ABSTRACT

A package assembly for a medical device comprises a container for the medical device, a generally cylindrical hollow tube with distal and proximal ends and a sidewall. The external side of the container has an outwardly extending rim at its proximal end. The packaging assembly further includes a generally cylindrical hollow tube with an open bore. The bore has a proximal portion and an adjacent distal portion at an interface. The tube has a rim with a generally planar surface extending outwardly at the proximal end. The container is sized so that its distal end fits in to the open bore of the tube. The tube proximal portion is sized to accept the rim of the container. The tube distal portion is sized so that the container is allowed passage up to its rim. The inner surface of the proximal portion of the tube has an inward projection which allows the rim of the container to pass over it when the container is moved distally, but is shaped to resist passage of the rim with proximal movement of the container. The design of the tube makes it unlikely that the tube can be unintentionally removed from the shield, thus providing a secondary barrier to needle sticks if the needle should penetrate the needle. The tube flange is preferably provided with a barrier to passage of microorganisms.

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