

G. S. PETERKIN,
TAMPON.
APPLICATION FILED DEC. 30, 1918.

1,401,358.

Patented Dec. 27, 1921.

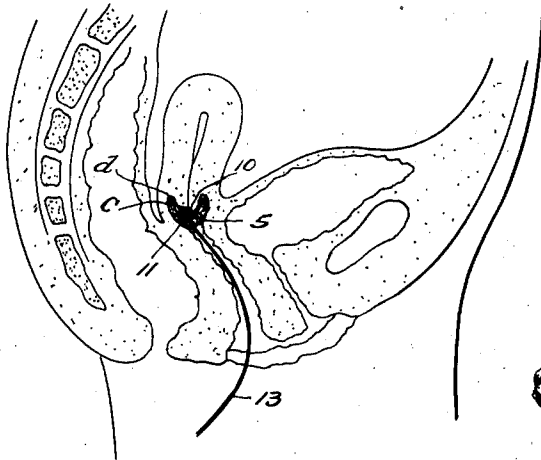


Fig. 1.



Fig. 5.

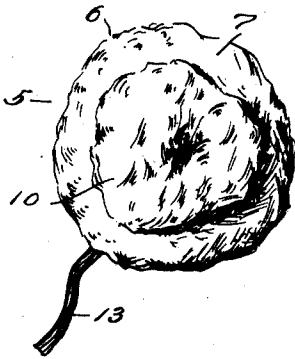


Fig. 2.

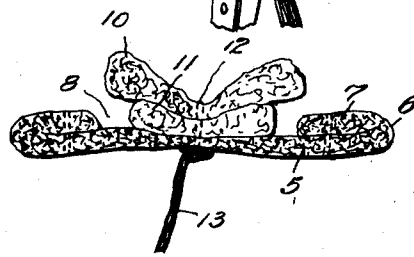


Fig. 3.

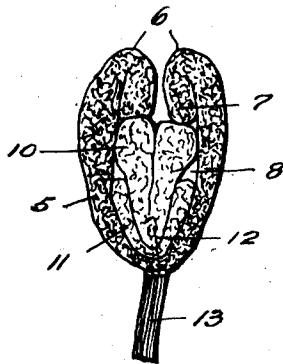


Fig. 4.

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TAMPON.

1,401,358.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 27, 1921.

Application filed December 30, 1918. Serial No. 268,810.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GUY SHEARMAN PETERKIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Seattle, in the county of King and State of Washington, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Tampons, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to therapeutical appliances and, especially, to tampons for supporting and applying medicines to the neck and mouth of the uterus.

The objects of my improvements are, first, to produce a device of this character which is adapted to be medicated and conveniently inserted or withdrawn through the vagina; and, second, to produce a tampon which will serve to retain the medication in contact with the cervix and prevent the escape of the medicine into or through the vagina.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is an anatomical view of a portion of a human body with a tampon in operative position at the uterus cervix. Fig. 2 is a plan view of my improved tampon. Fig. 3 is a transverse vertical sectional view of the same in a distended condition. Fig. 4 is a vertical sectional view showing the tampon in its collapsed condition, as when being withdrawn through the vagina. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the tampon illustrated as being grasped by the jaws of a forceps for inserting the same into and through the vagina.

In carrying out my invention, I provide a tampon comprised of absorbent and non-absorbent materials, the non-absorbent element being associated or combined with the absorbent element so that it may be successively used as a sheath or a support for the absorbent element and also serves to obviate any loss of medication which may be applied to the latter.

More specifically, and referring now to Figs. 2 and 3, the numeral 5 denotes a body, hereinafter designated as the sheath, formed of lamb's wool or other material possessing relatively poor fluid absorbent qualities. Said sheath is desirably of a circular form and about its periphery is turned over, as at 6, the folded portion 7 being sewed to the underlying portion.

By such devices said sheath is provided

with a central recess 8 and the rounded perimeter affords a comparatively smooth edge. Secured upon said sheath and concentrically thereof is an element comprising a piece or pieces of absorbent cotton or an equivalent material, two of such pieces 10 and 11 being shown in superposed relations. The pieces 10 and 11 are preferably of circular form, the upper one being of greater diameter and of approximately the diameter of the sheath recess 8.

The aforesaid absorbent element and the non-absorbent sheath are connected together at their centers, preferably by sewing with thread, indicated by 12, which is also advantageously utilized to secure the end of a cord or tape attachment 13 to the center of the sheath 5.

In operation, the absorbent cotton 10, 11 is first medicated and then enveloped in the sheath 5 by pursing up the same, as shown in Fig. 5, in which state the tampon is grasped by a suitable forceps, indicated by F, and is thereby inserted through a speculum (not shown) through the vagina until the medicated piece 10 is carried into direct contact with the mouth C (Fig. 1) of the cervix.

The operator thereupon disengages his forceps and with the end thereof pushes upwardly against the sheath edges to tuck the same into the annular space *d* between the cervix and the surrounding wall of the vagina. By thus packing the sheath about the cervix the latter is supported with the medicated portion of the tampon in contact with the mouth of the uterus, and the sheath being of a non-absorbent material prevents the escape of the medicine from the cervix into or through the vagina.

To remove the tampon, the patient pulls the same through the vagina by means of the attachment 13, causing the tampon to assume the shape in which it is illustrated in Fig. 4 with the sheath 5 enveloping the medicated portion.

The construction and operation of my improved tampon will, it is thought, be understood from the foregoing description.

What I claim, is—

1. In a tampon, a body comprising a layer of non-absorbent material having its edges folded upon itself to provide a central recess, and a layer of absorbent material of ap-

proximately the diameter of said recess attached to the upper side of the first-named layer.

2. In a tampon, a body comprising an element of a fluid-absorbent character, a second element of a relatively non-absorbent character secured only at its center to the underside of the first-named element, said second-named

element being of greater diameter than the first-named one to afford material adapted to be packed around the cervix and support the first-named element in juxtaposition with the mouth of the cervix. 10

Signed at Seattle, Washington, this 16th day of December, 1918.

GUY SHEARMAN PETERKIN.