CLAIMS:

1. An ostomy wafer (100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, 700, 800) comprising:

an external layer (110, 210, 310, 410) having an opening to permit the passage of effluent therethrough and a first adhesive to adhere to external skin around a stoma of an ostomate;

a convex layer (120, 220, 320, 420) coupled to the external layer that includes a stoma channel (118, 218, 318, 418, 614, 714, 814) sized to at least partially receive the stoma, and the convex layer includes at least one groove (510, 610) radially spaced from the stoma channel that extends at least partially through the convex layer to facilitate deformation of the convex layer complementary to a shape of the stoma, wherein the at least one groove includes a plurality of grooves (510, 610) spaced circumferentially from one another about the convex layer, wherein at least one of the plurality of grooves extends through the convex layer to a depth that is less than an entire height of the convex layer, and

characterised in that the convex layer further includes a second adhesive to further adhere to the ostomate, and wherein at least one of the plurality of grooves extends through the convex layer to a depth that is equal to the entire height of the convex layer.

2. The ostomy wafer (500) of claim 1, wherein the plurality of grooves (510) are distributed over less than 10% of an entire radial area of the ostomy wafer (500), wherein the plurality of grooves include two sets of grooves that are arranged circumferentially opposite one another about the convex layer, wherein each of the two sets of grooves includes multiple grooves that extend from a proximal end to a distal end of the convex layer, and wherein the multiple grooves converge toward the distal end.

3. The ostomy wafer (600) of claim 1, wherein the plurality of grooves include six grooves (610) that are circumferentially distributed evenly around the convex layer.

4. The ostomy wafer (600) of claim 3, wherein each of the six grooves (610) extends from a proximal end toward a distal end (612) of the convex layer, and wherein a width (W1, W2) of each of the six grooves decreases toward the distal end.

5. The ostomy wafer (700) of claim 1, wherein the convex layer includes at least one protruding ridge (710) that extends radially away from the stoma channel (714) toward an outermost edge (712) of the convex layer, wherein the at least one protruding ridge (710) includes two protruding ridges that each extend radially away from the stoma channel (714) all the way to the outermost edge (712) of the convex layer, and wherein the two protruding ridges are arranged circumferentially opposite one another about the convex layer.

6. The ostomy wafer (100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, 700, 800) of claim 1, wherein the stoma channel (118, 218, 318, 418, 614, 714, 814) has a proximal opening sized for receipt in a flush or retracted stoma and a distal opening arranged opposite the proximal opening, and wherein a thickness of a wall of the convex layer at the proximal opening is greater than a thickness of a wall of the convex layer at the distal opening, and wherein a diameter of the distal opening is greater than a diameter of the proximal opening.

7. The ostomy wafer (100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, 700, 800) of claim 1, wherein the stoma channel includes a built-in structure (910, 930, 950) which is located interiorly of an internal surface of the convex layer that defines the stoma channel.

8. The ostomy wafer (100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, 700, 800) of claim 7, wherein the built-in structure (910, 930, 950) is located on an internal surface of the convex layer that defines the stoma channel, and wherein the built-in structure includes a plurality of angled fins (932) that extend toward the stoma and are shaped to mate with the stoma

9. The ostomy wafer (100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, 700, 800) of claim 1, wherein the first adhesive is a multilayer adhesive.

10. The ostomy wafer (100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, 700, 800) of claim 1, wherein the convex layer (120, 220, 320, 420) extends in a dimension parallel to a flow of effluent through the ostomy wafer over more than half a centimeter.

11. The ostomy wafer (800) of claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the convex layer is characterized by a profile selected from a chamfered profile (802), a cylindrical profile (804), a curved profile (806), an axially combined profile (808), a radially combined profile (822), and combinations thereof.

12. The ostomy wafer (100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, 700, 800) of claim 1, wherein the convex layer is constructed to conform to any one of a number of stomas of different ostomates without modification, and wherein the second adhesive includes a moldable adhesive material.

13. The ostomy wafer (100, 300) of claim 1, further comprising an internal layer (130, 330) that at least partially covers an exterior of the convex layer (120, 320) that faces the ostomate.

14. The ostomy wafer (100, 300) of claim 13, wherein the internal layer (130, 330) includes a moldable adhesive material.

15. An ostomy device comprising:

an ostomy pouch; and

an ostomy wafer according to any preceding claim coupled to the ostomy pouch.

16. A method of applying an ostomy wafer to an ostomate, the method comprising:

positioning a convex layer of the ostomy wafer relative to a stoma of the ostomate;

pressing the convex layer against the ostomate to mold the convex layer to the stoma and external skin of the ostomate surrounding the stoma;

forming a seal around the stoma with the convex layer;

adhering the convex layer to the ostomate with a first adhesive of the convex layer;

contacting the convex layer with an external layer of the ostomy wafer; and

securing the external layer to the ostomate with a second adhesive of the external layer,

wherein the ostomy wafer is an ostomy wafer according to any one of claims 1-14.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein pressing the convex layer against the ostomate includes deforming the convex layer adjacent to grooves extending all the way through the convex layer to form a shape of the convex layer that is sized for receipt in a pocket or crease of the external skin of the ostomate.

18. The method of claim 16, wherein pressing the convex layer against the ostomate includes deforming the convex layer adjacent to grooves extending all the way through the convex layer to accommodate a hernia adjacent to the stoma.

19. The method of claim 16, wherein pressing the convex layer against the ostomate includes positioning a stoma channel of the convex layer around the stoma and securing the stoma channel to the stoma using a plurality of structures located interiorly of an internal surface of the convex layer that defines the stoma channel.

20. The method of claim 16, wherein pressing the convex layer against the ostomate includes contacting the ostomate with an internal layer of the ostomy wafer that at least partially covers the convex layer and includes a third adhesive.