



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : A61F 5/05, 5/37		A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 99/04736
			(43) International Publication Date: 4 February 1999 (04.02.99)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US98/15421		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).	
(22) International Filing Date: 24 July 1998 (24.07.98)			
(30) Priority Data: 08/900,215 24 July 1997 (24.07.97) US			
(71) Applicant: TECNOL MEDICAL PRODUCTS, INC. [US/US]; 7201 Industrial Park Boulevard, Fort Worth, TX 76180 (US).			
(72) Inventors: STEVENSON, Vernon, L.; 6301 S. Hulen Street, Fort Worth, TX 76133 (US). DOUGLAS, Kimberly, R.; 2000 Callender Hill Road, Mansfield, TX 76063 (US).			
(74) Agents: BARNES, Frances, T. et al.; Dority & Manning, P.A., P.O. Box 1449, Greenville, SC 29602-1449 (US).			
		Published <i>With international search report.</i> <i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>	

(54) Title: ANKLE SUPPORT BRACE

(57) Abstract

An improved ankle support brace (10) is disclosed. The ankle support brace includes a first flexible lateral piece (12) and a second flexible lateral piece (14) attached to and disposed over the first lateral piece (12). The ankle support brace also includes a first flexible medial piece (16) and a second flexible medial piece (18) attached to and disposed over the first medial piece (16). A first plurality of lace loops is disposed along a front edge of the first medial piece (16). Each of the first plurality of lace loops comprises a flexible material strip (56) attached at a plurality of points to the surface of the first medial piece (16). A second plurality of lace loops, each comprising a flexible material strip (50) attached at a plurality of points to a surface of the second medial piece (18), is disposed along a front edge of the second medial piece (18). A third plurality of lace loops (58), each comprising a flexible material strip (56) attached at a plurality of points to a surface of the first lateral piece (12), is disposed along a front edge (28) of the first lateral piece (12). A fourth plurality of lace loops (52), each comprising a flexible material strip (50) attached at a plurality of points to a surface of the second lateral piece (14), is disposed along a front edge (40) of the second lateral piece (14). A lace (24) is threaded through the first, second, third and fourth plurality of lace loops. The lace loops provide high-friction contact with the lace (24) and distribute tension from the tightened lace across the various surfaces of the ankle support brace.

