

# ***"THE CRUTCH CAP"***

***The Solution to  
Discomfort***

# MOBILITY DEVICE USE IN U.S.

- Just over 6.8 million Americans living outside of institutions use assistive devices to help them with mobility. Of the 2.4 % of the population, crutches are used by 566,000 persons.

# EMPLOYMENT & LABOR FORCE

- Mobility device users are much less likely to be working than those who do not use mobility devices. However, crutch users are much more likely to have jobs (38.4 %).

# HOSPITALIZATION HISTORY

- Mobility device users are much more likely than the rest of the population to have been recently hospitalized. A significant proportion of mobility device users may be using these aids for a relatively short period of time, while recovering from surgery, injury or disease. However, some users may use crutches for longer periods for ongoing recovery, such as those with prosthetic limbs.

# HOSPITALIZATION HISTORY

- In particular, 35.1 % of crutch users have been hospitalized during the 12 months prior to the historical interview. Just over two-thirds (67.6 %) of crutch users have perceived disabilities.

# CONDITIONS ASSOCIATED WITH CRUTCH USE

- The top four conditions associated with the use of crutches all have similar prevalence\*
- Osteoarthritis is the main cause of disability for 59,000 crutch users\*
- Orthopedic impairments of the lower extremity affect 55,000 persons\*

# CONDITIONS ASSOCIATED WITH CRUTCH USE

- Absence or loss of lower extremity affects 47,000 persons\*
- Late effects of injury are the main cause of limitation among 40,000 crutch users\*

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# United States Patent [19]

## Sigfried

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[51] HERGONOMIC PAD AND PAD HOLDER

[57] ABSTRACT

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Related U.S. Application Data

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[52] U.S. CL. .... 128/845, 135/375, 155/7

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178/677, 678, 879; 15/71, 73, 75, 68

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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to each embodiment, a shoulder, arm or hand cushion includes a substantially flexible pad having dual overlapping opposing generally tapered lateral ends. A cushion pad made as a viscoelastic gel pad. The dual overlapping areas define a horizontal ridge for support of the viscoelastic pad and a horizontal base at the viscoelastic gel pad. A neck having a cross-sectional area size of the pad's combined or less than the size of the viscoelastic gel pad. A shoulder cushion of the viscoelastic gel pad. The viscoelastic gel pad is easily removable by turning the plush fabric pad inside out, as seen in the first three figures. A shoulder cushion may be used on the shoulder portion of a chair. In another embodiment, the shoulder, arm or hand cushion is formed from a viscoelastic molded material having a base inner layer of a moldable material of first relatively firm degree of hardness and an outer layer of a viscoelastic molded material of a second relatively soft degree of hardness where the outer layer conforms to the shape of a portion of a shoulder, arm or hand. Preferably, the base inner layer is also viscoelastic.

21 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets



# FEATURES OF THE CRUTCH CAP

- Alleviates pressure point irritation and discomfort to the rib and underarm areas
- Moisture absorbent cover
- Washable cover for proper hygiene
- Foam insert for ultra cushioning

# PRODUCT SUPPORTERS

- Patients
- Minnesota Vikings Football Trainer
- Mayo Clinic



# CONTACT

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