

**UK Patent**

1. A cover for a colonoscope shaft, the cover comprising an elongate tubular member and being arranged for application over the colonoscope shaft with the cover  
5 extending along at least a part of the length of a distal end of the shaft, the tubular member comprising an inner surface at least a part of which grips the shaft and holds the cover in place and an outer surface comprising ~~a plurality of~~ evenly spaced projecting elements having a tip and a base that are moveable between a resting position to a position wherein the tip of the projecting element is substantially parallel to a longitudinal axis of the  
10 colonoscope and to a position that is at an angle approximately perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the colonoscope shaft so that the said projecting elements are fanned out to contact with and provide support for and to dilate a lumen wall of a colon into which the colonoscope has been inserted, wherein the projecting elements are constructed of a biocompatible material so that they are flexible and resiliently deformable and are  
15 positioned in ~~one or more~~ a single rings running circumferentially around the cover at the distal end of the elongate tubular member, and wherein the projecting elements ~~in a distal ring~~ are adapted to flare outwards on withdrawal from the colon to keep the instrument tip in the central part of the colon as the instrument moves backwards, and to evert colonic folds enabling their proximal surfaces to be viewed, and wherein the projecting elements  
20 are in the form of tapered bristles.