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(54) Title: INSTRUMENT ADVANCEMENT DEVICE CONFIGURED FOR SEPTUM ENGAGEMENT

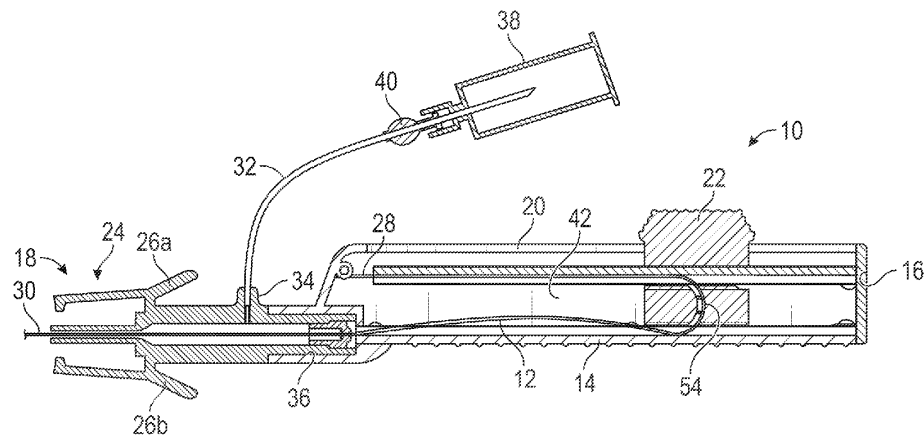


FIG. 1B

(57) Abstract: An instrument advancement device may include a housing, which may include a slot. The instrument advancement device may be configured to couple to a catheter assembly. The instrument advancement device may include an advancement element, which may extend through the slot and may be configured to move linearly along the slot between a retracted position and an advanced position. In response to movement of the advancement element from a retracted position to an advanced position, an instrument of the instrument advancement device may be advanced beyond a distal end of the housing and may be configured to open a path through an occlusion in the catheter assembly or vasculature. The instrument advancement device may include a septum, which may be engaged to facilitate sealing of the housing and/or prevent buckling of the instrument.

[Continued on next page]

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