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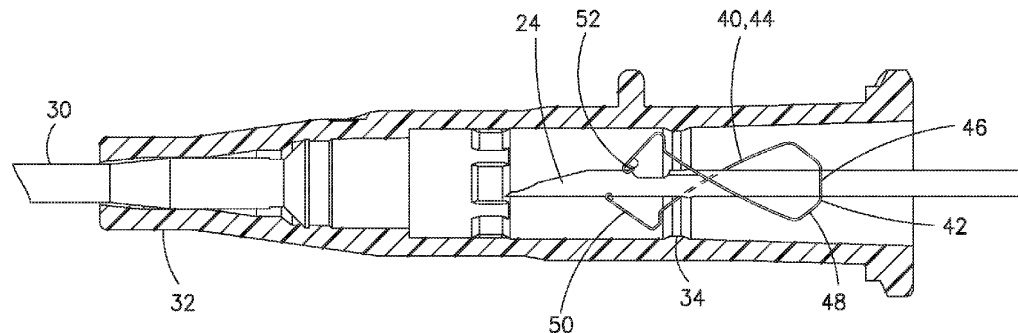


FIG. 3

(57) Abstract: A catheter assembly (10) including a catheter (30) carried by a catheter adapter (32), a needle (20) having a sharp distal tip (24) and disposed in the catheter (30) such that in a first needle position, the needle (20) extends beyond the catheter (30), a needle hub (80) fixed adjacent to a proximal end of the needle (20), a clip (40) disposed in the catheter adapter (32) and cooperating with the needle (20), and a barrel assembly (70) including an inner diameter (74), wherein when the needle (20) is in a second needle position, the clip (40) encloses the distal tip (24) of the needle (20), and when the needle (20) moves to a third needle position, the clip (40) and the needle (20) is disposed in the inner diameter (74) of the barrel assembly (70).

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