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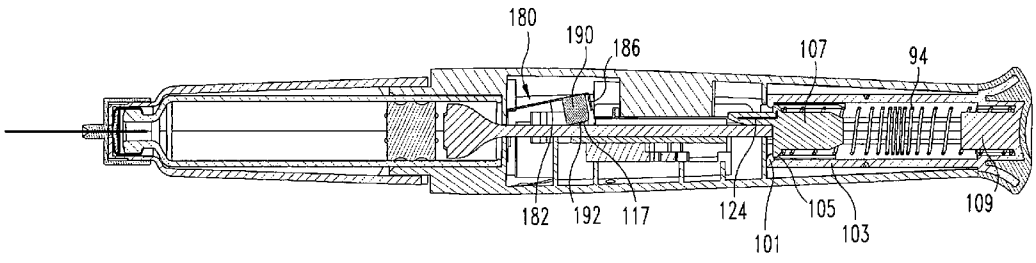
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(54) Title: MEDICATION DISPENSING APPARATUS WITH SPRING-DRIVEN LOCKING FEATURE ENABLED BY ADMINISTRATION OF FINAL DOSE




(57) Abstract: A medication dispensing apparatus with a spring-driven locking feature. The apparatus includes a drive member movable in a distal direction within a housing, and a fluid container with a movable piston that is advanceable by the drive member when such drive member is moved distally by a driving means. The apparatus includes a latching element having a skid that is slidable along a surface of the drive member as the drive member passes distally during advancement. The drive member is structured and arranged with the skid so as to maintain a latching lip of the latching element against a spring force in a first position free of the driving means during dose preparing and injecting prior to a final dose administration. The skid-engaging surface shifts distally of the skid such that the skid passes beyond a proximal end of that surface upon administration of a final dose, whereby the latching lip is urged by the spring force from the first position to a second position to physically lock the driving means to prevent further dose preparing and injecting.

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