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- (54) Title:** SAMPLE INJECTION PROBE WASHING

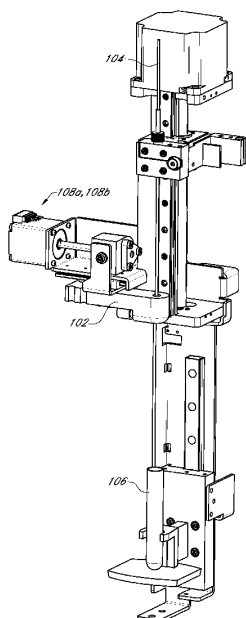


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: Provided are handling systems and methods for sample processing. The systems can include a sample container (106) and a probe (104). A system can be convertible between a loading state in which a user loads sample into the sample container, a sampling state in which relative motion between the sample container and the probe places the probe and sample container into fluid communication with one another so that the probe can aspirate sample from the sample container, and a washing state in which rinse fluid is expressed through the probe so as to remove unwanted material from within the probe, with the rinse fluid being collected by a wash manifold.

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