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EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

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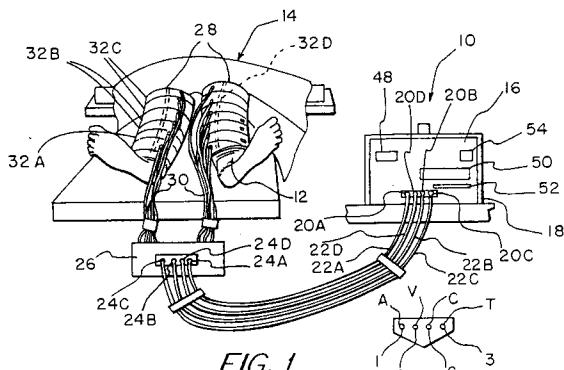
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54) **Compression device.**

57 A pressure generating device (10) for applying compressive pressures against a patient's limb (12) through means of a flexible, pressurizable sleeve (28) which encloses the limb (12) having a means for automatically adjusting pressure within the sleeve to maintain a preselected pressure applied to the limb. The device has a pressure transducer (34) and a controller (16) which generates electrical signals in response to signals from the transducer (34) that operate a flow control valve (44) to control the flow of fluid to the pressure chamber of the sleeve (28).





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 92 25 0157

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.5)	
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.5)	
A	EP-A-0 388 200 (THE KENDALL COMPANY) * column 16, line 32 - column 17, line 8; figures 6-10 *	1,6,8,13	A61H9/00 A61H23/04	
A	EP-A-0 205 817 (BÖSL) * page 7, last paragraph - page 8, paragraph 2; figure 1A *	1,6,8,13		
A,D	US-A-4 396 010 (ARKANS) * column 4, line 33 - column 5, line 11; figures *	1,6,8,13		
A	EP-A-0 053 883 (GENERAL MOTORS CORPORATION) * page 4, line 18 - page 5, line 15; figure 1 *	13		
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 12, no. 308 (E-647) 22 August 1988 & JP-A-63 073 864 (SAGINOMIYA SEISAKUSHO) * abstract *	13	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.5)	
A	EP-A-0 404 965 (ISUZU CERAMICS RESEARCH) * abstract; figure 1 *	13	A61H F16K	
A	US-A-3 056 575 (MOONEY) * figure 1 *	13		
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims				
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner		
THE HAGUE	20 July 1994	Jones, T		
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		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		
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				



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CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- All claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- Only part of the claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claims:
- No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions,

namely:

see sheet -B-

- All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
- None of the further search fees has been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:



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EP 92 25 0157 -B-

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims 1-12 : Pressure controller and pressure generating device.
2. Claims 13-15 : Flow control valve.