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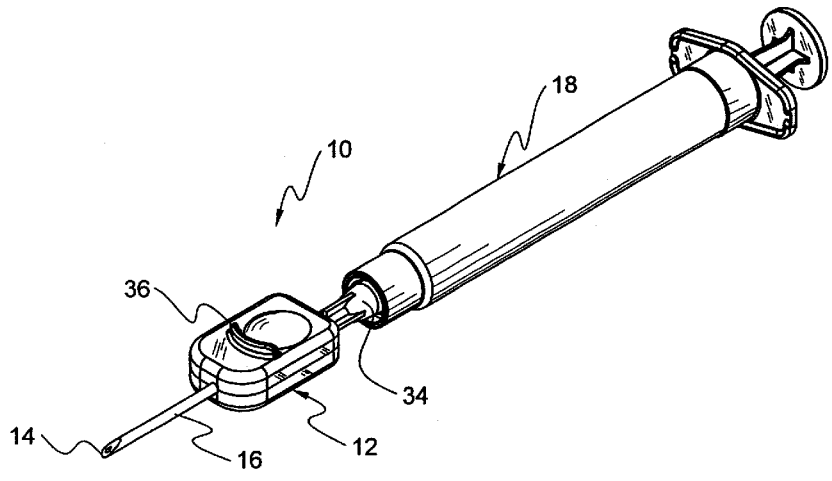
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(54) Title: SAFETY SHIELD FOR MEDICAL NEEDLES



(57) Abstract: Medical needle shield apparatus (10) for covering a needle (16) after use. The medical needle shield apparatus (10) is for a needle (16) having proximal and distal ends (14), wherein the shield (10) is slidably movable along the needle (16) from a proximal position to a distal position where the shield (10) covers the distal end (14) of the needle (16). The shield (10) comprises one or more clips (13, 17, 20) having two or more apertures (22) through which the needle (16) passes, wherein the apertures (22) have surfaces (24). A clip positioning member (26), in communication with at least one of the clips (13, 17, 20), positions the aperture surfaces (24) of at least one of the clips (13, 17, 20) when a portion (38) of the clip positioning member (26) in contact with the needle (16) is advanced past the distal end (14) of the needle (16) such that at least a portion of the aperture surfaces (24) of the two or more apertures (22) binds to the needle (16) with opposing binding forces to secure the shield (10) to the needle (16).

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