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(54) **SANITARY SEAT-BATHTUB**

(57) Sanitary seat-bathtub comprised of a single part shaped like a seat for sanitary bowls, having a shape such that the centre of the seat has a cavity, tank or bathtub which may be filled with lukewarm water to have a hip-bath, and its rear perimeter is open so as to form an opening for emptying the tank or bathtub, when tilting the apparatus, cuts being provided in the front part on the right side and on the left side of the edge so that it can be fitted to any type of existing bowl.

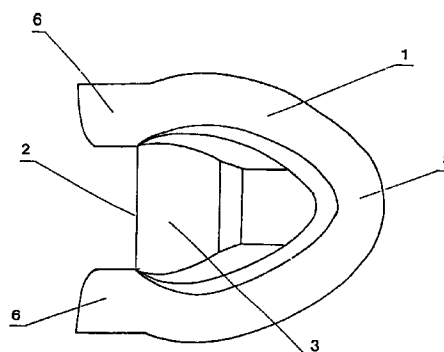


FIG-2

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Description

The improvements in this sanitary seat are such as to provide a novel and singular instrument which forms both a seat and a seat-bath, being exceptionally useful in facilitating defecation in patients with pathologies deriving in symptoms characteristically causing anal pains and discomfort associated to said action.

Thus, this improved sanitary seat is useful in the fields of pharmaceutical and medical and sanitary bath industries.

At present, medical authorities observe that seat-baths in lukewarm water, at say 37°C (the bath water temperature being similar to that of the patient's body), are useful in relieving the pain and other anal discomforts associated to specific ailments such as haemorrhoids, anal fissure, papillitis, haemorrhoidal thrombosis, etc., in patients about to be operated on or in postoperative condition, the seat-bath further facilitating the defecation of patients which normally suffer from constipation.

The scientific reason behind this behavior is the mechanism which is started-off when the patient takes a seat-bath under such circumstances, since it relaxes the anal sphincter and facilitates the act of defecating, thus avoiding serious pain and discomfort dependent on the patient's condition.

It must also be borne in mind that the tone of the sphincter increases during defecation - this applying the people in general - and this causes discomfort and pain in this type of patient, conditions which are considerably alleviated by the baths, as previously described.

In view of this, patients suffering from this nature of ailment or disease frequently resort to the solution of taking seat-baths during defecation, although this is hardly hygienic, since it involves using the bathtub or the bidet, said sanitary appliances being designed for operations other than these, and which furthermore gives rise to the problem of disposing of the faeces and then adequately cleaning and disinfecting the sanitary unit in question.

Therefore, the present improved sanitary seat has been devised for allowing this type of patient to defecate while simultaneously taking a seat-bath, providing a novel and singular instrument which by virtue of its simplicity manages to solve the above problems, namely of the disposal and of the disinfection and overall cleaning of the sanitary appliance or instrument.

This improved sanitary seat comprises a seat coupled onto and supported by a sanitary bowl available in any home or hospital. The seat is characteristic in that it contains a closed tank which forms a bathtub which may be filled with suitably heated water. Thus, the patient can sit on the sanitary bowl, above this singular instrument, and take a seat-bath in the incorporated bathtub. Once the patient has defecated in the sanitary seat-bathtub, which incorporates an opening on the rear for emptying it, merely tilting the seat-bathtub will cause its contents of faeces and water to pour into the sanitary

bowl. Subsequently - this novel and singular apparatus being of a small size, similar to that of a sanitary seat or cover - it can be suitably washed and disinfected elsewhere, such as in the bathroom's bathtub or under the shower.

Thus, in the manner described and by using this sanitary seat, patients suffering from this type of ailment may find relief when defecating in the sanitary bowl, transforming it into a seat-bath after placing this novel invention on the traditional and commonly used sanitary bowl.

Furthermore, this improved sanitary seat may be fabricated from light, readily cleanable material such as plastic, and disinfected under the bathroom shower.

The following is a detailed description of the improvements in the proposed improved seat-bathtub, reference being made to the accompanying drawing wherein is illustrated, merely as a non-limiting example, a preferred form of embodiment liable to any variations in its details provided no fundamental changes are imposed on the essential characteristics of said improvements.

Said drawing illustrates:

Figure 1: a side view of the improved sanitary seat-bath.

Figure 2: a plan view of the improved sanitary seat-bath.

According to the execution example shown, the sanitary seat improvements described in the present invention consist in creating a new apparatus formed by a sanitary bowl seat (1), cuts being provided on the edge (1b) at the left and right front part to facilitate fitting onto any type of existing sanitary bowl, being open in its internal part (2) and attached to a bathtub or closed tank (4).

Thus, this seat-bathtub may be placed over any available sanitary bowl, such as any standard bowl. The tank (4) is positioned inside the sanitary bowl, supported by the seat-shaped edge (1) sustained on the edge of the sanitary bowl, and may be filled with lukewarm water so that the ailing person or patient sitting on the seat is able to take a seat-bath while defecating, the faeces being collected in the bathtub (4) itself. On finishing the operation, this improved sanitary seat need only be tilted upwards, thereby raising the front end (5) of the seat, which will continue to be supported on the back ends (6), and the contents of the bathtub (4) will flow off from the ramp (3), through the open perimeter (2) and into the sanitary bowl. The contents of faeces and water in the bathtub (4) are thus easily disposed of.

Furthermore, this sanitary seat-bathtub can be made of a light, strong material to facilitate its cleaning and disinfection, a task which may be performed by using the bathroom shower.

The shape, dimensions and material, and in general any accessory and secondary item, may be subject to variation provided the essential nature of the

improvements described is not altered, changed or modified.

Claims

1. Sanitary seat-bathtub comprised of a single part shaped like a seat for sanitary bowls, characterized in that it is shaped so that the center of the seat has a cavity, tank or bathtub which may be filled with lukewarm water for taking seat-baths. 5
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2. Sanitary seat-bathtub, according to the previous claim, characterized in that its rear perimeter is open so as to form an opening for emptying the tank or bathtub when tilting the apparatus. 15
3. Sanitary seat-bathtub, according to the previous claims, characterized in that it has cuts in the front part, on the right and left sides of the edge, so that it can be fitted to any type of bowl in the market. 20
4. Sanitary seat-bathtub, according to the previous claims, characterized in that it is made of light, strong material and may be easily disinfected. 25

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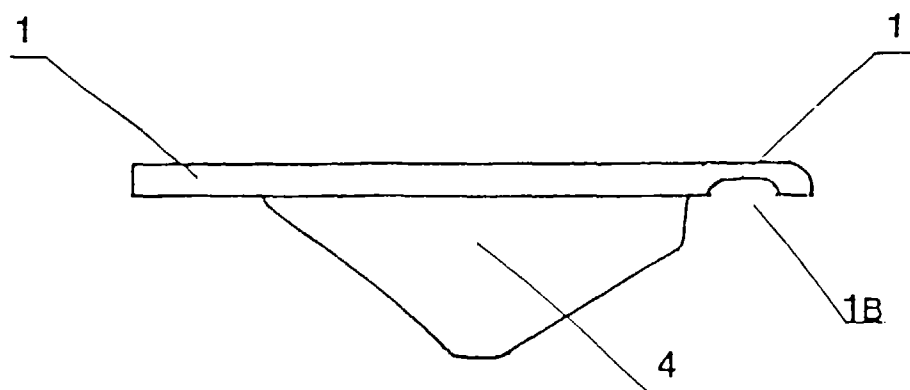


FIG -1

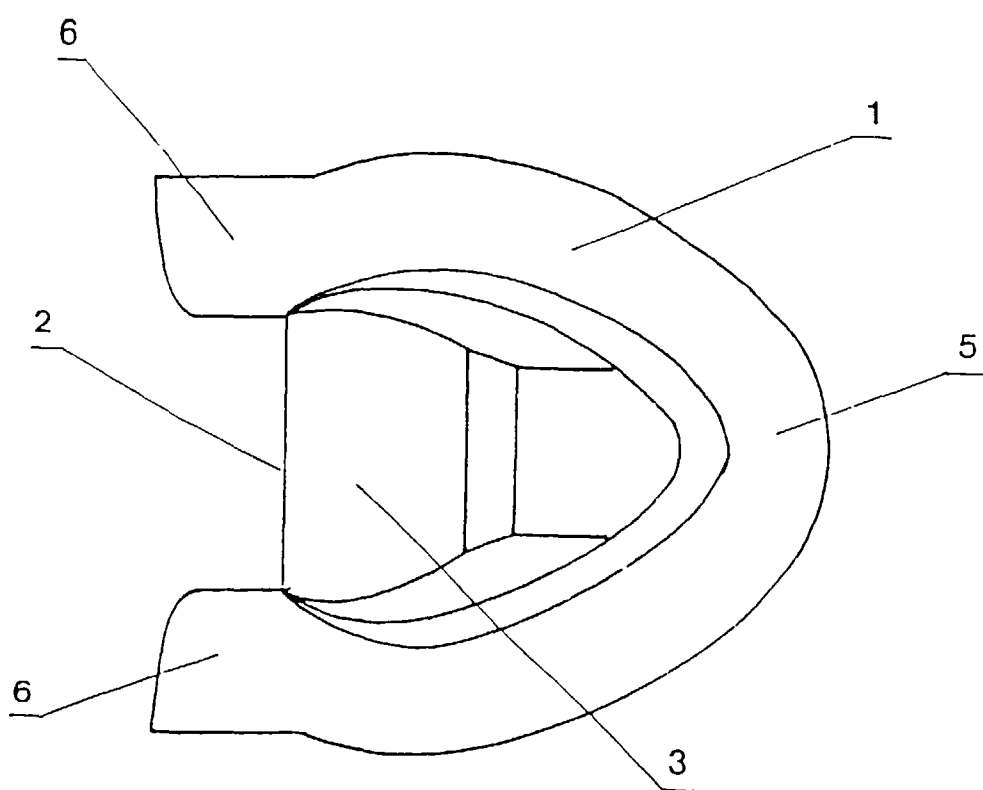


FIG-2

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/ES 96/00083

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER		
IPC ⁶ : A47K 3/22, A47K 4/00		
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)		
IPC ⁶ : A47K		
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched		
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)		
CIBEPAT, CD-CIBEPAT (CD-ROM), EPODOC, WPIL, PAJ, CD-PAJ (MIMOSA)		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X Y	US 1655864 A (E.HASLETT) 10.01.28 page 1, line 84 - page 2, line 83; figures 1-7 ---	1,2,4 3
Y	US 3812543 A (STINSON) 28.05.74 column 2, line 52- line 57; figure 3 ---	3
A	US 3490079 A (H.J.STOLBACH) 20.01.70 column 1, line 56 - line 64; column 3, line 40 - line 47; claims 1,2 ---	1-4
A	US 3072918 A (O.L.MCCALL) 15.01.63 column 2, line 47 - column 3, line 32; figures 1-3 ---	1
A	US 2251039 A (R.RIBEIRO DA SILVA) 29.07.41 claim 1 -----	1
☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☒ See patent family annex.		
* Special categories of cited documents: "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art "&" document member of the same patent family		
Date of the actual completion of the international search		Date of mailing of the international search report
24 June 1996 (24.06.96)		3 July 1996 (03.07.96)
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ S.P.T.O.		Authorized officer
Facsimile No.		Telephone No.

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