(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
8 December 2005 (08.12.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/115506 A1

(51) International Patent Classification[7]: A61M 5/20, 5/32

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/GB2005/002105

(22) International Filing Date: 27 May 2005 (27.05.2005)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
0412050.7 28 May 2004 (28.05.2004) GB

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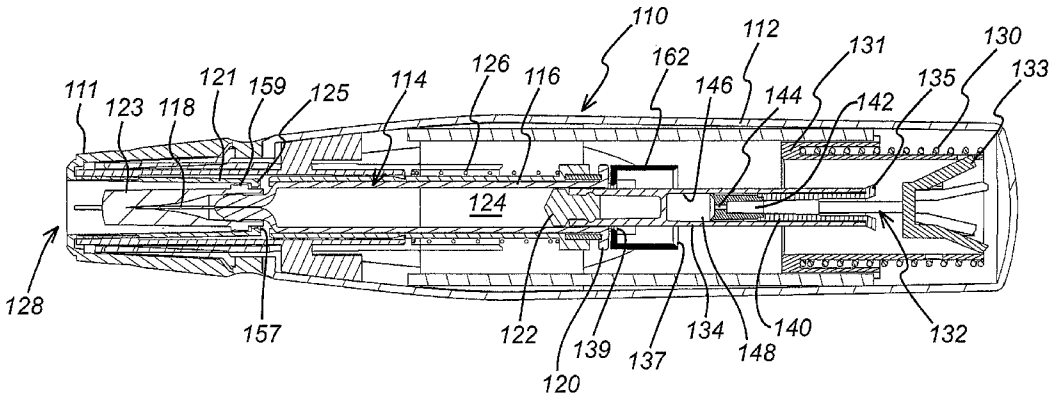
(81) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available)*: ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:
— *with international search report*

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: RELEASABLE COUPLING AND INJECTION DEVICE



(57) Abstract: A housing (212) receives a syringe and includes a return spring (226) for biasing the syringe from an extended position in which its needle (218) extends from the housing to a retracted position in which it does not. A drive spring (230) acts on a first drive element (232) and a second drive element (234) acts upon the syringe to advance it from its retracted position to its extended position and discharge its contents through the needle. The first drive element is capable of movement relative to the second once a nominal coupling position has been reached. A release mechanism is activated when the first drive element (234) is further advanced to a nominal release position, to release the syringe (214) from the action of the drive spring, whereupon the return spring restores the syringe to its retracted position.

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