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| <b>(51) International Patent Classification <sup>6</sup> :</b><br><b>A61L 15/00</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>A2</b> | <b>(11) International Publication Number:</b> <b>WO 99/12583</b><br><b>(43) International Publication Date:</b> 18 March 1999 (18.03.99)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>(21) International Application Number:</b> PCT/US98/18754<br><b>(22) International Filing Date:</b> 9 September 1998 (09.09.98)<br><br><b>(30) Priority Data:</b><br>08/926,533 10 September 1997 (10.09.97) US<br><br><b>(71) Applicant:</b> THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY<br>[US/US]; One Procter & Gamble Plaza, Cincinnati, OH<br>45202 (US).<br><br><b>(72) Inventors:</b> VAN RIJSWIJCK, Laura, Graves, Spalding; 2272<br>Williams Road, Burlington, KY 41005 (US). ELDER,<br>Gretchen, Louise; 9793 Troon Court, Blue Ash, OH 45241<br>(US). ODIO, Mauricio, Rolando; 835 Hensel Woods<br>Road, Gahanna, OH 45230 (US). BALDWIN, Susan; 3441<br>Wellston Place, Cincinnati, OH 45208 (US). ROSEMAN,<br>Michelle, Denise; 1208 Corbett Avenue, Cincinnati, OH<br>45208 (US). GRANDISON, Kevin, Eugene; M-108, P.O.<br>Box 020010, Miami, FL 33102-0010 (US).<br><br><b>(74) Agents:</b> REED, T., David et al.; The Procter & Gamble<br>Company, 5299 Spring Grove Avenue, Cincinnati, OH<br>45217-1087 (US).                     |           | <b>(81) Designated States:</b> AL, AM, AT, AT (Utility model), AU, AZ,<br>BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, CZ (Utility<br>model), DE, DE (Utility model), DK, DK (Utility model),<br>EE, EE (Utility model), ES, FI, FI (Utility model), GB, GE,<br>GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ,<br>LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW,<br>MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SK<br>(Utility model), SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN,<br>YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ,<br>UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD,<br>RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK,<br>ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI<br>patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR,<br>NE, SN, TD, TG).<br><br><b>Published</b><br><i>Without international search report and to be republished<br/>         upon receipt of that report.</i> |
| <b>(54) Title:</b> A METHOD FOR IMPROVING SKIN CONDITION<br><br><b>(57) Abstract</b><br><br>Disclosed is a method for improving skin condition of a wearer in the area covered by an absorbent article, the method comprising:<br>(a) applying to the wearer an absorbent article having a skin care composition that improves skin smoothness upon transfer to the skin of<br>the wearer; (b) transferring to the wearer at least a portion of the skin care composition during wear; and (c) repeating steps (a) and (b) with<br>one or more additional articles with sufficient frequency to improve skin smoothness in the area covered by the absorbent article relative<br>to skin covered by an equivalent absorbent article that does not comprise the skin care composition, and without the need for manual<br>application of skin protective agents or condition agents (e.g., by the caregiver or wearer). Also disclosed are methods for assessing skin<br>smoothness in the area of a wearer covered by absorbent articles. |           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |