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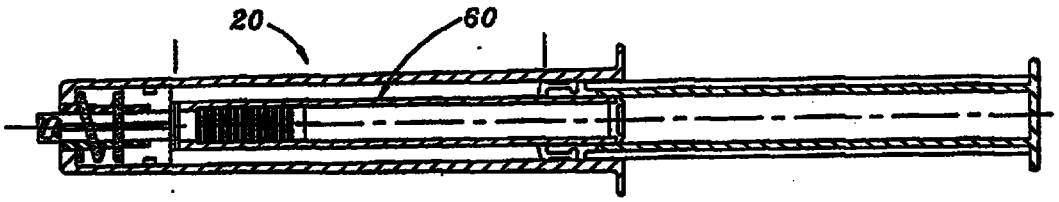
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(54) Title: RETRACTABLE NEEDLE AND SYRINGE COMBINATION



(57) Abstract

A combination syringe (20) and needle are disclosed wherein the needle is mounted to a retractable element which retracts into the body of the syringe plunger. The needle (12) is mounted to the retractor (30) which is spring biased (68) to retract the needle. The retraction is actuated by releasing the forward end of the retractor from engagement with a collet positioned on the forward end of the syringe inner barrel (60). The collet (66) is configured so as to clamp the forward end of the retractor, and only releases the forward end when the collet is pushed forwardly, expanded, and disengages the forward end of the needle retractor.