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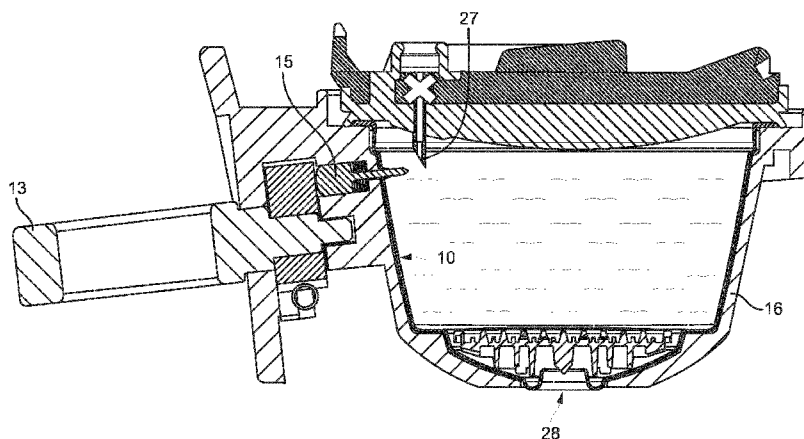


FIG. 10

(57) Abstract: The present invention is directed to a capsule holder (8) for holding a closed capsule (9) in a beverage preparation machine (1), said capsule containing a beverage precursor ingredient, said machine being able to inject a fluid under pressure through a wall (11) of said capsule inside the latter such that said fluid and said precursor ingredient mix to make a beverage, said capsule holder (8) comprising a cup-shaped body (12) adapted to retain and hold said capsule, a handle (13), and guide means for removably inserting said capsule holder within said machine, wherein said capsule holder (8) further comprises pressure-releasing means (15) for releasing fluid pressure inside said capsule.