation of the balloon may be slimmer or smaller than the pump used for irrigation. Hereby, accidental use of one pump when the other pump is intended is avoided.

[0021] As an alternative to having manually operated pumps, it is possible to use powered pumps, such as electrically or pneumatically operated pumps. Such powered pump may be used as the first pump, as the second pump or as both the first and second pumps.

[0022] In case one or more powered pumps are used, the control unit further preferably comprises a pump control element for activation of the powered pump, and preferably a control button.

[0023] The first pump may be arranged to pump irrigation liquid from the reservoir to the probe directly or indirectly. By direct pumping is here meant that the pumping is made directly on the irrigation fluid. Such a pump may e.g. be arranged in-line in a conduit leading from the reservoir to the probe. By indirect pumping is here meant that the pumping is made on a different fluid, such as air, which when pumped exerts a pressure to the irrigation

fluid, whereby the irrigation fluid is also pumped. For example, the first pump is arranged to pump a gas, and preferably air, into the reservoir to create a pressure in the reservoir to displace the irrigation liquid therefrom and feed it to the probe.

[0024] The control unit preferably comprises at least three corners, wherein the first pump is arranged at a first corner and the second pump is arranged at a second corner. Even more preferably, the control unit comprises at least four corners, wherein tubing connecting the reservoir to the control unit is arranged at a third corner, and tubing connecting the control unit to the probe is arranged at a fourth corner. Such an arrangement provides a very convenient control unit to hold and manoeuvre. It is also preferred that the control unit has a planar shape, with tubing extending therethrough. However, many other shapes, such as curved or cylindrical shapes, are also feasible.

[0025] According to another aspect of the present invention, there is provided a use of the irrigation device as discussed above for rectal irrigation.

[0026] These and other aspects of the invention will be apparent from and elucidated with reference to the embodiments described hereinafter.

Brief description of the drawings

[0027] For exemplifying purposes, the invention will be described in closer detail in the following with reference to embodiments thereof illustrated in the attached drawings, wherein:

- Fig 1 is schematic overview of an irrigation system according to a first embodiment of the invention;
- Fig 2 is a schematic overview of an irrigation system according to a second embodiment of the invention;
- and
- Fig 3 is a schematic overview of an irrigation system according to a third embodiment of the invention.

Detailed description of preferred embodiments

[0028] The present invention will now be described more fully hereinafter with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which currently preferred embodiments of the invention are shown. This invention may, however, be embodied in many different forms and should not be construed as limited to the embodiments set forth herein; rather, these embodiments are provided for thoroughness and completeness, and fully convey the scope of the invention to the skilled addressee. Like reference characters refer to like elements throughout.

[0029] Fig 1 discloses an irrigation system according to a first exemplary embodiment, comprising a reservoir 1 for an irrigating liquid, a probe 2 for arrangement in a user, and a control unit 3.

[0030] The reservoir may be realized in various ways. For example, the reservoir may be formed by a rigid,

semi-rigid or flexible material. In case a semi-rigid or flexible material is used, the reservoir may be collapsible or foldable, to make the irrigation system more compact prior to use. The reservoir is provided with an opening, closed by a lid 11, for filling of the reservoir. Tubing connecting the reservoir to the rest of the irrigation system may be provided through the lid 11, or through other access points on the reservoir.

[0031] In order to render the irrigation system as portable as possible, the container preferably has a capacity of less than 5 litres, more preferred less than 3 litres and most preferred less than 2 litres. If however the system is to be used for repeated irrigation, a larger capacity container may be necessary.

[0032] The reservoir may comprise an overpressure release valve, to release pressure over a predetermined maximum pressure to be allowed.

[0033] The probe 2 is provided with an insertable balloon 21 for fixing the catheter in a body cavity. Further, the probe may be provided with a rearward enlarged part 22, providing an abutment to hinder too deep insertion. The probe is provided with two lumens - one lumen 23 for transfer of irrigation liquid through the probe, for discharge at the forward end 24, and one lumen 25 for inflation and deflation of the balloon.

[0034] The control unit is here realized as a plate, comprising at least three or four corners and preferably slightly curved sides, in order to provide good ergonomic handling of the control unit. One corner is connected to a first pump 4, for directly or indirectly pumping irrigation liquid from the reservoir to the probe. A second corner is connected to a second pump 5 for pumping a fluid to the balloon for inflation. A third and possibly a fourth corner may comprise tubings leading to the reservoir and the probe. The control unit and the first and second pumps are arranged as an integrated unitary component.

[0035] The control unit is further provided with a valve for releasing fluid from the balloon for deflation, and provided with a manually operable balloon control element 31. The control element is preferably realized as a depressible control button. The control element 31 is arranged in the vicinity of the second pump 5. Preferably, the control element is arranged within 5 cm from the pump.

[0036] In this embodiment, the first and second pumps are manually operable pump. However, other types of pumps are also feasible. In the shown example, the manually operable pumps are bulb pumps, comprising inlets 41, 51, each provided with a one-way valve 42, 52, allowing a fluid to enter but not exit the pump. Further, the pumps comprise pumping compartments 43, 53 and outlets 44, 54, provided with one-way valves 45, 55, allowing a fluid to exit but not enter the pump. The pumping compartment is made of a resilient, squeezable material, which retains its shape when unloaded. By squeezing the pumping compartment, the fluid is pumped out through the outlet, and when the squeezing is relieved, the pumping compartment retains its original shape, thereby suck-

ing in fluid through the inlet.

[0037] In the illustrative example, the pumps are used to pump air. Thus, the second pump 5 pumps air into the balloon 21 for inflation, and the air is releasable through the valve 31. The first pump 4 is arranged to pump air into the reservoir, thereby creating an overpressure in the reservoir which pumps irrigation liquid out from the reservoir. To release pressure from the reservoir, the control unit further comprises a reservoir control valve for releasing pressure from the reservoir. The valve is provided with a manually operable reservoir control element 32, here realized as a control button. Hereby, a possible overpressure in the reservoir can easily be released after irrigation, and prior to removal of the probe from the patient. This makes removal of the probe more comfortable, and also reduces the risk of spillage. Preferably, the manually operable reservoir control element 32 is arranged in the vicinity of the first pump. Preferably, the control element 32 is arranged within 5 cm from the first pump.

[0038] In this embodiment, the tubing connecting the reservoir, control unit and probe comprises a first tube 61 connecting the first pump and the reservoir, a second tube 62 connecting the reservoir and the probe, and a third tube 63 connecting the second pump and the probe.

[0039] Preferred materials for the bulb pumps and the balloon can be any suitable material e.g. such as PVC, latex, TPE or PU. However, other materials providing similar properties can likewise be used.

[0040] As an alternative to having manually operated pumps, it is possible to use powered pumps, such as electrically or pneumatically operated pumps. Such powered pump may be used as the first pump, as the second pump or as both the first and second pumps.

[0041] A manually operable valve 7 may be provided for closing the fluid communication between the reservoir 1 and the probe 2. This may e.g. be used for closing this communication path during filling of the reservoir, during the initial preparations prior to irrigation, after the irrigation has been completed, etc. In the illustrative example, a clamp is used as the valve 7. However, as would be appreciated by the skilled addressee, many other types of manually operable valves are feasible. Further, in the illustrative example, the manually operable valve 7 is arranged on the tube extending between the reservoir and the control unit. However, additionally or alternatively, a manually operable valve 7' may be arranged on the control unit, and/or a manually operable valve 7" may be arranged on the tube extending between the control unit and the probe. Thus, the manually operable valve may be arranged anywhere along the fluid communication path between the reservoir and the probe, and also on multiple locations along said path.

[0042] The second embodiment, illustrated in Fig 2, resembles the above-described first embodiment. However, here the control unit 3' has been provided with a different shape. Further, the reservoir has been provided with hangers 12, such as tabs with holes therein, to en-

able the reservoir to be arranged on hooks or the like. The probe is here illustrated in a state where it is inserted in an anal opening.

[0043] The third embodiment, illustrated in Fig 3, also resembles the above-discussed previous embodiments. However, here the first pump 4' is a powered pump, here realized as a peristaltic pump acting directly on a tube 62' leading from the reservoir to the probe. For activation of the pump 4', a control element 33, such as a control button, is provided on the control unit, which activates the pump when depressed.

[0044] The irrigation liquid can be any liquid which is capable of irrigating the body cavity of interest. In order to stimulate bowel movements suitable irrigation liquids includes water, hypertonic aqueous salt solutions, solutions or suspensions of cathartic agents, such as bisacodyl or phenolphthalein, and mineral oil.

[0045] By use of the present invention, anal irrigation can be carried out by the following steps:

- The reservoir is filled with a liquid, e.g. regular tap water,
- The reservoir and the probe are connected to the control unit,
- The probe is inserted into the rectum,
- The second pump 5 is operated to inflate the balloon, for fixing the probe in the body,
- The first pump 4 is operated to transfer irrigation liquid from the reservoir to the probe for irrigation,
- When irrigation is completed, overpressure may be removed from the reservoir, and the balloon is deflated, and
- The probe is removed.

[0046] The person skilled in the art realizes that the present invention is not limited to the preferred embodiment. For example many different types of hand-operated or powered pumps may be used. Further, the valves and the controls for the valves may be realized in many different ways. Also, the pumping of the irrigation liquid may be direct or indirect.

[0047] Such and other obvious modifications must be considered to be within the scope of the present invention, as it is defined by the appended claims. It should be noted that the above-mentioned embodiments illustrate rather than limit the invention, and that those skilled in the art will be able to design many alternative embodiments without departing from the scope of the appended claims. In the claims, any reference signs placed between parentheses shall not be construed as limiting to the claim. The word "comprising" does not exclude the presence of other elements or steps than those listed in the claim. The word "a" or "an" preceding an element does not exclude the presence of a plurality of such elements. Further, a single unit may perform the functions of several means recited in the claims.

Claims**1.** An irrigation system comprising:

a reservoir (1) for an irrigating liquid;
 a probe (2) for arrangement in a user, wherein said probe comprises an inflatable balloon (21) for fixing the catheter in a body cavity;
 a first pump (4, 4') for indirectly pumping irrigation liquid from the reservoir to the probe; and
 a second pump (5) for pumping a fluid to the balloon (21) for inflation;

characterized in that it further comprises:

a control unit (3) for controlling the transfer of said irrigation liquid and said fluid, wherein said control unit (3) further comprises a valve for releasing fluid from the balloon for deflation, said valve being provided with a manually operable balloon control element (31), and preferably a control button; and
 tubing providing fluid communication between said reservoir, control unit and probe;
 wherein said control unit (3) and said first and second pumps are arranged as an integrated unitary component, and wherein said manually operable balloon control element (31) is arranged in the vicinity of the second pump (5).

2. The irrigation system of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second pump (4, 5) is a manually operable pump, such as a bulb or a bellow pump.

3. The irrigation system of claim 2, wherein both the first and second pumps (4, 5) are manually operable pumps, such as bulb or bellow pumps.

4. The irrigation system of claim 3, wherein the control unit (3) further comprises a reservoir control valve (32) for releasing pressure from the reservoir (1), said valve being provided with a manually operable reservoir control element, and preferably a control button.

5. The irrigation system of claim 4, wherein the manually operable reservoir control element (32) is arranged in the vicinity of the first pump (4, 4').

6. The irrigation system of claim 3 or 4, wherein the tubing comprises a first tube connecting the first pump (4, 4') and the reservoir (1), a second tube connecting the reservoir and the probe (2), and a third tube connecting the second pump (5) and the probe (2).

7. The irrigation system of any one of the claims 3-5, wherein the first pump (4, 4') and second pump (5)

arranged visibly discernible from each other, and preferably by having at least one of different shapes and different colours.

8. The irrigation system of claim 2, wherein at least one of the first pump and second pump (4') is a powered pump, such as an electrically or pneumatically operated pump.

9. The irrigation system of claim 7, wherein the control unit further comprises a pump control element (33) for activation of the powered pump, and preferably a control button.

10. The irrigation system of any one of the preceding claims, wherein the first pump (4, 4') is arranged to directly pump irrigation fluid from the reservoir to the probe.

11. The irrigation system of any one of the claims 1-8, wherein the first pump (4, 4') is arranged to pump a gas into the reservoir to create a pressure in the reservoir to displace the irrigation liquid therefrom and feed it to the probe.

12. The irrigation system of any one of the preceding claims, wherein the control unit (3) comprises at least three corners, wherein the first pump (4) is arranged at a first corner, the second pump (5) is arranged at a second corner.

13. The irrigation system of claim 12, wherein the control unit (3) comprises at least four corners, wherein tubing connecting the reservoir (1) to the control unit (3) is arranged at a third corner, and tubing connecting the control unit to the probe is arranged at a fourth corner.

14. The irrigation system of any one of the preceding claims, wherein the control unit (3) has a planar shape, with tubing extending therethrough.

15. Use of the irrigation device according to any of the claims 1 - 14 for rectal irrigation.

Patentansprüche**1.** Spülsystem, umfassend:

- ein Reservoir (1) für eine Spülflüssigkeit;
- eine Sonde (2) zur Anordnung in einem Benutzer, wobei die Sonde einen aufblasbaren Ballon (21) zum Befestigen des Katheters in einer Körperhöhle umfasst;
- eine erste Pumpe (4, 4') zum indirekten Pumpen von Spülflüssigkeit aus dem Reservoir zu der Sonde; und

- eine zweite Pumpe (5) zum Pumpen eines Fluids zu dem Ballon (21) zum Aufblasen;

dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass es ferner Folgendes umfasst:

- eine Steuereinheit (3) zum Steuern der Übertragung der Spülflüssigkeit und des Fluids, wobei die Steuereinheit (3) ferner ein Ventil zum Freigeben von Fluid aus dem Ballon zum Entleeren umfasst, wobei das Ventil mit einem manuell zu betätigenden Ballonsteuerelement (31) und bevorzugt einer Steuertaste versehen ist; und

- Schlauchmaterial, das eine Fluidkommunikation zwischen dem Reservoir, der Steuereinheit und der Sonde bereitstellt;

wobei die Steuereinheit (3) und die ersten und zweiten Pumpen als integrierte Einheitskomponente angeordnet sind, und wobei das manuell zu betätigende Ballonsteuerelement (31) in der Nähe der zweiten Pumpe (5) angeordnet ist.

2. Spülsystem nach Anspruch 1, wobei mindestens eine von der ersten und der zweiten Pumpe (4, 5) eine manuell zu betätigende Pumpe, wie etwa eine Birnen- oder eine Faltenbalgpumpe, ist.
3. Spülsystem nach Anspruch 2, wobei sowohl die erste als auch die zweite Pumpe (4, 5) manuell zu betätigende Pumpen, wie etwa Birnenoder Faltenbalgpumpen, sind.
4. Spülsystem nach Anspruch 3, wobei die Steuereinheit (3) ferner ein Reservoirsteuerventil (32) zum Ablassen von Druck aus dem Reservoir (1) umfasst, wobei das Ventil mit einem manuell zu betätigenden Reservoirsteuerelement und bevorzugt einer Steuertaste versehen ist.
5. Spülsystem nach Anspruch 4, wobei das manuell zu betätigende Reservoirsteuerelement (32) in der Nähe der ersten Pumpe (4, 4') angeordnet ist.
6. Spülsystem nach Anspruch 3 oder 4, wobei das Schlauchmaterial einen ersten Schlauch, der die erste Pumpe (4, 4') und das Reservoir (1) verbindet, einen zweiten Schlauch, der das Reservoir und die Sonde (2) verbindet, und einen dritten Schlauch, der die zweite Pumpe (5) und die Sonde (2) verbindet, umfasst.
7. Spülsystem nach einem der Ansprüche 3 bis 5, wobei die erste Pumpe (4, 4') und die zweite Pumpe (5) sichtbar voneinander unterscheidbar angeordnet sind, und zwar bevorzugt indem sie mindestens eines von verschiedenen Formen und verschiedenen

Farben aufweisen.

8. Spülsystem nach Anspruch 2, wobei mindestens eine von der ersten Pumpe und der zweiten Pumpe (4') eine kraftbetriebene Pumpe, wie etwa eine elektrisch oder pneumatisch betätigte Pumpe, ist.
9. Spülsystem nach Anspruch 7, wobei die Steuereinheit ferner ein Pumpensteuerelement (33) zur Aktivierung der kraftbetriebenen Pumpe und bevorzugt eine Steuertaste umfasst.
10. Spülsystem nach einem der vorhergehenden Ansprüche, wobei die erste Pumpe (4, 4') angeordnet ist, um Spülfluid direkt aus dem Reservoir zu der Sonde zu pumpen.
11. Spülsystem nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 8, wobei die erste Pumpe (4, 4') angeordnet ist, um ein Gas in das Reservoir zu pumpen, um einen Druck in dem Reservoir aufzubauen, um die Spülflüssigkeit daraus zu verdrängen und sie der Sonde zuzuführen.
12. Spülsystem nach einem der vorhergehenden Ansprüche, wobei die Steuereinheit (3) mindestens drei Ecken umfasst, wobei die erste Pumpe (4) in einer ersten Ecke angeordnet ist und die zweite Pumpe (5) in einer zweiten Ecke angeordnet ist.
13. Spülsystem nach Anspruch 12, wobei die Steuereinheit (3) mindestens vier Ecken umfasst, wobei das Schlauchmaterial, welches das Reservoir (1) mit der Steuereinheit (3) verbindet, in einer dritten Ecke angeordnet ist, und das Schlauchmaterial, das die Steuereinheit mit der Sonde verbindet, in einer vierten Ecke angeordnet ist.
14. Spülsystem nach einem der vorhergehenden Ansprüche, wobei die Steuereinheit (3) eine ebene Form aufweist, wobei sich das Schlauchmaterial durch diese hindurch erstreckt.
15. Verwendung der Spülvorrichtung nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 14 zur Darmspülung.

Revendications

1. Système d'irrigation comprenant :
 - un réservoir (1) pour un liquide d'irrigation ;
 - une sonde (2) destinée à être disposée dans un consommateur, ladite sonde comprenant un ballon gonflable (21) pour fixer le cathéter dans une cavité corporelle ;
 - une première pompe (4, 4') pour pomper indirectement du liquide d'irrigation du réservoir

dans la sonde ; et
une seconde pompe (5) pour pomper un fluide à l'intérieur du ballon (21) pour le gonfler ;

caractérisé en ce qu'il comprend en outre :

- une unité de commande (3) pour commander le transfert dudit liquide d'irrigation et dudit fluide, ladite unité de commande (3) comprenant en outre une vanne pour relâcher du liquide du ballon pour le dégonfler, ladite vanne étant pourvue d'un élément de commande de ballon actionnable manuellement (31) et de préférence d'un bouton de commande ; et
une tuyauterie assurant la communication de fluide entre lesdits réservoir, unité de commande et sonde ;
ladite unité de commande (3) et lesdites première et seconde pompes étant conçues sous forme d'un composant unitaire intégré et ledit élément de commande de ballon actionnable manuellement (31) étant disposé à proximité de la seconde pompe (5).
2. Système d'irrigation selon la revendication 1, dans lequel au moins une parmi les premières et seconde pompes (4, 5) est une pompe actionnable manuellement comme une pompe à bulbe ou une pompe à soufflet.
 3. Système d'irrigation selon la revendication 2, dans lequel les première et seconde pompes (4, 5) sont toutes deux des pompes actionnables manuellement comme des pompes à bulbe ou à soufflet.
 4. Système d'irrigation selon la revendication 3, dans lequel l'unité de commande (3) comprend en outre une vanne de commande de réservoir (32) pour relâcher la pression du réservoir (1), ladite vanne étant pourvue d'un élément de commande de réservoir actionnable manuellement et de préférence d'un bouton de commande.
 5. Système d'irrigation selon la revendication 4, dans lequel l'élément de commande de réservoir actionnable manuellement (32) est disposé à proximité de la première pompe (4, 4').
 6. Système d'irrigation selon la revendication 3 ou 4, dans lequel la tuyauterie comprend un premier tube connectant la première pompe (4, 4') et le réservoir (1), un second tube connectant le réservoir et la sonde (2) et un troisième tube connectant la seconde pompe (5) et la sonde (2).
 7. Système d'irrigation selon l'une quelconque des revendications 3 à 5, dans lequel la première pompe (4, 4') et la seconde pompe (5) sont conçues de ma-

nière à être visiblement discernables l'une de l'autre et de préférence par le fait qu'elles ont au moins une caractéristique parmi des formes différentes et des couleurs différentes.

8. Système d'irrigation selon la revendication 2, dans lequel au moins une parmi la première pompe et la seconde pompe (4') est une pompe motorisée, comme une pompe à actionnement électrique ou pneumatique.
9. Système d'irrigation selon la revendication 7, dans lequel l'unité de commande comprend en outre un élément de commande de pompe (33) pour l'activation de la pompe motorisée et de préférence un bouton de commande.
10. Système d'irrigation selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans lequel la première pompe (4, 4') est conçue pour pomper directement du fluide d'irrigation du réservoir vers la sonde.
11. Système d'irrigation selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 8, dans lequel la première pompe (4, 4') est conçue pour pomper un gaz dans le réservoir afin de créer une pression dans le réservoir pour déplacer le liquide d'irrigation depuis celui-ci et l'apporter à la sonde.
12. Système d'irrigation selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans lequel l'unité de commande (3) comprend au moins trois coins, la première pompe (4) étant disposée à un premier coin, la seconde pompe (5) étant disposée à un second coin.
13. Système d'irrigation selon la revendication 12, dans lequel l'unité de commande (3) comprend au moins quatre coins, la tuyauterie connectant le réservoir (1) à l'unité de commande (3) étant disposée à un troisième coin et la tuyauterie connectant l'unité de commande à la sonde étant disposée à un quatrième coin.
14. Système d'irrigation selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans lequel l'unité de commande (3) a une forme plane avec une tuyauterie la traversant.
15. Utilisation du dispositif d'irrigation selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 14 pour une irrigation rectale.

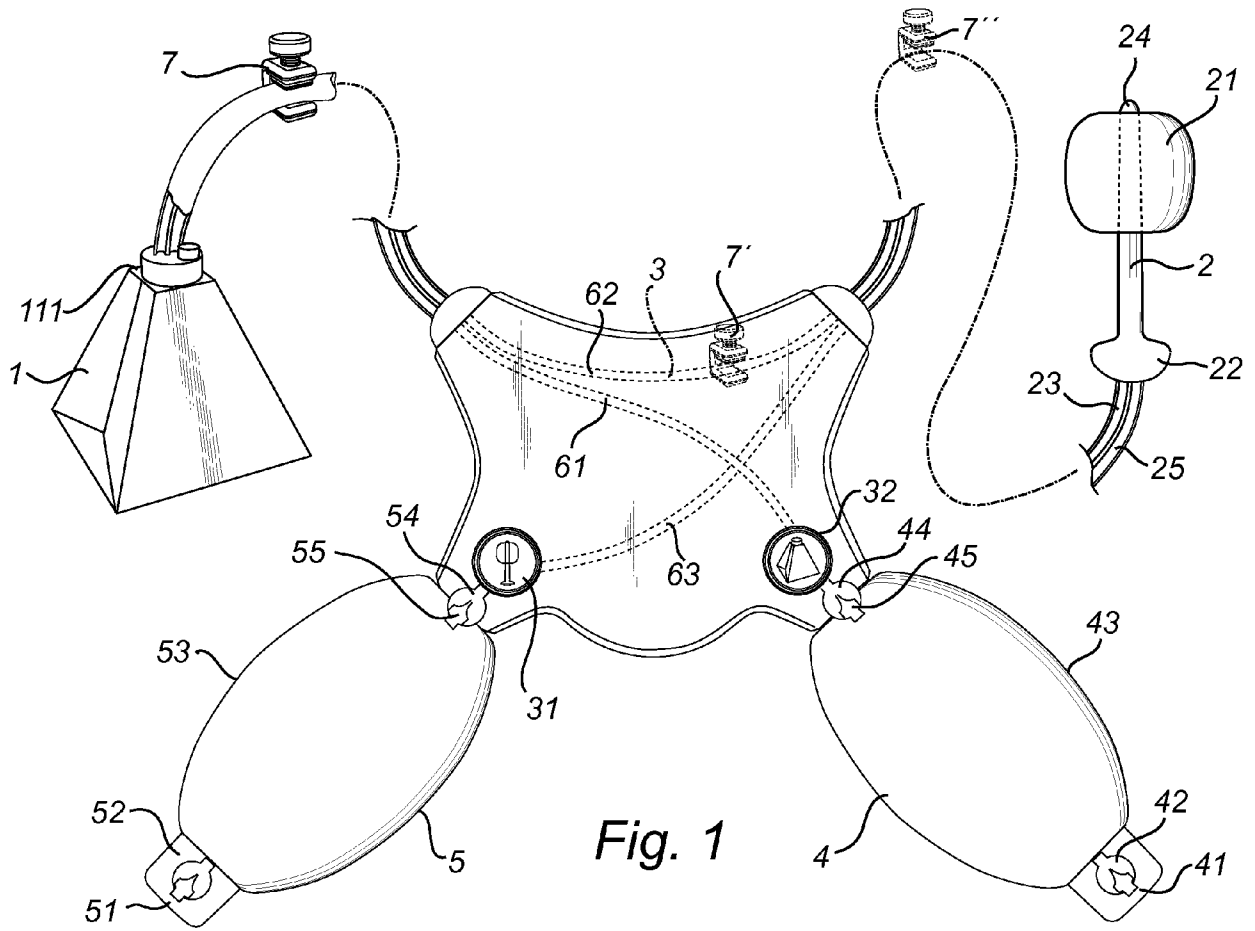


Fig. 1

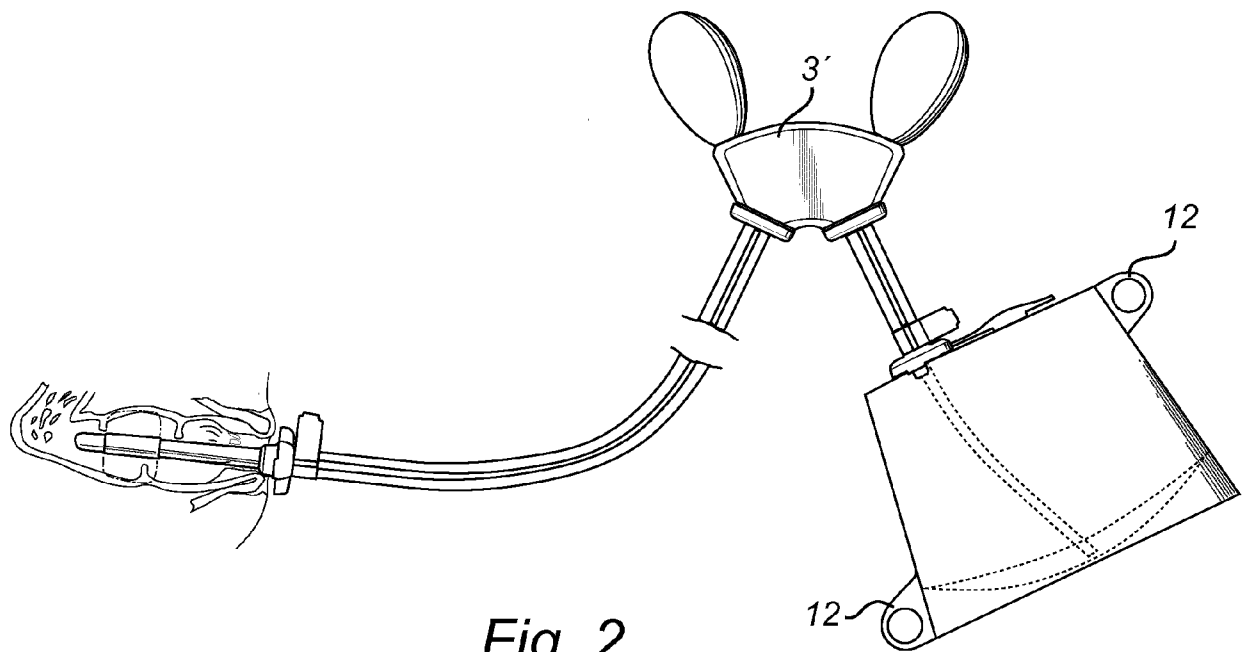


Fig. 2

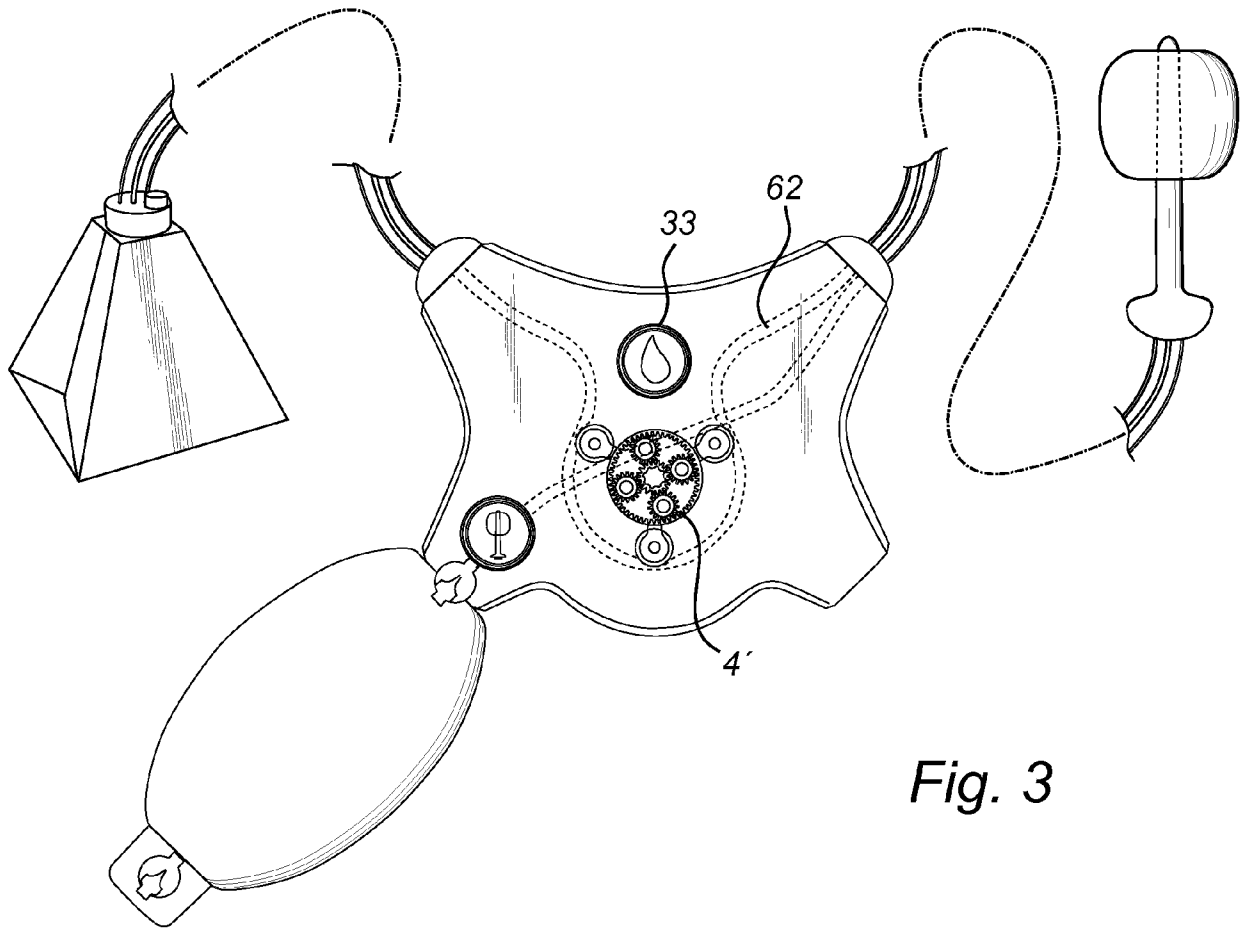


Fig. 3

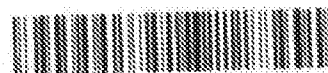
REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION

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KÉTSZIVATTYÚS IRRIGÁLÓ RENDSZER



SZTNH-100011044

SZABADALMI IGÉNYPONTOK

1. Irrigáló rendszer, amely tartalmaz:
 - tartályt (1) irrigációs folyadék számára;
 - szondát (2), amely felhasználóba helyezhető, ahol a szonda a katéter testüregben történő rögzítésére szolgáló felfújható ballont (21) tartalmaz;
 - első szivattyút (4, 4'), amely irrigációs folyadéknak a tartályból a szondába történő indirekt szivattyúzásra szolgál; és
 - második szivattyút (5), amely közegnek a ballonba (21), annak felfújása érdekében történő szivattyúzására szolgál;

azzal jellemezve, hogy tartalmaz továbbá:

 - szabályozóegységet (3), amely az irrigációs folyadék, továbbá az említett közeg áramlását szabályozza, ahol a szabályozóegység (3) továbbá tartalmaz egy szelepet, amely a közegnek a ballonnról való leválasztására szolgál annak leengedése érdekében, és ahol a szelep kézzel működtethető ballonszabályozó elemmel (31), és célszerűen egy szabályozó kapcsolóval van ellátva; és
 - csővezetékrendszerrel, amely folyadékösszeköttetést teremt a folyadéktároló, a szabályozóegység és a szonda között;
 - és ahol a szabályozóegység (3), valamint az első és második szivattyúk integrált egységben vannak elrendezve, és ahol az említett kézzel működtethető ballonszabályozó elem (3) a második szivattyú (5) közelében van elrendezve.
2. Az 1. igénypont szerinti irrigáló rendszer, ahol az első és a második szivattyú (4, 5) közül legalább az egyik kézzel működtethető szivattyú, például ballon, vagy egy gumiharang.
3. A 2. igénypont szerinti irrigáló rendszer, ahol mind az első, mind pedig a második szivattyú (4, 5) kézzel működtethető szivattyú, például gumiharang vagy ballon.
4. A 3. igénypont szerinti irrigáló rendszer, ahol a szabályozóegység (3) tartalmaz továbbá egy tartályszabályozó szelepet (32), amely a nyomás kiengedésére szolgál a tartályból (1), ahol a szelep kézzel működtethető tartályszabályozó elemmel, valamint célszerűen egy szabályozó kapcsolóval van ellátva.
5. A 4. igénypont szerinti irrigáló rendszer, ahol a kézzel működtethető tartályszabályozó elem (32) az első szivattyú (4, 4') közelében van elrendezve.
6. A 3. vagy 4. igénypontok szerinti irrigáló rendszer, ahol a csőrendszer tartalmaz első csövet, amely az első szivattyúhoz (4, 4') és a tartályhoz (1) van csatlakoztatva, valamint egy második csövet, amely a tartályhoz és a szondához (2) van csatlakoztatva, továbbá harmadik csövet, amely a második szivattyúhoz (5) és a szondához (2) van csatlakoztatva.

7. A 3. – 5. igénypontok bármelyike szerinti irrigáló rendszer, ahol az első szivattyú (4, 4') és a második szivattyú (5) egymástól szabad szemmel megkülönböztethetők, célszerűen különböző színűek és alakúak.

8. A 2. igénypont szerinti irrigáló rendszer, ahol az első és a második szivattyú (4') közül legalább az egyik gépi működtetésű, például elektromosan vagy pneumatikusan működtetett szivattyú.

9. A 7. igénypont szerinti irrigáló rendszer, ahol a szabályozóegység továbbá tartalmaz egy szivattyúszabályozó elemet (33), amely a gépi működtetésű szivattyú aktiválására szolgál, valamint célszerűen egy szabályozó kapcsolót.

10. Az előző igénypontok bármelyike szerinti irrigáló rendszer, ahol az első szivattyú (4, 4') úgy van elrendezve, hogy közvetlenül szivattyúzzon irrigációs közeget a tartályból a szondába.

11. Az 1. – 8. igénypontok bármelyike szerinti irrigáló rendszer, ahol az első szivattyú (4, 4') úgy van elrendezve, hogy gázt továbbítson a tartályba annak érdekében, hogy nyomást hozzon létre a tartályban, és ezzel az irrigációs közeget abból kiszorítsa és a szondába juttassa.

12. Az előző igénypontok bármelyike szerinti irrigáló rendszer, ahol a szabályozóegységnek (3) tartalmaz legalább három sarka van, ahol az első szivattyú (4) az első sarokban, a második szivattyú (5) a második sarokban van elrendezve.

13. A 12. igénypont szerinti irrigáló rendszer, ahol a szabályozóegységnek (3) legalább négy sarka van, ahol a tartályt (1) a szabályozóegységgel (3) összekötő csőrendszer a harmadik sarokban van elrendezve, és a szabályozóegységet a szondával összekötő csőrendszer a negyedik sarokban van elrendezve.

14. Az előző igénypontok bármelyike szerinti irrigáló rendszer, ahol a szabályozóegység lapos, és a csővezeték azon átnyúlik.

15. Az 1. – 14. igénypontok bármelyike szerinti irrigáló eszköz használata állóvethez.