

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
23 July 2020 (23.07.2020)



(10) International Publication Number
WO 2020/150027 A3

(51) International Patent Classification:

A61M 25/00 (2006.01) A61M 39/06 (2006.01)
A61M 25/06 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2020/012369

(22) International Filing Date:

06 January 2020 (06.01.2020)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

62/792,252 14 January 2019 (14.01.2019) US
16/732,787 02 January 2020 (02.01.2020) US

(71) Applicant: **BECTON, DICKINSON AND COMPANY**

[US/US]; 1 Becton Drive, Franklin Lakes, New Jersey
07417 (US).

(72) Inventors: **NAIDU, Jithendra Kumar Sathyanarayana;**

#09-87, Block 682A, Woodlands Drive-62, Woodlands

731682 (SG). **YONG, Zhee Min Jimmy;** 81 Lorong K
Telok Kurau, #04-05, Telok Kurau 425711 (SG).

(74) Agent: **METCALF, Craig;** Kirton McConkie, 36 South
State Street, Suite 1900, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111 (US).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every

kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,
AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY, BZ,
CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DJ, DK, DM, DO,
DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN,
HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IR, IS, JO, JP, KE, KG, KH, KN, KP,
KR, KW, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME,
MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ,
OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW, SA,
SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR,
TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, WS, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every

kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,
GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, ST, SZ, TZ,
UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ,

(54) Title: **REDUCED DEAD SPACE CATHETER ADAPTER**

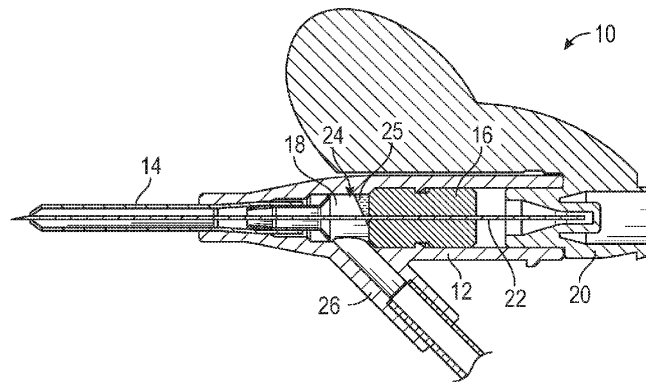


FIG. 1A
(Prior Art)

(57) **Abstract:** A catheter assembly may include a catheter adapter, which may include a distal end, a proximal end, a lumen extending between the distal end and the proximal end, and a side port. A septum may be disposed within the lumen of the catheter assembly. The side port may include a lumen in fluid communication with the lumen of the catheter adapter. The lumen of the side port may be distally-facing, which may facilitate flushing of fluid trapped proximate a distal face of the septum. The catheter assembly may include a catheter secured within the catheter adapter and extending distally from the catheter adapter.

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TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, KM, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declarations under Rule 4.17:

- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))*

Published:

- *with international search report (Art. 21(3))*
- *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))*

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:

27 August 2020 (27.08.2020)