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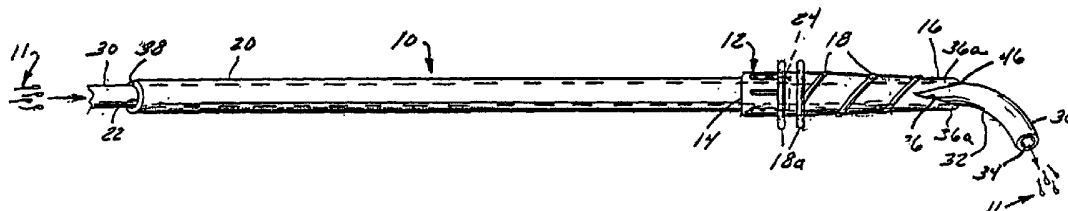
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(54) Title: DEVICE FOR TRANS-CERVICAL ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION AND EMBRYO TRANSFER



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to an apparatus (10) and a method useful for non-surgical embryo transfer or artificial insemination of mammals. An apparatus (10) for depositing media (11) into the uterus of a mammal includes a conical chamber (12) that has a plurality of perforations (36) and flaps (36a). An exterior spiral formation (18) is configured for traversing or penetrating cervical passageway. A sheath (20) having a frusto-conical rearward end (22) extends axially from an aft end (16) of the conical chamber (12). A tubular depositing chamber (30) extends axially from the conical chamber (12) to a position beyond a fore end (14) of the conical chamber (12). Coupled to the rearward end (43) of the depositing chamber (30) is an embryo or semen packaging unit (40). The tubular depositing chamber (30) has an end (32) that has an aperture (34) to permit the flow of semen (11) out of the depositing chamber (30) and into the uterus. The invention also involves a method employing the apparatus (10) described.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
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 US CL : 600/35
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B. FIELDS SEARCHED
 Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
 U.S. : 600/35; 604/515,115,55,176,181,218,264,906,191

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
 WEST: artificial insemination, foam, catheter, frusto-conical, arc, arcing, spiral, conical, mammal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X --- Y	EP 189702 A1 (CASSOU et al) 06 August 1986, see whole document.	1,4,15,16,27,45 ----- 9,11,21- 23,35,41,42,44,46
X --- Y	US 4,474,576 A (GOBBY) 02 October 1984, see whole document.	43 ----- 5- 7,9,12,14,20,21,26,28- 40,44,47
Y	US 5,496,272 A (CHUNG et al) 05 March 1996, see whole document.	2,3,10,17-19,24,25
Y	EP 605406 A2 (CASSOU et al) 06 July 1994, see whole document.	48

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

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