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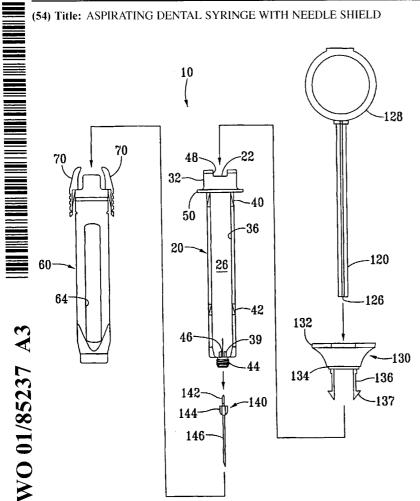
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: ASPIRATING DENTAL SYRINGE WITH NEEDLE SHIELD



(57) Abstract: A self-shielding aspirating dental syringe (10) includes a body (20) having proximal (22) and distal (24) ends and a cavity (26) therein for receiving a medicine cartridge (90). The distal end (24) has a double-ended needle (140) attached thereto, and the proximal end (22) has an opening (34) for inserting the cartridge (90) into the cavity (26), and to which a plunger assembly may be attached. A shield (60) is slidable on the body (20) between retracted and extended positions for uncovering and covering the needle (140), respectively. Cooperating detents (71) and detent pockets (42) are molded on the shield (60) and body (20) for securing the shield (60) in the extended position. A lever (70) is molded on the shield (60) that is pivotable for directing the detents (71) radially outwardly to disengage the detents (71) from the distal detent pockets (42) and allow retraction of the shield (60) from the extended position. A latch (84) is molded on the lever (70) of the shield (60) for locking the lever (70) and preventing subsequent retraction of the shield (60) from the extended position.

### INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int ational Application No

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 A61M5/50 A61M A61M5/32 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 A61M 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 practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Category Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages 1,16,24 EP 0 864 335 A (SAFETY SYRINGES INC) Α 16 September 1998 (1998-09-16) cited in the application the whole document US 5 263 942 A (SMEDLEY WILLIAM H ET AL) 1,16,24 A 23 November 1993 (1993-11-23) column 4, line 15 - line 37 figures 3,4,7,8 1,16,24 US 4 915 702 A (HABER TERRY) Α 10 April 1990 (1990-04-10) column 8, line 4 - line 35 figures 7,8 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. lχ Special categories of cited documents: \*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention filing date cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention citation or other special reason (as specified) cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed in the art \*&\* document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 28/11/2001 22 November 2001 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Sedy, R Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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