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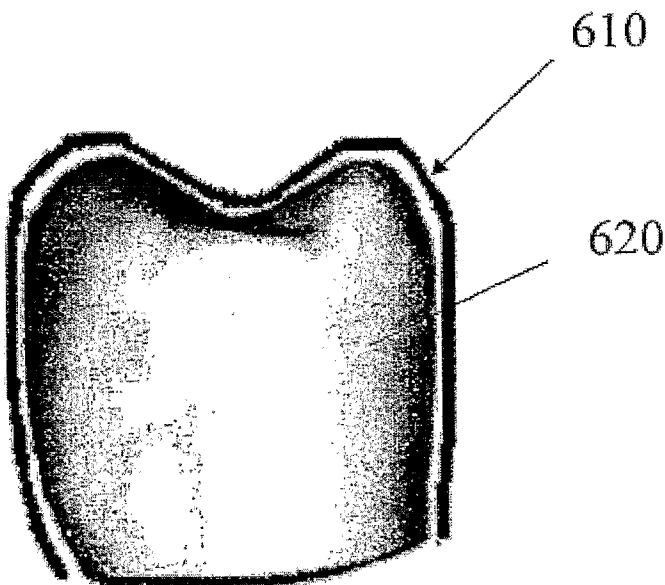
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(54) Title: VARIATIONS OF DENTAL ALIGNERS



(57) Abstract: Dental appliances for producing corrective movement in a subject's teeth include dental aligners which may be worn on a subject's teeth, gingiva or other region of the oral cavity. Described herein are dental appliances that include features that enhance the performance and comfort of the appliance, including features for preventing damage or wear on the appliance. Described herein are fluid-permeable aligners, wrinkled aligners, modular aligners, aligners of varying thickness, aligners of varying stiffness, snap-on aligners, textured aligners, aligners having multiple layers, and lateral correction aligners. Methods of making and using such aligners are also described.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
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B. FIELDS SEARCHED
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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2005/0048433 A1 (Hilliard) 3 March 2005 (03.03.2005). See Figure 1.	1-22
X,P --- Y,P	US 2005/0186526 A1 (Stewart et al.) 25 August 2005 (25.08.2005), Figure 5 and paragraphs 0013, 0017, 0052.	23-29 ----- 30-36
X	US 2004/0197728 A1 (Abolfathi et al.) 7 October 2004 (07.10.2004); see paragraphs 0009-0011.	37-39, 41
X	US 2001/0002310 A1 (Chishti et al.) 31 May 2001 (31.05.2001), see Abstract and paragraph 0068.	37-38, 40-41
X	US 2003/0049584 A1 (Chishti et al.) 13 March 2003 (13.3.2003) see entire document, notably paragraphs 0005, 0026, and 0040.	42-61, 82-127

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

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C. (Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2001/0041320 A1 (Phan et al.) 15 November 2001 (15.11.2001) see entire document, notably paragraphs 0059 and 060.	62-81
X	US 2005/0003318 A1 (Choi et al.) 6 January 2005 (6.01.2005) paragraph 0070.	128-132
A	US 2002/0187451 A1 (Phan et al.) 12 December 2002 (12.12.2002) see entire document, especially Figures 11-13 and paragraphs 0007, 0008, 0010, 0017, 0019 and 0022.	30-36, 82-127