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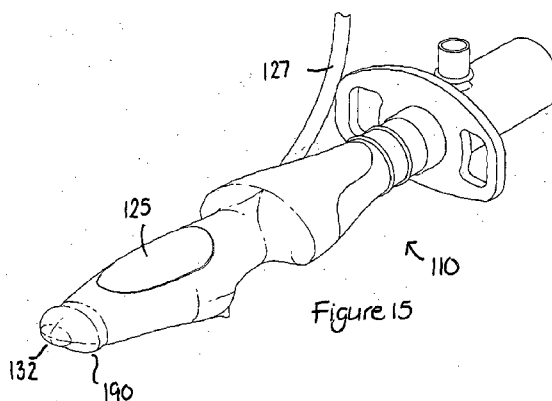
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- (54) **Title:** IMPROVED STOPPER DEVICE



- (57) **Abstract:** An airway device (10, 110, 210, 310, 410, 510) for human or animal use, the device includes an airway tube (12, 112, 212, 312, 412, 512) having a first end (14, 114, 214, 314, 414, 514) and a second end (16, 116, 216, 316, 416, 516), the first end of the airway tube is surrounded by a laryngeal cuff (18, 118, 218, 318, 418, 518), the laryngeal cuff includes a back dorsal portion (20, 120, 220, 320, 420, 520), a front face portion (22, 122, 222, 322, 422, 522) and a tip portion (32, 132, 232, 332, 432, 532), the front face portion of the laryngeal cuff is shaped to form an anatomical fit over the laryngeal inlet of a human or animal patient, and to form a seal with the laryngeal inlet of the patient, wherein the tip portion includes an annular sealing bulge (90, 190, 290, 390, 490, 590). The annular sealing bulge is adapted to wedge into upper oesophagus region of the human or animal patient. The annular sealing bulge is provided for improved sealing of the tip of the laryngeal cuff in the upper oesophageal region of the human or animal patient. The annular sealing bulge is preferably formed from a soft polymeric or other plastics material with a Shore hardness of between 40 and 000 on the A scale. The annular sealing bulge allows for better sealing with a more variable range of upper oesophageal anatomical features.