

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
9 February 2006 (09.02.2006)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2006/014751 A3**

- (51) International Patent Classification:  
**A61B 5/00** (2006.01) **B65D 81/00** (2006.01)
- (21) International Application Number:  
PCT/US2005/025765
- (22) International Filing Date: 20 July 2005 (20.07.2005)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:  
60/589,294 20 July 2004 (20.07.2004) US
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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:  
30 April 2009

(54) Title: BLOOD COLLECTION ASSEMBLY

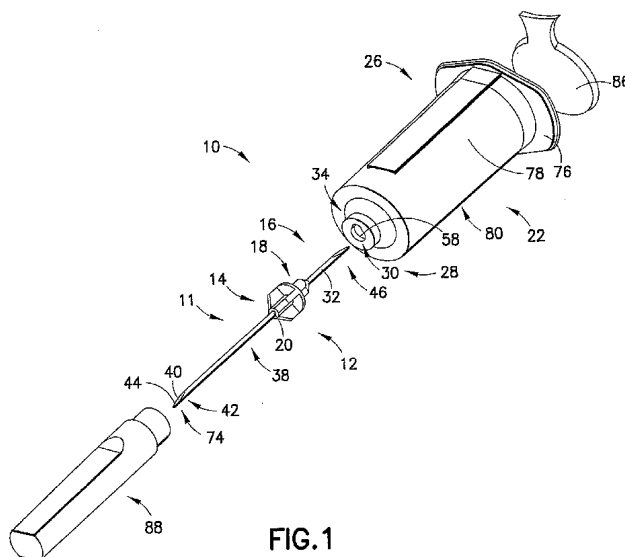


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: A blood collection assembly includes a hub with a distal end, a proximal end, a hub outer surface and an internal opening extending therethrough. The assembly also includes a holder housing defining a receiving chamber and having a rearward end adapted to receive a sample collection tube within the chamber and a forward end including a receiving port extending into the chamber, where the receiving port receives a portion of the proximal end of the hub therein. An internal opening of the hub accommodates a puncturing element at the proximal end thereof for providing passage of a fluid therethrough, and the puncturing element contacts the sample collection tube. The hub and the holder housing include an interengaging structure extending substantially perimetrically therearound for axially locking the hub with the holder housing.

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US05/25765

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC: **A61B 5/00**( 2006.01);**B65D 81/00**( 2006.01)

USPC: 600/576

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)

U.S. : 600/576-582, 573, 575

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)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| X          | US 20030093009 A1 (Newby et al) 15 May 2003 (15.05.2003), entire document.         | 1-21                  |
| A          | US 5181524 (Wanderer et al) 26 Jan 1993 (26.01.1993), entire document.             | 1-21                  |

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

## \* Special categories of cited documents:

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| "P" | document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed                                                                  |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

Date of the actual completion of the international search

27 March 2008 (27.03.2008)

Date of mailing of the international search report

14 APR 2008

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US

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