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## Headrest for Surgery

*Versatile solution to accommodate the positioning of a patient's head during surgery in various positions*

### Contact

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### Inventors

Pierre T. LeVan, M.D.

### Field

Surgical Device

### Technology

Headrest for positioning a patient's head during surgery

### Key Features

- Foam material
- Removable central portion for patient in prone position
- Removable side portions for patient in lateral position
- Precut holes for endotracheal tube placement
- Light-weight

### Key Benefits

- Accommodates multiple positions of a patient's head
- Allows for easy transition of patient from supine to lateral position

### Stage of Development

Prototypes developed

### Status

Seeking development, manufacturing, and distribution partner

### Patent Status

US Application filed

### Background

Nearly 44 million inpatient surgical procedures and 35 million outpatient procedures are performed annually in the United States. These procedures are performed in over 5,500 ambulatory surgical centers and 5,700 hospitals. A wide range of surgical procedures are performed requiring patients to be placed in various positions including supine, prone, and right or left decubitus positions. Furthermore, some procedures require transitioning a patient from position to position during surgery resulting in difficulties in securing the patient's head in a comfortable or convenient position.

### Current Solutions

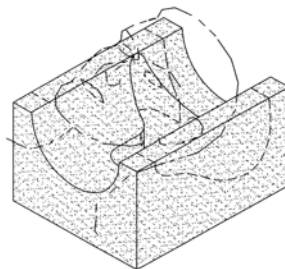
Traditionally, various types of support devices, such as soft, gel-filled rings or padded structures (commonly referred to as "head rings"), and pillows are used to position the head of surgery patients. Generally, traditional head rings are adapted to fit heads of selected size ranges requiring a well-supplied operating room to store several different size head rings. In addition to adding clutter in the operating room, the proliferation of head rings presents the problem of selecting the correct size for each patient and frequently this is inefficiently done by trial and error. Furthermore, conventional head rings are typically so large that they interfere with intubation and once the patient is intubated, movement of the patient's head during a procedure increases the risk of inadvertent extubation.

### A Convenient, Adaptable Headrest for Multiple Patient Positions

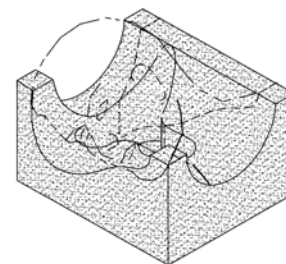
The unique headrest developed by Dr. LeVan can accommodate the positioning of a patient's head during surgery in various positions, including supine and prone positions, as well as the right or left lateral decubitus positions. The headrest is composed of foam and has a removable central portion to allow the eyes and nose to be free of pressure while the patient is in the prone position. Additionally, the sides of the headrest are perforated to allow an anatomically shaped portion of either side to be removed during lateral positioning of the patient. Furthermore, the headrest may include precut holes on each side for accommodating an endotracheal tube while a patient is in the prone or lateral positions.

### Opportunity

Loyola University Chicago is looking for a commercial partner to further develop, manufacture, and distribute the surgical headrest.



Patient in supine position



Patient in lateral position