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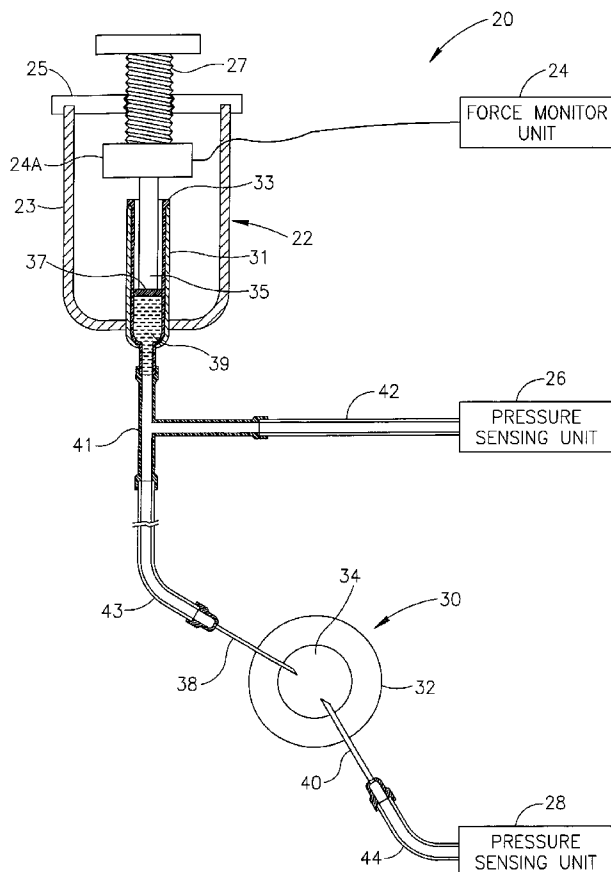
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(54) Title: METHODS, DEVICES, AND PREPARATIONS FOR INTERVERTEBRAL DISC TREATMENT



(57) Abstract: A therapeutic method for treating mammalian intervertebral discs (30). A preparation of cross-linked collagen (39) is injected under pressure into the intradiscal space. The intervertebral distance in injected discs is immediately increased by the treatment. At least some mechanical properties of the treated vertebral column are preserved or partially restored. The method may be used to relieve back pain in patients, to increase patient height and to stabilize the spinal column. The therapeutic method may result in at least a partial regeneration of the nucleus pulposus (34), and/or development of cartilaginous or fibrocartilaginous tissues or dense fibrous tissues.



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