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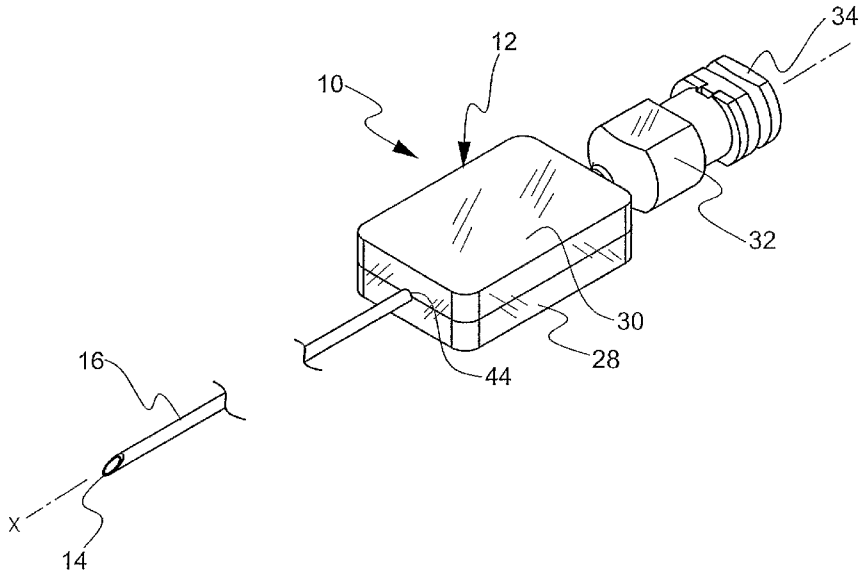
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(54) Title: SAFETY SHIELD FOR MEDICAL NEEDLES



(57) Abstract: A medical needle shield apparatus is provided that includes a shield that is extensible from a retracted position to an extended position to enclose a distal end of a needle. A binding member is disposed within the shield and defines binding surfaces that form an aperture configured for slidable receipt of the needle between the retracted position and the extended position. The binding member includes at least one drag inducing member extending therefrom that is configured for slidable engagement with the needle between the retracted position and the extended position such that the at least one drag inducing member engages the needle to create a drag force with the needle. The drag force and shield cause rotation of the binding member such that the binding surfaces engage the needle to prevent slidable movement of the needle in the extended position of the shield.

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