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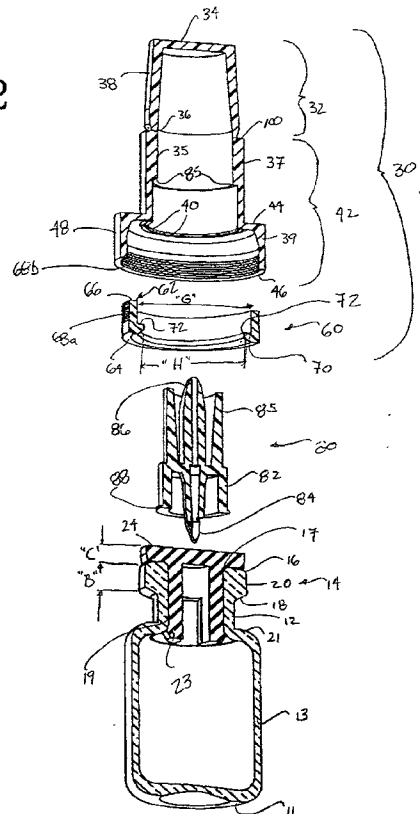
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(54) A locking ring connector assembly for a vial

(57) A connector assembly for a vial is disclosed. The connector assembly features a protective cap, a collar attachable to the rim of the vial, and a locking ring disposed between the rim of the vial and the collar. One or more ribs provided on an internal region of the collar, adjacent the distal end of the collar, seal against the stopper obturating the vial. The locking ring features an internally projecting ridge for engaging the underside portion of the rim. Cooperative locking structure is provided between the locking ring and the collar. The locking ring is thrust distally with respect to the collar such that the cooperative locking structure secures the locking ring to the collar in a locked position, with the ridge of the locking ring engaging the underside of the rim and the ribs pressing against the stopper. A vial access device may be provided within the connector assembly.

FIG-2





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
THE HAGUE	21 October 1999	Godot, T	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document			

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ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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