

Conditional Amendment 1

Claim 1

A mask system for delivering breathable gas to the patient, the mask system comprising:  
a mask for treatment of Sleep Disordered Breathing (SDB) with Continuous Positive Airway  
Pressure (CPAP); and

a headgear\_ for use with a the mask, (10), comprising:

a first strap (x10) being configured to engage a back of a patient's head and extend on either side of the patient's parietal bone behind the patient's ears and assume, in use, a substantially circular or oval shape wherein at least a portion of the first strap (x10) is substantially inextensible;

at least one upper strap (20, x20, x62, 7512) configured to extend above the patient's ear and at least one lower strap (30, x30, x64, x13, 7514) configured to extend below the patient's ear. the upper and/or lower straps (20, x20, x62, 7512, 30, x30, x 30, x64, x13, 7514) configured to removably connect the first strap (x10) to the mask (10);

characterised in that the at least one upper strap (20, x20, x62, 7512) is more extensible than the at least one lower strap (30, x30, x64, x13, 7514).

Claims 2 - 16

Insert the following phrase before the beginning of each of claims 2 - 16:

"A mask system for delivering breathable gas to the patient, the mask system comprising:  
a mask for treatment of Sleep Disordered Breathing (SDB) with Continuous Positive Airway  
Pressure (CPAP); and  
a headgear for use with the mask, wherein the headgear is..."

Conditional Amendment 2

Claim 1

A headgear for use with a mask (10), comprising:

a first strap (x10) being configured to engage a back of a patient's head and extend on either side of the patient's parietal bone behind the patient's ears and assume, in use, a substantially circular or oval shape wherein at least a portion of the first strap (x10) is substantially inextensible;

at least one upper strap (20, x20, x62, 7512) configured to extend above the patient's ear and at least one lower strap (30, x30, x64, x13, 7514) configured to extend below the patient's ear. the upper and ~~or~~ lower straps (20, x20, x62, 7512, 30, x30, x 30, x64, x13, 7514) configured to removably connect the first strap (x10) to the mask (10);

characterised in that the at least one upper strap (20, x20, x62, 7512) is more extensible than the at least one lower strap (30, x30, x64, x13, 7514).

Conditional Amendment 3

Claim 1

A headgear for use with a mask (10), comprising:

a first strap (x10) being configured to engage a back of a patient's head and extend on either side of the patient's parietal bone behind the patient's ears

and assume, in use, a substantially circular or oval shape

wherein at least a portion of the first strap (x10) is substantially inextensible

at least one upper strap (20, x20, x62, 7512) configured to extend above the patient's ear

and at least one lower strap (30, x30, x64, x13, 7514) configured to extend below the patient's ear.

the upper and/or lower straps (20, x20, x62, 7512, 30, x30, x 30, x64, x13, 7514) configured to removably connect the first strap (x10) to the mask (10);

characterised in that the at least one lower strap (30, x30, x64, x13, 7514) is made from a material with lower extensibility than that of the at least one upper strap (20, x20, x62, 7512)  
~~is more extensible than the at least one lower strap (30, x30, x64, x13, 7514).~~