

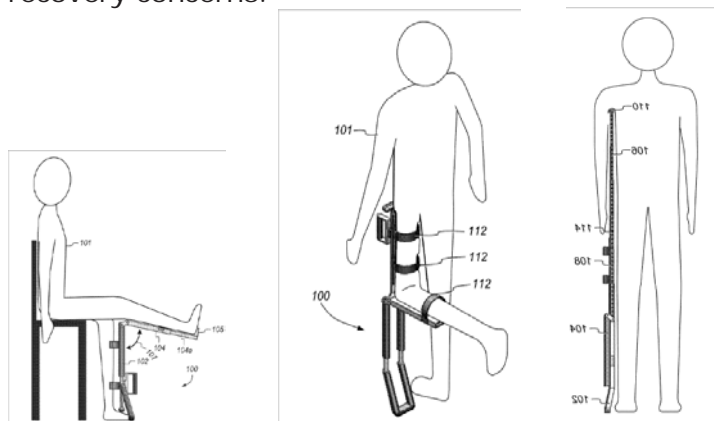


Multi-mode Hands-free Crutch

Patients with lower leg injuries, such as sprained ankles, foot fractures, and *Achilles* tendon ruptures, are presently facing acute difficulty in choosing the right mobility device. Several medical factors, varying from lifestyle to injury stage and other specific concerns, come into consideration in selecting the right mobility aid.

With the advent of hands-free crutches, traditional underarm crutches are increasingly becoming unpopular as they can cause pain in the patients' hands, wrists, arms and shoulders when used for a longer timespan. In addition, dependence on this type of aid limits their hand movements for even smallest tasks such as carrying a cup of hot coffee. In another case, relying on an ill-fitting and/or limited-functionality hands-free mobility device can create more challenges than benefits towards faster and/or healthier recovery of such injuries.

Combining these functionalities, this invention presents a multi-modal hands-free crutch that switches between traditional and non-traditional hands-free crutch systems. Some injuries may require a traditional crutch at one stage of recovery and a non-traditional crutch at another stage of recovery. At the very least, this aid both saves the cost of two devices for one injury and reduces recovery concerns.



(Image source: Inventors)

For further information please contact:

Office of Research Translation

1201 W. University Drive

Edinburg, TX 78539

956-665-3032

ORT@utrgv.edu

Competitive Advantages

- Two-in-one (multi-modal) mobility aid
- Promise of faster and healthier recovery
- Light-weight material
- Simple and easy to operate

Commercial Applications

- Contract manufacturing agreement
- Medical associations/ties

IP Status

- Patented; License available

Status of Development

- Seeking manufacturing partner

Lead Inventors

Dr. Waseem Haider

Mr. Mario Enrique Serrano, Jr.