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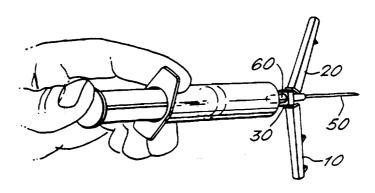
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(54) Title: NEEDLE PROTECTOR



#### (57) Abstract

A needle protector includes first and second needle-housing parts (10, 20) hinged to a central part (30). The central part (30) has a slot (31, 32) defined by a structure constructed for snug engagement with the nozzle of a syringe. The housing parts (10, 20) are complementary and are hingeable between a first closed position in which they define a container capable of receiving and holding a new steril-packed needle and a second position. The housing parts (10, 20) can be latched together in a non-return manner and when so latched define a disposable casing which substantially totally encloses and protects a used needle. An adapter (510, 516) for use with such a needle protector, so that it can be used with a luer lock type of syringe, is also disclosed.

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No PCT/GB 90/01994

I. CLAS	SIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER (il several class	international Application No PCT/	GB 90/01994
Accordin	ig to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both Na	tional Classification and IPC	
IPC <sup>3</sup>	A 61 M 5/32		
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Class Code	The second distriction of the second distric	ntation Searched 7	
Classificat	tion System	Classification Symbols	
IPC <sup>5</sup>	A 61 M		
	Documentation Searched other to the Extent that such Document	than Minimum Documentation s are Included in the Fields Searched *	
III. DOC	UMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *		propriate, of the relevant passages 12	Relevant to Claim No. 13
X	US, A, 4820277 (NORELLI 11 April 1989 see abstract; column	n 2. lines 42-62.	1-4,14
Y	column 5, lines 47-6		10
Y A	FR, A, 2620341 (PRZYGOD2 17 March 1989 see abstract; page 4 figures 2-5		10
Α.			11-13
A	US, A, 4888001 (SCHOENBER 19 December 1989 see abstract; column column 2, line 56 - figures 1-15	1. lines 43-68.	5,15,19,22
A	EP, A, 0344606 (HABLEY M CORP.) 6 December 1989 see abstract; page 5		2-9,19-22
"A" doc con "E" earn film "L" doc white cita "O" doc oth "P" doc late IV. CERT	al categories of cited documents: 19 cument defining the general state of the art which is not insidered to be of particular relevance.  Iter document but published on or after the international grate cument which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or ich is cited to establish the publication date of another stoom or other special reason (as specified) cument referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or er means.  Cument published prior to the international filing date but er than the priority date claimed.  IFICATION  e Actual Completion of the International Search  May 1991  Tall Searching Authority	"T" later document published after to or priority date and not in conflicted to understand the principle invention.  "X" document of particular relevant cannot be considered novel or involve an inventive step.  "Y" document of particular relevant cannot be considered to involve document is combined with one ments, such combination being on the art.  "&" document member of the same published	ct with the application but a or theory underlying the call the claimed invention cannot be considered to be; the claimed invention an inventive step when the or more other such docubivious to a person skilled patent family
	EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE	F.W. HECK	Reil

## International Application No PCT/GB 90/01994

III. DOCI	UMENTS	MENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT (CONTINUED FROM THE SECOND SHEET)  Relevant to Claim No.					
ategory *	Cita	tion of Document, 13 with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Kelevant to Claim No.				
		claims 1,3,8; figures 1,13					
A	WO,	A, 8800477 (QUAYLE) 28 January 1988 see abstract; page 14, lines 13-27; figures 15,24,25	2-9,19-22				
A	GB,	A, 2198353 (BESPAK PLC) 15 June 1988 see abstract; page 6, lines 3-36; figure 4.	2-9,19-22				
A	US,	A, 2854976 (HEYDRICH) 7 October 1958 see column 1, lines 61-65; figures 1-7	10-13				

International Application No. PCT/ GB90/01994 FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM THE SECOND SHEET OBSERVATION WHERE CERTAIN CLAIMS WERE FOUND UNSEARCHABLE 1 This International search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons: \_\_\_ Claim numbers because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely: ☐ Claim numbers Claim numbers

because they relate to parts of the International application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International search can be carried out, specifically: Claim numbers because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of PCT Rule 6.4(a). VI. OBSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION IS LACKING 2 This International Searching Authority found multiple Inventions in this International application as follows: 1. claims 1,2-9,14-22; 2. claims 10-13; 3. claims 23-26for further information see form PCT/ISA/206 dd 15-04-91 As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims of the International application for which fees were paid, specifically claims 1,2-9,10-13,14-22 No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claim numbers: As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the International Searching Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee. The additional search fees were accompanied by applicant's protest No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees

# ANNEX TO THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL PATENT APPLICATION NO.

GB 9001994

SA 43250

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on 03/07/91

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