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(71) Applicant *(for all designated States except US)*: **TYCO HEALTHCARE GROUP LP** [US/US]; 15 Hampshire Street, Mansfield, MA 02048 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants *(for US only)*: **FERGUSON, F., Mark** [US/US]; 1595 East Treeview Drive, Salt Lake City, UT 84124 (US). **THORNE, Kendall, P.** [US/US]; 942 West 60 North, Layton, UT 84041 (US).

(74) Agent: **LEONARDO, Mark, S.**; Brown Rudnick Berlack Israels LLP, One Financial Center, Boston, MA 02111 (US).

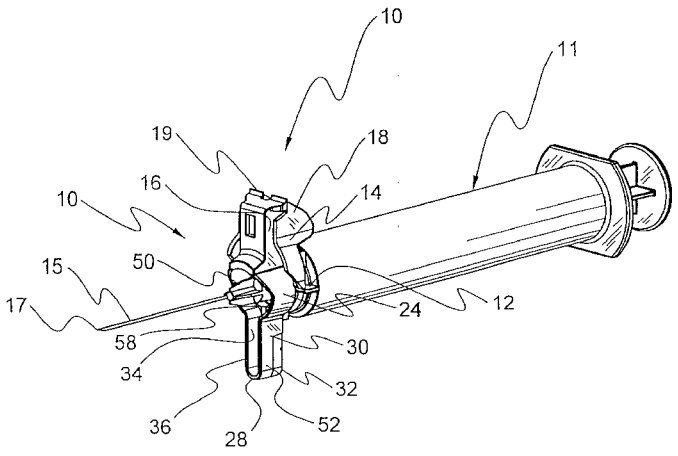
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(54) Title: SAFETY SHIELD FOR MEDICAL NEEDLES



(57) Abstract: A medical needle shield apparatus is provided which includes an extensible shield having a first segment and a second segment extending therefrom. The second segment includes an opening configured for clearance of a medical needle of a medical needle device during attachment of the extensible shield to the medical needle device. The second segment defines a planar surface adjacent a distal portion thereof. The planar surface is configured to engage the needle for disposing the shield in an extended position. In alternate embodiment, the medical needle shield apparatus has a syringe having a needle hub supporting a needle. The first segment articulates from a collar disposed about the needle hub. The collar includes a pair of latches. The opening is configured for travel about the needle to facilitate extension of the shield from a retracted position to an extended position. The second segment further includes a proximal fulcrum that engages the needle to facilitate extension of the shield. The second segment also has a pair of catches. The catches are engageable with the latches to maintain the shield in the retracted position. The second segment has a nose portion defining a planar surface configured to engage the needle to facilitate fixing the shield in the extended position.

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