CLAIMS

1. A catheter assembly, comprising:

a catheter adapter having a distal end, a proximal end, a lumen extending between the distal end and the proximal end, and a side port, the side port having a lumen in fluid communication with the lumen of the catheter adapter, wherein the side port extends from the catheter adapter in a distal direction, wherein the lumen of the catheter adapter is permanently axially fixed with respect to a longitudinal axis of the catheter adapter ~~side port is distally-facing~~;

a catheter secured within the catheter adapter and extending distally from the catheter adapter; and

a septum disposed within the lumen of the catheter adapter, wherein a central axis of the lumen of the side port intersects a distal face of the septum.

2. The catheter assembly of claim 1, further comprising an extension tube having a distal end integrated with the side port.

3. The catheter assembly of claim ~~1~~2, further comprising a connector disposed at a proximal end of the extension tube.

4. The catheter assembly of claim 1, wherein the side port extends in the distal direction ~~lumen of the side port is disposed~~ at ~~about~~ 45° with respect to a longitudinal axis of the catheter assembly.

5. The catheter assembly of claim 1, further comprising a needle hub and an introducer needle extending from the needle hub, wherein the needle hub is coupled to the proximal end of the catheter adapter.

~~6. A catheter assembly, comprising: a catheter adapter having a distal end, a proximal end, a lumen extending between the distal end and the proximal end, a side port, and a deflector, the side port having a lumen in fluid communication with the lumen of the catheter adapter, wherein the lumen of the side port is proximally-facing;~~

~~a catheter secured within the catheter adapter and extending distally from the catheter adapter; and a septum disposed within the lumen of the catheter adapter, wherein the deflector is configured to direct fluid flowing into the lumen of the catheter adapter from the side port towards the septum.~~

~~7. The catheter assembly of claim 6, wherein the deflector comprises a protrusion, wherein the protrusion comprises a face proximate the lumen of the side port, wherein the face is sloped outwardly toward a middle of the lumen of the side port.~~

~~8. The catheter assembly of claim 7, wherein the face is curved.~~

~~9. The catheter assembly of claim 6, further comprising an extension tube having a distal end integrated with the side port.~~

~~10. The catheter assembly of claim 6, further comprising a connector disposed at a proximal end of the extension tube.~~

~~11. The catheter assembly of claim 6, wherein the lumen of the side port is disposed at about 45° with respect to a longitudinal axis of the catheter assembly.~~

~~12. The catheter assembly of claim 6, further comprising a needle hub and an introducer needle extending from the needle hub, wherein the needle hub is coupled to the proximal end of the catheter adapter.~~