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# DESCRIPTION

## Field of the Disclosure

[0001] The present invention relates to an ostomy pouch comprising a first pouch wall and a second pouch wall joined together along a peripheral seal to form a cavity for accommodating waste material; and the pouch having an upper and a lower portion, an inlet provided in the first pouch wall for receiving waste into the pouch, wherein the inlet opening is provided in the upper portion.

## Background

[0002] When applying an ostomy pouch, it is important that the pouch is correctly positioned around the stoma. In order to ensure proper positioning it is desirable for the user to inspect the stoma. As the stoma will be covered by the pouch, this inspection can take place by looking through an ostomy pouch with transparent side walls or at least a transparent portion of the side walls. Examples of such pouches are known from e.g. US 3,570,490 and WO 2008/150991.

[0003] In the pouch disclosed in WO 2008/150991 two panels are provided, one panel covering on the top of the pouch and a second panel covering the lower part of the pouch. These two panels are slightly overlapping without being sealed to each other across the pouch. This arrangement allows the user to manually separate the overlap to inspect the condition of the stoma.

[0004] Other examples of pouches of such kind are known from WO 2011/150936, US 5,667,502, US 2007/270772 and US 2011/190718.

[0005] Although this allows for visual inspection of the stoma, during the application of the pouch onto the user's skin it can be difficult for the user to see what he or she is doing since the user will be looking at the stoma area from the top. It is most likely that the user will position the pouch and inspect the stoma condition via a mirror. This however may be somewhat inconvenient and difficult as this only gives the user an indirect view of the stoma and the pouch. In some situations the user may be assisted where it may be a nurse or other healthcare staff who will inspect and change the ostomy pouch. In this situation the assistant will have a better direct view, but he or she is not always available for the ostomy pouch user. So although visible inspection is possible it is inconvenient for the user to do.

## Summary

**[0006]** The present invention provides an ostomy pouch as detailed in claim 1. Advantageous features are provided in dependent claims.

**[0007]** It is an object of the present invention to provide an ostomy pouch which allows for easier inspection of the stoma.

**[0008]** This object is achieved by providing an ostomy pouch of the initially mentioned kind wherein the pouch further comprises a top view member comprising two layers of film, wherein at least one is a transparent flexible film, and wherein said two films are provided on an upper section of said upper portion between said first and second pouch walls and sealed to either the first or the second wall by peripheral seals, wherein said top view member is provided with a lowermost edge.

**[0009]** The provision of a top view member is advantageous as this allows for viewing the inside of the pouch. This makes it easier for the wearer to position an ostomy pouch, i.e. a one piece ostomy pouch, around the stoma whilst at the same time still provides the discretion that a beige or otherwise opaque pouch provides. Furthermore, the pouch according to the disclosure is advantageous as it allows the user to view the peristomal area of the barrier, so that leakage, skin irritation, barrier erosion or the like can be detected at an early stage and earlier than usual on beige pouches. In addition, if the pouch is provided with a flatus gas filter the top view member can act as a filter protection by avoiding matter from the stoma in reaching and clogging the filter.

**[0010]** Moreover, the solution of having a top view member for visual inspection may also be found advantageous as it allows for having two beige films forming the pouch. This results in a beige pouch which allows for a more discretionary use of the pouch when worn by the user.

**[0011]** In a first embodiment, the top view member comprises first and second sheet layers which are sealed together along their lower edges to provide the lowermost edge of the top view member, the first sheet layer is sealed to the first side wall along their common peripheral edge, and the second sheet layer is sealed to the second side wall along their common peripheral edge.

**[0012]** In a second embodiment, the top view member comprises a single transparent sheet which is folded to form the lowermost edge and two sheet layers which are sealed to the first side wall and the second side wall, respectively.

**[0013]** In one embodiment, the lowermost edge of the top view member is provided with a horizontal orientation, i.e. perpendicular to the longitudinal direction of the pouch. This may be relatively simple to manufacture. As an alternative, the lowermost edge of the top view member may be provided with an inclined orientation inside the pouch. This may be advantageous as water can run off and not be trapped in the pocket formed by the top view member.

**[0014]** In order to hold the top view member in a closed position it is found advantageous that

releasable attachment means are provided on the exterior surfaces of the sheet layers facing each other of the top member. Accordingly, in an embodiment, the releasable attachment means may comprise a hook strip and a loop strip on each of the sheets, respectively, to establish what is commonly known as a Velcro® closure.

**[0015]** Preferably, the first wall and the second wall are opaque films, such as beige coloured films. This gives the pouch a discrete appearance when worn by the user. However, it is realised that alternatively only one of the films may be opaque and the other transparent.

**[0016]** In order to improve the comfort for the user, a non-woven layer is preferably provided at the proximal side of the first wall, and preferably also at the distal side of the second wall.

**[0017]** It is realised that the pouch may be a drainable pouch with a closable drainage opening in the lower portion of the pouch. Alternatively, the pouch may be a disposable pouch for single use.

**[0018]** In the following ostomy pouches in accordance with the disclosure are described in more detail with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1

is a front view of an ostomy pouch from its distal side according to a first embodiment of the invention;

Fig. 2

is a front view of an ostomy pouch from its distal side according to a second embodiment of the invention;

Fig. 3

is a schematic cross-sectional side view of an ostomy pouch according to an embodiment of the invention;

Fig. 4

is a cross-sectional side view of a closed ostomy pouch according to an embodiment of the invention;

Fig. 5

is a cross-sectional side view of an open ostomy pouch according to an embodiment of the invention; and

Fig. 6

is a cross-sectional side view of an open ostomy pouch according to another embodiment of the invention.

**[0019]** With reference to figures 1-3, an ostomy pouch according to the preferred embodiments comprises a first, proximal side wall 1 and a second, distal side wall 2. The first and second side walls 1, 2 are joined to each other along their periphery by the peripheral seal 3. The pouch has an upper portion 4 and a lower portion 5. In the upper portion 4 of the first side wall 1 a stoma opening 6 is provided. On the distal, second side wall 2 a flatus gas filter 8

may be provided in the upper portion 4 of the pouch. In the examples shown in the figures, the lower portion 5 is provided with a closable drainage portion for draining the pouch for its content. However, by the disclosure it is realised that a closed pouch without a closable drainage opening may also be provided. On the proximal side of the pouch a comfort layer of non-woven film is provided and welded to the first side wall 1 by peripheral seals 3c and 3d. Although not shown in the figures, a non-woven layer may also be provided on the distal side of the pouch, i.e. peripherally sealed onto the second side wall 2.

**[0020]** The first and second side walls 1, 2 are preferably made of an opaque or at least semi-opaque film, such as a beige coloured, flexible plastic film. At the top of the upper portion 4 a top view member 7 is inserted between the first and second side walls 1, 2. This top view member 7 may comprise two layers of transparent film 71, 72 that are jointed together at their lowermost edge 73 either by heat sealing 74 (see figs. 3, 4 and 5) or by folding 75 (see fig. 6) a transparent film into two opposing sheet layers 71, 72. The lowermost edge 73 may be horizontal, i.e. substantially perpendicular, to the longitudinal directions of the pouch as shown with the dotted line in fig. 2 or the lowermost edge 73 of the top view member 7 may be inclined as shown in fig. 1. The top view member 7 may be welded to the top of the pouch side walls 1, 2 at the sealings 3a, 3b along the top portion of the periphery of the pouch. Hereby a pocket is formed which can be opened for viewing the inside of the pouch when required.

**[0021]** On the opposing sides of the two sheet layers 71, 72, releasable closure members 11, 12 may be provided, such as a hook element strip 11 on one of the transparent sheet layers 71 and a loop element strip 12 on the other sheet layer 72, such as shown in the figures 1-6.

**[0022]** In the figures 4 to 6, a pouch is shown attached to the skin 10 of a wearer around the stoma 20 via an adhesive wafer 13 fitted around the opening 6 (see fig. 3). In figure 4, the pouch is shown with the top view option closed, i.e. where the transparent top view member 7 is folded with its two sheet layers 71, 72 adjacent each other and with the closure members 11, 12 engaging each other. In fig. 5, the top view member 7 is opened and the two sheet layers 71, 72 are folded apart allowing the wearer visual access to the stoma. The top view member 7 is in the embodiment shown in figures 4 and 5 made by two transparent sheet members 71, 72 that are welded together at the seal 74 along the lowermost edge 73. An alternative top view member 7 is shown in fig. 6 where the top view member 7 is made of a folded transparent sheet thereby forming the two sheet layers 71, 72 and a fold is provided along the lowermost edge 73 of the top view member 7.

**[0023]** In the above description and in the following, when using directional terms, such as upper portion, lower portion, horizontal orientation, and the like, these terms should be understood as relative terms as the pouch may be positioned in different orientations during use.

## **REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION**

This list of references cited by the applicant is for the reader's convenience only. It does not form part of the European patent document. Even though great care has been taken in compiling the references, errors or omissions cannot be excluded and the EPO disclaims all liability in this regard.

**Patent documents cited in the description**

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- WO2008150991A [0002] [0003]
- WO2011150936A [0004]
- US5667502A [0004]
- US2007270772A [0004]
- US2011190718A [0004]

## Patentkrav

### 1. Stomipose, der omfatter

en første posevæg (1) og en anden posevæg (2), som er sammenføjet langs en perifer tætning (3) til dannelsen af et hulrum med henblik på at rumme affaldsmateriale; og hvilken pose har en øvre og en nedre del (4, 5);

et indløb (6), der er anbragt i den første posevæg (1) til modtagelse af affald i posen; idet indløbsåbningen (6) er anbragt i den øvre del (4); **kendetegnet ved, at**

posen endvidere omfatter et toppunktsoverblikselement (7), som er konfigureret til at se ind i posen oppefra og omfatter to filmlag (71, 72), der ved hjælp af varmemeforsegling (74) eller ved hjælp af sammenfoldning (75) er sammenføjet ved en nedre kant (73), hvor mindst ét af de to filmlag (71, 72) er dannet ud fra en transparent fleksibel film, og hvor de to filmlag (71, 72) er anbragt på et øvre afsnit af den øvre del (4) mellem den første og den anden posevæg (1, 2), hvor øvre periferier af toppunktsoverblikselementet (7) er tætnet til enten den første og den anden væg ved hjælp af perifere tætninger (3a, 3b), og resten af toppunktsoverblikselementet er lukket til dannelsen af en lommelignende struktur med en åbning, der er defineret mellem de øvre periferier, som er tætnet til den første og den anden posevæg, hvor toppunktsoverblikselementet (7) udgør en lomme, der kan åbnes, mellem den første og den anden posevæg (1, 2).

**2.** Stomipose ifølge krav 1, hvor toppunktsoverblikselementet (7) omfatter et første og et andet arklag (71, 72), der sammen er tætnet langs de nedre kanter med henblik på at tilvejebringe den nederste kant (73) på toppunktsoverblikselementet (7), og hvor det første arklag (71) er tætnet til den første sidevæg (1) langs den fælles perifere kant, og hvor det andet arklag (72) er tætnet til den anden sidevæg (2) langs den fælles perifere kant.

**3.** Stomipose ifølge krav 1, hvor toppunktsoverblikselementet (7) omfatter et enkelt ark, der er sammenfoldet (75) til dannelsen af den nederste kant (73), og to arklag (71, 72), som er tætnet til henholdsvis den første sidevæg (1) og den anden sidevæg (2).

- 4.** Stomipose ifølge et hvilket som helst af kravene 1 til 3, hvor den nederste kant (73) er anbragt i en horisontal orientering inde i posen.
- 5.** Stomipose ifølge et hvilket som helst af kravene 1 til 3, hvor den nederste kant (73) er anbragt med en skråtstillet orientering inde i posen.
- 6.** Stomipose ifølge et hvilket som helst af kravene 1 til 5, hvor der er anbragt udløselige fastgørelsesmidler (11, 12) på yderflader af toppunktselementet (7).
- 7.** Stomipose ifølge krav 6, hvor de udløselige fastgørelsesmidler omfatter henholdsvis en modhagestrimmel (11) og en løkkestrimmel (12) på hvert af arkene.
- 8.** Stomipose ifølge et hvilket som helst af kravene 1 til 7, hvor den første væg (1) og/eller den anden væg (2) er opake film, såsom beigefarvede film.
- 9.** Stomipose ifølge et hvilket som helst af kravene 1 til 8, hvor der er anbragt et ikke-vævet lag ved den proksimale side af den første væg (1) og fortrinsvis også ved den distale side af den anden væg (2).
- 10.** Stomipose ifølge et hvilket som helst af kravene 1 til 9, hvor posen er en pose, der kan tømmes og i den nedre del af posen har en tømningåbning, som kan lukkes.

# DRAWINGS

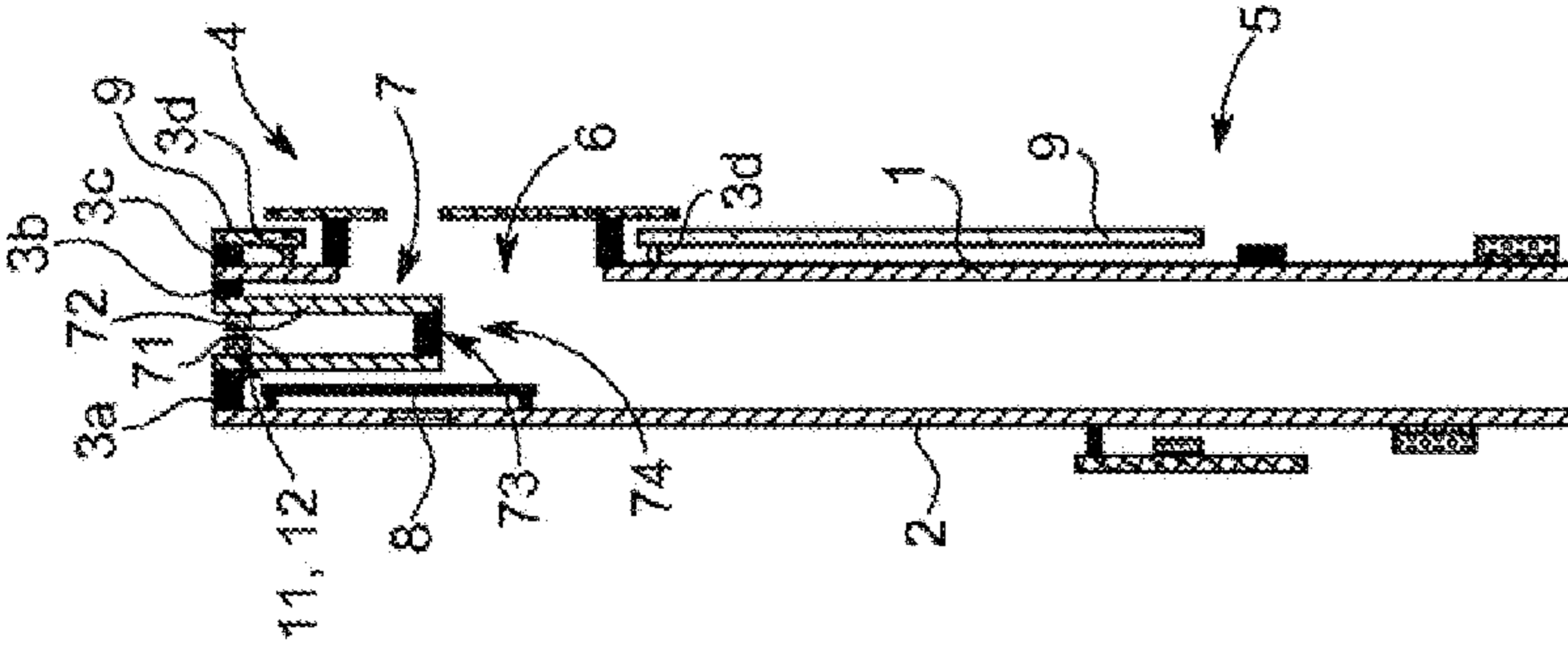


FIG. 3

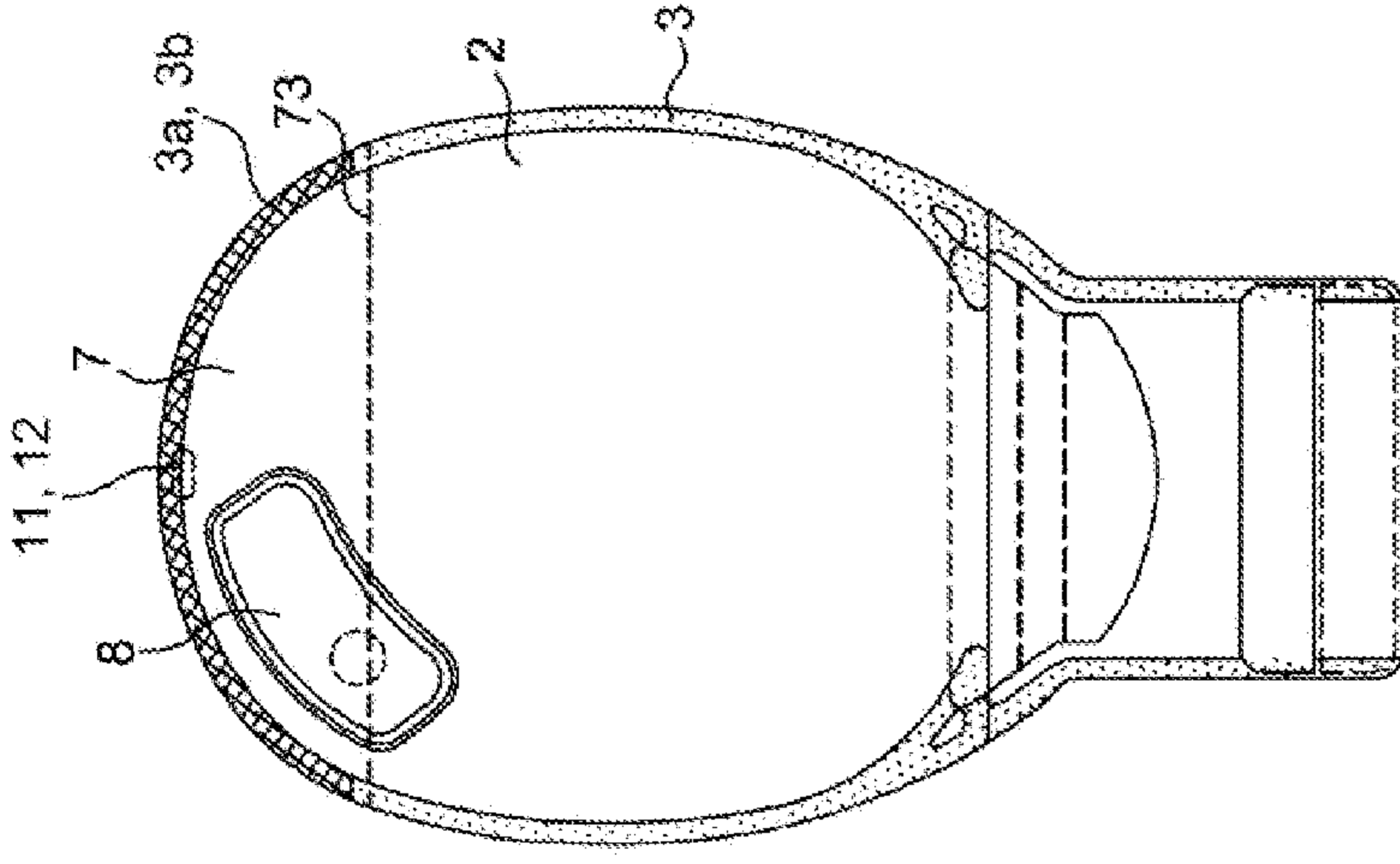


FIG. 2

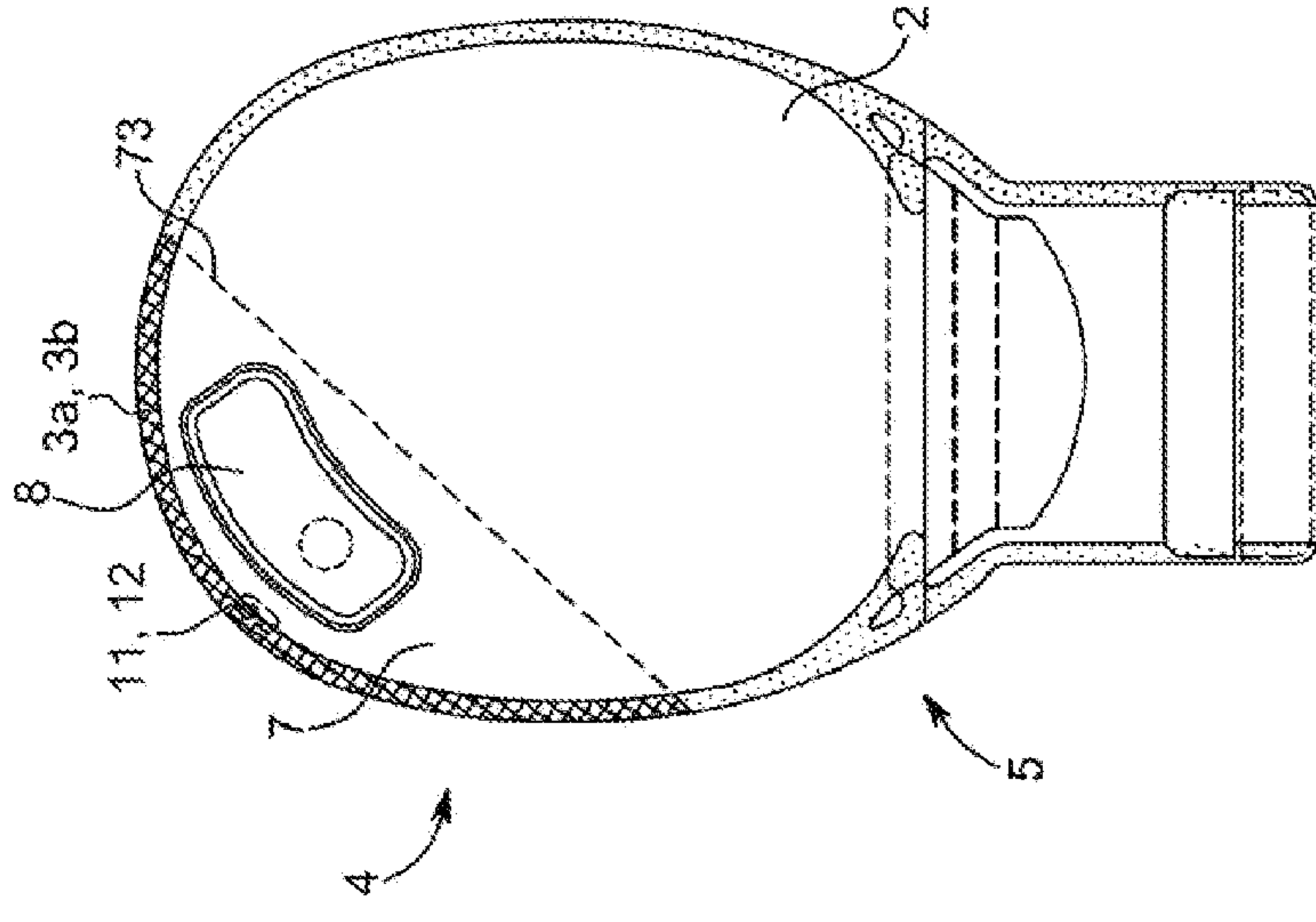


FIG. 1

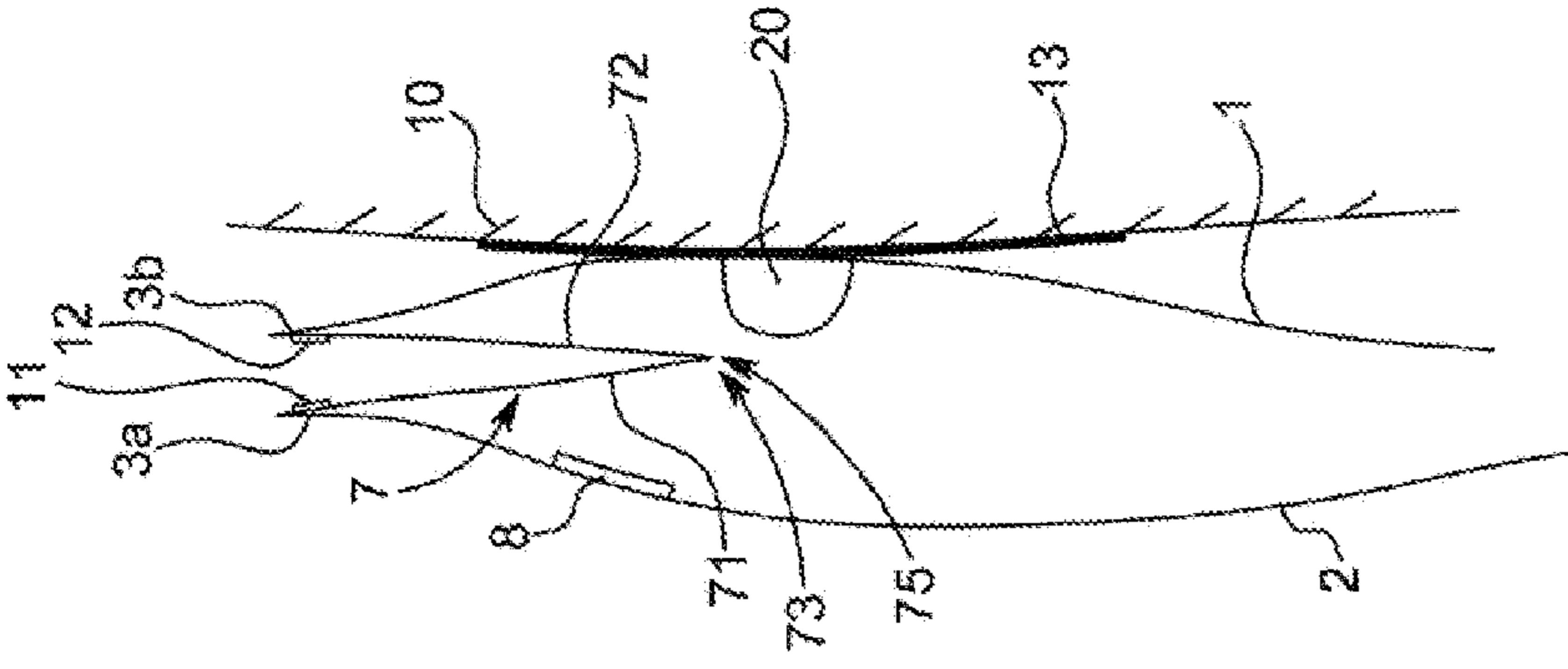


FIG. 4

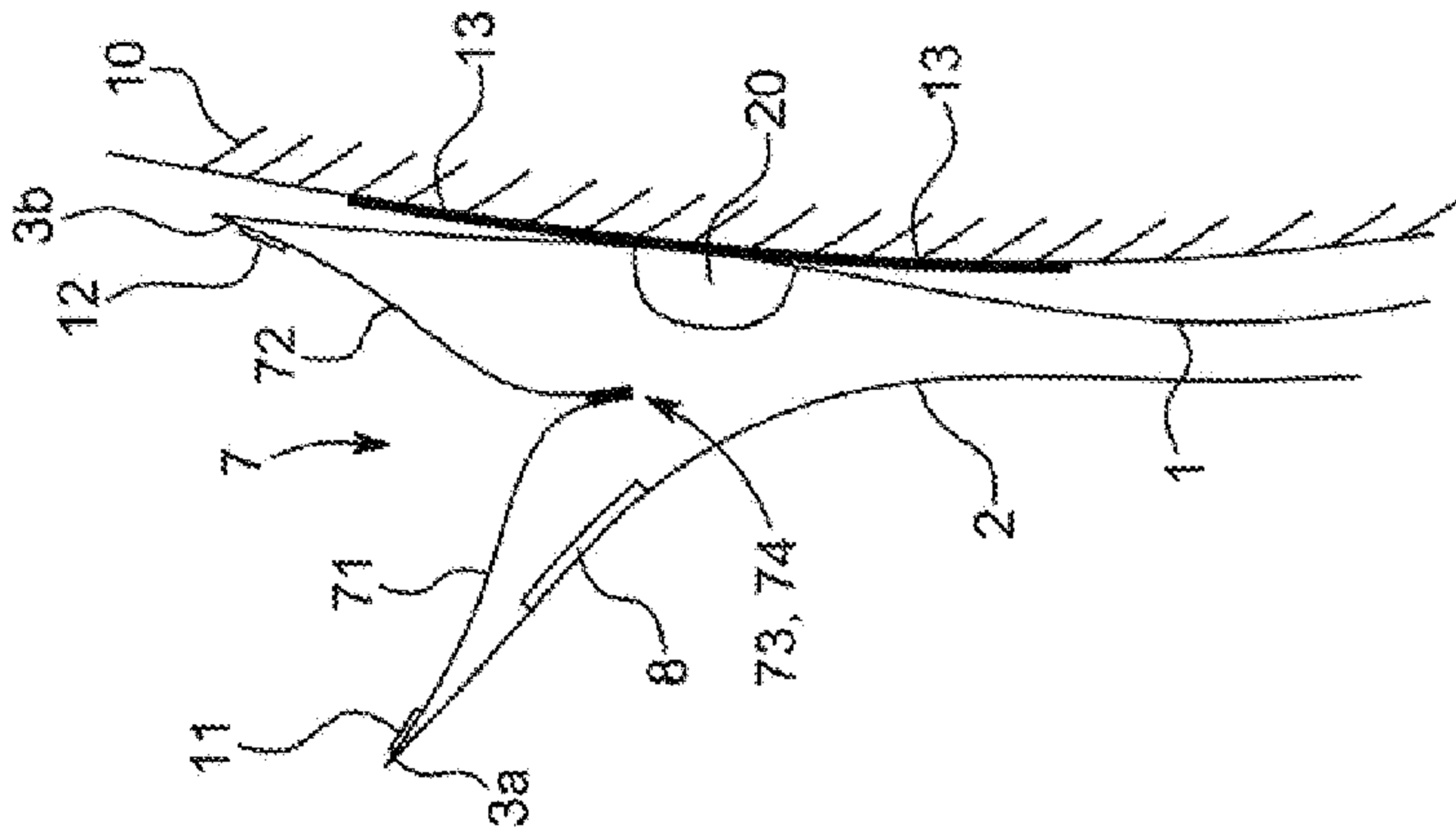


FIG. 5

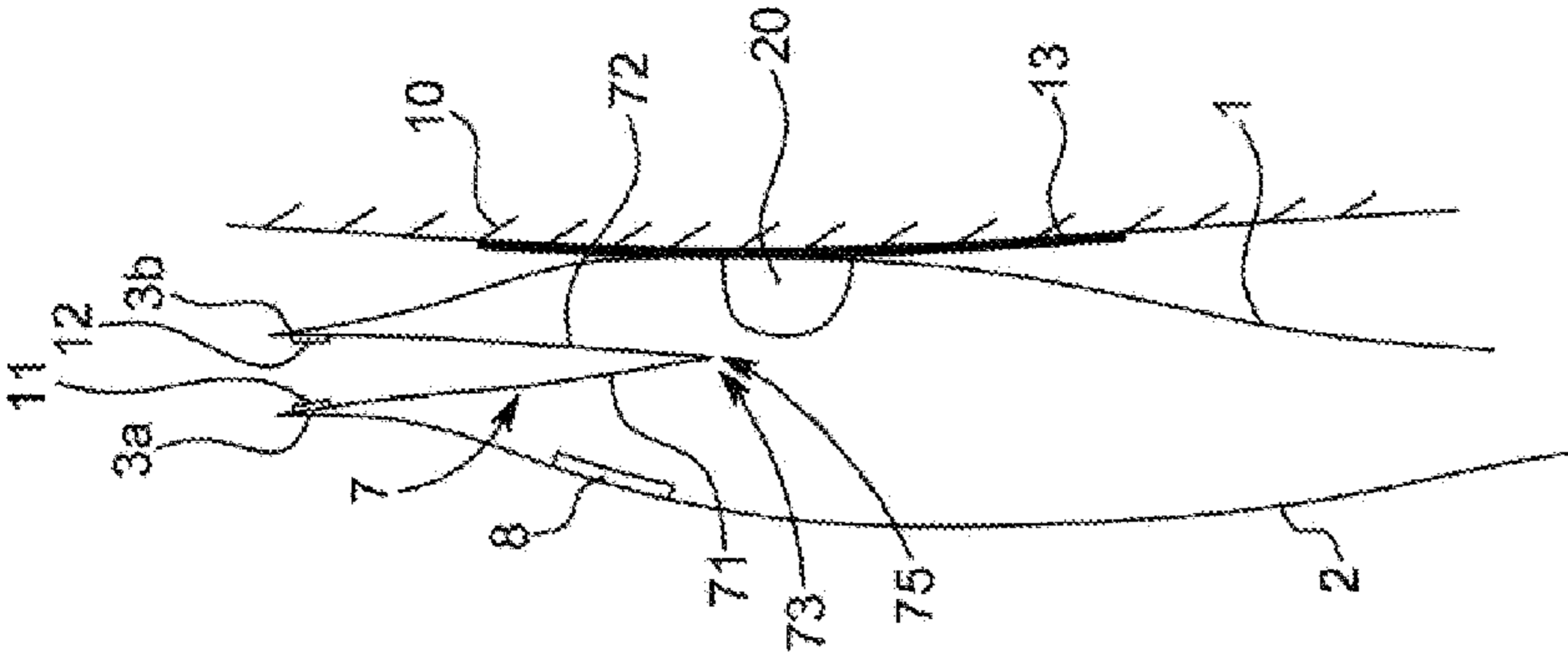


FIG. 6