



PURITAN MEDICAL PRODUCTS COMPANY LLC

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There may be some confusion regarding a press release dated December 21, 2011, from Copan.

The press release is no doubt referring to U.S. patent application 10/543,873. On December 20, the patent examiner allowed certain claims in the application. But the only allowed claims were claims to a **method** for using a particular type of swab with particular characteristics including having “**a layer of fibers of uniform thickness.**”

The application has **no claims to a swab.**

The claims, being to a method and not a swab, require a user to actually “collect[] a liquid specimen to be analyzed by absorbing a quantity between 40 µl and 100 µl of liquid specimen....”

The claims also require the user to “stor[e] and transport[] said quantity of specimen....”

The claims also require the user to “releas[e] a quantity of said specimen to be analyzed from said layer of fibers.”

WHAT PURITAN IS DOING

Puritan has designed two new and unique swabs, the PurFlock[®] Ultra and HydraFlock[®] swabs.

Puritan has filed patent applications for both of these novel new **swabs.**

Unlike the particular type of swab required to be used in Copan’s **method** claims, Puritan’s PurFlock[®] Ultra and HydraFlock[®] swabs both use **fibers of different lengths.** These different length fibers are mixed together so that the different length fibers are randomly distributed on the swabs. This distribution of different length fibers on Puritan’s PurFlock[®] Ultra and HydraFlock[®] swabs means that the fibers do **not** have a uniform length and do **not** have a uniform thickness.

Puritan looks forward to receiving patents on its unique PurFlock[®] Ultra and HydraFlock[®] **swabs.**

Patents are pending in the following countries: China, Japan, Hong Kong, Canada, Europe and the United States.

