

to the other aperture **110** where the free-end of the strap (not shown) is, again, affixed. It is understood that the strap may be positioned around other parts of the patient's body such as the neck, or to structures separate from the body (not shown). Forward of the lips, the support frame **80** forms a generally semicircular portion **115** that protrudes beyond the mouth of the patient (not shown). Along the front **122** of the semicircular portion **115** a track **120** is integrally formed as part of the molded support frame **80**. In the preferred embodiment, the track **120** is designed to engage with a tube holder and clamping means for holding endotracheal and gastric tubes as is disclosed in the U.S. Pat. No. 5,490,504 to Vrona et al which is hereby incorporated by reference. However, it is understood that the track **120** may allow for the selective lateral positioning of any clamping device that is capable of being mounted on the track **120**. Further, it is understood that the bite block **75** is also capable of functioning with any clamping device capable of mounting on the front **122** or rear **125** of the semicircular portion **115** of the support frame **80**.

While a specific embodiment of the invention will be shown and described in detail to illustrate the application of the principles of the invention, it will be understood that the invention may be embodied otherwise without departing from such principles.

What is claimed is:

1. A medical tube securing device for a patient comprising: at least one bite block having a front end and a rear end as well as left lateral sides and right lateral sides connecting the front and rear ends, and a top and bottom surface, said top and bottom surfaces being constructed so as to present a frictional plane, said left and right lateral sides extending in generally upwards and downwards directions to form flanges; a generally arcuate support frame integral with said bite block, said frame being characterized by at least one inwardly recessed portion and at least one integral aperture abutting the recessed portion operable to receive a securing strap for securing the medical tube securing device to the patient; a means for adjustably mounting a medical tube over the mouth of the

patient comprising at least one track; wherein the track is capable of receiving a tube holder that is slidably connected to said track and having an arm extending in a direction perpendicular to said track; a shuttle attaching said tube holder to said track and allowing lateral sliding of said tube holder along the length of said track; and an elongated, flexible strap with one end attached to said arm of said tube holder and a free length extending in a direction transverse to said arm, a clamping member hingedly attached to said tube holder, and releasable latching means for locking said clamping member along said arm to secure said strap around a tube when a segment of said strap is inserted between said clamping member and said arm.

2. The device of claim **1**, wherein the frictional plane is grooved or striated with ridges in a manner perpendicular to the principal axis of the bite block.

3. The device of claim **1**, wherein the bite block is constructed of rubber.

4. The device of claim **1**, wherein the bite block is constructed of a semi-rigid polymer block having a shore-A durometer hardness greater than 50.

5. The device of claim **1**, wherein the bite block is constructed of a material selected from the group consisting of: a bio-compatible olefin polymer, a polyolefin homopolymer, a copolymer of olefins with vinyl esters, a copolymer of olefins with vinyl alcohol, mixtures of a polyolefin homopolymer, a copolymer of olefins with vinyl esters, a copolymer of olefins with vinyl alcohol, polyethylene, polypropylene, an ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer, an ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer, an ethylene-propylene copolymer, a terpolymer of ethylene, a propylene ester, a vinyl ester, zotefoam, tyrofoam, and blends and mixtures of the foregoing.

6. The device of claim **1**, wherein the support frame is constructed of a material selected from the group consisting of a wire sheathed in polyvinyl chloride and injection-molded polymers.

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