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(54) **SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR CONTROLLING OPERATION OF NEGATIVE PRESSURE WOUND THERAPY APPARATUS**

(75) Inventors: **Benjamin Gordon**, Cambridge (GB); **Jake Turner**, Cambridge (GB); **Edward Hartwell**, Heslington (GB); **Stephen Jacob**, Fenstanton (GB); **Nathan Wrench**, Cambridge (GB); **Edward Vernon-Harcourt**, Steyning (GB); **David Harris**, Milton (GB)

(73) Assignee: **SMITH & NEPHEW PLC**, London (GB)

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See application file for complete search history.

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*Primary Examiner* — Tatyana Zalukaeva

*Assistant Examiner* — Ilya Treyger

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Knobbe, Martens, Olson & Bear, LLP

(57)

**ABSTRACT**

Methods and apparatuses for detecting full waste canister and/or fluid flow path blockage conditions are disclosed. Also disclosed are methods and apparatuses for controlling a pump. In some embodiments, flow of fluid can be restricted in a portion of the fluid flow path. A controller can be configured to compare a difference in pressure values upstream and downstream of a fluid flow restrictor to a pressure difference threshold, and determine based on the comparison whether to activate an alarm indicating the full waste canister condition or the fluid flow path blockage condition. The controller can be additionally or alternatively configured to determine a fluid flow using a flow meter, open a selectable valve in response to a comparison of the fluid flow with a fluid flow threshold, determine fluid flow after opening the valve, and determine based on the fluid flow after opening the valve whether to activate the alarm.

**13 Claims, 26 Drawing Sheets**

