



Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets



(11) **EP 1 543 736 A1**

(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(43) Date of publication:
22.06.2005 Bulletin 2005/25

(51) Int Cl.7: **A41C 3/04**

(21) Application number: **04380259.4**

(22) Date of filing: **15.12.2004**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
**AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR
HU IE IS IT LI LT LU MC NL PL PT RO SE SI SK TR**
Designated Extension States:
AL BA HR LV MK YU

(71) Applicant: **Mejido Gonzales, Carmen**
33208 Gijon (Asturias) (ES)

(72) Inventor: **Mejido Gonzales, Carmen**
33208 Gijon (Asturias) (ES)

(30) Priority: **19.12.2003 ES 200303011**

(74) Representative: **PROPI, S.L.**
Jorge Juan, 19
28001 Madrid (ES)

(54) **Breast suspensory**

(57) The breast suspensory is materialized in a feminine bra applicable in women who have just given birth and choose to breastfeed the newborn, incorporating openings leaving the nipple of each one of the breasts uncovered for the purpose of allowing the feeding of the infant without the mother having to remove or carry out any manipulation on the bra. The suspensory incorporates reinforcements and adjustment means, both in its

fastening on the neck and in its fastening on the back of the user, preventing the dissemination of the milk from causing mastitis, in turn achieving that the milk flows through the natural conduit of the nipple, thereby facilitating breastfeeding, and preventing the volume of the breast from being modified, thereby preventing sagging of the breasts since the muscle tone is maintained, as well as preventing the occurrence of stretch marks.

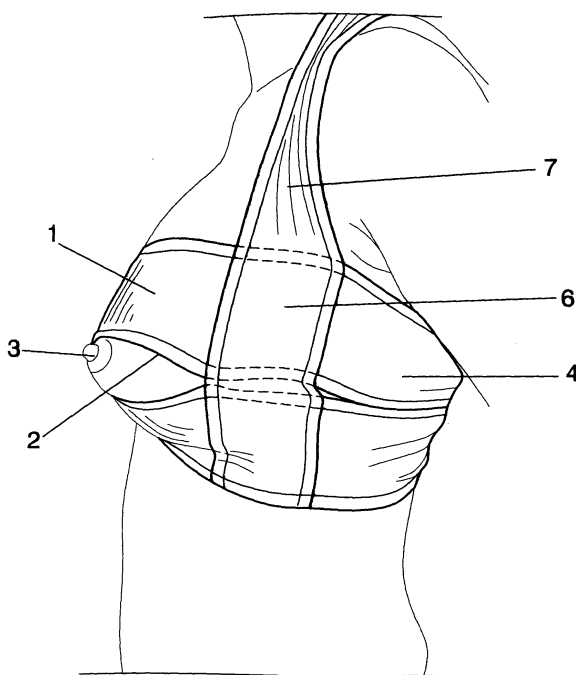


FIG. 2

EP 1 543 736 A1

Description

OBJECT OF THE INVENTION

[0001] The present invention refers to a breast suspensory, or what is the same a feminine bra, applicable in women who have just given birth and choose to breastfeed the newborn.

[0002] The object of the invention is to provide a breast suspensory incorporating an opening leaving the nipple of each one of the breasts uncovered for the purpose of allowing feeding the infant without the mother having to remove or carry out any operation on the bra. Furthermore, this particularity in combination with reinforcements and adjustment means, both in the fastening on the neck and in the fastening on the back of the suspensory, prevents the dissemination of the milk from causing mastitis, in turn achieving that the milk flows through the natural conduit of the nipple, thereby facilitating breastfeeding.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0003] In most women who give birth, a flow of milk which arrives so quickly and with such force that the breasts fill, causing tautness and pain, occurs a few days after giving birth.

[0004] The volume of the breast increases with the danger of a possible mastitis, i.e. infection and inflammation of the mammary glands, as well as a loss of muscle tone (sagging breasts), also generating stretch marks on the entire breast.

[0005] For these reasons, there are many mothers who choose to bottle-feed, which evidently does not provide the benefits and advantages offered by breastfeeding.

DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0006] The breast suspensory object of the invention, i.e. the female bra which is proposed, has been designed to solve the drawbacks of conventional bras which, in the case of a mother who wishes to breastfeed her child, must be manipulated at every feeding, either separating it from the breast, or removing it, in order to leave the nipple uncovered and so that the baby can eat through the nipple.

[0007] The breast suspensory in question has the particularity of being formed by a wide band which, in correspondence with the area of the breasts, has two oval-shaped openings through which the nipples and bordering area are uncovered, having been provided that it extend laterally into bands with an adjustable fastener on the back, whereas from the same sides and in the upper portion, through reinforcement strips, it continues in straps fastening on the neck, with an also adjustable fastener, such that both the adjustment of the back and adjustment of the neck enables carrying out a greater or

lesser tightening of the portion of the suspensory which is on the breasts, preventing the milk from exceeding the natural volume of the breast, the milk flowing out, and preventing all the problems which occur when the flow of milk occurs in a woman who has recently given birth.

[0008] In addition to achieving an adjustment of the pressure which must be exerted on the breast and thereby preventing the dissemination of the milk from causing mastitis, achieving that the exerted pressure causes the milk to flow through the natural conduit of the nipple, the side reinforcements and adjustment means of the fastener on the neck of the suspensory prevent the breasts from sagging as it maintains the muscle tone thereof. Stretch marks are also prevented and it prevents the volume of the breast from being modified, and therefore prevents tautness of the breast and the pain this generates in the flow of milk occurring in mothers a few days after giving birth.

[0009] with the breast suspensory or bra described, mothers can choose to breastfeed the newborn, with no type of problem, with the advantages derived therefrom with regard to bottle-feeding, since breastfeeding provides the baby with better digestion, as well as the advantages implied by the fact that breast milk contains protective antibodies, while at the same time improving the relationship between mother and child, and, in summary, the infant fed with breast milk becomes much more resistant to infections.

[0010] It must finally be stated that when the mother of the baby chooses to bottle-feed after the milk comes in, it is not advisable to stimulate the coming of the milk manually or with a breast pump, but rather simply put on the suspensory tight enough and following instructions from the doctor, withdrawing the milk little by little.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0011] To complement the description being made and for the purpose of aiding to better understand the features of the invention, according to a preferred practical embodiment example thereof, a set of drawings is attached as an integral part of said description in which, with an illustrative and non-limiting character, the following has been depicted:

Figure 1 shows a practical application according to a frontal view of the breast suspensory object of the invention arranged on the breasts of a woman.

Figure 2 shows a side elevational view of the same application depicted in the previous figure.

Figure 3 shows a rear view, seeing the fixing which is adjustable both on the back and on the neck of the woman.

PREFERRED EMBODIMENT OF THE INVENTION

[0012] In view of the described figures, it can be ob-

served how the breast suspensory object of the invention is constituted of a wide band with the anatomical configuration suitable for being arranged on the breasts of a woman, such that the wide band (1) has a pair of oval-shaped openings (2) leaving the nipple (3) of each one of the breasts and the bordering areas of said nipple uncovered, as is clearly seen in Figures 1 and 2.

[0013] The sides of the band (1), which may or may not include frontal reinforcements or which may be constituted of a single part, or of several parts duly fixed to one another, have wide extensions (4) fixed to one another by means of an adjustable fastener system (5) which enables carrying out a greater or lesser tightening of the suspensory on the breasts of the woman, after reinforcements (6) vertically affecting all the sides, as depicted in Figure 2, continue into extensions (7) serving as straps fixed to one another in the upper portion on the neck of the woman, defining an adjustable fastener also maintaining pressure, or what is the same, more or less lift of the breasts according to the adjustment of the fastener (8) corresponding to these upper and side straps (7).

[0014] The fasteners (5) and (8) of the adjustment means of the suspensory on the body of the woman, as depicted in the mentioned figures, will always enable maintaining the chest taut, according to the amount of accumulated milk at all times, thereby preventing the milk from exceeding the natural volume of the breast, achieving that the milk flows through the natural conduit of the nipple, therefore preventing mastitis and thus facilitating breastfeeding of the baby. Furthermore, and as previously stated, the side reinforcements (6) in combination with the adjustment means (8) of the upper and side straps (7) prevent the volume of the breast from being modified, thereby preventing sagging of the breasts since muscle tone is maintained, as well as preventing stretch marks.

[0015] In addition to all these advantages, the suspensory described does not require being manipulated or removed when feeding the baby, given that since the nipples (3) are uncovered, the baby can eat directly, with the advantages of comfort, quickness and easiness in eating, both for the infant and the mother.

the woman, whereas the side reinforcements (6) continue in the upper portion in straps (7) fastening, also in an adjustable manner (8), on the neck of the woman, said adjustment means (5, 8) defining a system of tightening the suspensory on the breasts of the woman, according to the amount of accumulated milk at all times.

Claims

1. A breast suspensory constituting a bra provided for use by women who have just given birth and choose to breastfeed the newborn, **characterized in that** it is constituted from a wide band (1) arranged on the breasts, being affected with a pair of oval-shaped openings (2) leaving the nipple (3) and bordering areas uncovered to allow breastfeeding the baby directly; having been provided that it laterally has reinforcements (6) after which rear extensions (4) are provided in the manner of wide bands fastening in an adjustable manner (5) on the back of

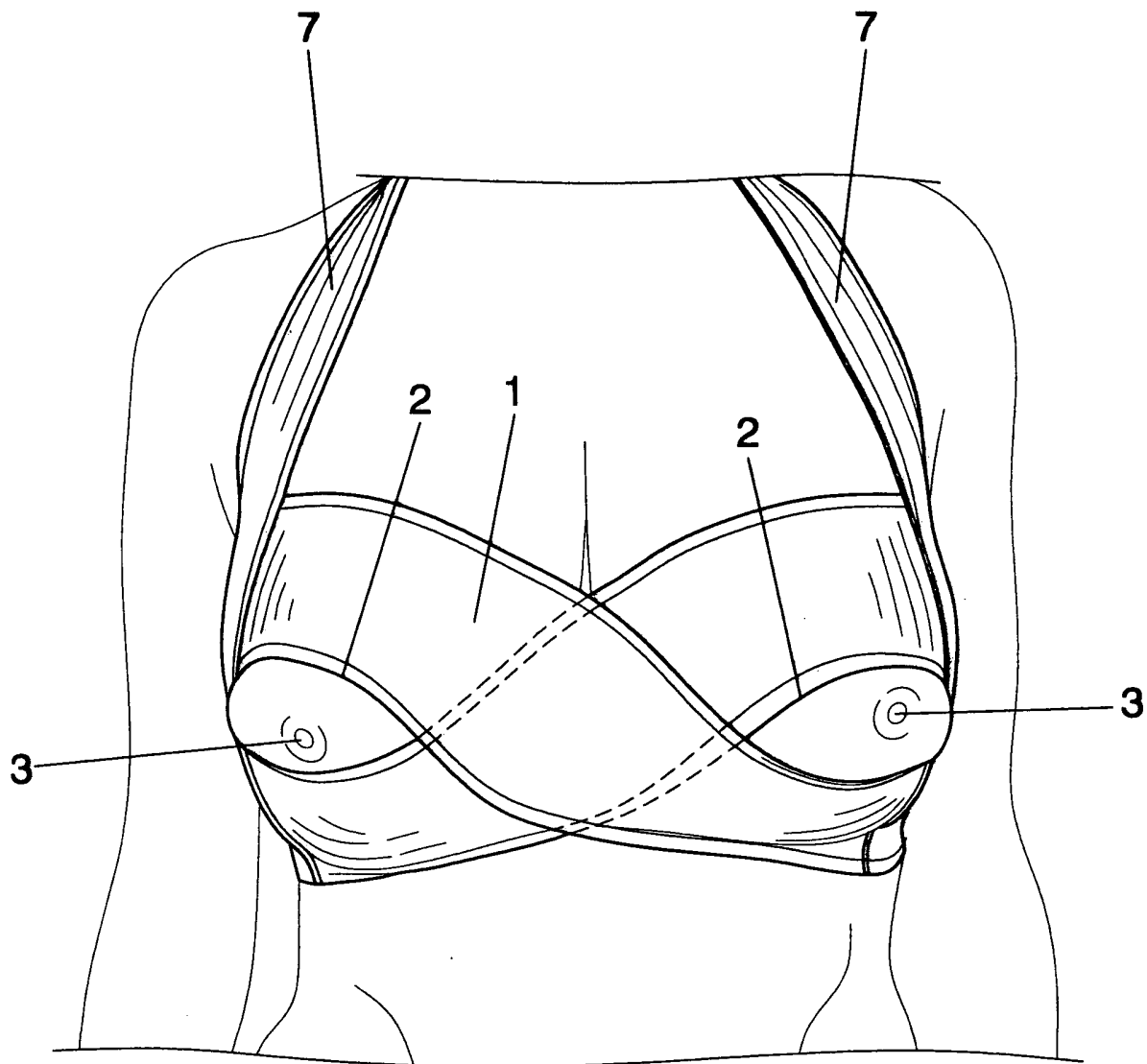


FIG. 1

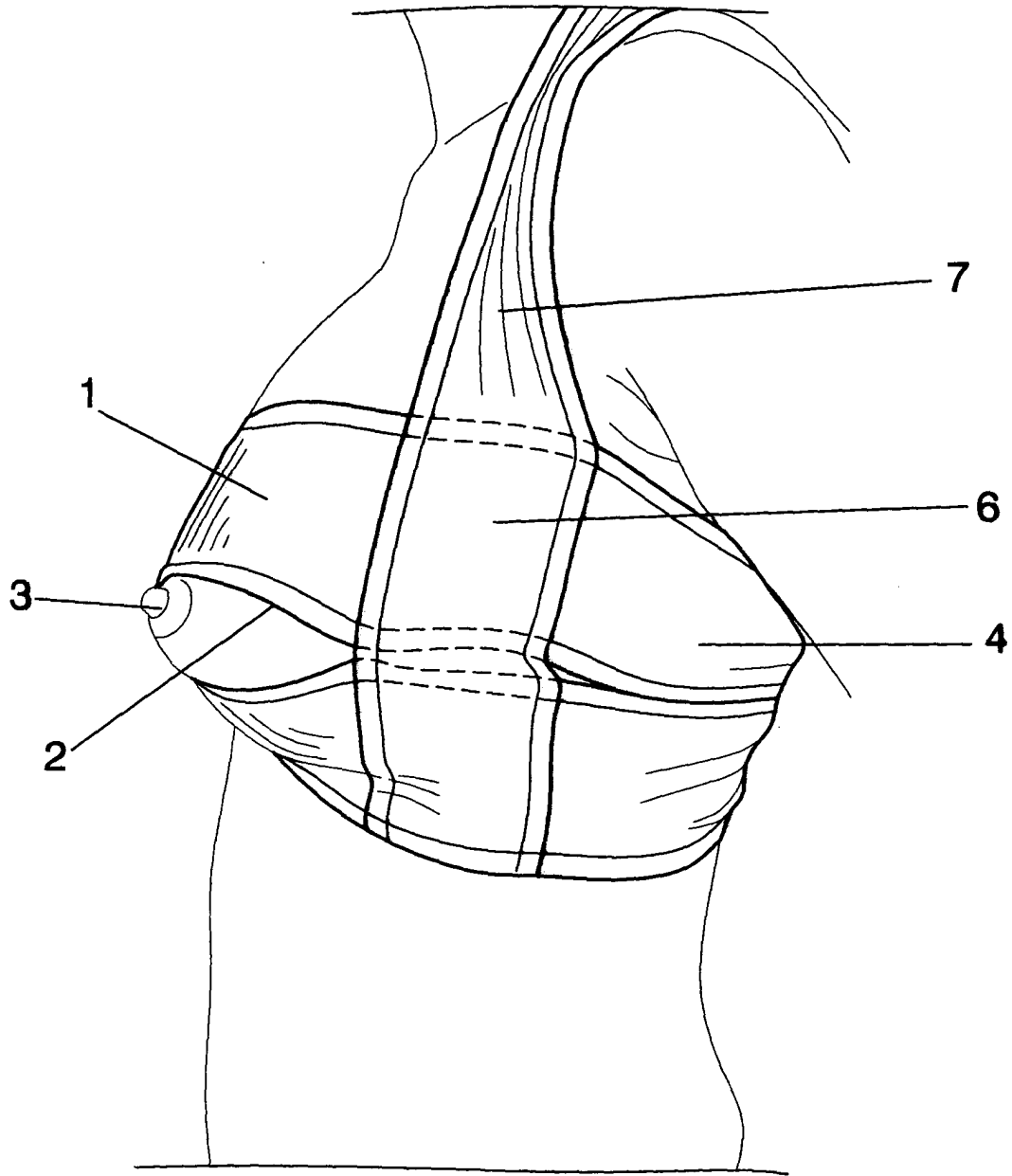


FIG. 2

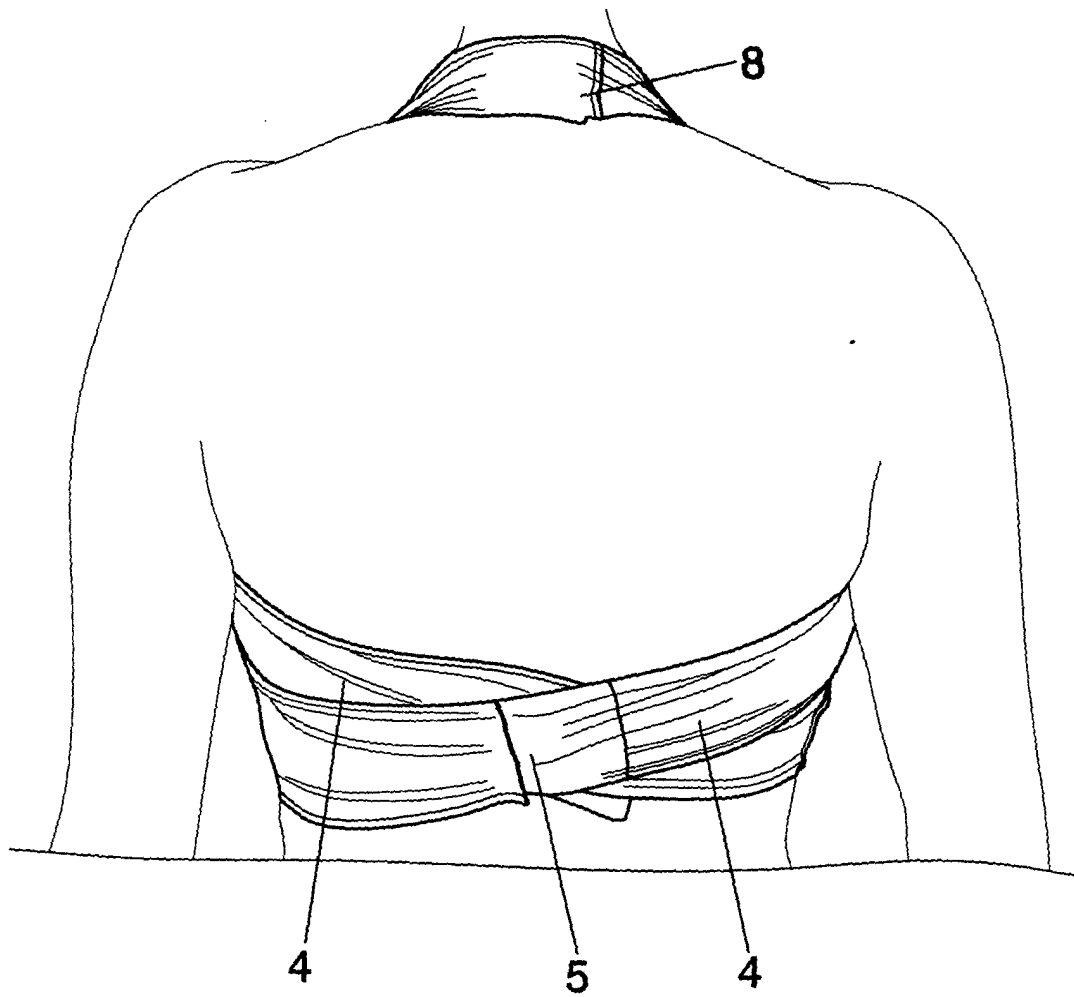


FIG. 3



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 04 38 0259

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
A	FR 1 496 126 A (H. M. GIRODET) 21 December 1967 (1967-12-21) * page 1, column 2, last paragraph - page 2, column 1, paragraph 4; claims 1-3; figures 1-3 *	1	A41C3/04
A	FR 2 087 087 A (PONSOT ETS) 31 December 1971 (1971-12-31) * page 1, line 1 - page 2, line 11 * * page 2, line 24 - page 3, line 23; claims 1-3; figures 1-4 *	1	
A	US 4 076 029 A (WIQUEL ET AL) 28 February 1978 (1978-02-28) * column 2, line 22 - column 4, line 62; claims 1,2,7; figures 1-6 *	1	
A	US 4 444 191 A (HARNED ET AL) 24 April 1984 (1984-04-24) * column 4, paragraph 2 - paragraph 4; claim 1; figures 4-7 *	1	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			A41C
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
The Hague		14 March 2005	Garnier, F
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			

1
EPO FORM 1503 03 82 (P04C01)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 04 38 0259

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

14-03-2005

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
FR 1496126	A	21-12-1967	FR 91473 E	18-10-1968
FR 2087087	A	31-12-1971	FR 2087087 A5	31-12-1971
US 4076029	A	28-02-1978	NONE	
US 4444191	A	24-04-1984	NONE	