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International Bureau

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 6 : A61M 5/00, 25/00, 5/32 — A1

(11) International Publication Number: WO 97/26931

(43) International Publication Date: 31 July 1997 (31.07.97)

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US97/00295

(22) International Filing Date: 22 January 1997 (22.01.97)

(30) Priority Data:
08/590,317 23 January 1996 (23.01.96) US

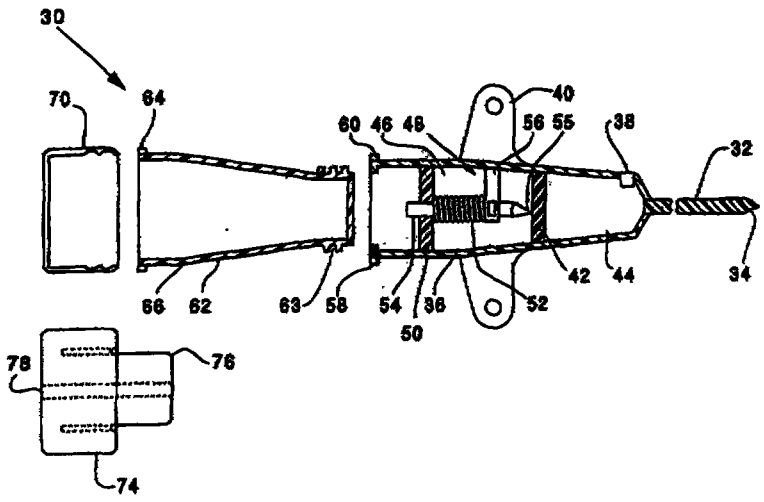
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(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, HU, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, ARIPO patent (KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published
With international search report.
Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.

(54) Title: SOFTENING CONDUIT FOR CARRYING FLUIDS INTO AND OUT OF THE HUMAN BODY



(57) Abstract

A medical device for introducing fluid treating material to or removing a fluid material from a body cavity of a human or animal, including: a hollow, needle-like structure (44) having a proximal end (32) and a distal end, the proximal end having a beveled tip (34) and being formed from a polymer which is sufficiently rigid at ambient temperature to permit puncture of skin by the beveled tip, and which becomes soft after a predetermined period of time exposed to body temperature and body fluids, thus preventing bodily trauma; and a hub (36) attached to the distal end of the hollow needle-like structure and having a diameter greater than that of the hollow needle-like structure, the hub including a connector (60) for attachment of a handle (62) or a device for introducing fluid treating material to or removing fluid from the body cavity.