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(54) **Title:** PHARMACEUTICAL DISPENSING APPARATUS

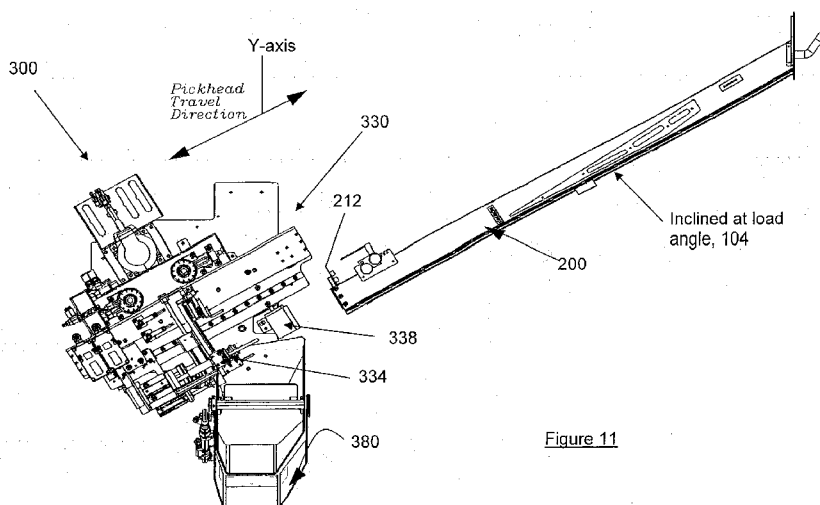


Figure 11

(57) **Abstract:** A pharmaceutical dispensing apparatus (100) for dispensing pharmaceutical packages containing pharmaceuticals is disclosed herein. In a described embodiment, the apparatus (100) comprises an array of dispensing cartridges (200) adapted to receive a plurality of individual pharmaceutical packages in the form of blister packs (212). Each dispensing cartridge (200) has a longitudinal axis (106) and arranged to support the individual blister pack (212) at a load angle of between 20° and 38°, the load angle being an angle formed between the longitudinal axis (106) and a horizontal axis (108) of the apparatus. The pharmaceutical dispensing apparatus (100) also includes a pick-and-place mechanism (300) operable to selectively remove the blister pack (212) from the array of dispensing cartridges (200).

