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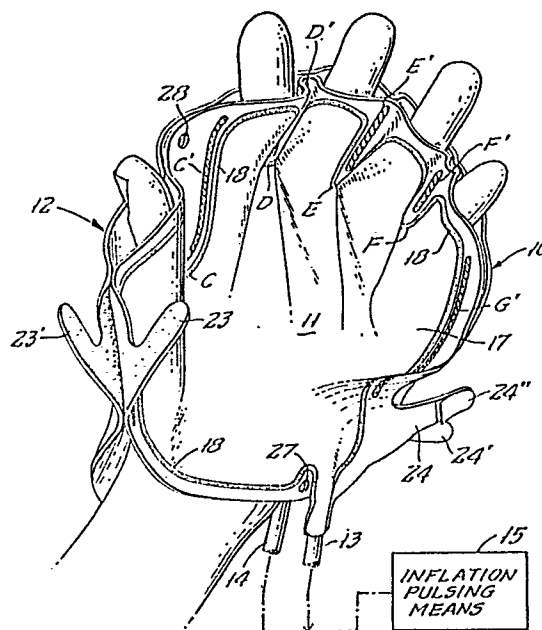
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54 **Medical appliance for the hand.**

57 Device and method for venous-flow stimulation, through localized periodic application of squeezing forces, essentially limited to the phalanx of the digits and thumb, and to the adjacent region of the palm of the hand. To this end, an inflatable mitt is applied to the said phalanx and adjacent regions, with digits and thumb projecting beyond the mitt. The mitt may be wrapped with suitable fabric, such as surgical gauze or muslin, to provide a circumferential tie of the inflatable regions, the tie providing hoop-tension reference for inward application of a squeezing pressure/release cycle; and the squeeze is applied in unison circumferentially around each of the individual digits (and thumb) at the phalanx region. Alternatively, the inflatable mitt may be embedded in an orthopedic cast, without impairing the application of pulsed pressure local to the indicated region; in this case, the circumferential tie is provided by the cast.





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

0228768

Application number

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			EP 86307731.9
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 4)
A	GB - A - 2 141 938 (A.M.NEWSAM GARDNER) * Abstract; page 1, line 125 - page 2, line 19; fig. 2,3 * --	1,3,7, 11-14, 18	A 61 H 9/00 A 61 F 5/01
A	US - A - 3 153 413 (M.GOTTFRIED) * Column 1, lines 8-16; column 1, line 51 - column 2, line 22; fig. 1-4 * --	1,3,7, 11-14, 18	
A	DE - B2 - 2 606 729 (MOHR) * Column 4, line 33 - column 5, line 57; fig. 1,2 * --	1,3,7, 11-14, 18	
A	US - A - 4 479 490 (DEDO) * Column 4, line 22 - column 5, line 45; fig. 1-4 * ----	1,7, 11-13, 18	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 4) A 61 F 5/00 A 61 H 9/00
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search VIENNA		Date of completion of the search 30-06-1987	Examiner TSILIDIS
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			