(11) EP 1 925 234 A1

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION published in accordance with Art. 153(4) EPC

- (43) Date of publication: **28.05.2008 Bulletin 2008/22**
- (21) Application number: 06742015.8
- (22) Date of filing: 29.05.2006

- (51) Int Cl.: **A46B** 15/00 (2006.01)
- (86) International application number: PCT/CN2006/001127
- (87) International publication number: WO 2007/019756 (22.02.2007 Gazette 2007/08)
- (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 LV MC NL PL PT RO SE SI
 SK TR
- (30) Priority: 17.08.2005 CN 200520063463 U
- (71) Applicant: Shenzhen Jingrui Industry Co., Ltd. Guangdong 518067 (CN)
- (72) Inventor: YUAN, Jian Guangdong 518067 (CN)
- (74) Representative: Hüttermann, Aloys Michalski Hüttermann & Partner Patentanwälte Neuer Zollhof 2 40221 Düsseldorf (DE)

(54) A COMPACT TYPE OZONE TOOTHBRUSH

(57) A compact type ozone toothbrush includes a handle portion and a bristle portion, **characterized in**

that the toothbrush further includes an ozonizer and a circuit set inside the handle portion to work the ozonizer and includes batteries provided power to the circuit.

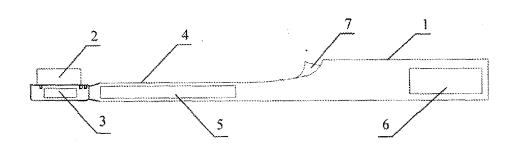


Fig.1

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0001] The present invention relates to toothbrush, more particularly, to a compact ozone toothbrush.

1

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002] There are different designs for ozone tooth-brush with bactericidal functions. However, the current ozone toothbrushes have complicated structures and bad versatility, can't satisfy people's various demands of functions. For example, it is hard to be accepted that the brush head can't be changed conveniently, and the power consumption of the toothbrush by using battery only is so high. Meanwhile, the high cost is also hard to be accepted. So, the popularization and usage of the ozone toothbrush are affected directly. Furthermore, the conventional toothbrushes also have complicated structure and large size.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0003] An aspect of the present invention is to provide an ozone toothbrush with compact structure, which enables a limited amount of ozone to be used in the toothbrush without leaking. Meanwhile, the defect of complicated structure of the conventional ozone toothbrush due to a need of pressurized gas is eliminated. And a sufficient flexibility for the structure of the toothbrush, such as recharging and oscillating, are also considered.

[0004] According to an aspect of the present invention, a compact ozone toothbrush is provided, comprising a handle portion and a bristle portion, wherein the compact ozone toothbrush also comprises an ozonizer and a circuit provided inside the handle portion to enable operation of the ozonizer.

[0005] Advantageously, the compact ozone toothbrush also comprises batteries used for power supply to the circuit, and a switch for controlling the power supply. [0006] Advantageously, the handle portion further comprises a handle and a connecting pole, wherein the ozonizer is installed in the bristle portion or the connecting pole, and the circuit is placed in the connecting pole, and the batteries are placed in the handle.

[0007] Advantageously, the handle portion further comprises a handle and a connecting pole, wherein the ozonizer is installed in the bristle portion or the connecting pole, and the circuit and the batteries are placed in the handle

[0008] Advantageously, the ozonizer comprises a metal discharge device, or an ozonizer tube, or a ceramic element.

[0009] Advantageously, the bristle portion comprises a base board, several binds of bristles on the base board, and when the ozonizer is installed in the bristle portion, the bristle portion also comprises a shell for receiving the

ozonizer.

[0010] Advantageously, the base board is movably connected to the shell, and the shell is fixed to the handle portion.

[0011] Advantageously, the bristle portion further comprises an outer shell, forming a cavity with the base board to receive the ozonizer, and overflow vents or overflow slots are provided on the base board or the outer shell.

[0012] Advantageously, a removable battery cover or a removable battery box is provided at a free end of the handle portion.

[0013] Advantageously, the batteries are rechargeable batteries, and the compact ozone toothbrush also comprises induction coils wound around the handle portion, and an induction charging circuit connected between the induction coils and the rechargeable batteries.

[0014] Advantageously, the compact ozone toothbrush also comprises an oscillating unit powered by the batteries, which provides oscillation to the toothbrush, and the oscillating unit may be an eccentric motor.

[0015] The ozone toothbrush provided in the present invention has the following prominent advantages: since the generated ozone is directly applied to the bristle portion of the toothbrush, no gas-pressurized equipment is needed, thus the size of the ozone toothbrush may be very small. Meanwhile, a sufficient flexibility for the structure are also considered, for example, the brush head is changeable, the batteries are rechargeable, and the toothbrush is vibratile.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0016]

30

35

40

Fig. 1 is a structural diagram of the compact ozone toothbrush according to a first embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 2 is a structural diagram of the compact ozone toothbrush according to a second embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 3 is a structural diagram of the compact ozone toothbrush according to a third embodiment of the present invention.

5 DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EM-BODIMENT

[0017] As shown in Fig.1, the compact ozone toothbrush according to the first embodiment of the present invention comprises a handle portion and a bristle portion 2. An ozonizer 3 is installed inside the bristle portion 2. The handle portion further comprises a handle 1 and a connecting pole 4. A driving circuit 5 of the ozonizer 3 is placed inside the connecting pole 4. Batteries 6 are used for power supply to the driving circuit 5, and a switch 7 is used to control the power supply of the batteries. Both of the batteries 6 and the switch 7 are placed in the handle 1. The ozonizer may be a metal discharge device, or an

5

10

15

20

30

35

40

45

50

55

ozonizer tube, or a ceramic element. The batteries may be rechargeable batteries. Induction coils (not shown) are wound around the handle portion, and an induction charging circuit used to charge the rechargeable batteries through a outside induction equipment is connected between the induction coils and the rechargeable batteries.

[0018] As shown in Fig.2, the compact ozone toothbrush according to the second embodiment of the present invention comprises a handle portion and a bristle portion 2. The handle portion further comprises a handle 1 and a connecting pole 4. An ozonizer 3 is installed inside the connecting pole 4. A driving circuit 5 of the ozonizer 3 and batteries as well as a switch 7 for controlling the power supply to the batteries are all placed inside the handle 1.

[0019] As shown in Fig.3, the compact ozone toothbrush according to the third embodiment of the present invention comprises a handle portion and a bristle portion 2. An ozonizer 3 is installed inside the bristle portion 2. The handle portion further comprises a handle 1 and a connecting pole 4. A driving circuit 5 of the ozonizer 3 and batteries are placed inside the handle 1. A switch 7 for controlling power supply to the batteries is also installed inside the handle 1. The bristle portion 2 comprises a base board 21 and several binds of bristles 22 provided on the base board 21, and when the ozonizer is installed inside the bristle portion 2, the bristle portion 2 also comprises a shell 23 used for receiving the ozonizer 3. In another word, the shell 23 is a hollow cavity for receiving the ozonizer 3. Here, two electrodes and connecting wires (not shown) are connected to the driving circuit 5 through the connecting pole.

[0020] In another embodiment, the base board is movably connected to the shell, and the shell is immovably connected to the handle portion.

[0021] In a further embodiment, the bristle portion also comprises an outer shell, forming a cavity with the base board for receiving the ozonizer, and overflow vents or overflow slots are ptovided on the base board or the outer shell. A removable battery cover or a removable battery box is provided at a free end of the handle portion.

[0022] In another embodiment, a oscillating equipment may be provided in the handle. The oscillating equipment may be a eccentric motor. In this way, double functions of oscillation and massage are provided.

Claims

- A compact ozone toothbrush, comprising a handle portion and a bristle portion, wherein the compact ozone toothbrush also comprises an ozonizer and a circuit provided inside the handle portion to enable operation of the ozonizer.
- 2. The compact ozone toothbrush according to claim 1, wherein the compact ozone toothbrush also com-

prises batteries used for power supply to the circuit

- The compact ozone toothbrush according to claim 2, wherein the compact ozone toothbrush also comprises a switch for controlling the power supply.
- 4. The compact ozone toothbrush according to claim 2, wherein the handle portion further comprises a handle and a connecting pole, wherein the ozonizer is installed in the bristle portion or the connecting pole, and the circuit is placed in the connecting pole, and the batteries are placed in the handle.
- 5. The compact ozone toothbrush according to claim 2, wherein the handle portion further comprises a handle and a connecting pole, wherein the ozonizer is installed in the bristle portion or the connecting pole, and the circuit and the batteries are placed in the handle.
- 6. The compact ozone toothbrush according to any one of claims 1-5, wherein the ozonizer comprises a metal discharge device, or an ozonizer tube, or a ceramic element.
- 7. The compact ozone toothbrush according to claim 6, wherein the bristle portion comprises a base board, several binds of bristles on the base board, and when the ozonizer is installed in the bristle portion, the bristle portion also comprises a shell for receiving the ozonizer.
- **8.** The compact ozone toothbrush according to claim 7, wherein the base board is movably connected to the shell, and the shell is fixed to the handle portion.
- 9. The compact ozone toothbrush according to claim 7, wherein the bristle portion further comprises an outer shell, forming a cavity with the base board to receive the ozonizer, and overflow vents or overflow slots are provided on the base board or the outer shell.
- **10.** The compact ozone toothbrush according to claim 7, wherein a removable battery cover or a removable battery box is provided at a free end of the handle portion.
- 11. The compact ozone toothbrush according to claim 6, wherein the batteries are rechargeable batteries, and the compact ozone toothbrush also comprises induction coils wound around the handle portion, and an induction charging circuit connected between the induction coils and the rechargeable batteries.
- **12.** The compact ozone toothbrush according to any one of claims 1-5, wherein the compact ozone toothbrush further comprises an oscillating unit provided inside

3

the handle.

13. The compact ozone toothbrush according to claim 12, wherein the oscillating unit comprises an eccentric motor.

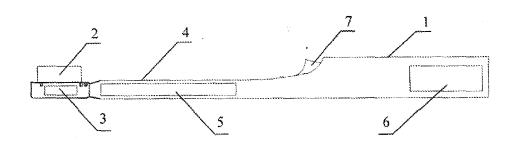


Fig.1

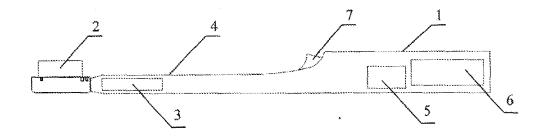


Fig.2

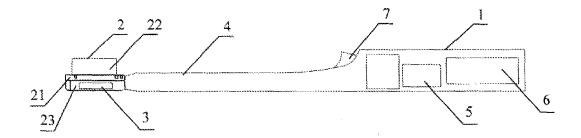


Fig.3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/CN2006/001127

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER						
Int.Cl. ⁸ A46B 15/00 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC						
B. FIELD	B. FIELDS SEARCHED					
Minimum do	Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)					
	Int.Cl. ⁸ A46B 15/00, A46B 11/+					
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched						
ALL OF CHINESE PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Electronic da	ata base consulted during the international search (nam	e of data base and, where practicable, sear	ch terms used)			
	CPRS,EPODOC,WPI,PAJ,CNKI					
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT						
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where ap	ppropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.			
Х	US5921251A ((CERA-N) CERAMATEC IN 13. Jul.999 description column 2 line 60 to co		1-11			
Y		12, 13				
Y CN2131484Y (YANG, Ji Qin) 5. May. 1993 description page 2 line 8 to line 17, Fig 1			12, 13			
A	A					
A CN2540928Y (CHEN, Qing Fu) 26. Mar. 2003 the whole document			1-13			
A CN2525960Y (LI, Xiao Min) 18. Dec. 2002 the whole document			1-13			
☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.						
* 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 application or patent but published on or after the "X" document of particular relevance; the classical description or patent but published on or after the "X" document of particular relevance; the classical description or patent but published on or after the "X" document of particular relevance; the classical description or patent but published on or after the "X" document of particular relevance; the classical description or patent but published on or after the internation or priority date and not in conflict with the cited to understand the principle or theory invention.						
intern "L" docun which	ational filing date nent which may throw doubts on priority claim (S) or a is cited to establish the publication date of another on or other special reason (as specified)	cannot be considered novel or cannot an inventive step when the docum "Y" document of particular relevance cannot be considered to involve as document is combined with one or	ent is taken alone the claimed invention inventive step when the			
	nent referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or means	documents, such combination being skilled in the art				
but la	nent published prior to the international filing date ter than the priority date claimed	"&"document member of the same pate				
	actual completion of the international search 8.Aug.2006 (08.08.2006)	Date of mailing of the international search reports 2006				
Name and mailing address of the ISA/CN The State Intellectual Property Office, the P.R.China 6 Xitucheng Rd., Jimen Bridge, Haidian District, Beijing, China 100088 Facsimile No. 86-10-62019451		Authorized officer CHEN, Li Telephone No. (86-010)62085720	(PK			
		L				

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (April 2005)

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No. PCT/CN2006/001127

			FC1/CN2000/00112/
Patent Documents referred in the Report	Publication Date	Patent Family	Publication Date
US5921251A	13.Jul.1999	JP2001513345T	4.Sep.2001
		WO9907253 A1	18.Feb.1999
		AU8773198 A	1.Mar.1999
		US5921251 A	13.Jul.1999
		EP1041903 A1	11.Oct.2000
CN2131484Y	5. May. 1993	none	
01.11.02.10.12	5. May. 1555	110110	
CN2540928Y	26. Mar. 2003	none	
CN2525960Y	18. Dec.2002	none	
DOTTING A 1010 () in in in		L	<u> </u>

Form PCT/ISA /210 (patent family annex) (April 2005)