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(71) Applicant *(for all designated States except US)*: **LIFESCAN, INC.** [US/US]; 1000 Gibraltar Drive, Milpitas, CA 95035-6312 (US).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant *(for US only)*: **ALLEN, John, J.** [US/US]; 1002 Oxford Ct., Mendota Heights, MN 55118 (US).

(74) Agents: **SHAY, Bernard, E.** et al.; Johnson & Johnson, International Patent Law Division, P.O. Box 1222, New Brunswick, NJ 08903 (US).

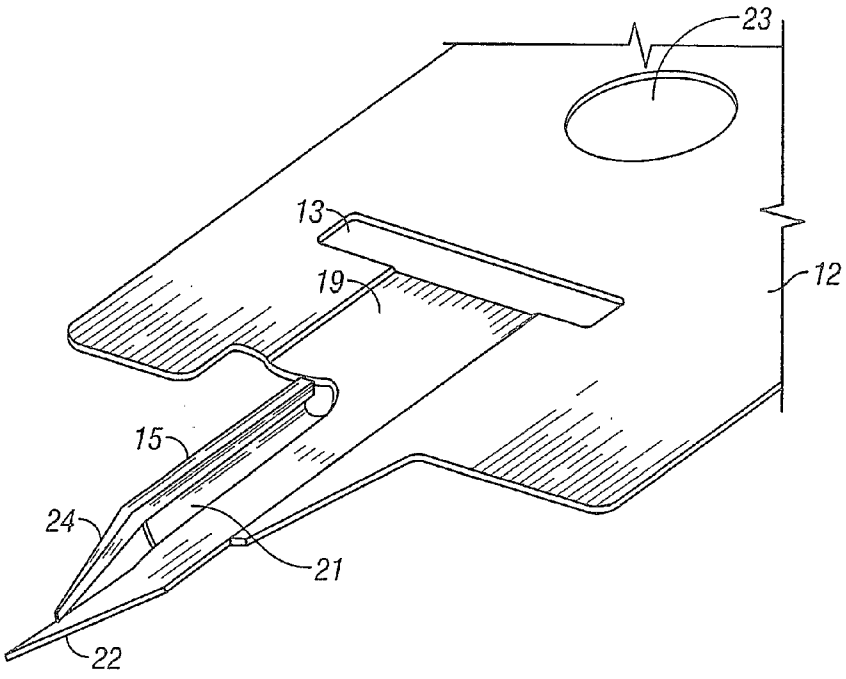
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(54) Title: METHOD OF LANCING SKIN FOR THE EXTRACTION OF BLOOD



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a method of lancing skin through an outer surface of said skin to obtain a sample of blood, the method providing a lancing instrument having a sharpened end and a channel extending from adjacent said sharpened end to a sensor attached to a proximal end of said lancing instrument, forcing said sharpened tip into said skin to a first predetermined depth below said outer surface, wherein said sharpened tip creates an incision in said skin surface; then completely withdrawing said sharpened tip from the incision, and drawing blood through said channel to the sensor.

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