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(54) Title: PRELOADED STYLET VALVE COMPATIBILITY

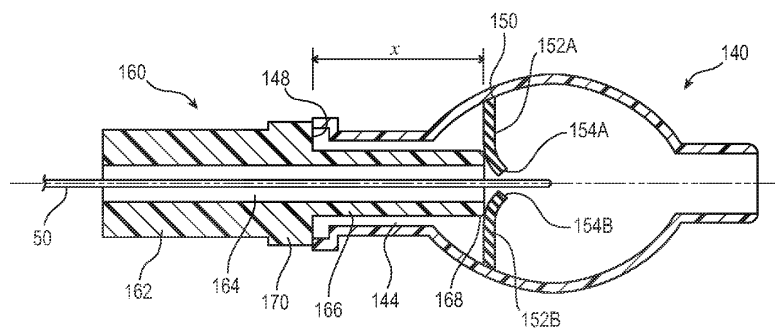


FIG. 3A

(57) Abstract: Preloaded catheters are manufactured with a stylet, guidewire, or similar medical device disposed within the catheter, extending through a valve of the connector at a proximal end. During storage and transport, the stylet can remain in place for a prolonged period of time, which can cause stretching, indentations, and damage to the valve faces. These indentations can cause the valve leak, resulting in failure of the device as a whole. Embodiments disclosed herein are directed to devices and methods for preventing contact between the medical device and the valve faces, mitigating damage thereto.



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