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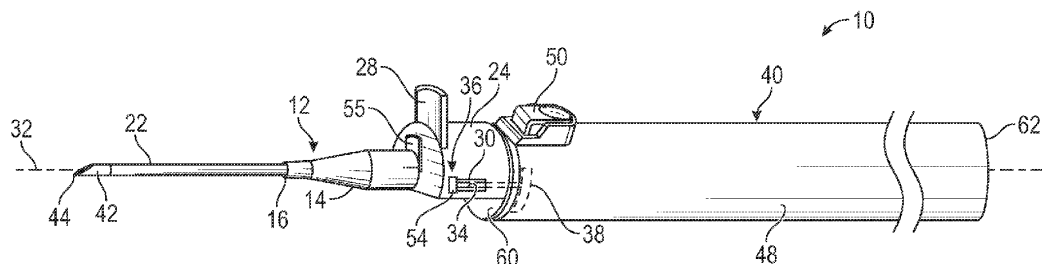


FIG. 1A

(57) Abstract: A catheter system includes a catheter assembly (12) and a needle assembly (40). The catheter assembly includes a catheter hub (14) and a catheter (22) extending distally from the distal end (16) of the catheter hub. The catheter assembly includes a cover (24) coupled to a proximal portion (18) of the catheter hub. The cover is configured to reduce contact with the catheter assembly during initial insertion of the catheter assembly into vasculature of a patient and/or threading the catheter, which may reduce a risk of bacterial contamination of the catheter. The needle assembly includes an introducer needle (42), a housing (48), and a needle hub (52) disposed within the housing. The housing includes a button (50). The proximal end (46) of the introducer needle is secured within the needle hub. In response to activation of the button, the needle hub and the introducer needle move proximally within the housing.



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