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(54) Title: TWO-PIECE RAPIDLY INSERTABLE CENTRAL CATHETERS, INTRODUCERS THEREFOR, AND METHODS THEREOF

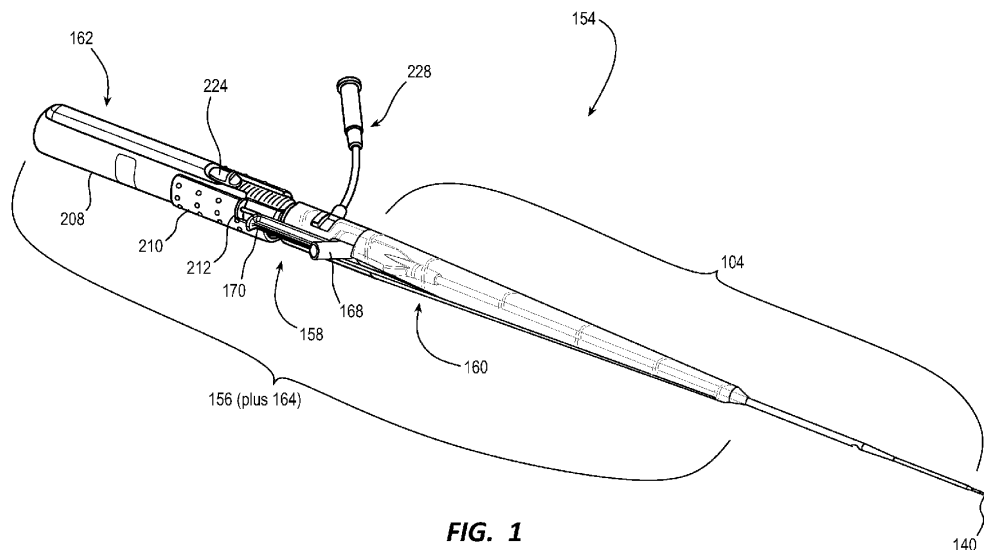


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: Disclosed are two-piece rapidly insertable central catheter ("RICCs"), introducers, and methods. For example, an introducer and a distal catheter piece of a RICC can be combined in an introducer assembly configured to be actuated with a single finger of a hand while the introducer is held between a thumb and another finger or fingers of the same hand. A catheter-advancement hub of the introducer includes a manifold coupled to a proximal portion of a distal catheter-hub piece of the distal catheter piece. An introducer needle of a syringe of the introducer has a needle shaft extending through the manifold and a distal end of the distal catheter piece. An introducer housing is over a syringe tip, the manifold, and the proximal portion of the distal catheter piece. The introducer housing of the introducer configured to provide column strength to a catheter tube of the distal catheter piece during a venipuncture.

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