against handle 56b in a direction opposite the direction indicated by arrow 76. To unlatch the handles 56a,b, cantilever 74a can be slightly displaced in the direction of arrow 76 before opening the handles 56a,b. Cantilever 74b formed on handle 56b allows the user to unlatch the handles 56a,b by pressing the two cantilevers 74a,b together.

Cross-referencing Figs. 1, 2 and 4, it can be seen the latch members 72a and 72b engage each other to hold the patient interface device 16 in a "closed" configuration in which the respective arcuate gripping surfaces 68a,b of the handles 56a,b are in contact with the cylindrical surface 70 of the patient interface 16 to firmly hold the patient interface device 16 on the laser unit 12. When the latch members 72a and 72b are disengaged, the handles 56a,b can be separated to place the device into an "open" configuration. In this "open" configuration the respective arcuate gripping surfaces 68a,b are distanced from the cylindrical surface 70 of the patient interface 16 to release the patient interface device 16 from the laser unit 12.

Returning to Fig. 3, it can be seen that a pair of wing arms 78a,b are mounted on the first side 60 of the base member 22. It can further be seen that the wing arms 78a,b are located diametrically across the orifice 50 from the pivot posts 64a,b, and they respectively extend away from each other in opposite directions tangential to the orifice 50. During assembly, each handle 56a,b receives one of the wing arms 78a,b in a respective slot 80a,b that is located on a respective handle 56a,b adjacent to its arcuate gripping surface 68a,b. For this combination, each wing arm 78a,b is formed with a protrusion on its underside (protrusion and underside not shown) for