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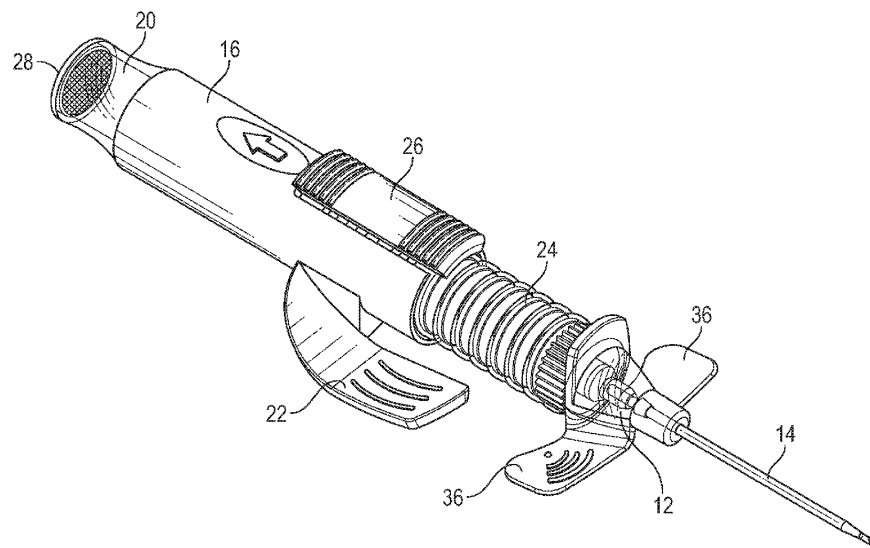


FIG. 2C

(57) Abstract: A catheter system includes a catheter adapter (12) having a distal end, a proximal end, and a lumen extending therebetween. The system includes a catheter tube (14) extending distally from the catheter adapter (12) and an extension tube (24) coupled to the proximal end of the catheter adapter (12). The extension tube (24) is extendable. The system includes a locking mechanism (26) coupled to the extension tube (24) and removably coupled to the proximal end of the catheter adapter (12). A needle hub (16) is removably coupled to a proximal end of the extension tube (24) and an introducer needle extends through the catheter tube (14). A proximal end of the introducer needle is secured within the needle hub (16).

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