CATHETER ASSEMBLY WITH INTERLOCKING TELESCOPING NEEDLE SHIELD

Abstract Of The Invention

A catheter and introducer needle assembly is provided wherein the catheter includes a side port and a plug located in the catheter hub, the needle is notched and is securely mounted to a shield housing with a plurality of telescoped tubes concentrically surrounding the needle. One of the telescoped tubes is securely connected to the shield housing. The other tubes in the assembly may be slid with respect to one another and distally away from the shield housing. The tubes have combined lengths to enable complete shielding of the needle when the tubes are telescopingly extended. The tubes include interlocking mechanisms to prevent separation of the tubes and to prevent collapse of the tubes once they have been fully extended. The distal-most tube, when the tubes are telescopingly extended, engages a catheter hub to prevent withdrawal of the needle from the shield assembly until the tubes are fully telescopingly extended. After the needle is fully shielded, the shielded needle is separated from the catheter hub.

Figure 2