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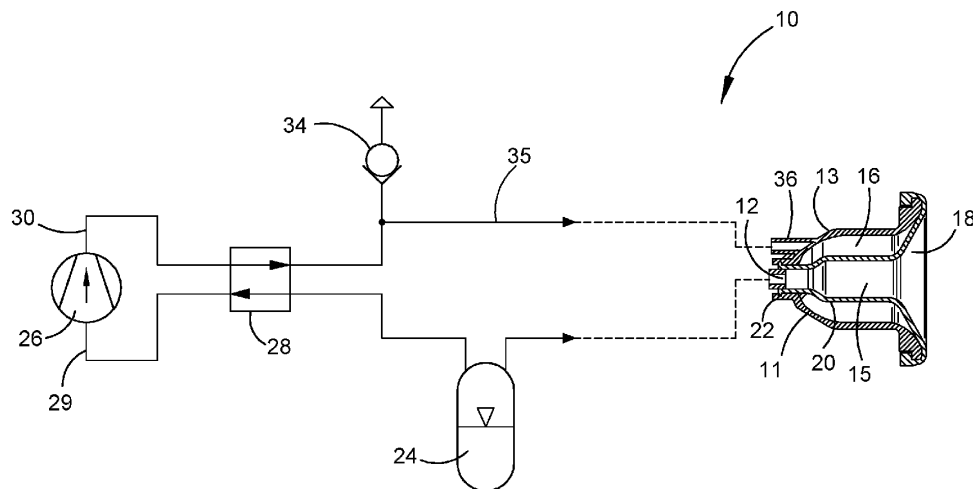


FIGURE 1

(57) Abstract: A method for operating a breastpump unit (10) for expression of human breastmilk and a breastpump unit (10). The breastpump unit (10) having a pump assembly (26) for generating vacuum pressure, a reservoir (24) for receiving breastmilk, and a breast shield (11) for sealing application to a breast to be pumped. The breast shield (11) has a flexible inner chamber (15) for receiving a nipple of the breast and a second chamber (16), in particular an outer chamber extending about the outside of the inner chamber (15) and which at least partially surrounds a nipple that is inserted into the inner chamber (15). The method comprising a cycle that comprising evacuating the inner chamber (15) and the reservoir (24) by the pump assembly (26) to a first vacuum pressure, connecting the second chamber (16) to the pump assembly (26) and to the reservoir (24) and evacuating the second chamber (16) to a second vacuum pressure, in which the second vacuum pressure is higher or greater than the first vacuum pressure, and at least partly releasing

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the vacuum from the second chamber (16) to a lower vacuum pressure, in particular lower than the first vacuum pressure.