

SAFETY INTRAVENOUS CATHETER WITH FRICTION-BASED RETENTION AND DISABLING FEATURE

ABSTRACT

A catheter and introducer needle assembly (200, 300, 400), including a flexible catheter and a catheter hub (204, 304, 404) having an uninterrupted outer surface portion (226, 326, 426), a Luer-connecting feature, and a disabling feature (232, 332, 432). The assembly includes an introducer needle (206, 306, 406) disposed in the catheter, a needle shield (210, 310, 410) having a resilient clip (212, 312, 412) adapted to flex between first and second positions in a plane perpendicular to the introducer needle. The resilient clip includes a cantilevered arm (220, 320, 420) with a pawl (222, 322, 422). In the resilient clip's first position, the cantilevered arm is flexed so that the pawl frictionally contacts the catheter hub's uninterrupted outer surface portion and frictionally retains the needle shield with the catheter hub, and the pawl is axially aligned with and spaced apart from the disabling feature. In the second position, the pawl no longer frictionally contacts the hub's uninterrupted outer surface, thereby permitting needle shield displacement relative to the catheter hub.

FIG. 10