

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

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
29 September 2022 (29.09.2022)



(10) International Publication Number
WO 2022/204123 A1

(51) International Patent Classification:

A61M 25/01 (2006.01) A61M 25/09 (2006.01)
A61M 25/08 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2022/021319

(22) International Filing Date:

22 March 2022 (22.03.2022)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

63/164,976 23 March 2021 (23.03.2021) US

(71) Applicant: **BECTON, DICKINSON AND COMPANY**
[US/US]; 1 Becton Drive, Franklin Lakes, New Jersey
07417 (US).

(72) Inventors: **HARDING, Weston, F.**; 2421 N 910 W, Leli,
Utah 84043 (US). **SCHERICH, Megan**; 253 Wilson Ave-
nue S, Salt Lake City, Utah 84115 (US). **BURKHOLZ,**
Jonathan, Karl; 1971 South Wasatch Drive, Salt Lake
City, Utah 84108 (US). **LACKEY, John**; 1409 W 3630
S, West Valley City, Utah 84119 (US). **NEUMANN, Er-**
ica, E.; 2724 S 1300 E, Salt Lake City, Utah 84106
(US). **HESLOP, Vaughn**; 174 East Cove Road, Sarato-
ga Springs, Utah 84045 (US). **BLANCHARD, Curtis, H.**;
14156 S. Mt Ogden Peak Drive, Riverton, Utah 84096 (US).
MA, Yiping; 2220 North 2300 East, Layton, Utah 84040
(US).

(74) Agent: **QUEEN, Lara, Northrop et al.**; The Webb Law
Firm, One Gateway Center, 420 Ft. Duquesne Blvd., Suite
1200, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222 (US).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,

(54) Title: VASCULAR ACCESS DEVICE TO REDUCE BUCKLING OF AN INSTRUMENT

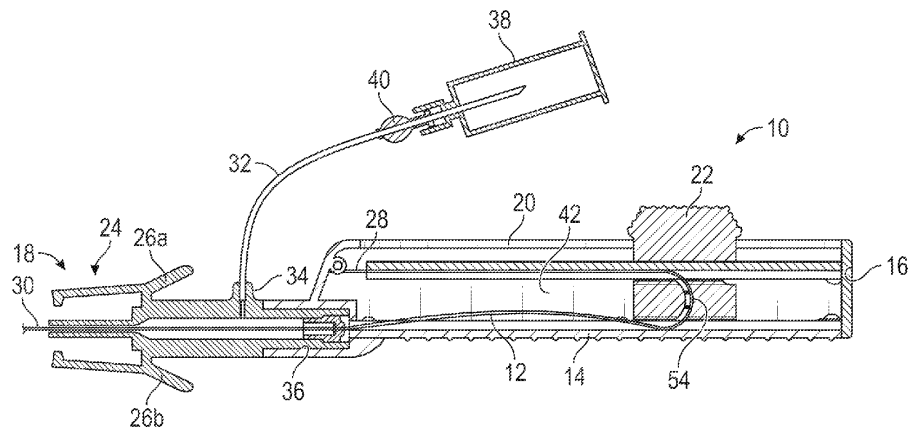


FIG. 1B

(57) Abstract: A vascular access device may include a housing. An inner surface of the housing may include a groove disposed within the housing between the proximal end and the distal end. An advancement element may extend through the slot and may be configured to move linearly along the slot between a retracted position and an advanced position. An instrument, having a first end and a second end, may be disposed within the groove. In response to movement of the advancement element from the retracted position to the advanced position, the second end of the instrument may be advanced beyond the distal end. A support feature may be disposed on top of the groove or within the groove and configured to move distally in response to movement of the advancement element from the retracted position to the advanced position. The support feature may limit displacement of the instrument from the groove.

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AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DJ, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IR, IS, IT, JM, JO, JP, KE, KG, KH, KN, KP, KR, KW, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW, SA, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, WS, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, ST, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, KM, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declarations under Rule 4.17:

- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))*
- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))*

Published:

- *with international search report (Art. 21(3))*