

Claims:

1. Nebulizer ~~(1)~~ for a fluid, ~~(2)~~ comprising: an insertable container ~~(3)~~ containing the fluid ~~(2)~~, wherein the nebulizer ~~(1)~~ comprises and a counter device ~~(44)~~ for counting operations of the nebulizer ~~(1)~~, wherein the nebulizer ~~(1)~~ can be opened for replacing the container ~~(3)~~, and

characterized in

that wherein the counter device ~~(44)~~ is configured to, in use, blocks opening of the nebulizer ~~(1)~~ until a predetermined number of operations has been reached or exceeded, and to permit the nebulizer to be opened when the predetermined number of operations has been reached or exceeded.

2. Nebulizer according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the nebulizer ~~(1)~~ comprises a housing part ~~(18)~~ which can be detached or opened for replacing the container ~~(3)~~.

~~3. Nebulizer according to claim 2, characterized in that the nebulizer ~~(1)~~ or counter device ~~(44)~~ is constructed such that the housing part ~~(18)~~ has to be replaced each time the container ~~(3)~~ is replaced.~~

~~43. Nebulizer according to claim 2 or 3, characterized in that~~ wherein the container ~~(3)~~ is inseparable from the housing part ~~(18)~~.

~~54. Nebulizer according to claim 43, characterized in that~~ wherein the nebulizer ~~(1)~~ or counter device ~~(44)~~ is constructed such that the housing part ~~(18)~~ having an empty or used container ~~(3)~~ is blocked against reuse and/or reconnection with the nebulizer ~~(1)~~.

~~65. Nebulizer according to one of claims 2 to 54, characterized in that~~ wherein the nebulizer ~~(1)~~ or the housing part ~~(18)~~ comprises a securing means ~~(35)~~ for holding the container ~~(3)~~ in the housing part ~~(18)~~ inseparably, and wherein the container ~~(3)~~ is moveable back and forth within the nebulizer ~~(1)~~ and/or relative to the housing part ~~(18)~~ during conveying of the fluid ~~(2)~~, pressure generation and/or nebulization.

76. Nebulizer according to one of the claims 2 to 65, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the counter device (44) interlocks the housing part (18) with the nebulizer (1) until the predetermined number of operation has been reached or exceeded.

87. Nebulizer according to one of the preceding claims, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the counter device (44) or part thereof is inseparable from the container (3), and/or that the counter device (44) has to be replaced together with the container (3), and/or that wherein the counter device (44) counts only operations of the nebulizer (1) with one single container (3).

98. Nebulizer according to one of the preceding claims, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the nebulizer (1) comprises a monitoring device (23) for counting the total number of operations of the nebulizer (1), in particular with multiple containers (3).

109. Nebulizer according to claim 98, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the monitoring device (23) is configured to locks the nebulizer (1) against further operation or use when the total number of operations has reached or exceeded a predetermined value.

110. Nebulizer according to claim 98 or 109, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the monitoring device (23) drives the counter device (44), in particular, wherein the counter device (44) can be separated from the monitoring device (23) and ~~can be replaced~~ is replaceable.

121. Nebulizer according to one of the preceding claims, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the counter device (44) comprises a preferably common control means, in particular, a rotatable control ring (45), for controlling blocking of opening of the nebulizer (1) and/or for blocking an associated container (3) or housing part (18) against further use and/or reconnection with the nebulizer (1).

1312. Nebulizer according to claim 121, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the control means comprises an axial recess (47) so that the control means can be blocked by engagement into the recess (47) and/or that wherein an associated control element (50) ~~can~~ is engageable into this recess (47) to lock the nebulizer (1), respectively when the predetermined number of operations has been reached or exceeded.

~~1413~~. Nebulizer according to one of the preceding claims, ~~characterized in that wherein the~~
nebulizer ~~(1)~~ is configured to be blocked in form fit manner, in particular, by the counter
device ~~(44)~~, until the predetermined number of operations has been reached or exceeded.

~~1514~~. Nebulizer according to one of the preceding claims, ~~characterized in that wherein the~~
nebulizer ~~(1)~~ is constructed as an inhaler, particularly for medical aerosol treatment.