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(54) **ORAL APPLIANCE**
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See application file for complete search history.

ABSTRACT

(57) An oral appliance with opposite channels for receiving the upper and lower dental arches is made from an edible material, in particular a gel. The appliance is integrally molded with protrusions that act as brush bristles to clean the teeth and stimulate the gums when manipulated in a chewing motion. The gel composition is water soluble and degrades in saliva. After chewing on the appliance for a time to clean the teeth, the product becomes masticated, broken up and ingested. The appliance can incorporate a breath freshener or an active dental composition, or can be flavored or can incorporate a food supplement or pharmaceutical, in which case the appliance is intended to be chewed up and eaten after serving its tooth cleaning function. Dentifrice reservoirs, air passageways and lateral braces for manipulation by the tongue can be provided.

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