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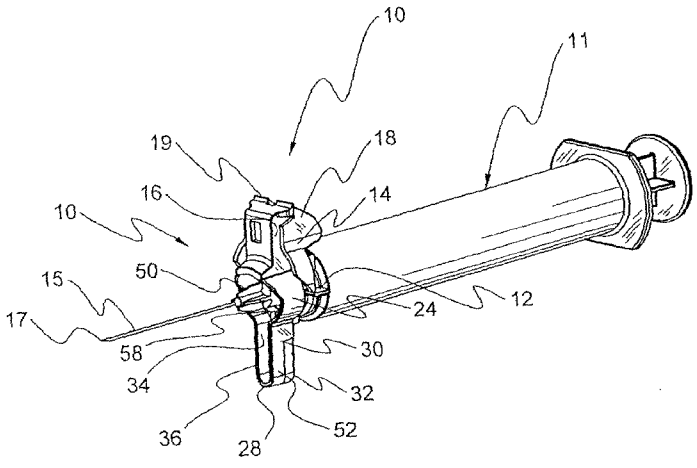
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(54) Title: SAFETY SHIELD FOR MEDICAL NEEDLES



(57) Abstract: A medical needle shield apparatus is provided which includes an extensible shield (10) having a first segment (14) and a second segment (16) extending therefrom. The second segment includes an opening (58) configured for clearance of a medical needle (15) of a medical needle device (11) during attachment of the extensible shield to the medical needle device. The second segment defines a planar surface (32) adjacent a distal portion thereof. The planar surface is configured to engage the needle for disposing the shield in an extended position. In alternate embodiment, the medical needle shield apparatus has a syringe (11) having a needle hub (50) supporting a needle. The first segment articulates from a collar (12) disposed about the needle hub. The collar includes a pair of latches (20). The opening (58) is configured for travel about the needle to facilitate extension of the shield from a retracted position to an extended position. The second segment further includes a proximal fulcrum (60) that engages the needle to facilitate extension of the shield. The secondSA 476565E segment also has a pair of catches (22) . The catches are engageable with the latches to maintain the shield in the retracted position. The second segment has a nose portion defining a planar surface configured to engage the needle to facilitate fixing the shield in the extended position.

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