

Claims:

1. An intravenous catheter system, comprising:

an integrated catheter adapter having a distal end, a proximal end, and a side port;

a housing having a body extending along a longitudinal axis, a distal end, and a proximal end, wherein a central plane of the housing extends along the longitudinal axis to divide a left side of the body from a right side of the body, the housing further comprising a slot disposed on the left side and extending through the body from an interior of the body to an exterior of the body, wherein the distal end of the housing is coupled to a proximal end of the integrated catheter adapter and configured to directly couple to the proximal end of the integrated catheter adapter;

an introducer needle having a proximal end, a distal tip, and a needle lumen extending between the proximal end of the introducer needle and the distal tip, wherein the proximal end of the introducer needle is secured within the housing;

a guidewire disposed within the needle lumen; and

a guidewire advancement element coupled to the guidewire and extending through the slot and moveable along the slot in a distal direction to move the guidewire from a retracted position to an advanced position, wherein the guidewire extends beyond the distal tip of the introducer needle when the guidewire is in the advanced position, wherein the guidewire advancement element is disposed on the left side of the housing.

2. The intravenous catheter system of claim 1, wherein the integrated catheter adapter further comprises a septum, wherein a fluid pathway of the intravenous catheter system

does not extend through the septum, wherein the guidewire advancement element is moveable along the slot in the distal direction to advance the guidewire through the septum.

3. The intravenous catheter system of claim 1, wherein the integrated catheter adapter comprises a wing extending outwardly from the right side of the body of the integrated catheter adapter.

4. The intravenous catheter system of claim 1, wherein the housing further comprises a thumb tab.

5. The intravenous catheter system of claim 1, wherein the distal end of the housing is directly coupled to the proximal end of the integrated catheter adapter.

6. The intravenous catheter system of claim 1, wherein the body of the housing is cylindrical.

7. The intravenous catheter system of claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the guidewire advancement element extends laterally from the exterior of the left side of the body through the slot and is moveable along the slot in a distal direction to move the guidewire from a retracted position to an advanced position.

8. An intravenous catheter system, comprising:
an integrated catheter adapter having a distal end, a proximal end, and a side port;

a housing having a cylindrical body extending along a longitudinal axis, a distal end, and a proximal end, wherein a central plane extends along the longitudinal axis to divide a left side of the body from a right side of the body, the housing further comprising a slot disposed on the left side and extending from an interior of the body to an exterior of the body, wherein the distal end of the housing is configured to directly couple to the proximal end of the integrated catheter adapter;

an introducer needle having a proximal end, a distal tip, and a needle lumen extending between the proximal end of the introducer needle and the distal tip, wherein the proximal end of the introducer needle is secured within the housing;

a guidewire disposed within the needle lumen; and

a guidewire advancement element coupled to the guidewire, wherein at least a portion of the guidewire advancement element extends laterally from the exterior of the left side of the body through the slot and is moveable along the slot in a distal direction to move the guidewire from a retracted position to an advanced position, wherein the guidewire extends beyond the distal tip of the introducer needle when the guidewire is in the advanced position.