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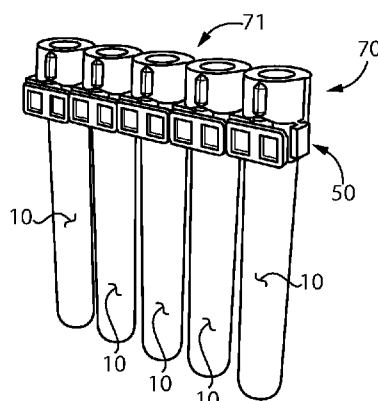


FIG. 4

(57) Abstract: Interconnecting blood collection tubes are typical in that each one includes a test tube containing a reagent and a rubber stopper, which is secured to the test tube by a cap, to close an open end of the test tube. A pressure in the hollow chamber defined by the test tube and stopper is less than a pressure on an outer surface of the test tube. One of the test tube, the cap or maybe an additional component includes outwardly facing first and second mateable connection surfaces that permit a plurality of like shaped interconnecting blood collection tubes to be connected to one another in a side-by-side axially parallel orientation.



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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER		
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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
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A	----- EP 0 469 390 A2 (TECHNICON INSTR [US]) 5 February 1992 (1992-02-05) the whole document	1-20
A	----- US 2016/001288 A1 (LAZEVSKI SASA [DE] ET AL) 7 January 2016 (2016-01-07) abstract paragraph [0027] - paragraph [0031]; figures 1-3 ----- -/--	1-20
☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☒ See patent family annex.		
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C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
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A	US 3 521 785 A (BERGMANN WILHELM ET AL) 28 July 1970 (1970-07-28) abstract; figure 5 -----	1-20

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