AMENDED CLAIMS:

1. A counter comprising:

a first ring member having a first indicia and being rotatable in increments about an axis, the first indicia indicating a count; and

a limiting member comprising a limiting mechanism,

wherein the limiting mechanism comprises:

an engaging portion arranged to act radially with respect to the first ring member to contact the first ring member to limit free rotation of the first ring member relative to the limiting member about the axis; and

a guide, the guide comprising an arm spaced apart from the limiting member engaging portion in a fixed relation, the guide being configured to contact the first ring member such that the limiting member engaging portion maintains contact with the first ring member.

2. A counter according to claim 1, wherein the engaging portion comprises one or more teeth arranged to contact an inner circumferential surface of the first ring member.

3. A counter according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the first ring member comprises an engaging portion arranged to co-operate with the engaging portion of the limiting member to limit free rotation of the first ring member relative to the limiting member about the axis.

4. A counter according to claim 3, wherein the engaging portion on the first ring member comprises a plurality of teeth on an inner circumferential surface of the first ring member.

5. A counter according to claim 4, wherein the plurality of teeth on the inner circumferential surface of the first ring comprise ratchet teeth.

6. A counter according to any one of claims 2 to 5, wherein the one or more teeth of the limiting member engaging portion comprises one or more triangular or ratchet-shaped teeth.

~~7. A counter according to any preceding claim, wherein the limiting mechanism comprises a guide, the guide comprising an arm spaced apart from the limiting member engaging portion in a fixed relation, the guide being configured to contact the first ring member such that the limiting member engaging portion maintains contact with the first ring member.~~

7~~8~~. A counter according to any preceding claim ~~7~~, wherein the guide contacts the first ring member on an outer circumferential surface.

8~~9~~. A counter according to any preceding claim, wherein the limiting mechanism is supported on a base having a fixed end and a floating end, the fixed end being coupled to the limiting member and the floating end being free of the limiting member, and wherein the base is flexible at the fixed end such that the floating end is moveable radially with respect to the first ring member.

9~~10~~. A counter according to claim 8~~9~~, wherein limiting member engaging portion is located at the floating end of the base.

10~~11~~. A counter according to any preceding claim, wherein the limiting member comprises a limiting ring member coaxially arranged about the same axis as the first ring member.

11~~12~~. A counter according to claim 10~~11~~, wherein the limiting ring member comprises one or more locating recesses disposed in an upper circumferential surface for engaging with correspondingly-shaped protrusions in a housing for preventing rotation of the limiting ring member about the axis.

12~~13~~. A counter according to any preceding claim, wherein the limiting mechanism is configured to provide a frictional resistance to the first ring member in a forward count direction of the first ring member, and to prevent movement of the first ring member in a reverse count direction.

13~~14~~. A counter according to any preceding claim, comprising:

a second ring member having second indicia, the second ring member being rotatable in increments about the same axis as the first ring member, the second indicia indicating a count;

a coupling mechanism for releasably coupling the second ring member to the first ring member, to allow the second and first ring members to rotate cooperatively when coupled and to allow independent rotating of the second ring member when not coupled;

wherein the coupling mechanism comprises first and second engagement means, the first engagement means being movable radially outwardly and radially inwardly relative to the axis.

1415. A counter according to claim 1314 wherein the coupling mechanism comprises a deflector to deflect the first engagement means radially outwardly.

1516. A counter according to claim 1415 wherein the first engagement means is deflected radially outwardly after a predetermined degree of rotation of the second ring member, the predetermined amount of rotation of the second ring member being less than a full rotation of the second ring member about the axis.

1617. A counter according to claim 1314, 1415 or 1516, wherein the first engagement means is connected to, or integral with, the second ring member.

1718. A counter according to any one of claims 1415 to 1617 wherein the first engagement means comprises an arm having a slot and a contact end~~, preferably the first engagement means comprises four arms each having a slot and a contact end~~.

18. A counter according to claim 17, wherein the first engagement means comprises four arms each having a slot and a contact end.

19. A counter according to claim 17 or 18 wherein the contact end comprises an upwardly extending component that contacts the deflector.

20. A counter according to any one of claims 1314 to 19 wherein the second engagement means is connected to, or integral with, the first ring member.

21. A counter according to any one claims 1314 to 20 wherein the second engagement means comprises a plurality of protrusions.

22. A counter according to claim 21 wherein the protrusions are equally spaced apart.

23. A counter according to claim 21 or 22 wherein, when the first engagement means is moved radially outwardly, the first engagement means engages with one of the protrusions.

24. A counter according to claim 23, wherein, when the first engagement means engages with one of the protrusions, the first ring member overcomes frictional resistance of the limiting mechanism in a forward count direction and the first ring member rotates in the forward count direction.

25. A counter according to any one of claims 14~~15~~ to 24, wherein the deflector is connected to, or integral with the limiting member.

26. A counter according to any one of claims 13~~14~~ to 25, wherein the first ring member comprises a display cover element for obscuring a view of the second indicia.

27. A counter according to any one of claims 13~~14~~ to 26, comprising a drive mechanism for rotating the second ring member, and wherein at least part of the drive mechanism is integral with the second ring member.

28. A counter according to claim 27, wherein the drive mechanism comprises a pawl-and-teeth mechanism.

29. A counter according to claim 28, wherein the pawl-and-teeth mechanism comprises:

a first and second pawl engageable with a plurality of teeth, and

wherein each of the first and second pawls comprise a driving engagement face for engaging in a driving engagement with one of the plurality of teeth, and a sliding engagement face for sliding over one of the plurality of teeth.

30. A counter according to claim 29, wherein each of the first and second pawls is arranged such that:

the first pawl engages in a driving engagement with one of the plurality of teeth during a count stroke of the drive mechanism, and

the second pawl engages in a driving engagement with one of the plurality of teeth during a return stroke of the drive mechanism.

31. A counter according to claim 29 or 30, wherein each of the first and second pawls is arranged such that:

the second pawl rides over one of the plurality of teeth during a count stroke of the drive mechanism, and

the first pawl rides over one of the plurality of teeth during the return stroke of the drive mechanism.

32. A counter according to any one of claims 29 to 31, wherein

the first and second pawls are integral with the second ring member, and

the plurality of teeth are disposed on a teeth-bearing member arranged to be reciprocally moveable within a bore of the second ring member, and

wherein the pawl-and-teeth mechanism is configured such that reciprocal movement of the teeth-bearing member within the bore of the second ring member causes rotational movement of the second ring member.

33. A counter according to any one of claims 13~~14~~ to 32, wherein, when coupled to a dispenser having a body for receiving a medicament container and a dispensing mechanism for dispensing a dose of medicament from the container, the rotating of the second ring member occurs in response to the dispenser being actuated.

34. A counter according to claim 33 wherein the count is indicative of doses of medicament dispensed from, or remaining in, the container.

35. A counter according to any preceding claim, wherein said first indicia comprises one or more of: numbers, colours, letters and symbols.

36. A counter according to any one of claims 13~~14~~ to 34, wherein said second indicia comprises one or more of: numbers, colours, letters and symbols.

37. A counter according to claim 35 or 36 wherein said second indicia comprise a first row of numbers, and said first indicia comprise a second and a third row of numbers.

38. A counter according to claim 37 wherein said first row of numbers represents units digits, said second row represents tens digits, and said third row represents hundreds digits.

39. A counter according to claim 37 or claim 38 wherein said first row of numbers comprises repeated sets of integers.

40. A counter according to any one of claims 37 to 39 wherein said second row of numbers comprises repeated sets of integers and said third row of numbers comprises a set of integers.

41. A counter according to any one of the claims 35 to 40 wherein said first and second indicia are printed, cut out from, embossed, moulded, adhered, incorporated, and/or painted on said first and second ring members.

42. A dispenser comprising the counter as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 41.

43. A dispenser comprising:

a body for receiving a medicament container;

a medicament container;

a dispensing mechanism for dispensing a dose of medicament from the container; and

a counter as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 41.

44. A dispenser according to claim 42 or 43, which is a pressurised metered-dose inhaler (pMDI).

45. A dispenser according to claim 42, 43 or 44, wherein the dispensing mechanism for dispensing a dose of medicament from the container is breath-actuated.

~~46. A limiting mechanism for limiting free rotation of a rotating member about an axis, the limiting mechanism comprising:~~

~~a rotating member having an axis of rotation; and~~

~~an engaging portion arranged to act radially with respect to the rotating member to contact the rotating member to limit free rotation of the rotating member about the axis~~

~~relative to the limiting mechanism, wherein the engaging portion comprises one or more teeth arranged to contact an inner circumferential surface of the rotating member.~~

46~~47~~. A limiting mechanism for limiting free rotation of a rotating member about an axis, the limiting mechanism comprising:

a rotating member having an axis of rotation;

an engaging portion arranged to act radially with respect to the rotating member to contact the rotating member to limit free rotation of the rotating member about the axis relative to the limiting mechanism; and

a guide comprising an arm spaced apart from the limiting mechanism engaging portion in a fixed relation, the guide being configured to contact a rotating member such that the limiting mechanism engaging portion maintains contact with a rotating member.

47~~48~~. A limiting mechanism according to claim 46~~47~~, wherein the engaging portion comprises one or more teeth arranged to contact an inner circumferential surface of the rotating member.

48~~49~~. A limiting mechanism according to claim 46~~,~~ or 47 ~~or 48~~, wherein the rotating member comprises an engaging portion arranged to co-operate with the engaging portion of the limiting mechanism to limit free rotation of the rotating member relative to the limiting mechanism about the axis.

49~~50~~. A limiting mechanism according to claim 48~~49~~, wherein the engaging portion on the rotating member comprises a plurality of teeth on an inner circumferential surface of the rotating member.

50~~51~~. A limiting mechanism according to claim 49~~50~~, wherein the plurality of teeth on the inner circumferential surface of the rotating member comprise ratchet teeth.

51~~52~~. A limiting mechanism according to any one of claims 47~~48~~ to 50~~51~~, wherein the one or more teeth of the limiting mechanism engaging portion comprises one or more triangular or ratchet-shaped teeth.

~~53. A limiting mechanism according to claim 46, comprising a guide, the guide comprising an arm spaced apart from the limiting mechanism engaging portion in a~~

~~fixed relation, the guide being configured to contact a rotating member such that the limiting mechanism engaging portion maintains contact with a rotating member.~~

52~~54~~. A limiting mechanism according to any one of claims 46~~47~~ to 51~~53~~, wherein the guide contacts a rotating member on an outer circumferential surface.

53~~55~~. A limiting mechanism according to any one of claims 46 to 52~~54~~, wherein the limiting mechanism engaging portion is supported on a base having a fixed end and a floating end, the base being attached to a limiting member at the fixed end, and the base being configured to flex at the fixed end such that the floating end is moveable radially with respect to a rotating member.

54~~56~~. A limiting mechanism according to claim 53~~55~~, wherein the limiting member comprises a limiting ring member coaxially arranged about the same axis as the rotating member.

55~~57~~. A limiting mechanism according to claim 53~~55~~ or 54~~56~~, wherein the limiting mechanism engaging portion is located at the floating end of the base.

56~~58~~. A limiting mechanism according to any one of claims 46 to 55~~57~~, wherein the limiting mechanism is configured to provide a frictional resistance to a rotating member in a forward rotating direction, and to prevent movement of the rotating member in a reverse rotating direction.