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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A ratcheting device for use in tightening the cuff of a blood pressure monitor has a lever, a lever mounting which is attached to one end of the cuff and which holds the lever so that it can be moved in a given direction or an opposite direction. An elastic body is disposed between the lever and the lever mounting to transmit a force applied to the lever into the lever mounting by elastic deformation of the elastic body. Interdental spaces are formed between saw teeth on the inner surface of a cam and extend in the given and opposite directions in which the lever moves. A ratchet having pawls thereon which can engage with the interdental spaces is provided; this ratchet is immobilized by the engagement of the pawls in the interdental spaces when the pressure applied to the lever exceeds a given value.