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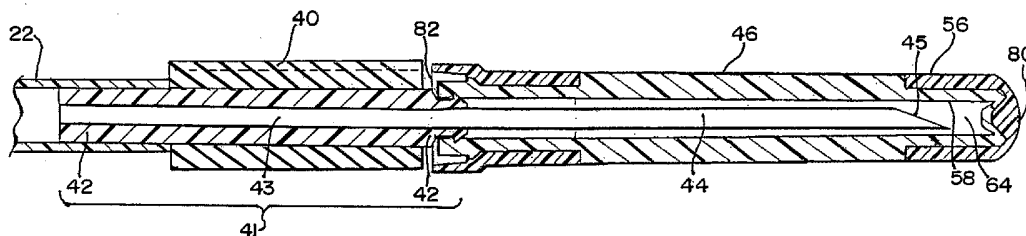
Published:

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(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
5 October 2006

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: BLOOD DONOR NEEDLE ASSEMBLY AND COVER



(57) Abstract: Medical needle assemblies and needle covers for medical needles are disclosed. The needle covers include a relatively rigid outer surface and more resilient inner surface. The needle covers protect the needle from damage, allow for effective sterilization of the assembly, provide a sterile barrier, and evidence of product tampering.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/US2005/038426A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. A61M5/32

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
A61M

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 551 286 B1 (CLAESSENS ALBERT LOUIS VICTOR JOZEF) 22 April 2003 (2003-04-22) column 6, line 12 - column 10, line 13; figures 9,10	22-24
X	FR 2 118 339 A (SEDAT) 28 July 1972 (1972-07-28) the whole document	22
Y	US 4 508 534 A (GARVER, SR. ET AL) 2 April 1985 (1985-04-02) column 4, line 39 - column 8, line 7; figure 4	1-9,12,13
Y	US 4 430 082 A (SCHWABACHER ET AL) 7 February 1984 (1984-02-07) figure 1	1-9,12,13
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 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

11 July 2006

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25/07/2006

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/US2005/038426

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 4 636 201 A (AMBROSE ET AL) 13 January 1987 (1987-01-13) the whole document -----	1-13
A	US 5 147 325 A (MITCHELL ET AL) 15 September 1992 (1992-09-15) the whole document -----	1-13
A	WO 93/10840 A (SUEDEDEUTSCHE FEINMECHANIK GMBH) 10 June 1993 (1993-06-10) the whole document -----	1-13

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2005/038426

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:

3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

1-13, 22-24
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-13

Medical needle assembly providing evidence of tampering

2. claims: 14-21

Needle cover with coterminous outer and inner sleeve

3. claims: 22-24

Needle cover with window in outer sleeve

4. claims: 25-33

Needle cover with inner surface having modulus lower than
modulus of outer surface

5. claims: 34-38

Medical needle assembly with hub including gripping member

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

 International application No
 PCT/US2005/038426

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