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**Bates et al.**

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(54) **TOOTHBRUSH USAGE MONITORING**

15/0006; A46B 15/0008; A46B 15/0038;  
A46B 15/004; A46B 9/04; A61C 17/221

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See application file for complete search history.

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(\* ) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 698 days.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

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The invention provides a system suitable for monitoring the usage of a toothbrush, the system comprising: (a) a toothbrush; (b) a sound sensor which is located in or on the toothbrush; (c) a programmable data logger which is located in or on the toothbrush, the data logger incorporating a motion sensor and a data store for the logging of data; (d) switching means for triggering the operation of the sound sensor in response to initial signals of toothbrush motion generated by the motion sensor, and (e) a data analysis device which is adapted to analyze data transmitted or acquired from the system to provide information about tooth brushing behavior; in which the duration of data logging is controllable in response to the combined signals received from the sound sensor and the motion sensor respectively.

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**10 Claims, 2 Drawing Sheets**

