

CLAIMS

1. A catheter system (10), comprising:
 - a catheter adapter (22) comprising a proximal end (32), a distal end (30), and a lumen extending along a longitudinal axis (44) through the proximal end and the distal end;
 - a wing (24) extending outwardly from the catheter adapter, wherein the wing comprises a groove (48) or slot (40);
 - a catheter (18) extending distally from the catheter adapter;
 - a needle hub (12);
 - a paddle (14) extending outwardly from the needle hub, wherein the paddle comprises an extension (42, 46); and
 - a cannula (16) extending through the catheter adapter and the catheter, wherein the cannula comprises a proximal end and a distal end, wherein the proximal end of the cannula is secured within the needle hub,

CHARACTERIZED IN THAT

the groove or slot extends generally perpendicular to the longitudinal axis, thereby allowing some lateral movement of the extension while preventing movement of the wing relative to the paddle in a distal direction and in a proximal direction parallel to the longitudinal axis when the extension is disposed within the groove or the slot.

2. The catheter system of claim 1, wherein a bottom (38) of the wing is smooth, and a top of the paddle is smooth.
3. The catheter system of claim 1, wherein the paddle is more rigid than the wing.
4. The catheter system of claim 1, further comprising a push tab (28) coupled to the catheter adapter (22) and configured to align with one or more markings on the paddle when the catheter system is in an insertion configuration.
5. The catheter system of claim 1, wherein the extension comprises a ball shape, wherein the wing comprises the groove, wherein the groove comprises a socket.

6. The catheter system of claim 1, wherein the wing is constructed of a flexible material such that the wing may be pulled away from the paddle to remove the extension from the groove or the slot.
7. The catheter system of claim 1, wherein the extension comprises a rib (52), wherein the wing comprises the groove, wherein the groove is elongated to generally match a shape of the rib.
8. The catheter system of claim 1, wherein the extension is part of a chevron pattern surface (54), wherein the wing comprises a corresponding chevron pattern (56) that comprises the groove.
9. The catheter system of claim 1, wherein the paddle comprises a raised distal edge (68) configured to reduce distal movement of the wing.
10. The catheter system of claim 9, wherein the paddle comprises a raised proximal edge, wherein an edge of the paddle between the raised distal edge and the raised proximal edge is not raised.
11. The catheter system of claim 1, wherein the wing comprises a recess (79), wherein the paddle comprises a cantilever element (78) movable between a first position within the recess and a second position outside of the recess.
12. The catheter system of claim 1, wherein the paddle includes a bend forming an upper portion (124) and a lower portion (126) of the paddle, wherein the wing is disposed between the upper portion and the lower portion of the paddle, wherein in response to pinching the upper portion and the lower portion together, movement of the wing is reduced with respect to the paddle.

13. The catheter system of claim 1, wherein a distal end of the paddle comprises a concave curved surface (134), wherein the concave curved surface faces distally.

14. The catheter system of claim 13, wherein a side of the catheter adapter comprises another concave curved surface (136), wherein the concave curved surface and the other concave curved surface are configured to be gripped in a ported grip.

15. The catheter system of claim 1, wherein the catheter adapter comprises a protrusion (84) configured to contact the paddle and prevent rotation of the needle hub with respect to the catheter adapter.

16. The catheter system of claim 13, wherein the paddle comprises a groove (50), wherein the catheter adapter comprises a rib (52) slidable within the groove.