



US008092478B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Kotler

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 8,092,478 B2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Jan. 10, 2012**

(54) **DEVICE AND METHOD FOR MAINTAINING UNOBSTRUCTED NASAL PASSAGEWAYS AFTER NASAL SURGERY**

5,185,005 A 2/1993 Ballantyne
5,533,506 A * 7/1996 Wood 128/207.18
D406,888 S 3/1999 Doyle

(Continued)

(76) **Inventor:** Robert Kotler, Beverly Hills, CA (US)

(*) **Notice:** Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 764 days.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EP 0 153 132 A 8/1985

(Continued)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Singh et al *British Journal of Anaesthesia* 91 (5) 667-71 (2003).*

(Continued)

(21) **Appl. No.:** 12/080,145

(22) **Filed:** Apr. 1, 2008

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2009/0248057 A1 Oct. 1, 2009

(51) **Int. Cl.**
A61M 29/00 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** 606/191

(58) **Field of Classification Search** 606/108, 606/191, 196, 199; 128/207.18, 200.24, 128/200.26, 203.22, 206.11, 207.13; 604/540, 604/541

See application file for complete search history.

Primary Examiner — Gary Jackson

Assistant Examiner — Amy Shipley

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione

(57) **ABSTRACT**

Methods and devices for maintaining nasal passages open after nasal surgery are provided. In some embodiments, the method of the present invention includes initially cleaning at least some of the bodily fluids from the nasal passages of a patient after the nasal surgery; providing a post-operative device having a first tubular member with a first proximal end and a first distal end, and a second tubular member with a second proximal end and a second distal end, where the first proximal end is connected to the second proximal end with a bridging member, and the post-operative device is splintless; inserting the first distal end and the second distal end into the nasal passages of the patient to a location where the first proximal end and the second proximal end each protrude beyond the nostril opening of the patient; and placing a packing material at least partially around each tubular member. In some embodiments of the present invention, a specialized speculum is provided to facilitate placing packing material around the tubular members of the medical device. Medical kits for use following nasal surgery are also provided.

20 Claims, 8 Drawing Sheets

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

- 1,256,188 A 2/1918 Wilson
- 2,215,126 A * 9/1940 McGillin 606/196
- 2,265,387 A * 12/1941 McGillin 128/207.18
- 2,569,743 A 10/1951 Carlock
- 2,672,138 A 3/1954 Carlock
- 3,049,125 A * 8/1962 Kriwkowitsch 606/196
- 3,424,152 A 1/1969 Kuhlman
- 3,682,171 A * 8/1972 Dali et al. 128/207.18
- 3,814,103 A * 6/1974 Fettel et al. 128/207.18
- 3,935,859 A 2/1976 Doyle
- 4,136,678 A * 1/1979 Beach 604/19
- 4,221,217 A 9/1980 Amescan
- 4,821,715 A * 4/1989 Downing 128/207.18
- 4,950,280 A 8/1990 Brennan
- 5,167,220 A * 12/1992 Brown 600/157

