

## **FALSE NAIL AND METHOD FOR SHAPING SAME ON A NATURAL NAIL**

### **Object of the invention**

The object of the invention comprises: a false nail and method for  
5 shaping same on a natural nail.

### **Field of application of the invention**

This invention applies to the fields of manicure, pedicure, podology,  
dermatology and, in general, any field related to the shaping of false nails or  
10 covering of natural nails.

### **State of the art**

The shaping of artificial nails or covering of natural nails, of both feet and  
hands, is currently standard practice, whether to improve aesthetics or because  
15 the nail is damaged for any reason, thus offering a protective covering.

In the case of damaged nails, covering them with a false nail to improve  
their aesthetics offers a protection that can entail the self-curing thereof.

At present, when a nail is damaged, techniques for applying false nails or  
covering using gels, acrylics or porcelain are used. Linen or silk are also used  
20 as a covering or decorative element, although they are difficult and expensive to  
apply.

Covering with gel and resin has certain drawbacks both from the  
viewpoint of application and of the result obtained from the aesthetic viewpoint.

Specifically, the gels used to cover nails have the following drawbacks:  
25 - they have low viscosity and density, due to which they are easily  
damaged;  
- they have low polishing capacity and can be difficult to handle;  
- they have non-homogeneous density and colour, due to which the  
covered nail must always be painted so the false nail is not obvious;  
30 - they have a high skin absorption rate;  
- they can stain objects that come into contact with the nail;  
- they need a relatively long amount of time to ensure proper drying, of  
approximately 5 minutes;  
- to remove them they must be soaked until they go soft and, if a problem  
35 occurs, the set formed by the nail and the gel cover must be detached.

The incorrect use of acrylics can stunt nail growth. Furthermore, acrylics require chemical polymerisation (hardening) and that makes them difficult to handle, since two components must be mixed; said mixture generates the entrance of air in the dough and, therefore, the presence of porosities. In addition to having to add a reaction time (3 to 5 minutes), another drawback, which explains the change in trend towards gel nails, is a strong acrylic smell both during application and removal for 20 minutes in acetone. The final result is an unstable product in terms of properties.

Gel nails (oligomers), which are usually applied on the acrylic to reduce their porosity and offer a shinier final appearance, require exposure to UV rays to harden (spectrum of frequency closest to x-rays) and can cause burns on skin due to its prolonged exposure (3 to 5 minutes). Gels can also be applied on a plastic medium previously attached to the nail surface; but this adhesive has the drawback that in case of accident it will tear off the natural nail to which it is adhered. Removing it requires long and painstaking filing. And it must be painted with nail polish so the false nail is not obvious.

The use of resin to attach gel nails also has its drawbacks, such as: it is very uncomfortable to work with, since it contains ethanols which cause dizziness; it requires a relatively long drying time (3 to 4 minutes) and it is a covering component.

The use of both acrylic and gel nails has contraindications to use in the case of radiotherapy, diabetes or use of antibiotics.

A process for shaping false nails on the natural nail is also known through document W00076366A1. The process described in this document includes applying a base cover agent to the nail, subsequently laminating a photopolymerisable resin on said base cover agent, and finally proceeding to harden the resin by applying visible light rays, for example by means of a LED light source.

However, a fast-drying (less than 1 minute) base cover agent is not proposed, which will prolong the application of the method. Nor is it proposed that said agent be waterproof, due to which there is a risk of growth of bacterial colonies on the polymer adhesive layer of the nail.

Additionally, in this document the resin used is a resin lacking filler particles. This causes a high degree of contraction during polymerisation and low resistance to fracturing.

Document DE102013016013A1, wherein a photopolymerisable nail polish is described, is also known. However, in this document, said nail polish is polymerised under UV light, which is harmful, rather than visible light. Therefore, the technical problem addressed is the improvement of natural nail reconstruction and/or covering techniques using a false nail having clearly advantageous features with respect to the gel nails currently used and using a specific material that gives the body of the false nail said advantageous features.

## 10 Description of the invention

The false nail that is the object of the invention, comprising a front layer that forms the body of the false nail strictly speaking, and a rear layer for attaching the body of the false nail to a natural nail, has the peculiarity that the rear layer is formed by a fast-drying polymer adhesive with desiccating capacity; and the front layer of the false nail is made of composite material and comprises at least a first layer of micro-hybrid composite, having low contraction capacity, in contact with the polymer adhesive.

The aforementioned micro-hybrid composite may be of the type used in other sectors of the art, such as in dentistry for dental reconstruction.

A person skilled in the art will know that a micro-hybrid composite consists of a mixture of resin and filler particles that enhance its properties, being typically filler particles less than or equal to 1  $\mu\text{m}$  in size. In some products of this type said particles are glass.

The use of micro-hybrid composite gives the false nail clearly advantageous features with respect to the gel nails currently used, including, namely:

- greater viscosity and density, which facilitates handling when shaping the body of the nail;
- gives the body of the nail a perfect finish, since the composite can be manufactured in a range of different colours, such that the false nail does not have to be painted;
- greater hardness than the gels of current false nails and, consequently, higher polishing capacity;
- very low skin absorption rates;
- does not stain;

- shorter hardening time than gels, approximately 20 seconds;
  - ease of removal, using a diamond bur;
  - aesthetically enhanced appearance;
  - and possibility of removing the body of the false composite nail in the event
- 5 of any problem with the user's natural nail.

In one embodiment of the invention, the front layer of the false nail comprises a second layer of micro- or nano-hybrid liquid or pasty composite; having envisaged that said second layer may preferably be a tinted micro-hybrid pasty composite.

- 10 The composite for covering a nail, both in liquid texture and in pasty texture, may be micro- or nano-hybrid, depending on the filler loading molecule wherefrom this polymer is chemically formed; the latter have greater contraction during the photopolymerisation (hardening) thereof than the former.

- Said composites may be micro-pigmented and their photopolymerisation
- 15 is carried out in 20 seconds by means of a LED-type blue visible light beam.

The false nail can be regularly retouched, for example every three months depending on nail growth, using very fine-grain abrasive strips and polishing with cotton or bristle brush and applying polishing compounds.

- Said false nail is removed by means of burring with diamond or ruby
- 20 burs, or with nail scissors. In case of accident, the composite will break, detaching itself from the natural nail without affecting it.

Its final finish does not require colouring by means of lacquers, although it can be done without any problem in the same way as a natural nail.

- In order to achieve adequate attachment of the composite body of the
- 25 false nail to a natural nail of the user, instead of the resins used for attaching gel nails, the use of a polymer adhesive having a series of advantages has been envisaged, including, namely:

- it is waterproof
  - it has a shorter drying time, of approximately 20 seconds, and
- 30 - it is a contact product

In this invention, a method for shaping the false nail of the invention on a natural nail is included, comprising the following phases:

- eventually, the preparation of the surface of the nail to be covered by means of filing;
- 35 - the application of a fast-drying polymer adhesive nail, with desiccating

capacity, which forms a rear layer of the false nail;

- the application of at least one first layer of micro-hybrid composite on the rear layer of polymer adhesive that forms part of a front layer of the false nail;
- the photopolymerisation of said first layer of micro-hybrid composite;

5     - eventually, the application of a second layer of micro- or nano-hybrid liquid or pasty composite on said first layer of micro-hybrid composite; and photocuring thereof and

- eventually, the finish of the front layer of the false nail by means of filing, polishing and/or superficial painting thereof.

10         Preferably, the polymer adhesive is left to dry for approximately 20 seconds after application to the nail before the application of the at least one first layer of micro-hybrid composite.

          Preferably, the polymer adhesive will be selected such that it polymerises quickly, i.e. in less than 30 seconds, by means of photopolymerisation, under  
15     visible light. For example, under visible light applied by a LED lamp or similar.

          Lastly, it should be noted that another object of the invention is the use of composite material in false nails.

### **Description of the figures**

20         As a complement to the description being made, and for the purpose of helping to make the features of the invention more readily understandable, the present specification is accompanied by a set of drawings which, by way of illustration and not limitation, represent the following:

25         - Figures 1a to 1e show a schematic view of successive phases of the method for covering a natural nail according to the invention, forming an artificial nail with a rear layer consisting of a fast-drying contact adhesive and a front layer of composite material constituting the body of the false nail, strictly speaking.

30         - Figure 2 shows a cross-sectional view of a false nail according to the invention.

### **Preferred embodiment of the invention**

          As shown in the attached figures, shaping the false nail of the invention on a natural nail, shown in Figure 1a, and covering said natural nail (U) involves  
35     the following operations: the surface of the nail (U) to be covered is firstly

prepared by filing, defining an adequate surface therein to initiate the covering as shown in Figure 1b; next, a fast-drying polymer adhesive with desiccating capacity that polymerises under the effect of visible light is applied to the nail (U) and forms a rear layer (11) of the false nail as shown in the figure (1c); next, a first layer (12a) of micro-hybrid composite that forms part of a front layer (12) of the false nail (1) is applied over the rear layer (11) of polymer adhesive, prior to photopolymerising said first layer (12a) of composite material (Figure 1d); next, as shown in Figure 1d), a second layer (12b) of micro- or nano-hybrid liquid composite is applied over said first layer (12a); and it is photopolymerised.

Lastly, the front layer (12) of the false nail (1) is finished by filing, polishing and/or surface painting in order to enhance its aesthetic finish.

In this example of embodiment the polymer adhesive, used firstly on the nail or nail bed to form the rear layer (11), is a polymer adhesive with amelodontinal features, an aromatic diacrylate containing benzene groups mixed with an aliphatic diacrylate, which liquidises it, and hydrophilic molecules. This polymer adhesive (for example, Supranan) can be photopolymerised (5 seconds) under visible light, or not, and has high desiccating capacity.

The first layer (12a) of the front layer is a micro-hybrid pasty composite (less contraction capacity, less effect on the action of the adhesive) and the second layer (12b) is a nano-hybrid liquid composite, photocured in 20 seconds.

Depending on the nail texture to be obtained, in the two applications with composite forming the front layer (12) of the false nail, the composite can be compacted by compressing it with PVC tape while being photopolymerised.

The false nail (1) obtained and schematically represented on its own in Figure 2 comprises a rear layer (11) of adhesive and a front layer (12) of composite material that form the body of the false nail (1) and consists of a first layer (12a) and a second layer (12b) of composite material.

Having sufficiently described the nature of the invention, in addition to a preferred example of embodiment, it is hereby stated for the relevant purposes that the materials, shape, size and arrangement of the described elements can be modified, provided that it does not involve an alteration of the essential features of the invention claimed below.

## CLAIMS

1. A false nail, comprising at least: one front layer (12) forming the body of the false nail (1) and a rear layer (11) of an adhesive material for attaching the body of the false nail to a natural nail, characterised in that the rear layer (11) is formed by a waterproof polymer adhesive with desiccating capacity; and the front layer (12) of the false nail (1) is made of a composite material and comprises at least a first layer (12a) of micro-hybrid composite with low contraction capacity in contact with the polymer adhesive.
2. The false nail, according to claim 1, wherein the front layer (12) of the false nail (1) comprises a second layer (12b) of micro- or nano-hybrid liquid or pasty composite.
3. The false nail, according to claim 2, wherein the composite that constitutes the second layer (12b) of the front layer (12) of the false nail (1) is a micro-tinted pasty composite.
4. The false nail, according to claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein the polymer adhesive is a mixture of an aromatic diacrylate containing benzene groups and an aliphatic diacrylate.
5. The false nail, according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the polymer adhesive has a drying time of approximately 20 seconds.
6. The false nail, according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the polymer adhesive is a photopolymerisable adhesive.
7. The false nail, according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the micro-hybrid composite is a photopolymerisable adhesive.
8. A method for shaping the false nail on a natural nail, characterised in that it comprises:

  - the application of a waterproof polymer adhesive on the nail (U), with desiccating capacity, which forms a rear layer (11) of the false nail (1);

- the application of at least one first layer (12a) of micro-hybrid composite on the rear layer (11) of polymer adhesive that forms part of a front layer (12) of the false nail (1); and
- the photopolymerisation of said first layer (12a) of composite material.

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9. The method for shaping the false nail on a natural nail, according to claim 8, wherein the method begins with the preparation of the surface of the natural nail (U) to be covered by filing.
- 10 10. The method for shaping the false nail on a natural nail, according to claim 8 or 9, wherein a second layer (12b) of a micro- or nano-hybrid liquid or pasty composite is applied to said first layer (12a) and subsequently photocured.
11. The method for shaping the false nail on a natural nail, according to claim 8, 9 or 10, wherein the front layer (12) of the false nail (1) is finished by means of filing, polishing and/or surface painting thereof.
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12. The method for shaping the false nail on a natural nail, according to claim 8, 9, 10 or 11, wherein the polymer adhesive is left to dry at least 20 seconds after application on the nail (U) prior to applying the at least one first layer (12a) of micro-hybrid composite.
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